

August 11, 1997

## WELFARE TO WORK EVENT

**DATE:** August 12, 1997  
**LOCATION:** Mid.Tec Warehouse, St. Louis, Missouri  
**BRIEFING TIME:** 10:00 am - 10:30 am  
**EVENT TIME:** 10:40 am - 12:00 am  
**FROM:** Bruce Reed

### I. PURPOSE

To celebrate the one year anniversary of the welfare law by announcing a new decline in welfare caseloads and highlighting the success of the Welfare to Work Partnership in mobilizing businesses within St. Louis to hire welfare recipients into the workforce.

### II. BACKGROUND

You will be making remarks in an old warehouse building that Mid.Tec is currently renovating into a training facility that trains unemployed people in high-skilled manufacturing jobs. Mid.Tec recently moved into this site in the inner city, in an area that is a federal enterprise community, to be closer to a pool of unemployed people. Prior to your speech you will briefly tour the training facility.

At this event you will announce that since signing the welfare bill into law on August 22, 1996, welfare caseloads have dropped by 1.4 million. This is a 3.4 million or 24% decline since you first took office, and it is the largest decrease in the welfare rolls in history. 48 out of 50 states have seen their caseloads decline, with ten states reducing their rolls by 40% or more in the last four years. As a result, the lowest percentage of the population is on welfare since 1970.

This is also an opportunity to highlight the \$3 billion Welfare to Work Jobs Challenge and an expanded Work Opportunity Tax Credit included in the balanced budget.

#### St. Louis: An Example of the Critical Role of the Private Sector

This event will underscore the critical role of the private sector in welfare reform by highlighting the over 300 bi-state St. Louis region companies that are committing to hire and retain welfare recipients without displacing current workers. St. Louis is the first of 12 "City to City" challenges the Welfare to Work Partnership is launching. Over the next

year, the Partnership will work closely with community and business leaders in 12 high poverty cities to help promote innovative and effective welfare to work initiatives. Nationally, the Welfare to Work Partnership, has received pledges from over 800 companies since it was founded in May.

Also at today's event, the Partnership will unveil several new tools to help companies that want to hire workers from the welfare rolls: a toll free hotline (1-888-USA-JOB1) and a web site ([www.welfaretowork.org](http://www.welfaretowork.org)) to link companies to public and private sector welfare reform information; a guide for companies hiring welfare recipients, *Blueprint for Business: Reaching a New Work Force*, prepared with the National Alliance of Business; and radio and print public service announcements that highlights the benefits to companies of hiring welfare recipients and encourages companies to join the Partnership.

### III. PARTICIPANTS

#### Briefing Participants:

Bruce Reed

#### Event Participants:

Mayor Clarence Harman

Representative Gephardt

Senator Bond

Governor Carnahan

Barry Corona, Chairman of Mid.Tec and owner of Production Products

Robert Shapiro, President and CEO of Monsanto

#### Also Seated on Stage:

Two former welfare recipients.

Eli Segal

County Executive

\*Secretary Shalala, Secretary Herman, and Secretary Alvarez will be seated in the front row.

### IV. PRESS PLAN

Open Press.

### V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

- Upon arrival, you will briefly tour the training facility.
- You will then meet and greet the stage participants in a holding room.
- Mayor Clarence Harmon will announce you and the participants onto the stage.
- Robert Shapiro, CEO of Monsanto will make brief remarks.

- Congressman Gephardt will make brief remarks.
- Senator Bond will make brief remarks.
- Governor Mel Carnahan will make brief remarks.
- Barry Corona will make brief remarks and introduce **you**.
- **You** will make remarks, work a ropeline, and then proceed into the holding room.
- **You** will briefly meet 25 representatives from St. Louis companies pledging to hire welfare recipients, and then depart.

## **VI. REMARKS**

Remarks Provided by Terry Edmonds in Speechwriting.

# THE WELFARE TO WORK PARTNERSHIP

1250 Connecticut Avenue, NW • Sixth Floor

Washington, DC 20036

Phone 202-955-3005 • Fax 202-637-9195

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## PARTIAL LIST OF THE PARTNERSHIP BUSINESS MEMBERS (BY STATE)

### ALABAMA

- Standard Furniture
- Automation Temporary Services, Inc.
- Clark/Staff Leasing, Inc.
- Gulf Distributing

### ARKANSAS

- Beverly Enterprises
- Cromwell Architects Engineers
- Kearny Consulting
- Daymark Company

### CALIFORNIA

- Total One Development Center
- New Age Metal Furnishing
- Century Center for Economic Opportunity, Inc.
- STA of Southern California
- ARCO
- SIDS Air Conditioning & Heating Company, Inc.
- Rayshore Security Services
- Rubicon Programs, Inc.
- Manpower of Sacramento
- Ace Mailing
- Budget Signs, Inc.
- Cal Insurance & Associates, Inc.
- Charles Schwab
- Juma Ventures
- Just Desserts
- King Security Services, Inc.
- Name Finders Lists, Inc.
- Pacific Bell
- Pacific Heights Chevron
- PlumpJack, Inc.
- Rainbow Grocery Cooperative
- Spiral Binding, Inc.
- Stevens & Associates
- Yogurt Expressions
- Tender Loving Things
- Western Staffing Services

### COLORADO

- Centennial Bolt, Inc.

### CONNECTICUT

- Career Team
- Aetna
- Tandem-Labor World
- Helicopter Support, Inc.
- United Parcel Service of America, Inc.
- Dependent Care Connection
- J.J. Husic Corporation d/b/a Nationwide Search and Retrieval
- PathWays International

### DELAWARE

- Greenwood Trust
- Caldwell Staffing Services

### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

- American Public Welfare Association
- Boscart Construction
- Burrito Brothers
- City Works
- Dynamic Marketing Services, Inc.
- Electronic Villages Data Management Company
- Fannie Mae
- Frida White and Associates
- Graham Staffing Services
- Julia Williams, P.C.
- Lamaute Capital, Inc.
- Marriott International
- The Nursery Hut CDC

### FLORIDA

- JLBR, Inc. DBA Labor Force Staffing
- Esprit Staffing Services
- Express Personnel Services
- InPhyNet Medical Management

**FLORIDA CONT.**

- Creative Staffing
- Burger King
- Pride Enterprises
- Snelling Personnel Services of Tampa
- Spartan Premier Staffing

**GEORGIA**

- Futren Corporation
- Norfolk Waterside Marriott
- Staffing One, Inc.
- C & S Paving
- CMD Services

**IDAHO**

- American Staffing, Inc.

**ILLINOIS**

- Ameritech
- Ceridian Performance Partners-The Partnership Group
- Rachel's Bus Company
- Resolution Resources
- Walgreens
- UAL Corporation
- Omeda Communications, Inc.
- McDonald's Corporation
- Labor World/Tandem
- SRF, Inc. dba Adecco Personnel Services

**INDIANA**

- Express Personnel Services---Fort Wayne
- Allison Engine Company
- Gardner & White Corporation
- Tempforce, An Accustaff Company
- Rea, Logan, & Company, CPA's

**IOWA**

- Snelling Personnel Services

- Sedona Staffing Services, Inc.

- Great Lakes Personnel Services, Inc.

**KANSAS**

- Express Personnel Services
- Ace Personnel
- Business Temporary Services, Inc.
- TRC Staffing Services
- Sprint Corporation
- Cessna Aircraft Company
- Norrell Staffing Services

**KENTUCKY**

- Active Transportation
- Crown Services, Inc.
- Remedy Staffing of Louisville, Kentucky
- StaffMasters
- TAD Staffing Services

**LOUISIANA**

- AM-PM Temporary Services, Inc.

**MAINE**

- Career Prospects, Inc.
- Soleras, Ltd.
- AtWork Personnel Service, Inc.
- Managed Care Services

**MARYLAND**

- Gawthrop Construction, Inc.
- Able Temporaries
- Baltimore Association for Retarded Citizens, Inc.
- Justice Resources, Inc.
- Life-Like Products
- Modu Tech
- MR Hopkins Transportation Service
- Thrift Stores, Et Al
- WorldLinks, Inc.
- Marriott Hotels, Inc.
- Columbia Staffing Services
- Pizza Hut of Maryland, Inc.
- Mountain Surf, Inc.
- Launch Coast Services, Inc.
- Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Maryland
- CTA Information Technology Services
- Perdue Farms, Inc.
- Blair Temporaries and Staffing, Inc.
- Aspen Personnel Services
- Snelling Personnel Services
- Murry's, Inc.

**MASSACHUSETTS**

- Amtrak
- Copy Cop
- Inner-City, Inc.
- Pitney Bowes Management Services
- Strive
- MF Reynolds
- Bright Horizons Children's Centers
- The TJX Companies, Inc.
- Gloucester Company
- Putnam Investments
- The Stride Rite Corporation
- Malden Mills Industries, Inc.

**MASSACHUSETTS CONT.**

- Delta Dental Plan of Massachusetts
- TRC Staffing Services
- Office Specialists
- Sullivan & Cogliano
- Suburban Staffing, Inc.
- Pitney Bowes Management Services

**MICHIGAN**

- A Production Cleaning
- Priority Staffing, Inc.
- Snelling Temporaries
- SkillTech Employment
- Immediate Temporary Help
- Beacon Services, Inc.
- Engineered Plastic Products

**MINNESOTA**

- United Mailing, Inc.
- Express Personnel Services
- Solmark & Frey FlexCareer
- American Institute of Small Business
- Bristol Place, Inc.
- Ceridian Human Resources Group
- Grand Casinos, Inc.
- ADDON Staffing Solutions
- Jeane Thorne, Inc.

