



# InTouch

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## FHEO AND NO WORKER LEFT BEHIND TO PROVIDE HEALTH CARE TRAINING FOR DISLOCATED WORKERS

The Flint Healthcare Employment Opportunities (FHEO) Program has expanded to include training for dislocated workers—individuals who had previous jobs which unexpectedly ended and are now unemployed.

Each individual dislocated worker in the FHEO Program Dislocated Worker Training Project will receive over \$6,000 in career training, staff resources and supportive services as well as up to \$10,000 towards tuition and academic fees. Funding for the program is provided by the United States Department of Labor, the Workforce Investment Act (via Career Alliance), and the State of Michigan's No Worker Left Behind Program. There is a projected outcome of 250 graduates from Genesee County by the end of 2011.

Through this dislocated worker program, entitled Mid-Michigan Partnership for Training in Healthcare (M-Path), participants will undergo the following training and assessment process:

- *Skills Assessment including Reading and Math*
- *Health Career Suitability Test and Career Exploration*
- *Returning to College Skills Workshop*
- *Personal Finance Workshop*
- *Screening interviews conducted with local healthcare human resources employees*
- *Resume, Interview, and Presentation Skills Training*
- *Personal Education and Career Development Plan including one-on-one appointments with the FHEO Care Manager*

After the two-month assessment and training period has been completed, many graduates will advance to college classroom-based training in order to pursue a healthcare career. These careers are envisioned to include registered nurses, medical billers, pharmacy technicians, dental assistants, and other in-demand health related positions.

With an economy and a workforce in transition many industries are weakening and jobs associated with those industries are disappearing. With health care emerging as one of two national growth industries, the FHEO Program's Dislocated Worker Training Project can provide necessary support for healthcare positions where job opportunities are on the rise.

**To learn more about the Dislocated Worker Training Project, please contact the Greater Flint Health Coalition by telephone at (810) 232-2228 or by email at [gfhc@flint.org](mailto:gfhc@flint.org) to obtain additional information.**

## WELCOME ABOARD!

Over the past year the Coalition has welcomed 10 new board members to the table representing various organizations in the community. These board members and the organizations they represent are listed below:

### **Carlos Cisneros**

Representative  
*Hispanic/Latino Community Representative*  
April 2008

### **Jack Kay, Ph.D.**

Provost & Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs  
*University of Michigan – Flint*  
July 2008

### **John Northrup**

County Commissioner  
*Genesee County Board of Commissioners*  
November 2008

### **John McKellar**

Interim Health Officer  
*Genesee County Health Department*  
November 2008

### **Stuart Forsyth**

Regional President - Flint  
*Citizens Bank*  
December 2008

### **Ronald Logan**

Acting Director, Assistance Payments Program  
*Department of Human Services*  
December 2008

### **Bruce Hill**

Interim President & CEO  
*HealthPlus of Michigan*  
January 2009

### **Scott Henry**

Representative  
*UAW Region 1 – C*  
April 2009

### **Duane Miller**

City Administrator  
*City of Flint*  
April 2009

### **Michele Stinson**

Acting President  
*United Teachers of Flint / MEA*  
April 2009

**Mission:** Improve the health status of our citizens.  
Improve the quality and cost effectiveness of the health care system in our community.

## **LOCAL ARMY SERGEANT MAKING A DIFFERENCE FROM COAST TO COAST**

In today's world it is not easy to find success stories, but sometimes they are closer to us than we think.

If you have had a chance to walk into the Coalition over the past 6 months, you may have noticed a tall slender young man working hard making copies or creating folders for committees and staff. His name is Cameron Waites and he has been working here as an Administrative Intern. At first glance you may see him as just another University of Michigan-Flint student working to help pay for textbooks and tuition – but take another look.

Cameron Waites, a University of Michigan-Flint student and Army Sergeant who returned from Iraq last June, is reaching across the country to further his healthcare education. This summer he will be in Palo Alto, California, for the Stanford Summer Research Program / Amgen Scholars Program which is fully funded and will include various academic trips to Northern California and participation in the program's National Symposium at UCLA. Following the opportunity at Stanford University, he will be a participant in the Michigan in Washington Program (through the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor) for the fall 2009 semester. This will include coursework and an internship in the Washington D.C. area while living with other honor students just a few blocks from the White House. These are opportunities offered to a select group of outstanding students from across the country.

In addition to this, Waites is also a volunteer ambassador for the U.S. Army's Freedom Team Salute Program. Through this program he is looking to reach out to veterans of previous wars and embrace them with the gratitude he received when returning from the war in Iraq. This endeavor was also the focus of an article on May 23, 2009 in The Flint Journal.

In a short time, Cameron Waites has been an excellent staff member here at the Coalition and we thank him for his service as well as his ambition and skills in advancing his life and career. When mothers and fathers talk with their children about role models, hope, determination and goals they are talking about future leaders like Cameron Waites.

## **PRESCRIPTION ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

With an economy in turmoil and high unemployment rates continuing, it has become difficult for many individuals to afford the prescription drugs needed to stay healthy.

The Coalition's Pharmacy Task Force has worked to address this problem through raising awareness of prescription assistance programs currently available. These programs are listed below:

### **Partnership for Prescription Assistance**

Phone: 888-4PPA-NOW (888-477-2669)

Website: [www.pparx.org](http://www.pparx.org) or  
[www.pparxmi.org](http://www.pparxmi.org)

### **Astra-Zeneca Prescription Assistance Program**

Website: [www.astrazenecz-us.com/help-affording-your-medicines](http://www.astrazenecz-us.com/help-affording-your-medicines)

### **Pfizer, Inc. Prescription Assistance Program**

Phone: 866-706-2400

Website: [www.pfizerhelpfulanswers.com](http://www.pfizerhelpfulanswers.com)

### **Lilly Cares Prescription Assistance Program**

Website: [www.lillycare.com](http://www.lillycare.com)

### **Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan/Blue Care**

Phone: 800-485-4415

### **RxAssist Patient Assistance Program Center**

Website: [www.rxassist.org](http://www.rxassist.org)



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