

MCTI Family Housing

Michigan Department of Career Development Director Dr. Barbara Bolin led a ribbon-cutting ceremony October 26 to mark the opening of the first family housing and day care facility at the Michigan Career and Technical Institute (MCTI).

Located 10 miles northeast of Plainwell on the shores of Pine Lake, MCTI offers technical training and support services for adults with disabilities who wish to enter or re-enter the job market.

Also participating in the ceremony were (left to right) James Eccles, president of the Pine Lake Fund, the nonprofit organization which owns and operates the family housing complex; Robert Davis, director of Michigan Rehabilitation Services; Keith Roe, secretary of the Pine Lake Fund; Doug Stites, director of the Lansing Tri-County Michigan Works! agency and Dennis Hart, MCTI director.

Called the Pine Lake Family Center, the facility provides a first-time opportunity for



single women with children to enroll in training programs at MCTI while living with and caring for their children on campus.

The school's existing dormitory rooms cannot accommodate children.

The center consists of 10 two-bedroom and 10 three-bedroom units and a fully licensed day care center that can serve up to 35 children between the ages of two-and-a-half years and 12.

For FIA-eligible students, the center accepts day care reimbursement of \$2.25 an hour

per child. Housing reimbursement is \$300 a month for two-bedroom units and \$350 a month for three-bedroom units.

For students who do not meet low income guidelines, housing costs are \$450 a month for two-bedroom units and \$550 a month for three-bedroom units. Day care cost is \$3 an hour per child for private pay students.

Applications for the Pine Lake Family Center are now being accepted. For eligibility information and an admissions packet, contact Kelley Blodger at 616/664-9248 (voice) or 616/664-9294 (TTY).

Governor's Career Preparation & Tech Prep Conference

SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY

"Paving New Pathways for Partnerships" is the theme of the Governor's Career Preparation and Tech Prep Conference, which will be held February 14-15 at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids. The conference is co-sponsored by the Michigan Department of Career Development and the Michigan Department of Education.

The theme emphasizes the importance of business and education working together to improve education and career preparation. More than 1,500 participants representing business, education, parents, students and community groups are expected to attend the conference. In previous years, the Governor's Career Preparation System Conference and the Tech Prep Conference were

separate events. They have been combined to encompass all aspects of career and technical preparation in one venue.

Sam Zigrossi, formerly with IBM and now the program director (K-12 education) of the Charles A. Dana Center at the University of Texas at Austin, will be the keynote speaker. Governor John Engler has been invited to the conference, and Lt. Governor Dick Posthumus is a confirmed speaker. The conference also will feature the presentation of the annual "Innovator to Watch" awards.

For registration information, contact the Michigan Center for Career and Technical Education at 800-292-1606, ext. 7. You also may register online at www.mccte.educ.msu.edu.

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The Director's Column

Over the last quarter, I have traveled Michigan from the Upper Peninsula to Benton Harbor, and from Traverse City to Port Huron. As well as gaining a great appreciation for Michigan in its fall splendor, I have been visiting and certifying Michigan Works! Service Centers, meeting with workforce development board members and staff, and sharing my vision for a career development system with community college personnel. I owe sincere thanks to the many people who made my travels rewarding, interesting and fun. I will see you all again soon, I hope.

I was very impressed with the work that has been done and will continue to be done in the field. Collocation is almost

"Our efforts are gaining us national recognition particularly with respect to our work on behalf of people with disabilities."

— Barbara Bolin, MDCD Director

complete and our customers are delighted. Our efforts are gaining us national recognition, particularly with respect to our work on behalf of people with disabilities. Thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make collocation a reality.

My message to workforce board members centered on their pivotal role in the system we are building, and I shared with them the new approach to

strategic planning that we are taking this year.

The employers in particular were excited to hear me talk about planning NOT being driven by funding streams, and about breaking down the "silo mentality" both at the state and local levels. I am so looking forward to renewed enthusiasm and commitment from the employers on the boards, particularly now that they will play a stronger role in educational planning at the local level.

Many of the educators with whom I have spoken over the last month have been interested in the Executive Order signed recently by Gov. Engler; in particular, many want to know what my plans are for Adult Education, Career and Technical Education, and Post-secondary Services. I have assured everyone that it will be "business as usual" for these three agencies until my team and I have thoroughly examined current activities within and outcomes from these agencies.