**MISSOURI**

- Dierberg's Market
- Jalapeno Restaurants, Inc.
- Express Personnel Services
- Penmac Personnel Services
- A-Plus Home Health Care
- Agency Development Corporation/Kirkwood Insurance Service Company
- B & W Police Security Systems, Inc
- Bridges Community Support Services, Inc.
- Care In-Home Services, Inc.
- Flacos Tacos
- Missouri Professional Staffing Service Home Health, Inc.
- Monsanto Company
- SSM Health Care Central Region

**NEBRASKA**

- Norell Staffing Services
- Crown Temporary Services
- Tandem Staffing for Industry
- Today's Temporary

**NEW HAMPSHIRE**

- Chuck Roast Equipment, Inc.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE CONT.**

- Tandem/Labor World
- The Timberland Company

**NEW JERSEY**

- Burlington Coat Factory
- Independent Graphics, Inc.
- AT&T
- Employment & Training Institute, Inc.

**NEW MEXICO**

- Advantage Staffing Resources (ASR)
- Advantage Training Center (ATC)

**NEW YORK**

- Priority Staffing Services, Inc.
- Dunhill Staffing System, Inc.
- S.A. Ludsin & Company
- The Slater Hill Group
- Western Temporary Services of Utica, Syracuse, Inc.
- Accustaff, Inc.
- America Works
- Ammirati Puris Lintas
- Borg Warner
- Brookwood Companies, Inc.
- Cooperative Home Care Associates (Bronx)
- Loews Hotels
- Siemens Corporation
- The TemPositions Group of Companies
- Time Warner
- The Travellers Group
- PayForce
- ETS
- Xerox

**NORTH CAROLINA**

- Interim
- Ablest Staffing
- Career Staffing
- Charlotte Chamber of Commerce
- Office Environments
- Talent Tree Staffing Services
- Staffmark Staffing Services
- Caldwell Personnel Services
- Sorry Temporary Service
- C.C. Magnum, Inc.
- Jobs Partnership of Raleigh
- Remedy Staffing Services
- Volt Services Group
- Action Temporaries, Inc.

## **NORTH DAKOTA**

- Kelly Services
- Preference Personnel, Inc.

## **OHIO**

- Snelling Personnel Services
- Employer's Choice, Inc.
- Henderson Personnel, Inc.
- Crown Services, Inc.
- Express Personnel of Central Ohio
- The Limited
- Talent Tree Staffing Service
- The Reserves Network, Inc.
- Snelling Personnel Services
- Fire-Dex, Inc.
- Flexible Personnel
- Health Care & Retirement Corporation
- Snelling Personnel Services

## **OKLAHOMA**

- Express Personnel Services
- Ind/Ex
- Jomoco Products

## **OREGON**

- Forest Products Federal Credit Union

## **PENNSYLVANIA**

- Rehab Options, Inc.
- Genesis Health Ventures
- Interim Personnel
- Hal Lefcourt Public Relations
- Carol Harris Temporaries, Inc.
- Industrial Staffing
- Global Technology Solutions, Inc.
- Home Care Association of Philadelphia
- Pep Boys
- Augment Associates Personnel
- TAD Staffing Services
- Westinghouse Government & Environmental Services Company
- Laser Labs

## **RHODE ISLAND**

- Able Personnel Resource, Inc.
- Occupations Unlimited, Inc.

## **SOUTH CAROLINA**

- Windham Building Company, Inc.

## **SOUTH DAKOTA**

- Kelly Services

## **TENNESSEE**

- East Tennessee Mechanical Contractors, Inc.
- Harrah's Entertainment, Inc.

## **TEXAS**

- TDY Temporaries
- Budget Car & Truck Rental
- American Airlines
- Todays Temporary
- Living Centers of America

## **UTAH**

- PSC Development

## **VERMONT**

- Triad Temporary Services, Inc.

## **VIRGINIA**

- Information Technology Consultants
- Aarow Temporary Services
- Precon Construction Company
- ICF Kaiser International, Inc.
- SoBran, Inc.
- Batey Enterprises II, Inc.
- DJ's Music & Videos
- Dollar Tree
- K&W Cafeterias, Inc.
- Omni Waterside Hotel
- Options Health Care, Inc.
- Pinkerton Security Services
- The Stop Organization, Inc.
- Tidewater Transportation District Commission
- Winn Nursery of Virginia, Inc.
- Yukon Lumber Company
- Places and Programs for Children, Inc.
- Meridian Resources, Inc.
- Snelling Personnel Services
- Best Temporaries
- Maxim Health Care Services

## **WASHINGTON**

- Human Resources of Olympia
- International Community Health Services
- Lombardi's Cucina
- Puget Sound Blood Center & Program
- Personnel Unlimited/Professional Temps
- Midas Muffler Shops

## **WISCONSIN**

- Interim Personnel
- Manpower, Inc.
- General Converters & Assemblers, Inc.

*WISCONSIN CONT.*

- Superior Industrial Coating
- Barbara Guthrie Medical Services, Inc.
- ECH Corporation d/b/a Todays Temporary

**WYOMING**

- Olsten Staffing Services

**Total 302**

# The Welfare to Work Partnership

*Announces our upcoming*

## **FOCUS ON WELFARE TO WORK**

August 12 – 22, 1997

On August 22, 1996, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act was signed, ending welfare as we know it. With the help of hundreds of businesses across the country, The Welfare to Work Partnership (The Partnership) is working to move those on public assistance into jobs in the private sector. From August 12 to August 22, The Partnership is organizing a series of events to highlight existing initiatives and to energize the business community.

### **August 12**

#### **CITY TO CITY LAUNCH – ST. LOUIS**

This regional event will be the first of several planned by The Welfare to Work Partnership. Not only will this event serve as a catalyst for more innovation and involvement in the bi-state St. Louis region, but it also will focus the spotlight on welfare to work efforts nationwide. This event will:

- Highlight welfare to work initiatives in the bi-state St. Louis region;
- Enhance relationships between the business community, service providers, and government agencies; and
- Motivate the bi-state St. Louis region around welfare to work efforts.

Anticipated event attendees include: President Bill Clinton, Governor Mel Carnahan (D-MO), Governor Jim Edgar (R-IL), Senator Kit Bond (R-MO), Representative Bill Clay (D-MO), Representative Richard Gephardt (D-MO).

### **August 14**

#### **WELFARE TO WORK – A SMALL BUSINESS STRATEGY**

Sponsored by The Welfare to Work Partnership, the US Chamber of Commerce and the Small Business Administration, this event will announce the results of an extensive survey showing that a majority of CEOs from America's fastest growing companies are interested in joining forces with other businesses to help transition welfare recipients into the labor market. The role that small businesses can play in making welfare to work a success will be celebrated and promoted.

### **August 22**

#### **SPOTLIGHT ON WISCONSIN**

Exactly one year after the passage of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act, The Partnership will spotlight the success of the State of Wisconsin and Governor Tommy Thompson (R-WI), a leader in welfare reform, in moving individuals from dependence on welfare checks into lives of work and independence.

These events are the first of many planned by The Partnership.

We invite you to consider ways in which we can help you:

- Encourage businesses in your state to hire and retain former welfare recipients; and
  - Highlight the efforts being made in your state.

For more information on these events or other activities of The Welfare to Work Partnership, please call Gary Karton at 202-955-3005 x323

The Welfare to Work Partnership is a not-for-profit corporation organized under the laws of the District of Columbia

**The Welfare to Work Partnership**  
1250 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 610  
Washington, DC 20036-2603

## **All About *The Partnership***

### **Welfare to Work is a Smart Solution for Business.**

At a time when many businesses are facing a critical shortage of workers, a new, non-traditional source of employees is being discovered in communities across the country. With the advent of welfare reform, nearly four million people will be exiting the welfare system and looking for gainful employment to improve their lives. With America in the midst of a sustained recovery and the best economic conditions in 30 years, what better time to bring together the mutual interests of business and people needing to find employment? Welfare to Work is a smart solution for business.

### **A New, National Initiative to Move People from Welfare to Work**

The Welfare to Work Partnership (*The Partnership*) was launched on May 20, 1997 at the White House by President Clinton, Governors Tommy Thompson (R-WI) and Tom Carper (D-DE) and over 100 participating businesses. This newly formed, national, nonpartisan, not-for-profit organization was created to encourage and assist businesses hiring individuals from public assistance without displacing current workers. Founded by United Airlines, UPS, Burger King, Monsanto and Sprint, *The Partnership* is focused on supporting small, medium and large businesses hiring former welfare recipients.

### **Expanding the American Workforce for Greater Productivity**

Finding workers to sustain the growth of American businesses is becoming one of the most crucial concerns of business owners and managers all across the United States. The large pool of workers within the welfare system can be recruited and trained to fill many entry-level jobs as well as other positions that are currently going unfilled. Businesses that hire former welfare recipients have experienced higher retention, lower turnover and have reaped the benefits of hiring workers that are trainable and ready to work. New tax incentives offer additional encouragement to hire people from public assistance.

### **Welfare Recipients – A New Source of Workers for U. S. Businesses**

Many welfare recipients are work-ready or nearly work-ready. According to the Urban Institute, over two-thirds of women on welfare had recent work experience before applying for public assistance. In fact, on average, the Urban Institute found that welfare mothers--typically the family bread winner for the nearly 4 million families receiving assistance--have over *four years* of work experience. The average age of adult recipients is 31 years and families receiving cash assistance have an average of two children. Welfare recipients are from racially and ethnically diverse backgrounds: 36 percent are white; 37 percent are African-American; and 21 percent are Hispanic. Employers are already tapping into the welfare roles for workforce development. Since the welfare law was passed in August of 1996, welfare roles have declined by 1.2 million individuals. With job readiness training, placement opportunities, and follow-up retention services, individuals currently receiving welfare assistance can become productive and valuable employees further expanding the American economy.

