



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Hiring Stays Positive

Greater Springfield's labor market has now seen hiring activity hover around double digit improvement for the last three-months. March saw employers post nine-percent more openings (547) versus the same month a year ago (503). Even more encouraging is that job seekers reported to FutureWorks a 15% increase in finding work. Four-hundred and nineteen people said they found jobs in March compared to 365 in March 2011.

The number of Job Seekers Served (2,788) fell 10% versus March of last year (3,081). The number of Unemployed Job Seekers Served (2,513) declined 9% from the 2,776 of a year ago. Both of these measures reflected an improving job picture. The Average Hourly Wage at Hire jumped 31¢ to \$13.08 an hour from March 2011's \$12.77.

Industry Sectors Which Hired FutureWorks Members

Top 10 - March 2012		Hires	%
1.	Healthcare & Social Assistance	66	16
2.	Administrative & Support & Waste Mgmt Services	59	14
3.	Manufacturing	49	12
4.	Retail	36	9
5.	Transportation & Warehousing	32	8
6.	Unclassified	29	7
7.	Accommodation & Food Services	28	7
8.	Professional, Scientific & Technical Services	26	6
9.	Construction	24	6
10.	Other Services	21	5

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The statistics reported here are derived from employer and job seeker activity at FutureWorks Career Center.

LMI

MAR 2012

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

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JOB OPENINGS

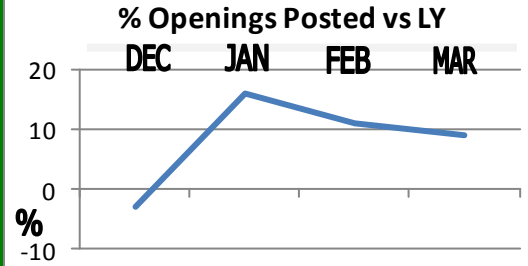
Sector

Arts, Entertain, Recreation	106
Health Care & Social Assist	111
Admin Support-Waste Mgmt	80
Manufacturing	46
Educational Services	30
Other Services	23
Public Administration	22
Retail-Vehicles/Home	21
Transportation	17
Profesnl-Scientific Tech Svcs	16

EMPLOYER SERVICES

Employers Served	138
Employers Listing Jobs	113
Total Openings Posted	547
Repeat Employers	105

MARCH 2012 UP 9%



JOB SEEKER INFO

Total Served	2,788
Avg. Wage at Hire	\$13.08

DEMOGRAPHICS

Male	50%
Female	50%
White	40%
Hispanic	29%
Black/African-American	24%
Asian	2%
Info Not Available	2%

AGE

18 and Under	2%
19-21	6%
22-45	56%
46-54	21%
55+	15%

EDUCATION

Less Than High School	16%
High School/GED	38%
Some College/Voc Degree	23%
Associates Degree	7%
Bachelor Degree	8%
Advanced Degree	4%
Info Not Available	3%