

September 28, 2010

Mark your Calendar...

REDI Events

10/15 REDI Presentation, Gibson Co. Industrial Board 6 pm

10/6 TCAN Meeting 9 am-Noon (Nashville)

10/6-8 TEDC (TN Economic Dev. Council) Conf. in Clarksville

10/19 JSCC Economic Summit

10/29 REDI Retreat @ Pickwick

10/19 Senior Mtg. @ Milan HS 9:15 am

10/26 Senior Mtg. @ Munford HS 12:45 pm

College Fairs

10/15 Hardin Co. @ HCHS 8-11 am

10/21 Tipton Co. @ CHS 5:30-7:30 pm

10/21 Hardeman Co. @ Bolivar Central HS 8-11 am

10/27 Fayette Co. @ Fayette Ware 8:30-11 am

10/29 Chester Co. @ CCHS 10-11:30 am

BOOK IT: REDI Conference is Oct. 29

Get REDI! *Much* has changed since our initial brainstorming retreat more than two years ago -- and *a lot* has happened since our planning retreat last October. In March of 2010, we hired three employees who hit the ground running and all 12 of our counties are putting personalized plans in place to benefit the students in their communities. Besides more than 1,000 kids signing up to receive help with financial forms and admissions paperwork, more than 400 mentors have stepped up to volunteer their time. This tangible investment says loudly: "These kids are worth it and we want to help them secure their future and help secure the ultimate future of our region!"

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: Be at the REDI Conference from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Oct. 29 at Pickwick Inn. Cost is \$40 per person (\$30 for WestStar graduates). Fee includes breakfast, lunch, and conference materials. Get an update about where we are, information about where REDI is headed, hear from speakers who'll inspire you, and share your ideas and successes with other REDI leaders, advisors and personnel. Invites will be sent this week!!!

REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE
REDI
Education • Technology • Workforce Development • Capacity Building

PARTICIPATION TOTALS AS OF 9/27/2010
Enrolled Students: 1,043
Mentors/Advisors: 420

Mayor Haslam sought audience with REDI Advisors and SWTDD

In an effort to better understand the challenges facing West Tennesseans and rural economic development, Gubernatorial candidate Bill Haslam's staff requested a meeting with Southwest Tennessee Development District's REDI advisors -- to learn more about its new cutting-edge program and how it seeks to minimize the trend toward job losses and put our region ahead of the workforce development curve by taking practical steps to encourage tomorrow's workers to seek post secondary education today.



In The Jackson Sun on Sunday, Sept. 19, there were two REDI stories. To read them, click on these headline links: "[Program 'REDI's' students before college](#)" and "[Future jobs demand higher education.](#)"

The REDI College Access Program is coordinated by SWTDD in Chester, Crockett, Decatur, Fayette, Gibson, Hardeman, Hardin, Henderson, Haywood, Lauderdale, McNairy and Tipton counties. To learn more about REDI, visit swtdd.org or call Lisa Hankins (731.668.6450), Beverly Vos (731.668.6449), or Cedric Deadmon (731.668.6448). To submit a story idea or REDI success story, email Lisa Hankins at lhankins@swtdd.org.