### **Building a National Welfare to Work Network**

*The Partnership* is building a network of Business Partners with experience hiring former welfare recipients and/or pledging to hire at least one person from welfare. Through our network, businesses can convey successes as well as the challenges of having employed individuals from public assistance so that others may learn from them. Business leaders can serve as mentors to those without experience at hiring people from welfare. Regardless of size and type, businesses participating in *The Partnership* will be encouraged and provided with assistance and tools to aid them in hiring welfare recipients. There are no dues or fees to participate and be recognized.

*The Partnership* recognizes that most businesses will need help hiring people from public assistance. In order to support its expanding network of businesses, *The Partnership* is building a database of organizations, often referred to as service providers, to offer such assistance. Qualified and capable service providers can make the task easier for businesses seeking to hire former welfare recipients.

A national network of businesses and service providers can learn from each other, exchange ideas, and communicate the promise and the challenge of welfare to work efforts for greater success.

### **Providing Technical Assistance and Support**

*The Partnership* supports its network of Business Partners with technical information including a "Blueprint for Business" manual that serves as a guide for finding, recruiting, training, hiring and retaining former welfare recipients. *The Partnership* will also publish a directory of Business Partners and a database of service providers to facilitate business-to-business connections. Additional publications will include a newsletter, fax updates, and other materials as they are developed. Much of this information will be made available through *The Partnership's* World Wide Web site, [www.welfaretowork.org](http://www.welfaretowork.org).

Business to business education, communication and interaction will help owners and managers avoid the risks of hiring welfare recipients and promote successful employment practices. Special seminars and community events will be announced to provide additional training, support and guidance. Exceptional businesses, service providers, and communities will be recognized for their efforts at award ceremonies recognizing their leadership, success and creativity within the welfare to work initiative.

### **Provide Leadership and Encourage Corporate Social Responsibility**

Participation in the welfare to work initiative signals a corporate willingness to strengthen American families and communities. Constructively engaged, productive employees provide healthy family environments and contribute to safer and more successful communities in which to grow and expand businesses. *The Partnership* will air public service announcements from time to time to further motivate and engage businesses in the welfare to work initiative. Owners and managers will be encouraged to become Business Partners and learn more about how to successfully hire welfare recipients.

Becoming a Business Partner in The Welfare to Work Partnership demonstrates your support for this effort. Private sector employers can learn from each other and help meet the challenge of expanding America's workforce and further grow their business capacity at the same time.

### **National Scope with a Community Focus**

*The Partnership* is national in scope with a mission to promote and engage businesses across the country in the welfare to work initiative. At the same time, *The Partnership* recognizes that jobs are created and filled locally. And so, *The Partnership* serves as a catalyst to communities seeking to participate in the national welfare to work effort.

Metropolitan areas, cities of all sizes as well as smaller communities and rural areas will be challenged to confront the demand for more workers and the need to find jobs for people on welfare. Key stakeholders will be encouraged to join together in local efforts to expand welfare to work opportunities. Together, they support local businesses hiring local people.

### **Welfare to Work is Good for You and Your Business! It is a Smart Solution!**

The Welfare to Work Partnership is located in Washington, DC. Its President, Eli J. Segal, manages its staff and guides its operations within the mission and objectives established by the Board of Directors made up entirely of private sector CEO's and business owners.

For more information, please contact Lisa Dawe, Business Outreach, at *The Partnership* office.

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## The Welfare to Work Partnership

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**Mr. Robert B. Shapiro** is Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Monsanto Company and a board member of the Welfare to Work Partnership. Monsanto is one of the five original founders of the Welfare to Work Partnership. Mr. Shapiro attended kick-off of the Partnership on May 20, 1997 at the White House. He is a member of the President's Advisory Committee for Trade Policy and Negotiations and the Trade and Environment Policy Advisory Committee. He has formerly served under previous appointments on the Advisory Committee on Industrial Innovation, White House Domestic Policy Review; the Civil Aeronautics Board Advisory Committee on Procedure; and the Massachusetts Governor's Task Force on Transportation. He has also served as vice chairman of the Committee on Corporate Counsel of the American Bar Association. In St. Louis Mr. Shapiro is a leading member of Civic Progress, Inc. Monsanto remains committed to strengthening the communities in which it operates by hiring and training people on public assistance.

**Mr. Barry N. Corona** is a Business Partner with The Welfare to Work Partnership. He is the President of Production Products, a minority owned St. Louis based manufacturer. He is also the Board Chairman of Mid.Tec, a St. Louis based nonprofit that has been awarded the 1992 U.S. Department of Defense Minority Contractor of the Year and the U.S. 1996 Department of Commerce Supplier of the Year. Mr. Corona also serves as on the board of directors for the North Great Lakes Composite Consortium, the St. Louis Regional Commerce & Growth Association, the Air Force Historically Underutilized Business Council, and the St. Louis Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. He also serves as a board member with St. Louis 2004, the St. Louis Partnership Office of Fannie Mae, and Missouri Procurement Assistance Centers. Mr. Corona is the Managing Director of Access America, a minority business consortium. He is also a member of the St. Louis Task Force in Minority Business Development, the St. Louis Minority Purchasing Council, the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and the Minority Enterprise Networking Association.

### ABOUT THE SITE

**Mid.Tec Corporation** is a non-profit manufacturing training facility with strong ties to the local community. Mid.Tec was formed by a unique partnership of 250 companies in the region in order to train the unemployed and underemployed for placement in high-skilled manufacturing jobs. Mid.Tec provides job-training opportunities for people who have no previous experience in small-to-medium sized manufacturing companies needing workers for good-paying jobs. Under Mid.Tec's "Job Link" program, the unemployed and underemployed are trained to fill previously identified job openings. In addition to providing job-related training, Mid.Tec also provides life-skills training, to teach individuals the work habits and attitudes they need to succeed in the world of work.

Last year, Mid.Tec did something that is almost unprecedented in the St. Louis area. It moved its operation from a modern facility in an affluent suburb into a building it rehabbed in the inner city. It wanted to move closer to a pool of unemployed people who can be trained to fill jobs that had been going unfilled, second, it wanted to help rebuild an inner city neighborhood. It moved into a building in a federal enterprise community and made use of a state program to provide credits and other incentives to businesses investing in the inner city.

## **The Welfare to Work Partnership**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **What is The Welfare to Work Partnership?**

The Partnership is a national, independent, nonpartisan effort of the business community to help move people on public assistance to jobs in the private sector. The Partnership will concentrate on energizing the business community to hire and retain welfare recipients without displacement of existing workers. The Partnership provides information, technical assistance and support for businesses of all sizes, from all industries and from all areas of the country.

#### **Is this President Clinton's program?**

President Clinton fully supports the Partnership's initiative. However, the Partnership is a nonpartisan effort which relies on the support of both Republican and Democratic leadership as well as state and local government officials. The Partnership also will coordinate its efforts with local and state private and public social service agencies. In order to make the welfare-to-work successful business leaders and government must work together.

#### **How did the initiative get started?**

On August 22, 1996, the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act was signed ending welfare as we know it. Following the enactment of the new welfare law, many businesses recognized that the government alone could not meet the goals of the new law. Accordingly, the CEOs of United Airlines, Burger King, Sprint, Monsanto and UPS joined together to form a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that would spearhead the welfare-to-work effort from a business to business perspective.

Together with President and CEO Eli Segal, the five founding companies formed the Welfare to Work Partnership as a response to the law and to President Clinton's challenge to the private sector to initiate welfare-to-work programs.

#### **What are the goals of the Partnership?**

In the first year, the Partnership plans to build an expanding network of companies committed to hiring and retaining persons on public assistance. In addition to mobilizing companies, the Partnership will publish and broadly disseminate a Blueprint for Business manual that will serve as a guide to hiring welfare recipients. It expects to develop a customer-friendly database of organizations that provide job training and readiness, childcare and related services.

#### **Who are the five founding companies?**

The founding companies of the Partnership are UAL Corporation, Burger King, Monsanto Company, Sprint Corporation and United Parcel Service of America, Inc. United Airlines CEO Gerald Greenwald is the Chairman of the Board.

#### **Who can participate in the Partnership?**

Membership is open to all businesses of all sizes, who have hired, or who will commit to hire welfare recipients without the displacement of existing workers.

### **Why should businesses get involved in the Partnership or any type of welfare-to-work effort?**

Welfare to work is a solution that's smart for business. Many companies find it difficult to locate entry-level workers. By actively recruiting welfare recipients, companies will greatly enlarge their pool of potential entry-level workers; a non-traditional pool that companies that has not previously been actively recruited. Tax credits are also available. In addition, companies can actively participate in their communities to strengthen families and improve children's lives.

### **What is the new welfare reform law?**

The Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act of 1996 replaced the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program with block grants to the states. The prior AFDC program was relatively open-ended, while the block grant programs are capped. The Act, effective this year, imposes a 5-year, lifetime limits on welfare benefits, and requires adults in families to work to receive benefits after two years.

### **What are some current welfare statistics?**

Since 1993, the number of Americans receiving public assistance has fallen about 20 percent, or by over one million, the largest decline in the past five decades.

A recent report released in May 1997, by the Council of Economic Advisors determined that low unemployment and a growing economy accounted for 40 percent of the decline in caseloads. Welfare reform experiments explained 31 percent of the decline, and the remainder was due to other policies, including the Earned Income Tax Credit for low-income workers, increased child support collections and more spending on child care for welfare mothers.

