

EVALUATION OF THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR COMMUNITY AUDIT DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

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

July 1, 2002 – August 31, 2004

Project Summary: The United States Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA) initiated the Community Audit Demonstration Program (CADP) in Program Year 2000 with the issuance of grants to 34 organizations. The purposes of these grants were to “support promising practices in strategic planning and strategic research related to community audits.” Community audits enable local stakeholders from the workforce development agency, economic development agency, one-stop partners, and other key players in the locality to bring together economic and labor market trend information that will support strategic planning and Workforce Investment Act (WIA) program implementation in their area. This evaluation effort was intended to identify: (1) successful program strategies and the key factors and elements contributing to the success of such strategies; (2) any major impediments/constraints to successful implementation, both with respect to the programmatic/operational models and the implementation strategy; and (3) any resulting new and innovative approaches to service delivery on the basis of performance and customer satisfaction. Main project task included the following:

- a review of grant SOWs, any approved modifications for each project, and other readily available documentation;
- structured telephone interviews with each of the 34 CADP grantee administrators/staff involved in day-to-day operations and knowledgeable about the planning process, implementation, use, and results of the CADP grants;
- on-site visits to 18 CADP grantee sites to conduct more exhaustive in-person interviews with administrators and key staff from WIA agencies/workforce development boards involved in the CADP grant, as well as administrators and staff at other partnering agencies involved in the project, including other one-stop partners, economic development agencies, the employer community, educational community, and other human services agencies;
- assistance to ETA to develop a website devoted to community audits that would assist states and localities in the future to implement community audits.

Report:

J. Trutko, J. Kaiser, and L. Eyster, *An Assessment of the Community Audit Demonstration Program*, Final Report, Exceed Corporation, prepared for the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration, 2004.

Website: A website was developed which includes the final report, as well as reports and other materials developed by each of the CADP grantees. The website is part of the DOL/ETA website and can be viewed at: http://www.doleta.gov/usworkforce/communityaudits/eta_default.cfm#content