



PRESS RELEASE

DEVELOPING COMMUNITIES THAT WORK

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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SOUTH FLORIDA WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD IS AWARDED A \$250,000 TECHNOLOGY GRANT

(MIAMI, July 20, 2010) — South Florida Workforce Investment Board (SFWIB) is the proud recipient of a \$250,000 grant to offer new technology training opportunities to address the digital access needs of the region.

SFWIB is one of 23 participating regions throughout the state to receive its share of a \$4.3 million federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) from Workforce Florida, Inc. "This funding will support our continued efforts in expanding digital access to local communities throughout our regions," said Rick Beasley, executive director for South Florida Workforce Investment Board.

In 2009, South Florida Workforce launched its Digital Divide Project partnering with Per Scholas Inc., a non-profit organization, to provide low-income families with refurbished personal computers, free technology training, and one-year of paid Internet access. To date, SFWIB awarded 268 computers to deserving families with a goal of serving 405 families. These families are selected from work-ready participants, who are receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).

This announcement comes as SFWIB, in a major public-private partnership with Microsoft Corporation, is offering free online computer training vouchers through a program called Microsoft® Elevate America to Miami-Dade and Monroe counties' residents. These vouchers are available until August 21, 2010, or while supplies last.

About South Florida Workforce Investment Board

South Florida Workforce is a public-private partnership that establishes state and federally funded workforce development and training policies for Miami-Dade and Monroe counties. Additionally, South Florida Workforce services and resources are available to everyone at no cost through a network of career centers located throughout the region.

Learn more about this grant, Microsoft® Elevate America, or to request a free training or certification voucher, go to www.southfloridaworkforce.com.

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