To date, eleven states – Alabama, Colorado, Indiana, Massachusetts, Mississippi, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Utah, Wisconsin, and Wyoming, have reported more than 25 percent decline in welfare rolls.

## THE WELFARE TO WORK PARTNERSHIP

Eli J. Segal  
President and CEO

Eli J. Segal served as Assistant to the President of the United States from January 1993 - February 1996. In this capacity, he was responsible for the design and enactment of the legislation which created AmeriCorps, President Clinton's national service initiative. In October 1993, Mr. Segal was confirmed by the United States Senate to the additional position as the first Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation for National Service. Mr. Segal resigned as Chief Executive Officer in October, 1995.

Mr. Segal now serves on the Board of Directors of Home Shopping Network, Citizens Financial Group, the Corporation for National Service and the National Alliance to End Homelessness, and the Board of Overseers of the Heller School of Brandeis University. He is Chairman of the Board of SchoolSports, a new Boston-based magazine celebrating the world of high school sports.

In 1992, Mr. Segal was the Chief of Staff of the Clinton-Gore campaign and the Chief Financial Officer during the Presidential transition period. In 1996, he served as Chairman of Business Leaders for Clinton-Gore.

Prior to the 1992 campaign, Mr. Segal served as President of several consumer product companies, including American Publishing Corporation, Vogart Crafts Corporation and Bits & Pieces, Inc. Most recently, he was the publisher of GAMES Magazine.

Mr. Segal has served on several non-profit boards, taught courses in government and law both here and abroad and been active in many political campaigns.

A native of Brooklyn, New York, Mr. Segal received his Bachelor's degree from Brandeis University in 1964 and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Michigan Law School in 1967. He is married to Phyllis N. Segal and has two children, Jonathan and Mora.

Welfare to Work Partnership City launch  
St. Louis, Missouri

The Partnership is honored to kick-off its community-based initiative in St. Louis on August 12, 1997. This is an opportunity for the Partnership to work closely with the local community leaders to bring national attention to the welfare-to-work initiatives in St. Louis and to bolster activities already underway.

The Partnership will work closely with Monsanto, a founding board member, Regional Commerce and Growth Association, and other members of the business community to motivate businesses to become involved with welfare-to-work efforts. In addition, we will spotlight current welfare-to-work initiatives in St. Louis, including East-West Gateway, St. Louis 2004, Regional Governance Council - St. Louis Partnership, Baron-McCormack project and others.

Other guests include President Clinton, Governor Carnahan, Mayor Harmon and Bush and other elected and appointed officials.

For the St. Louis event, the Partnership will announce the business communities commitment, salute successful programs, launch its 1-800 number and PSA campaign, organize and release its Blueprint for Business manual, describing how to a business can participate in the welfare-to-work initiative.

**\*DRAFT\*DRAFT\*DRAFT\*DRAFT\*DRAFT\*DRAFT\*DRAFT**

**Projecting the Number of Welfare Recipients Required  
to Enter Work-Related Activities**

Below are preliminary estimates of the number of welfare recipients required to enter work-related activities, based on the attached methodology.

The upper bound estimates are derived using no adjustment in the work participation rates for caseload reduction, while the lower bound estimates assume maximum caseload reduction, based on caseload reduction from 1995 - 1996 and 1995 - 1997. Additionally, these estimates are based on an assumption of continued 1997 levels of program participation. Estimates are based on average monthly caseload and cannot be summed.

**Preliminary Estimate of the Number of Welfare Recipients  
Required to Enter Welfare-Related Activities Under TANF  
FY 1997 - FY 2000**

<b>FY</b>	<b>Work Participation Rate</b>	<b>Maximum Caseload Reduction</b>	<b>No Caseload Reduction</b>
1997	25	546,000	734,000
1998	30	441,000	881,000
1999	35	586,000	1,027,000
2000	40	732,000	1,174,000

July 30, 1997

**Summary of Method**

The estimation of the size of the work program under TANF for FY 1997 through FY 2000 is based on the most recent data on states' welfare caseloads. These data are estimates and are subject to change as the data from the states are finalized. As caseload projections are not available beyond FY 1997, out year projections of work program size are based on FY 1997 caseload applied to the relevant year's work participation rate.

The estimates of the number required to participate in a work program will be very sensitive to decisions that states make in the design and implementation of their programs under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families.

The method employs an estimate of total AFDC cases and subtracts an estimate of the number of child-only cases and cases with a child under age one who could be, at state option, exempt from the work requirement. The work participation rate is applied to the resulting nonexempt adult caseload.

**Detail on Method**

The total number of adult cases is based on an estimate of the average monthly caseload for FY 1997 based on state caseload reports covering October 1996 through March 1997. The total caseload is adjusted for child-only cases using unpublished data from the FY 1996 Quality Control Data System.

The estimate of the number of nonexempt adult cases is calculated assuming that all states will take the option to exempt single parent families with children under age one from the work participation requirements. The proportion of single parent families with a child under age one is taken from the FY 1996 Quality Control Data System.

Pending the issuance of final regulations, the methodology for calculating the caseload reduction factor is unknown. In this analysis a lower and upper bound estimate is produced by using two values for the work participation rate. The upper bound is simply the work rate as specified in the law -- 25% in FY 1997 rising to 40% in FY 2000 and continuing to rise to 50% in FY 2002.

The lower bound work participation rate is estimated by assuming that states take the full caseload reduction credit for the decline in caseloads from FY 1995 to FY 1996. While the caseload reduction factor should be calculated based on the combined AFDC and Emergency Assistance caseloads, an unduplicated count of cases is not available for this analysis. Therefore, the caseload reduction factor is based on the AFDC cash assistance caseload only. The caseload reduction factor for FY 1997 is calculated by the percentage change between the FY 1995 caseload and the FY 1996 caseload. The caseload reduction factor for FY 1998 - FY 2000 is calculated by the percentage change between the FY 1995 caseload and the 1997 caseload. To maximize the caseload reduction, the most advantageous of either the total caseload change or the Unemployed Parent (UP) caseload change is applied to the UP cases.

The projections of the number of adults required to work for states to meet their work requirements in future years (FY 1998 through FY 2000) would not be adjusted for either changes in caseloads or changes in the caseload reduction factor.

## States Are Succeeding in Reforming Welfare

Many states have accepted the significant responsibilities in the welfare reform law and are using the greater flexibility to reform welfare. State strategies are making a real difference in the success of welfare reform, specifically in moving recipients from welfare to work, child care and transportation. Here are a few examples:

### WELFARE TO WORK

- **Massachusetts and Pennsylvania Have Welfare-to-Work Tax Credits for Employers:** According to a report from the National Governors' Association, Pennsylvania rewards employers for participating in their Employment Incentive Program (EIP) by providing up to \$5,100 in state tax credits for each welfare recipient an employer hires. The employer can earn \$1,500 of the possible tax credit by paying for or providing child care to the welfare recipients hired. The welfare recipient must be employed for at least one year for the employer to receive the financial incentives. Under Massachusetts' Full Employment Program, employers are entitled to an excise tax credit of \$100 per month for each FEP employee hired; they can also receive wage subsidies of \$2.50 per hour for up to nine months.
- **Thirty-six States Are Using Welfare Checks to Subsidize Paychecks:** 36 of the 50 states are using welfare checks to subsidize private employment. All states except Alabama, Connecticut, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Tennessee, and Utah subsidize employment.

### CHILD CARE

- **24 States Are Increasing Their Spending Beyond What Is Needed to Match New Federal Child Care Funds:** According to a survey by the American Public Welfare Association (the state welfare directors), 24 states plan to spend more of their own dollars than they need to in order to match the new federal child care funds. These 24 states are: Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Tennessee, Vermont, Washington State and Wyoming.
- **Several States Have Seamless Child Care Systems:** Illinois, Michigan, and Washington are examples of states that provide child care subsidies based on income, not whether a parent used to be on welfare or not.

### TRANSPORTATION

- **Michigan, Kentucky and Wisconsin Are Addressing the Transportation Challenges of Welfare Reform:** Michigan and Wisconsin are tackling the transportation barriers many welfare recipients face. Because few families receiving public assistance own automobiles, it is often challenging getting workers to jobs in the outlying suburban areas. Michigan's Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation provides bus patrons with a ride from their stop to their work site. Wisconsin developed "Job Ride" in 1989 creating an

innovative van pool system. Kentucky's "Empower Kentucky" initiative is integrating the transportation programs of four cabinet departments to improve transportation for areas of the state currently underserved.

- **Connecticut is Using Welfare Block Grant Dollars to Fund Transportation:** In Connecticut, the Governor has committed to using \$2.2 million of the state's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) dollars for transportation services for public transit operators across the State to provide new transportation services to move welfare recipients to work.



**DRAFT 1: 6/7/97 3:50 pm**  
**PRESIDENT CLINTON HAILS SUCCESS OF WELFARE REFORM ONE YEAR AFTER**  
**SIGNING REFORM BILL INTO LAW**  
**August 12, 1997**

Today, President Clinton hailed the success of welfare reform nearly one year after making welfare reform the law of the land, announcing that caseloads have declined by almost 3.4 million or 24% since he took office in January 1993. The President also highlighted his successes in the Balanced Budget Act, which fixes the problems he had promised to fix when he signed the welfare bill and includes a welfare-to-work tax credit and a \$3 billion fund to help move a million more people from welfare to work. Today the President praised the public-private partnership forming in St. Louis, where over [200] companies have accepted his challenge to hire welfare recipients. The President announced that the Welfare to Work Partnership stands ready to help companies all across the nation hire people off welfare, with their "Blueprint for Business" and other information available starting today through their toll free hotline and their web page.

