

NASWA Mission and Accomplishments in 2006- 2007

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NASWA

- NASWA is an organization of state administrators of unemployment insurance laws, employment services, training programs, employment statistics, and labor market information programs and other programs and services made available through the publicly-funded workforce system.
- All 50 states, D.C. and Puerto Rico are members.

NASWA Mission

- Advance the state role in the workforce system to ensure quality and consistency of customer service across labor markets;
- Further the understanding that the core function of the workforce system is to find good and stable employment for workers and to meet employers' needs for a qualified workforce;
- Invest in training and professional development of the workforce system's staff;
- Market the publicly-funded workforce system; and
- Lead in coordinating local, state, and federal officials who have the responsibility for the success of the workforce system in meeting customer needs.

Goals for the Past Two Years

- Strengthen the public workforce system, which includes employment and training services, education, and economic development activities.
- Aggressively pursue funding to support programs and services under the public workforce system and to help the United States compete globally.
- Develop new service delivery and integrity mechanisms through innovation and technology to enhance program performance and efficiency.
- Outreach and advocate for the public workforce system.
- Create an environment of superior customer service to employers and workers.

Some Accomplishments in 2006-2007

- Testimony on appropriations
- Refutation of the argument there are excess carryover funds under the Workforce Investment Act.
- Analysis of supplemental state funding of the system.
- An information technology portfolio to help states learn about each other's use of various technologies.
- Training on leadership and business solutions selling.
- Creation of a successor to America's Job Bank called JobCentral National Labor Exchange in alliance with DirectEmployers Association.

The Future

- There is much momentum.
- NASWA's budget is in great shape again after reversing a downward trend over the past three years.
- NASWA will be at full strength in 2008
- NASWA is beginning a new line of business with the Employment and Training Administration in supporting three unemployment insurance conference and assisting in developing and operating new information systems, such as the Separation Information and Data Exchange System (SIDES).
- NASWA is expanding another new line of business providing training to employees in the system.
- NASWA is again working on unemployment insurance administrative financing reform.
- NASWA continues to advocate with the National Governors Association on the reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act and other issues.
- NASWA will redesign its website.

Next Year

- I leave it to the NASWA President for 2007-2008 to build on this momentum and improve NASWA's advocacy, liaison, and information exchange activities even more in the next year.
- Thank you.