Congratulations to the eight community colleges which were recently awarded funds for the construction of Michigan Technical Education Centers (M-TECS). I am



Left to right are: Dr. Julianne Pricinsky, Mike Boelman, Edith Prunty-Spencer, Carl Monroe, Pam Loving, Mike Zelle, Dr. Barbara Bolin, Lewis Driskell and E. Hill BeLoney

looking forward to assisting with the development of competency-based curricula for the MTECs, community colleges, and K-12 schools.

I hope that those of you who participated on December 2 found the Day of Dialogue to be useful. The presentations certainly gave all of us food for thought and, I hope, inspired many of you. The second day of technical assistance sponsored by MDCD was held December 20, when many of us discussed state and national skill standards efforts. As a result of this day, Michigan will participate in a coalition of up to 10 states that will design and build a database which will be a technology tool for organizing and translating skill standards among states.

Early in January, the senior management team of MDCD will take a day to reflect and plan. We will look back to see what our progress has been so far, and then we will look forward to formulate our strategies for the rest of this fiscal year and beyond. I am confident that, together, we will continue to make progress toward our goal of a career development system that is a model for the rest of the country.

Happy New Year,

Barbara Bolin



Ms. Leah Osborn, Curriculum Development Specialist from Austin Community College, made her presentation at the Day of Dialogue conference on December 2, 1999.

Governor Engler Extends School-to-Registered Apprenticeship Tax Credit

On November 22, Governor Engler signed Public Act 184 of 1999. This Act extends the single business tax credit, which was set to expire at the end of this year, for employers who provide registered apprenticeships for high school students.

The School-to-Registered Apprenticeship Program, in conjunction with the single business tax credit, is an excel-

lent example of business, government, and education working together to solve two of today's biggest challenges—ensuring a steady supply of highly skilled workers for Michigan businesses, and teaching our high school students the skills they need to be successful in occupational areas of their choice.

The School-to-Registered Apprenticeship tax credit allows a tax credit of up to \$2,000 per year

per apprentice to companies willing to hire and begin training high school students through a registered apprenticeship.

For parents, students and employers interested in learning more about the School-to-Registered Apprenticeship Program, many high school skill centers have been designated as local coordination sites. Or you may call the Michigan Department of Career Development at 517.241.4000.

Building a Workforce Development System through Partnerships

As a new department with a new mission, the Michigan Department of Career Development will begin the new century by partnering with the Workforce Development Boards and the educational community in a new process of strategic planning. The purpose, reflected in our mission statement, is to “develop a system that produces a workforce with the required skills to maintain and enhance the Michigan economy.”

Specific objectives are to:

- n Strengthen the workforce development system on the basis of a strategic plan and local community consensus, and
- n Focus resources on priority workforce development

objectives and track progress through a “Workforce Development Report Card.”

To accomplish these objectives, MDCD will provide each Workforce Development Board with funding to initiate the process and a recommended report card “template.”

Working together with educators, the Workforce Development Boards will:

- n Assess workforce needs on a local basis using an “environmental scan” of all factors affecting the overall status of the local economy, including business conditions, economic development programs, health issues, transportation, and education;

- n Provide a workforce development report on how well those needs are being met by local providers;
- n Establish measurable goals that indicate where they would like to be in 4–5 years in meeting workforce needs (establishing targets and monitoring progress);
- n Identify strategic assets (programs, projects, institutions) that are already moving in the direction of achieving these goals; and
- n Re-deploy resources to achieve goals in more effective and efficient ways.

Plans are being finalized for orientation meetings in February of 2000.

Coming in March

First, Michigan residents are well served by a Michigan Works! “one-stop” system of services. Now, a World Wide Web-based One-Stop System (OSS) improves customer service through a single information system that keeps track of their needs and eliminates the hassle of completing forms over and over. Learn about this new technology in the March edition of CareerWise.

FY 1999 Rehabilitation Figures

More Michigan citizens with disabilities found jobs during FY 1999 than at any other time during this decade.

The Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS) division of the Department of Career Development placed 7,403 people with disabilities into jobs in Fiscal Year 1999, a five percent increase over Fiscal Year 1998.

This rise in placements continues a trend that has generated a 39 percent increase since 1991, when 5,321 were assisted into the job market. (see graph below)

“Michigan’s thriving economy, coupled with Michigan residents’ desire to work, has helped make FY 1999 a remarkable year for job placements,” said Robert E. Davis, state rehabilitation director.

