

## AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) OF 2009 - IMPLEMENTATION STUDY

U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration

July 2009 – June 2011

**Project Summary:** States face a range of policy and fiscal challenges as they try to meet the demands of the severe economic recession (beginning in 2008) and implement the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (the Recovery Act) of 2009. The purpose of this two-year study is to assess the implementation of the workforce and unemployment insurance provisions of the Recovery Act. The study examines the effects of Recovery Act on workforce programs that provide income support to the unemployed, as well as employment and training services designed to speed reemployment through improved job search techniques, better information about job openings, job training, and other aspects of upgrading worker skills. This DOL-funded study examined activities states and local areas implemented as a result of the Recovery Act, with a particular focus on the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Title I Adult and Dislocated Worker programs, Unemployment Insurance (UI), Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA), the Wagner-Peyser Act/Employment Services program, and Reemployment Services for UI recipients. In addition, the study examined system-wide issues such as green jobs, workforce staffing, and the use of labor market information affected by the Recovery Act provisions. Capital Research Corporation, Inc. and George Washington University were subcontractors to the National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA) on this study and played major roles in the conduct of major study tasks: (1) a two web-based survey of all states, and (2) case studies of a sample of states. CRC and GWU staff were part of the site visit team which conducted two rounds of visits to 20 states, during which the project team interviewed administrators and staff at (1) state-level agencies responsible for the workforce and unemployment insurance programs, and (2) two local workforce areas (within each state) responsible for administering the Employment Service, TAA, and WIA programs. The study team submitted the final evaluation report for this study in September 2012, and subsequently, the Upjohn Institute published the final report as a book.

### Reports:

B. Barnow and R. Hobbie (Ed.), *The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act: Role of Workforce Programs*, W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, Kalamazoo, MI, 2013.

B. Barnow, J. Cai, Y. Chocolaad, R. Eberts, R. Hobbie, J. Kaiser, T. Smith, J. Trutko, W. Vroman, and S. Wandner, *Implementation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act: Workforce Development and Unemployment Insurance Provisions (Final Report)*, Center for Employment Security Education and Research, National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA), prepared for the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, 2012.

B. Barnow, J. Kaiser, C. King, D. Nightingale, T. Smith, and J. Trutko, *Early Implementation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act: Workforce Development and Unemployment Insurance Provisions*, Center for Employment Security Education and Research, National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA), prepared for the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, 2011.