One Year Later: Welfare Reform is Working

On August 22nd a year ago, President Clinton took the bold step of finally ending welfare as we know it. There was a lot of debate at the time over whether this bold experiment would work. We still have more to do. But today, the old debate is over: welfare reform works.

President Clinton announced new statistics today showing that the welfare caseload ~~has fallen~~<sup>fell</sup> by 1.4 million recipients ~~since last August~~<sup>from</sup> ~~and~~<sup>56 to May 1997</sup> by almost 3.4 million recipients since January 1993. The decline from 14.1 million recipients in January 1993 to 10.7 million in May 1997, a drop of 24%, is the largest decrease in the welfare rolls in history, giving us the lowest percentage of the population on welfare since 1970. Forty-eight out of fifty states have seen their caseloads decline, with eleven states reducing their rolls by 40% or more in the last four years. This progress started even before President Clinton signed the welfare bill, with the waivers he granted to 43 states to require work, time-limit assistance, make work pay, improve child support enforcement, and encourage parental responsibility.

The New Balanced Budget will Help Us Do More

Because of President Clinton's leadership, the balanced budget includes \$3 billion Welfare to Work Jobs Challenge and an expanded Work Opportunity Tax Credit to help move long-term welfare recipients into jobs and meet the President's goal of moving a million more people from welfare to work by the year 2000. The new balanced budget also makes good on the President's promise to restore disability and health benefits to legal immigrants, continue Medicaid coverage for disabled children, and provide funds for workslots for unemployed food stamp recipients --

all budget cuts attached to the welfare law which had nothing to do with the real purpose of welfare reform, moving people from welfare to work.

#### The Critical Role of the Private Sector

Today in St. Louis, President Clinton will underscore the critical role of the private sector in welfare reform, praising the [200] St. Louis companies that are committing to hire and retain welfare recipients. Today's event is sponsored by the Welfare to Work Partnership, the national business effort to hire people from the welfare rolls which was launched in May 1997 at the urging of the President. Today the Partnership will unveil several new tools to help companies that want to hire workers from the welfare rolls: a toll free hotline (1-888-USA-JOB1) and a web site ([www.welfaretowork.org](http://www.welfaretowork.org)) to link companies to public and private sector welfare reform information; a guide for companies hiring welfare recipients, *Blueprint for Business: Reaching a New Work Force*, prepared with the National Alliance of Business; and a public service campaign that highlights the benefits to companies of hiring welfare recipients and encourages companies to join the Partnership.

The Partnership is a nonpartisan, non-profit organization of over 500 businesses committed to hiring former welfare recipients. The Partnership is committed to providing information, technical assistance, and support for businesses so that they can successfully meet their commitment to hire and retain welfare recipients without displacement.

Speaking at today's program in St. Louis are Bob Shapiro, CEO of Monsanto, Barry Corona, Chair of the board of Mid.Tec and [president] of Production Products, [a former welfare recipient now working at...], and President Clinton. The ceremony is being held at Mid.Tec, a consortium of 250 small-to-medium sized manufacturers that helps members improve their global competitiveness by providing state of the art training to new employees. The training program targets low-income individuals and welfare recipients for specific jobs.

## PRESIDENT CLINTON HAILS SUCCESS OF WELFARE REFORM ONE YEAR AFTER SIGNING REFORM BILL INTO LAW

August 12, 1997

Today, the President highlighted the success of welfare reform nearly one year after signing the welfare law, announcing that caseloads have declined by almost 3.4 million or 24 percent since he took office and showing how the new balanced budget will continue this progress. The President also noted the continuing success of the Welfare to Work Partnership, which now includes over 800 businesses and which today launched a toll-free hotline, web page, and public service announcements to help companies all across the nation hire people off welfare. Finally, the President praised the public-private partnership growing in St. Louis region, where over 300 companies have accepted his challenge to hire welfare recipients.

### One Year Later: Welfare Reform is Working

Today, one year after signing the welfare law, the President announced new statistics showing that the welfare caseload has fallen by 1.4 million recipients since then and by almost 3.4 million recipients since January 1993. The decline from 14.1 million recipients in January 1993 to 10.7 million in May 1997, a drop of 24%, is the largest decrease in the welfare rolls in history, resulting in the lowest percentage of the population on welfare since 1970. Forty-eight out of fifty states have seen their caseloads decline, with ten states reducing their rolls by 40% or more in the last four years. This progress started even before President Clinton signed the welfare bill, with the waivers he granted to 43 states to require work, time-limit assistance, make work pay, improve child support enforcement, and encourage parental responsibility.

### The New Balanced Budget Will Help Us Do More

Because of President Clinton's leadership, the balanced budget includes a \$3 billion Welfare to Work Jobs Challenge and an expanded Work Opportunity Tax Credit to help move long-term welfare recipients into jobs and meet the President's goal of moving a million more people from welfare to work by the year 2000. The new balanced budget also makes good on the President's promise to restore disability and health benefits to legal immigrants, continue Medicaid coverage for disabled children, and provide funds for workslots for unemployed food stamp recipients -- thereby reversing the provisions of the welfare law that had nothing to do with real welfare reform.

### New Tools to Help Companies Hiring Welfare Recipients

At today's event, the Partnership will unveil several new tools to help companies that want to hire workers from the welfare rolls: a toll free hotline (1-888-USA-JOB1) and a web site ([www.welfaretowork.org](http://www.welfaretowork.org)) to link companies to public and private sector welfare reform information; a guide for companies hiring welfare recipients, *Blueprint for Business: Reaching a New Work Force*, prepared with the National Alliance of Business; and a public service campaign that highlights the benefits to companies of hiring welfare recipients and encourages companies to join the Partnership. The Welfare to Work Partnership is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization leading the national business effort to hire people from the welfare rolls. Now more than 800 companies strong, the Partnership was formed in May 1997 at the urging of the President.

### St. Louis: An Example of the Critical Role of the Private Sector

Today in St. Louis, President Clinton will underscore the critical role of the private sector in welfare reform, praising over 300 bi-state St. Louis region companies that are committing to hire and retain welfare recipients without displacing current workers. Today's event in St. Louis launches the Partnership's city to city challenge, in which the Partnership will work closely with community and business leaders in 12 high poverty cities during the next year to help promote innovative and effective welfare to work initiatives.

## Clinton-gore accomplishments Reforming Welfare

*On August 22, 1996, President Clinton signed the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act, fulfilling his longtime commitment to 'end welfare as we know it.' As the President said upon signing, "... this legislation provides an historic opportunity to end welfare as we know it and transform our broken welfare system by promoting the fundamental values of work, responsibility, and family."*

### TRANSFORMING THE BROKEN WELFARE SYSTEM

- **Overhauling the Welfare System with the Personal Responsibility Act:** Last year the President signed a bipartisan welfare plan that is dramatically changing the nation's welfare system into one that requires work in exchange for time-limited assistance. The law contains strong work requirements, a performance bonus to reward states for moving welfare recipients into jobs, state maintenance of effort requirements, comprehensive child support enforcement, and supports for families moving from welfare to work -- including increased funding for child care and guaranteed medical coverage. State strategies are making a real difference in the success of welfare reform, specifically in job placement, child care, transportation, and child support (*see attached for state examples*). [Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, P.L. 104-193, signed 8/22/96]
- **Law Builds on the Administration's Welfare Reform Strategy:** Even before the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act became law, many states were well on their way to changing their welfare programs to jobs programs. By granting Federal waivers, the Clinton Administration allowed 43 states -- more than all previous Administrations combined -- to require work, time-limit assistance, make work pay, improve child support enforcement, and encourage parental responsibility. Nearly 90 percent of states have chosen to continue or build on their welfare demonstration projects approved by the Clinton Administration. [HHS Fact Sheet, 7/3/97]
- **Largest Decline in the Welfare Rolls in History:** From January 1993 to May 1997, the number of people receiving welfare benefits fell by 24 percent, or 3.4 million recipients - the largest decline in the welfare rolls in history and the lowest percentage of the population on welfare since 1970. This historic decline occurred in response to the Administration's grants of Federal waivers to 43 states, the welfare reform law taking effect, and the strong economy. [HHS, 4/97]

- **Mobilizing the Business Community:** To make welfare reform a success and help move a million people from welfare into the workforce by the year 2000, President Clinton has enlisted the business community's leadership. At the President's urging, the Welfare to Work Partnership was launched in May 1997 to lead the national business effort to hire people from the welfare rolls. Founded with 100 participating businesses, the Partnership pledged to reach 1000 business within six months. This is a city by city effort working with both small and large businesses. To help companies hire welfare recipients, the Welfare to Work Partnership networks businesses with other employers who have experience in hiring welfare recipients. In addition, it provides technical assistance and support, such as: a 1-800 number, the Partnership's Web site ([www.welfaretowork.org](http://www.welfaretowork.org)) and a "Blueprint for Business" manual that contains information on finding, recruiting, training, hiring, and retaining former welfare recipients.

