

## ATTACHMENT J

### Abstract

**Please include a 1 page abstract of your proposal below:**

The Southwestern Illinois workNet Consortium is uniquely positioned to operate the best and most effective One-Stop Delivery System for Local Workforce Innovation Area 24 (LWIA 24). Made up of the four core partner agencies, the majority of the Consortium partners have been operating a One-Stop Center since the inception of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998. The Consortium has come together during the implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and as a team created strong regional and local plans as well as a sustainable MOU. The Consortium has demonstrated a proven track record of cooperation and collaboration among its partners. Both individually and collectively, consortium partners have demonstrated an interest in innovative approaches to serving their customers, whether they are employers, job seekers, youth or adult. *"There is no wrong door"* is the motto of the Southwestern Illinois workNet Center. This Consortium, if selected will continue to build on that principle. The Consortium has ensured that partners' information is shared on site and on a regular basis. By doing this the One-Stop has operated smoothly over the years. We participate in quarterly meetings to keep informed about services and to collaborate on various projects. Recently, through regional collaboration, a common customer referral form was developed for interagency program referrals which continues to be used to ensure customers are informed of the variety of services available to them. In addition the members of this consortium initiated a series of events to cross train all front line staff. As a group we pledge to continue this spirit of collaboration, accountability and transparency.

By virtue of their positions each member of this consortium lends a specialized skill set toward fulfillment of the One-Stop Operator functions. Jill VanZandt, Southern Region Manager for the Illinois Department of Employment Security brings thirteen years of experience to the partnership and also brings a regional perspective to the consortium. Jill's responsibilities include overall management of IDES functions for the Southern Region.

Susan Chapman-Schultz is the Illinois Department of Rehabilitative Services (DRS) Supervisor and as such has responsibility for all aspects of DRS services for both the Belleville and East St. Louis offices. Susan has 19 years with DRS.

Lisa Atkins is Director of Adult Education at Southwestern Illinois College providing the Adult Education component to this consortium. Lisa has over 20 years of experience related to workforce development and adult education.

Rick Stubblefield is Coordinator for the St. Clair County Intergovernmental Grants Department Workforce Development Group. Rick is responsible for all aspects of administering WIOA services for the five Southwestern Illinois Counties of Clinton, Monroe, Randolph, St. Clair and Washington. Rick has eight years of experience administering WIA/WIOA programs. The consortium chose Rick Stubblefield as the consortium lead.