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GREEN JOB CREATION SUPPORTED BY SKILLWORKS **Local Businesses Partner to Develop Middle-Skill Green Jobs**

February 9, 2011 (Boston, MA) - [SkillWorks](#), the local funders' collaborative that has invested over \$18 million to date to equip area workers and employers with competitive skills for the 21st century, today announced the second round of job training awards in the Green Jobs Initiative. The grants will be used to create pathways to middle-skill jobs in green manufacturing, hazardous waste management, recycling and deconstruction industries in Massachusetts.

"We are pleased to make these awards to support job creation in green industries," stated Loh-Sze Leung, Director of SkillWorks. "By working with local businesses and training organizations, we can develop good paying middle skill jobs that are good for the environment."

The [SkillWorks Green Jobs Initiative](#) awarded \$75,000 to Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD) for their GreenSTREAM Training Initiative. GreenSTREAM will create pathways to middle-skill jobs in green manufacturing and related fields by providing Boston residents with Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) training, on-the-job skill development, and certification opportunities. The Roxbury Technology Corporation, Save That Stuff, Inc., and MassCOSH will also partner in this project.

"ABCD is thrilled to be working with SkillWorks and our other partners on the exciting Green Jobs Initiative to develop workers to participate in the alternative and renewable energy fields," said John J. Drew, ABCD President/CEO. "It's a win-win for Boston's people and neighborhoods— we are putting people who are unemployed or striving to improve their work situations on a positive career path in industries that preserve the environment and build sustainable communities!" For more information contact Christine Araujo, Araujo@bostonabcd.org, at 617-348-6755.

Additional Green Jobs planning grants were awarded to JFYNetWorks and Operation A.B.L.E. of Greater Boston to work with employers to develop certification and career pathways for middle skill jobs in hazardous waste management and energy efficiency administrative support, respectively. Participating employers include Resource Options Inc., Aerotek, Triumvirate Environmental, The New England Consortium, and the Institute for Environmental Education. Sustainable Construction, and HeatSpring. For more information about these efforts contact Paula Paris, pparis@ifynet.org, 617-338-0815 x229 or Mark Gyurina, mgyurina@operationable.net, 617-542-4180.

SkillWorks also funded the Environmental Business Council (EBC) to research and report on the workforce needs of the recycling and deconstruction industries in Massachusetts. The study will include a description of the skills, competencies, and training needs for job titles such as crew chief, crew member, and coordinator. The project will also improve the capacity of the EBC and the Massachusetts Recycling Coalition to work with employers in the growing green job community. For more information on this effort please contact Amy Perlmutter, amy@aperlmutter.com, at 617-354-5456.

[SkillWorks](#) is a ten-year, \$25-million investment partnership among local and national foundations, the City of Boston, and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts designed to create opportunities for people to gain skills needed to be successful in the MA economy. SkillWorks does this by investing in training programs, preparing people for and connecting them to post-secondary education, working on public policy efforts to create better pathways to post-secondary training and education, and prioritizing growing sectors in our state's economy. For more information please contact SkillWorks Director Loh-Sze Leung at 617-338-4377, Loh-Sze.Leung@tbf.org or visit www.skill-works.org.