... and Civic, Religious and Non-profit Groups: The Vice President created the Welfare to Work Coalition to Sustain Success, a coalition of civic groups committed to helping former welfare recipients stay in the workforce and succeed. Tailoring their services to meet welfare recipients needs and the organizations' strengths, the Coalition will focus on providing mentoring and other support services. Charter members of the Coalition include: the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, the Baptist Joint Committee, the United Way, the YMCA, and fourteen other civic groups. [DPC Fact paper]

- **Doing Our Fair Share with the Federal Government's Hiring Initiative:** Under the Clinton Administration, the Federal workforce has been reduced by more than 300,000 positions, the smallest the Federal government has been in thirty years. Yet, this Administration also believes that the Federal government, as the nation's largest employer, must lead by example. The President asked the Vice President to oversee the Federal government's hiring initiative, in which Federal agencies have committed to directly hire at least 10,000 welfare recipients in the next four years. As a part of this effort, the White House pledged, and has already met this pledge, to hire six welfare recipients by 2000.
- **Enforcing Child Support -- 50% Increase in Collections:** The Clinton Administration collected a record \$12 billion in child support in 1996 through tougher enforcement, an increase of \$4 billion, or nearly 50 percent, since 1992. Not only are collections up, but the number of families that are actually receiving child support has also increased. In 1996, the number of child support cases with collections rose to 4 million, an increase of 43 percent, from 2.8 million in 1992. And paternity establishment, often the first crucial step in child support cases, has dramatically increased. In 1996,

the number of paternities established rose to nearly 1 million, almost double, from 516,000 in 1992.

**Making Deadbeat Parents Pay:** The President's unprecedented and sustained campaign to make deadbeat parents pay is working. In addition to tougher enforcement including a strong partnership with states, President Clinton's strategy has included: an Executive Order to help track down Federal workers who fail to pay child support and collection of Federal income tax refunds from delinquent parents. And most significantly, the welfare reform law includes tough child support measures that President Clinton has long supported; including: a national new hire reporting system; streamlined paternity establishment; uniform interstate child support laws; computerized state-wide collections; and tough new penalties; these five measures are projected to increase child support collections by an additional \$24 billion over the next ten years. But the job is not finished, there are still states that have not implemented the tough, state-wide child support collection mechanisms required by law; measures that will significantly reduce many parents' dependency on welfare. [Source: HHS Press release, 4/14/96; Executive Order 12953, 2/27/95 ; HHS press release, 10/23/96; Child Support Collection Fact Sheet, 6/97]

- **Breaking the Cycle of Dependency -- Preventing Teen Pregnancy:** Significant components of the President's comprehensive effort to reduce teen pregnancy became law when the President signed the 1996 Personal Responsibility Act. The law requires unmarried minor parents to stay in school and live at home or in a supervised setting; encourages "second chance homes" to provide teen parents with the skills and support they need; and provides \$50 million a year in new funding for state abstinence education activities. Since 1993, the Clinton Administration has supported innovative and promising teen pregnancy prevention strategies; HHS-supported programs already reach about 30 percent or 1,410 communities in the United States. As part of this effort, the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, a private nonprofit organization, was formed in response to the President's 1995 State of the Union challenge to prevent teen pregnancy. Notably, data shows we are making progress in reducing teen pregnancy -- teen births have fallen four years in a row, by 8 percent from 1991 to 1995.

#### **BALANCED BUDGET HELPS MOVE PEOPLE FROM WELFARE TO WORK**

- **\$3 Billion to Help Move 1 Million People from Welfare to Work:** Because of the President's leadership, the balanced budget includes the total funding requested by the President for the creation of his \$3 billion Welfare to Work Jobs Challenge fund. This program will help states and local communities

move long-term welfare recipients into lasting, unsubsidized jobs. These funds can be used for job creation, job placement and job retention efforts, including wage subsidies to private employers and other critical post-employment support services. The Labor Department will provide oversight but the dollars will be placed, through the Private Industry Councils, in the hands of the localities who are on the front lines of the welfare reform effort.

- **A Welfare-to-Work Tax Credit for Employers:** This tax credit will give employers an added incentive to hire long-term welfare recipients by providing a credit equal to 35 percent of the first \$10,000 in wages in the first year of employment, and 50 percent of the first \$10,000 in wages in the second year; paid to new hires who have received welfare for an extended period. The credit is for two years per worker to encourage not only hiring, but also retention.

### **PROTECTING THE MOST VULNERABLE AND RESTORING FAIRNESS**

The President made a commitment last year to fix several provisions in the welfare reform law that had nothing to do with moving people from welfare to work. As he said, "I am determined to work with the Congress in a bipartisan effort to correct the provisions of this legislation that go too far and have nothing to do with welfare reform." After months when the Congressional leadership refused to consider these changes, the President fought for and ultimately was successful in ensuring that the balanced budget protect the most vulnerable.

- **Protects Children by Keeping the Medicaid Guarantee:** The balanced budget preserves the Federal guarantee of Medicaid coverage for the vulnerable populations who depend on it, and contains additional investments to extend coverage to uninsured children. Also ensures that 30,000 disabled children losing SSI because of the new tighter eligibility criteria keep their Medicaid coverage.
- **Protects Immigrants Currently Receiving Benefits:** Restores both SSI and Medicaid benefits for immigrants now receiving assistance, ensuring that they will not be turned out of their apartments or nursing homes or otherwise left destitute. And for immigrants already here but not receiving benefits, the balanced budget does not change the rules retroactively. Immigrants in the country as of August 22, 1996 but not receiving benefits at that time who subsequently become disabled will also be fully eligible for SSI and Medicaid benefits.
- **Helps People Who Want to Work but Can't Find a Job:** The balanced budget provides for 235,000 more work slots for food stamp recipients. Last year's

welfare reform bill restricted food stamps for able-bodied childless adults to only 3 out of every 36 months, unless they were working. This move ignored the fact that finding a job often takes time. The budget bill provides nearly \$1 billion for an estimated 235,000 work slots over 5 years and food stamp benefits to those who are willing to work but, through no fault of their own, have not yet found employment. The balanced budget allows states to exempt up to 15 percent of the food stamp recipients (70,000 individuals monthly) who would otherwise be denied benefits as a result of the "3 in 36" limit.

LEVEL 1 - 38 OF 81 STORIES

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July 31, 1996, Wednesday

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LENGTH: 218 words

HEADLINE: STATEMENT BY DEMOCRATIC LEADER RICHARD A. GEPHARDT ON FINAL G.O.P. WELFARE REFORM BILL

DATELINE: WASHINGTON, July 31

BODY:

The Office of the House Democratic Leader Richard A. Gephardt issued the following statement by Gephardt:

"It is with great disappointment that I have decided not to support the Republican welfare reform bill. I have always believed that we must reward work, and end a welfare system that too often perpetuates poverty and destroys family values. But as much as I want to change a broken welfare system, in my view the Republican bill doesn't do enough to help and protect vulnerable children.

"Unlike the two alternative welfare reform bills I have supported and voted for, I believe this bill is still too weak on the work requirements that should be its fundamental purpose, and too tough on the innocent children who will end up paying the price, when their parents cannot find jobs. According to the nonpartisan Urban Institute, more than one million children could be forced into poverty because of this bill. I believe we can do a lot better -- for our children, and for ourselves.

"Of course, I will never waver in my desire to improve the welfare system, and now that this bill is on its way to becoming law, I pledge to do everything I can to improve it, and make this effort at reform as successful as it can possibly be."

CONTACT: Dan Sallick of the Office of the House Democratic Leader, 202-225-0100

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: August 1, 1996



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In addition to the attached statement Gephardt issued on 7/31/96 on the final bill, here are some additional quotes.

7/25/96 news conference:

"[t]he President's position on this has been clear and consistent throughout. He wants welfare reform... But he doesn't want welfare reform that will harm children... He's more than happy and ready to sign a bill that is good for work... but not harmful to children.... He has been very clear about the elements that need to be in it to improve it. It needs to be improved on food stamps. He doesn't want food stamps to be deeply cut so that children lose the benefit of food stamps. He does not want to have a situation where we're time-limiting welfare -- which everybody is for -- but leaving children in the breach if someone is time-limited off welfare. He wants to have vouchers to go to those children, so that they don't starve and they aren't malnourished as a result of the operation of the bill."

8/1/96 NBC interview, in response to question on whether Congressional Republicans deserve credit on welfare reform:

"...as the President said yesterday, he has asserted welfare reform beginning way back in the early stages of his campaign in 1992. He was the one that talked about ending welfare as we know it, and changing welfare to be something better than it is. So, again I think at best on that one, it's shared credit.

"At the end of the day...you have some disagreement on exactly whether this is the right, best thing to do or whether it's not. And some of us decided that it wasn't strong enough on work, that there wasn't the provisions in it that really allow states to get people to work. We had a CBO study that showed that we were at least 13 billion short on being able to carry out tough work requirements. A lot of us felt the work requirements on the states were not sufficient in the bill. And finally, some of us thought that it would be harmful to children, that a million children would wind up in a very difficult situation.

"Having said that, these are matters that you have to... judge at the end of the day and look at the entire bill and make a judgment. And what we have to do now is to improve what we have decided to do. We have to, if there are problems left in this bill, we have to try to make it work."

9/16/96 Washington Post:

Gephardt opposed the bill Clinton signed and he questions whether it can be improved easily, as Clinton has suggested. "I think it's hard to do."

10/22/96 Washington Times article quoting "This Week on David Brinkley":

In answer to George Will's question, "Would you be in favor of re-establishing the federal entitlement to welfare, AFDC?" Gephardt replied, "No one's going to go back and say that the welfare system we have is good or it should be kept. We've got to make welfare reform work."

11/4/96 USA Today story (this is not a direct Gephardt quote):

List of Gephardt's priorities includes "changing the welfare reform law to ease the burden on children and legal immigrants."

# **Ammirati Puris Lintas**

## Welfare to Work Partnership

Radio Commercial :60  
August 8, 1997

Announcer VO:

Does this country's welfare system make you angry?  
Then you must be an American.

And like most Americans, you don't care that the government has struggled  
with this problem for 60 years. You want answers.

What about moving people off welfare and into jobs?