Davis noted that 34 percent of those assisted into employment during the fiscal year, which ended September 30, had been receiving some type of public assistance when they first began receiving job preparation services.

Those who were working when they first began receiving MRS services were earning an average of only \$86 a week. That figure rose to an average of \$302 a week after MRS job

preparation and placement services were provided.

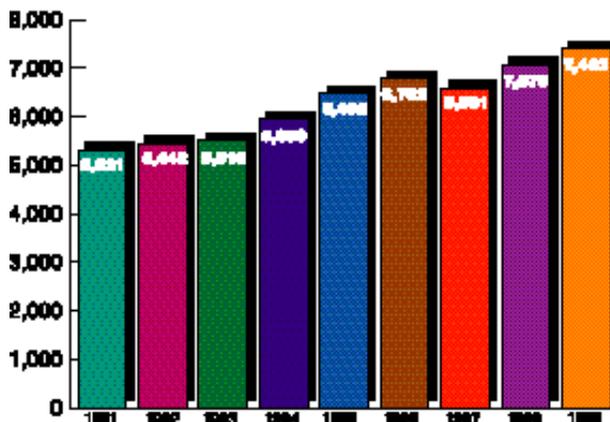
Slightly more than half of those served by MRS are referred by schools and health-related organizations. Persons with disabilities themselves and friends and family constitute 28 percent of the total number of Michigan citizens referred to the state agency (see chart).

With 35 offices across the state and staff at each of the Michigan Works! Service Centers, MRS offers job-seeking skills training, prostheses and other medical services, and job training and placement assistance to persons with disabilities wishing to enter or re-enter the job market.

Agencies Referring Persons with Disabilities to MRS

Self Referrals and Others	28.2%
Educational Institutions	26.4%
Health Organizations	23.2%
Welfare and Other Public Agencies	3.8%
Hospitals	3.1%
Employment Service Agency	1.6%
Correctional Institutions	1.3%
Private Agencies	1.1%
Social Security Administration	1.0%
Other	10.3%
Total	100.0%

Number of Persons Rehabilitated Through MRS



Get It Done Video

GET IT DONE!, a Michigan Rehabilitation Services video that encourages young people with disabilities to begin thinking about career goals, has won a Golden Eagle Award—the top prize—in the national CINE (Council on International Non-Theatrical Events) competition.

CINE is a screening competition to find productions that can represent the United States in international competitions. By winning CINE’s Golden Eagle Award, Get It Done! could go on to garner additional honors.

The 10-minute video was disseminated to Michigan high schools, intermediate school districts, and numerous community agencies and associations this past fall.

The Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS) division of the Department of Career Development is doing its part to ease the state's labor shortage.

Traditionally concerned with assisting citizens with disabilities into the workforce, MRS expanded its role several years ago to also helping business owners keep valued employees.

Workers can be at risk of losing their jobs because of the onset of an illness or injury or because of personal or family problems. This is when MRS business representatives can step in and provide counseling,

recommendations for accommodations at the work site, or other job retention services as needed.

Referral of qualified workers to fill empty job slots is also a popular service to businesses.

In Fiscal Year 1999, ending September 30, more than 2,000 Michigan employers were assisted by MRS, reducing the need for these business owners to advertise for workers.

The actual 2,097 employers served represents a 400 percent increase since Fiscal Year 1997, when just over 500 employers were assisted by MRS.

In addition to employee retention and recruitment

services, MRS offers consultation on business responsibilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), assistance with writing job descriptions, disability sensitivity training, and help with on-the-job training.

The most frequent users of MRS business services are health care facilities, metal and plastic manufacturers, retail outlets, and hotels.

For more information on MRS business services, contact Robert Moore at 1-800-605-6722 (voice) or 1-888-605-6722 (TTY). Or, visit MRS Business Services on the Internet at www.mrs.state.mi.us/bs/index.html.

Education Programs Join MDCE Effective January 1

Education Services

As a part of Governor Engler's Executive Order 1999-12, three programs from the Michigan Department of Education have become a part of the Department of Career Development effective January 1, 2000. These are (1) Career and Technical Education Services, (2) the Office of Postsecondary Services, and (3) Adult Education.

Career and Technical Education Services (John L. Williams, Director) is responsible for administering state and federal funds for the operation and delivery of career and technical education programs in K-12 school districts, intermediate school districts, and community colleges. Career and technical education, as part of Michigan's Career Preparation System, is designed to provide learners with experiences, knowledge, and skills that will prepare them to choose and obtain employment upon completion of high school and/or further post-secondary education in a career area of interest. Programs are offered

at both the secondary and post-secondary levels, including trade academies.

