

Community Partnership #2

Start-End Year: 2009-2010	Project ID#: WMN 91	Partnership Type: Women
Partnership Title: Women's Conference: "The First Step is to Start"		
Description of Proposed Partnership: This is the second in a series of women's conferences aimed at assisting this marginalized workforce. The 2008-2009 women's conference focused on overcoming the barriers to employment and featured local support networks and services for women as well as presenters who had overcome multiple barriers. The 2009-2010 partnership will focus on organizing and hosting an all-day forum for women who have an employment goal but who are not in the labour force. The forum will focus on the development and implementation of the return to work action plan, and explore the strategies and challenges in creating the return to work plan. Include skills assessment information such as TOWES to expand the use of TOWES assessments to support marginalized workers marketing themselves to employers. Development of success tracking mechanism of attendees. Origin of Partnership: 2008 TOP Report – Trend: Marginalized Workforce, Issue # 4, p 18.		
Projected Outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 200 participants will attend the forum.• 20 percent of attendees will not be connected to a service provider.• 30 percent of attendees will be derived from Second Career and Skills Development programs.• 30 percent of attendees will be derived from displaced workers.• 20 percent of attendees will be derived from Ontario Works.• Those in attendance will end the day with an outline of a return to work action plan.		
Key Partners: Education: Durham College, Durham District and Catholic District School Boards Government: Regional Municipality of Durham, Employment Ontario, Township of Scugog Community Services: YWCA, Northern Lights, United Way of Oshawa-Whitby-Clarington, Durham Region Unemployed Help Centre, VPI, John Howard Society, Literacy Network of Durham Region, Community Development Council Durham Media/Other: aWebthatWorks, Durham Labour Council, Power Workers' Union, Metroland, CHEX, Rogers Cable, Bill Nurse Chev Olds, Bowmanville Foundry, Gerdau Ameristeel, Vandermeer Nursery		
Actual Outcomes: <h1>COMPLETED</h1> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project Officer interviewed on CHEX and Rogers, feature article in Metroland• 155 women participated in February 17th, 2010 event at Ajax Hilton Convention Centre• 14 exhibitors,• 121 participant evaluations returned		
Product: Conference Program "The First Step is to Start", including Return to Work Action Plan Model. Metroland article.		
DRLTB Contributions and Partner Contributions (Financial and In-Kind): \$8,650 DRLTB; \$9,000 in sponsorship funding, donations and in-kind from key partners listed above.		