This is not just a lovely sentiment. It's a logical solution. Because it  
takes guts to get off welfare -- to learn real skills and land real jobs.

But it also takes guts for companies to hire off welfare -- to discover  
workers, determined to prove themselves, motivated beyond belief to replace  
a welfare check with a paycheck.

A lot of big companies are already doing it. So are a lot of small ones. Call  
the Welfare to Work Partnership at 1-888-USA-JOB1. Or visit  
[www.welfaretowork.org](http://www.welfaretowork.org) to learn how your company can benefit by solving the  
welfare problem one job at a time.

## **The Welfare to Work Partnership**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information please contact:

Mike Barbera or Luis Vizcaino

DC: (202) 955-3005 x317

St. Louis: (314) 444-1173

### **Welfare to Work Partnership Launches First Regional Event in St. Louis -- More than 300 Area Businesses Pledge to Hire Welfare Recipients**

St. Louis, MO, August 12, 1997 -- The Welfare to Work Partnership launched its first of several regional events at Mid.Tec Corporation today as more than 300 businesses in the bi-state St. Louis region joined the Partnership by pledging to hire, train and retain former welfare recipients.

President Clinton, Governor Mel Carnahan (D-MO), Senator Christopher "Kit" Bond (R-MO), St. Louis Mayor Clarence Harmon, East St. Louis Mayor Gordon Bush and Congressman Richard Gephardt (D-MO) joined the participating businesses in downtown St. Louis to celebrate the Partnership's mission and spotlight established welfare to work initiatives.

The Partnership is an independent, nonpartisan, national effort of the American business community to help move those on public assistance into jobs in the private sector. Its founding companies are Monsanto Company, United Airlines, Burger King, Sprint Corporation and United Parcel Services of America. United Airlines CEO Gerald Greenwald is the chairman of the board while Eli Segal, a successful entrepreneur and former CEO of the Corporation for National Service, is the Partnership's President and CEO.

"There are more than 42,000 welfare recipients in the bi-state St. Louis region," said Robert Shapiro, president of Monsanto and founding board member of the Partnership. "Welfare recipients are people with hopes and aspirations and dreams, and many of them are ready to be great employees if given the chance."

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The St. Louis event was the first of several regional events organized by the Partnership to challenge the local business community to commit to hire people off public assistance without displacing existing workers. The Partnership worked closely with Monsanto, a founding board member, the Regional Commerce and Growth Association, Civic Progress, Mid.Tec Corporation and other members of the business community. The Partnership also worked with Governor Carnahan's office, the mayor's office of St. Louis and East St. Louis and the Department of Social Services as well as community organizations, such as East-West Gateway, the St. Louis Regional Jobs Initiatives, and the St. Louis Community Partnership

Nearly 300 business leaders answered the challenge and are committed to the Partnership. Some of these business leaders already have established welfare to work programs, or are beginning to implement programs while others have pledged to hire and will soon be recruiting former welfare recipients.

The Partnership is providing participating businesses with several information resources, including a Blueprint for Business hiring guide, a toll-free number (1-888-USA-JOB1), a web-page ([www.welfaretowork.org](http://www.welfaretowork.org)), a national database of companies and service providers involved with welfare to work efforts, a quarterly newsletter, a Public Service Announcement campaign, regional and state seminars and conferences and awards ceremonies.

"Businesses of all sizes and from all industries are learning the welfare to work is a smart solution for business," said Segal. "At a time when many businesses are facing a critical shortage of workers, a new, non-traditional source of employees is being discovered in communities across the country."

The St. Louis event is the first in a series of events sponsored by the Partnership to celebrate the one-year anniversary of the signing of the Welfare Reform Law. The celebration will move to Washington, D.C. on August 14<sup>th</sup> when the Partnership will join with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the Small Business Administration to celebrate and promote the role that small businesses can play in making welfare to work a success. Finally, on August 22<sup>nd</sup>, exactly one year after the passage of the Welfare Reform Law, the Partnership will spotlight the successful welfare reform programs in State of Wisconsin and salute Governor Tommy Thompson (R-WI), a leader in welfare reform and a co-chair of the Partnership's advisory council.

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# CLINTON-GORE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

## REFORMING WELFARE

*On August 22, 1996, President Clinton signed the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act, fulfilling his longtime commitment to 'end welfare as we know it.' As the President said upon signing, "... this legislation provides an historic opportunity to end welfare as we know it and transform our broken welfare system by promoting the fundamental values of work, responsibility, and family."*

### TRANSFORMING THE BROKEN WELFARE SYSTEM

- **Overhauling the Welfare System with the Personal Responsibility Act:** Last year the President signed a bipartisan welfare plan that is dramatically changing the nation's welfare system into one that requires work in exchange for time-limited assistance. The law contains strong work requirements, a performance bonus to reward states for moving welfare recipients into jobs, state maintenance of effort requirements, comprehensive child support enforcement, and supports for families moving from welfare to work -- including increased funding for child care and guaranteed medical coverage. State strategies are making a real difference in the success of welfare reform, specifically in job placement, child care and transportation (*see attached for state examples*).
- **Law Builds on the Administration's Welfare Reform Strategy:** Even before the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act became law, many states were well on their way to changing their welfare programs to jobs programs. By granting Federal waivers, the Clinton Administration allowed 43 states -- more than all previous Administrations combined -- to require work, time-limit assistance, make work pay, improve child support enforcement, and encourage parental responsibility. The vast majority of states have chosen to continue or build on their welfare demonstration projects approved by the Clinton Administration.
- **Largest Decline in the Welfare Rolls in History:** From January 1993 to May 1997, the number of people receiving welfare benefits fell by 24 percent, or 3.4 million recipients -- the largest decline in the welfare rolls in history and the lowest percentage of the population on welfare since 1970. This historic decline occurred in response to the Administration's grants of Federal waivers to 43 states, the provisions of the new welfare reform law, and the strong economy.
- **Mobilizing the Business Community:** To make welfare reform a success and help move a million people from welfare into the workforce by the year 2000, President Clinton has enlisted the business community's leadership. At the President's urging, the Welfare to Work Partnership was launched in May 1997 to lead the national business effort to hire people from the welfare rolls. Founded with 100 participating businesses, the Partnership pledged to reach 1000 business within six months. In August 1997, in St. Louis, Missouri, the Partnership launched a city by city effort to work with employers, service providers and state and local governments to expand welfare to work opportunities. The Partnership provides technical assistance and support to businesses around the country,

including: a toll-free number (1-888-USAJOB1), the Partnership's Web site ([www.welfaretowork.org](http://www.welfaretowork.org)) and a "Blueprint for Business" manual that contains information on finding, recruiting, training, hiring, and retaining former welfare recipients.

... and **Civic, Religious and Non-profit Groups**: The Vice President created the Welfare to Work Coalition to Sustain Success, a coalition of civic groups committed to helping former welfare recipients stay in the workforce and succeed. Tailoring their services to meet welfare recipients needs and the organizations' strengths, the Coalition will focus on providing mentoring and other support services. Charter members of the Coalition include: the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, the Baptist Joint Committee, the United Way, the YMCA, and fourteen other civic groups.

- **Doing Our Fair Share with the Federal Government's Hiring Initiative**: Under the Clinton Administration, the Federal workforce has been reduced by more than 300,000 positions, the smallest the Federal government has been in thirty years. Yet, this Administration also believes that the Federal government, as the nation's largest employer, must lead by example. The President asked the Vice President to oversee the Federal government's hiring initiative in which Federal agencies have committed to directly hire at least 10,000 welfare recipients in the next four years. As a part of this effort, the White House pledged, and has already hired, six welfare recipients.
- **Enforcing Child Support -- 50% Increase in Collections**: The Clinton Administration collected a record \$12 billion in child support in 1996 through tougher enforcement, an increase of \$4 billion, or nearly 50 percent, since 1992. Not only are collections up, but the number of families that are actually receiving child support has also increased. In 1996, the number of child support cases with collections rose to 4 million, an increase of 43 percent, from 2.8 million in 1992. And paternity establishment, often the first crucial step in child support cases, has dramatically increased. In 1996, the number of paternities established rose to nearly 1 million, almost double, from 516,000 in 1992.

**Making Deadbeat Parents Pay**: The President's unprecedented and sustained campaign to make deadbeat parents pay is working. In addition to tougher enforcement including a strong partnership with states, President Clinton has taken executive action including: directing the Treasury Department to collect past-due child support from Federal payments including Federal income tax refunds and employee salaries; taking steps to Federal deny loans to any delinquent parents; issuing an executive order making the Federal government a model employer in the area of child support enforcement. The President also directed the Attorney General to submit legislation that strengthens the Child Support Recovery Act by prosecuting more parents who take egregious actions to avoid paying child support. And most significantly, the welfare reform law contains tough child support measures that President Clinton has long supported including: a national new hire reporting system; streamlined paternity establishment; uniform interstate child support laws; computerized state-wide collections; and tough new penalties. These five measures are projected to increase child support collections by an additional \$24 billion over the next ten years, but first, all states must enact the state laws to implement these tough new rules.

- **Breaking the Cycle of Dependency -- Preventing Teen Pregnancy:** Significant components of the President's comprehensive effort to reduce teen pregnancy became law when the President signed the 1996 Personal Responsibility Act. The law requires unmarried minor parents to stay in school and live at home or in a supervised setting; encourages "second chance homes" to provide teen parents with the skills and support they need; and provides \$50 million a year in new funding for state abstinence education activities. Since 1993, the Clinton Administration has supported innovative and promising teen pregnancy prevention strategies; HHS-supported programs already reach about 30 percent or 1,410 communities in the United States. As part of this effort, the National Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy, a private nonprofit organization, was formed in response to the President's 1995 State of the Union. Notably, data shows we are making progress in reducing teen pregnancy -- teen births have fallen four years in a row, by 8 percent from 1991 to 1995.