The Office of Postsecondary Services (James Folkening, Director) is responsible for providing program policy and guidance, administration and oversight, audit resolution, and provision of technical assistance to Michigan universities, community colleges, independent colleges, and proprietary schools and licensed establishments. The Community Colleges Services Unit is responsible for programs within the Community College Act, Public Act 331 of 1966; the annual community college appropriation acts; and the postsecondary provisions of the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-332). The Martin Luther King, Jr.-Cesar Chavez-Rosa Parks (KCP) Initiative Unit is responsible for programs authorized in the annual higher education appropriation acts for the state's 15 universities and eligible independent colleges include College Day,

Select Student Support Services, Visiting Professor, Future Faculty, Michigan College/University Partnership, and Morris Hood, Jr., Educator Developer. The Educational Corporations, Proprietary Schools, and Veterans Education Unit has broad authority regarding the establishment and approval of non-public institutions of higher education and non-incorporated, privately operated colleges.

The purpose of the Adult Education Program is to provide Adult Basic Education and English as a Second Language, GED Preparation, High School Completion, Community Education, Alternative Education, and Full Day/Full Service Schools. Adult Basic Education is instruction in reading, math and language arts for grades 0-8. English as a Second Language includes instruction in English and Citizenship up to the secondary level. GED and High School Completion are secondary level diploma (certificate) programs.

Disability Awards

Sixteen businesses in Southeastern Michigan were presented with Distinguished Employer of the Year awards last fall for their commitment to hiring individuals with disabilities.

The awards were given by the Eastern Division of Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS), the state's vocational rehabilitation agency operated by the Department of Career Development.

MRS works one-on-one with adults with disabilities to assist them in preparing for and finding employment through a network of 35 offices across the state. MRS counselors are also on staff at each of the 102 Michigan Works! Service Centers.

The award recipients were:

Harvard Industries/Trim Trends, Deckerville; Joseph P. Carney, Detroit; HSTA-ATS, Detroit; LSG Skychef, Detroit; St. James Baptist Church, Detroit; Burger King, Dundee; Al Serra Buick-GMC, Grand Blanc; Genesis Rehabilitation Center, Oak Park; Golden Corral Restaurant, Owosso; Marriott Courtyard, Pontiac; Fairfield Inn, Romulus; K-Mart, Sandusky; NorthStar West Tax & Accounting Services, Inc., Southfield; Tamaroff, Southfield; Sears at Lakeside, Sterling Heights; Qual-Effic Services, Inc., Warren.



Pastor James A. Jennings, Jr.,
St. James Baptist Church, Detroit and
Sylvia Meniffee, Eastern Division Director,
Michigan Rehabilitation Services

In addition, Organization of the Year certificates were presented to Career Concepts in Detroit, Center for Computer Technology in Monroe, The Disability Network in Flint, and Goodwill Industries in Mt. Clemens for their support in preparing individuals with disabilities for employment.

MCTI WEB SITE

The Michigan Career and Technical Institute (MCTI), operated by the Department of Career Development, has just unveiled its new web site, providing an opportunity for the public to take an at-home tour of this unique postsecondary school.

Located near Plainwell, MCTI is one of only nine facilities in the United States that provide a combination of career training and supportive services for adults with disabilities.

The new web site (www.mcti.org) provides descriptions of the school's training programs,

health and accommodation services, on-campus housing, student activities and sports offerings, campus accessibility features, and job placement services.

In addition, the site explains how to enroll at MCTI, what Visitation Days are, and how Career Assessment Services can help in selecting a job goal.

Interested persons are also invited to take an on-site tour of the school by contacting Patricia Pallett, admissions and financial aid director, at 616/664-9225 (voice) or 616/664-9294 (TTY).

Census 2000 Workers Needed!

About 74,000 workers are needed for Michigan to successfully complete the Census. Temporary part-time and full-time positions of 1 to 3 months duration are currently available and will continue to be through the completion of the census in June 2000. Jobs are open for census clerks, census takers and crew leaders with pay ranging from \$7.50-\$15.25 per hour. Call 1-888-325-7733 or visit the Census 2000 website at www.census.gov/jobs2000. Your help is needed!

