



## IN THE NEWS

### **Workforce Connections, Inc. Recognized by Governor Walker for Work with State's FoodShare Employment and Training Program**

**ONALASKA** –Workforce Connections, Inc., received recognition for their work with Wisconsin's FoodShare Employment and Training (FSET) program. Governor Walker addressed the topic of food stamps and employment at Empire Screen Printing in Onalaska declaring the program to be a win, win, win; a win for tax payers, a win for employers, and most importantly a win for the individual who receives training or placement in employment and has an opportunity to provide for themselves and for their family.

The FoodShare Employment and Training program is a job training program designed to provide training and work search assistance to adults without children in their home who are required to meet the work requirement in order to receive food stamps. Services are available at our Tomah, Mauston, Black River Falls, Prairie du Chien, Viroqua, Independence and La Crosse offices.

Shawn, a FSET participant was hired on for third shift at Empire Screen Printing after three months of training. He said, "If you're a good employee here, if you show yourself, it's a good chance you're going to get hired on." He also stated, "I'm getting these food stamps and insurance here and it's an opportunity. It really panned out for me."

Another FSET participant, Ron, is participating on a work site and is learning valuable skills at Empire Screen Printing. He too, is hoping for additional work opportunities with the company.

Empire Screen Printing is a partner with Workforce Connections, Inc., in the FSET program. Individuals are placed at Empire Screen Printing on a work site to increase their skills. Some work sites like Empire Screen Printing become permanent employment for participants. During a time of full employment, businesses are desperately searching for quality employees. Programs like FSET provide an advantage to businesses because worksite employers have the opportunity to train FSET participants on a trial basis before being hired for a permanent position. FSET participants also benefit from the opportunity to receive new skills, some employee benefits, and a chance to obtain permanent employment.

Workforce Connections, Inc. is a federally designated 501(c) (3) private non-profit corporation devoted to connecting people with work and training through workforce development programs since 1983. For 33 years, Workforce Connections, Inc. has operated federal, state, and privately funded workforce development programs and has earned a reputation for excellence. With offices in the counties of Buffalo, Trempealeau, Jackson, La Crosse, Monroe, Juneau, Vernon, and Crawford in western Wisconsin, Workforce Connections, Inc. is positioned to provide FSET and other employment and training services to businesses and eligible individuals.

For more information on FSET services and Workforce Connections, Inc. contact: [browng@workforceconnections.org](mailto:browng@workforceconnections.org) or 608-386-1629.