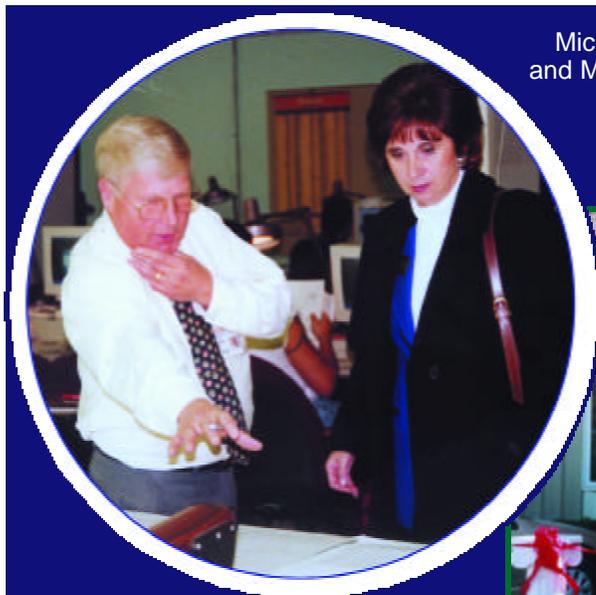
SERVICES TRANSFERRED TO MDCD

Governor John Engler signed Executive Order 1999-12 in October, transferring the administration of Career and Technical Services, Career Training and Adult Education Services from the State Board of Education and the Superintendent of Public Instruction to the Michigan Department of Career Development (MDCD). The order also transferred the administration of the Michigan

Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) to the Department of Treasury.

The Governor said the executive order will help to establish the long-term administrative continuity necessary to permit Michigan to compete in the national and international marketplace. He also said the executive order “frees the State Board of Education to focus on its core mission of improving the curriculum and developing standards.”

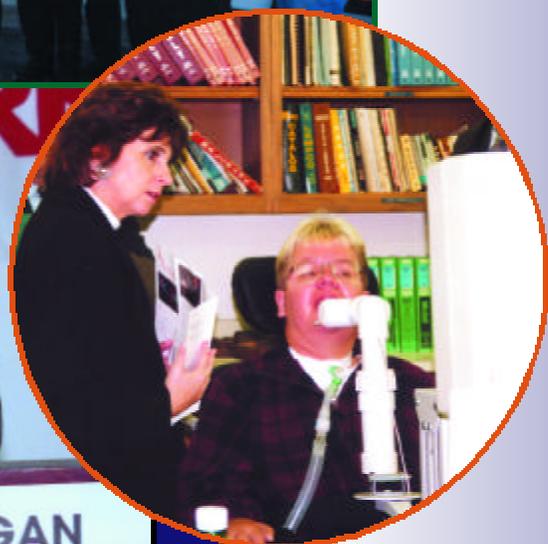
“This change enhances Michigan’s reputation as the state that is moving toward a system to produce the most highly skilled workers in the nation,” said Dr. Barbara Bolin, MDCD director. The Michigan Department of Career Development made its official debut April 5, 1999. Its mission is to develop a system that produces a workforce with the required skills to maintain and enhance the Michigan economy.



Michigan Works! Service Centers certification and MCTI visits across the state by the Lt. Gov. Dick Posthumus and Dr. Barbara Bolin.



At the Service Centers





State of Michigan
 Michigan Department
 of Career Development
 201 N. Washington Square
 Victor Office Center, 1st Floor
 Lansing, Michigan 48913

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CareerWise ■ The Official Newsletter of the Michigan Department of Career Development

January 2000

MDCD Calendar of Events

- January 19 **Governor's State of the State Address**
 Time: 7:00pm;
 Location: State Capitol, Lansing
- January 26 **Governor's Workforce Commission Meeting**
 Time: 1:30pm — Location to be determined;
 for more information, call Sharon Walker at:
 (517) 335-7421
- February 14-15 **Governor's Career Preparation and
 Tech Prep Conference**
 Amway Grand Plaza Hotel, Grand Rapids
 for more information or to register, call:
 the Michigan Center for Career and Technical
 Education at (800) 292-1606, ext. 7
 or you may register on-line at:
www.mccle.educ.msu.edu
- April 19 **Governor's Workforce Commission Meeting**
 Time: 1:30pm — Location to be determined;
 for more information, call Sharon Walker at:
 (517) 335-7421
- April 26 **Veterans Job Fair 2000**
 Time: 1:00pm—5:00pm
 Location: Premier Center, Iron Mountain

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www.state.mi.us/career

The Michigan Department of Career Development is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.



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