### **BALANCED BUDGET HELPS MOVE PEOPLE FROM WELFARE TO WORK**

- **\$3 Billion to Help Move 1 Million People from Welfare to Work:** Because of the President's leadership, the balanced budget includes the total funding requested by the President for the creation of his \$3 billion Welfare to Work Jobs Challenge fund. This program will help states and local communities move long-term welfare recipients into lasting, unsubsidized jobs. These funds can be used for job creation, job placement and job retention efforts, including wage subsidies to private employers and other critical post-employment support services. The Department of Labor will provide oversight but most of the dollars will be placed, through the Private Industry Councils, in the hands of the localities who are on the front lines of the welfare reform effort. In addition, 25 percent of the funds will be awarded by the Department of Labor on a competitive basis to support innovative welfare to work projects.
- **A Welfare-to-Work Tax Credit for Employers:** This tax credit will give employers an added incentive to hire long-term welfare recipients by providing a credit equal to 35 percent of the first \$10,000 in wages in the first year of employment, and 50 percent of the first \$10,000 in wages in the second year, paid to new hires who have received welfare for an extended period. The credit is for two years per worker to encourage not only hiring, but also retention.

## RESTORING FAIRNESS AND PROTECTING THE MOST VULNERABLE

The President made a commitment last year to fix several provisions in the welfare reform law that had nothing to do with moving people from welfare to work. After months of continuous refusals by the Congressional leadership to consider these changes, the President fought for and ultimately was successful in ensuring that the balanced budget protects the most vulnerable.

- **Protects Immigrants Who Become Disabled and Those Currently Receiving Benefits:** The balanced budget restores \$1.5 billion in SSI and Medicaid benefits for legal immigrants. The new law protects those immigrants now receiving assistance, ensuring that they will not be turned out of their apartments or nursing homes or otherwise left destitute. And for immigrants already here but not receiving benefits, the balanced budget does not change the rules retroactively. Immigrants in the country as of August 22, 1996 but not receiving benefits at that time who subsequently become disabled will also be fully eligible for SSI and Medicaid benefits.
- **Helps People Who Want to Work but Can't Find a Job:** The balanced restores \$1.5 billion in food stamp cuts. Last year's welfare reform bill restricted food stamps for able-bodied childless adults to only 3 out of every 36 months, unless they were working. This move ignored the fact that finding a job often takes time. The budget bill provides funds for an estimated 235,000 work slots over 5 years and food stamp benefits to those who are willing to work but, through no fault of their own, have not yet found employment. The balanced budget allows states to exempt up to 15 percent of the food stamp recipients (70,000 individuals monthly) who would otherwise be denied benefits as a result of the "3 in 36" limit.
- **Protects Children by Keeping the Medicaid Guarantee:** The balanced budget preserves the Federal guarantee of Medicaid coverage for the vulnerable populations who depend on it, and contains additional investments to extend coverage to uninsured children. It also ensures that 30,000 disabled children losing SSI because of the new tighter eligibility criteria keep their Medicaid coverage.

## STATES ARE SUCCEEDING IN REFORMING WELFARE

Many states have accepted the significant responsibilities in the welfare reform law and are using the greater flexibility to reform welfare. State strategies are making a real difference in the success of welfare reform, specifically in moving recipients from welfare to work, child care and transportation. Here are a few examples:

### WELFARE TO WORK

- **Massachusetts and Pennsylvania Have Welfare-to-Work Tax Credits for Employers:** According to a report from the National Governors' Association, Pennsylvania rewards employers for participating in their Employment Incentive Program (EIP) by providing up to \$5,100 in state tax credits for each welfare recipient an employer hires. The employer can earn \$1,500 of the possible tax credit by paying for or providing child care to the welfare recipients hired. The welfare recipient must be employed for at least one year for the employer to receive the financial incentives. Under Massachusetts' Full Employment Program, employers are entitled to an excise tax credit of \$100 per month for each FEP employee hired; they can also receive wage subsidies of \$2.50 per hour for up to nine months.
- **Thirty-six States Are Using Welfare Checks to Subsidize Paychecks:** 36 of the 50 states are using welfare checks to subsidize private employment. All states except Alabama, Connecticut, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Minnesota, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Tennessee, and Utah subsidize employment.

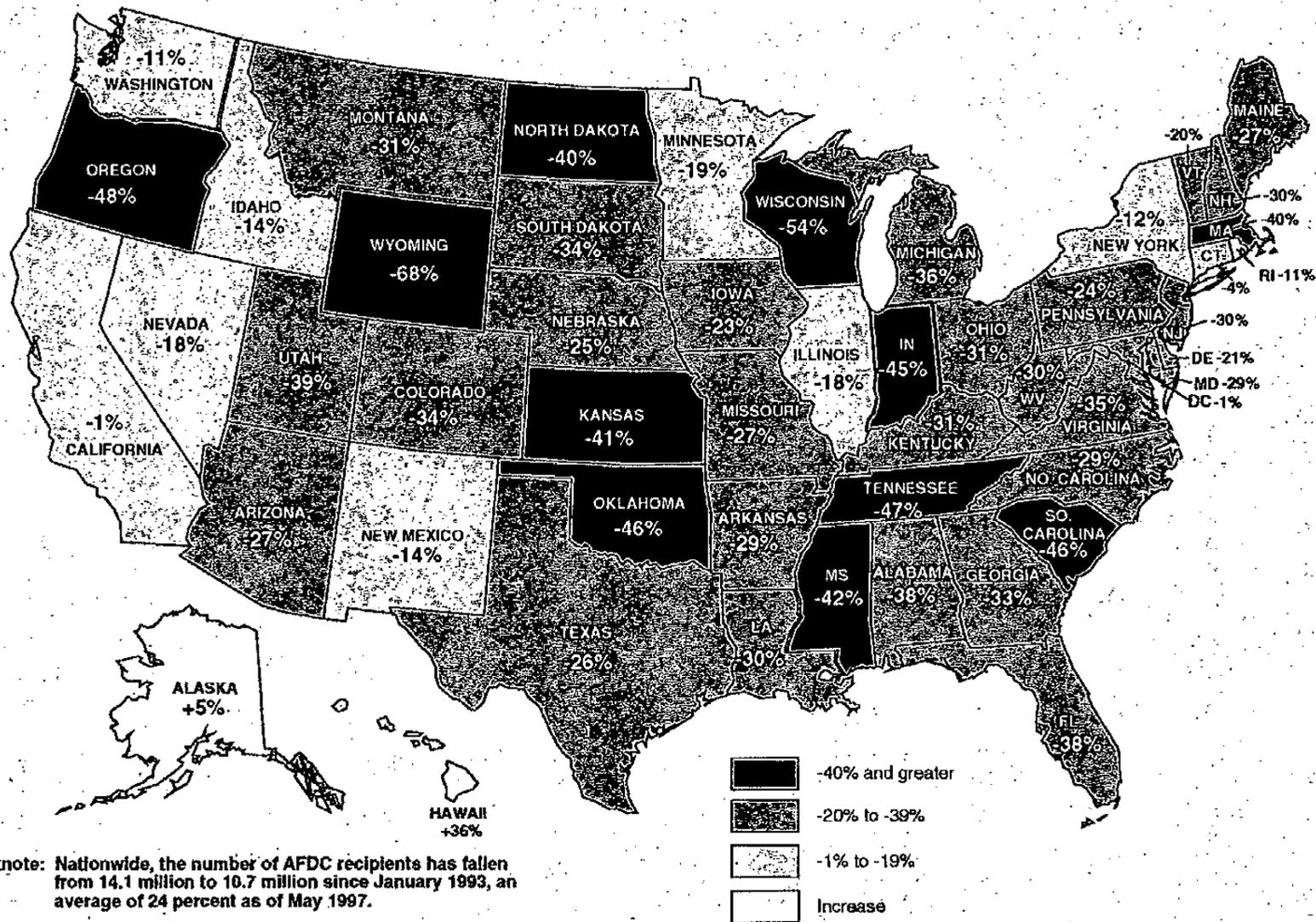
### CHILD CARE

- **24 States Are Increasing Their Spending Beyond What Is Needed to Match New Federal Child Care Funds:** According to a survey by the American Public Welfare Association (the state welfare directors), 24 states plan to spend more of their own dollars than they need to in order to match the new federal child care funds. These 24 states are: Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Tennessee, Vermont, Washington State and Wyoming.
- **Several States Have Seamless Child Care Systems:** Illinois, Michigan, and Washington are examples of states that provide child care subsidies based on income, not whether a parent used to be on welfare or not.

### TRANSPORTATION

- **Michigan, Kentucky and Wisconsin Are Addressing the Transportation Challenges of Welfare Reform:** Michigan and Wisconsin are tackling the transportation barriers many welfare recipients face. Because few families receiving public assistance own automobiles, it is often challenging getting workers to jobs in the outlying suburban areas. Michigan's Suburban Mobility Authority for Regional Transportation provides bus patrons with a ride from their stop to their work site. Wisconsin developed "Job Ride" in 1989 creating an innovative van pool system. Kentucky's "Empower Kentucky" initiative is integrating the transportation programs of four cabinet departments to improve transportation for underserved areas of the state.
- **Connecticut is Using Welfare Block Grant Dollars to Fund Transportation:** In Connecticut, the Governor has committed to using \$2.2 million of the state's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) dollars for transportation services for public transit operators across the state to provide new transportation services to move welfare recipients to work.

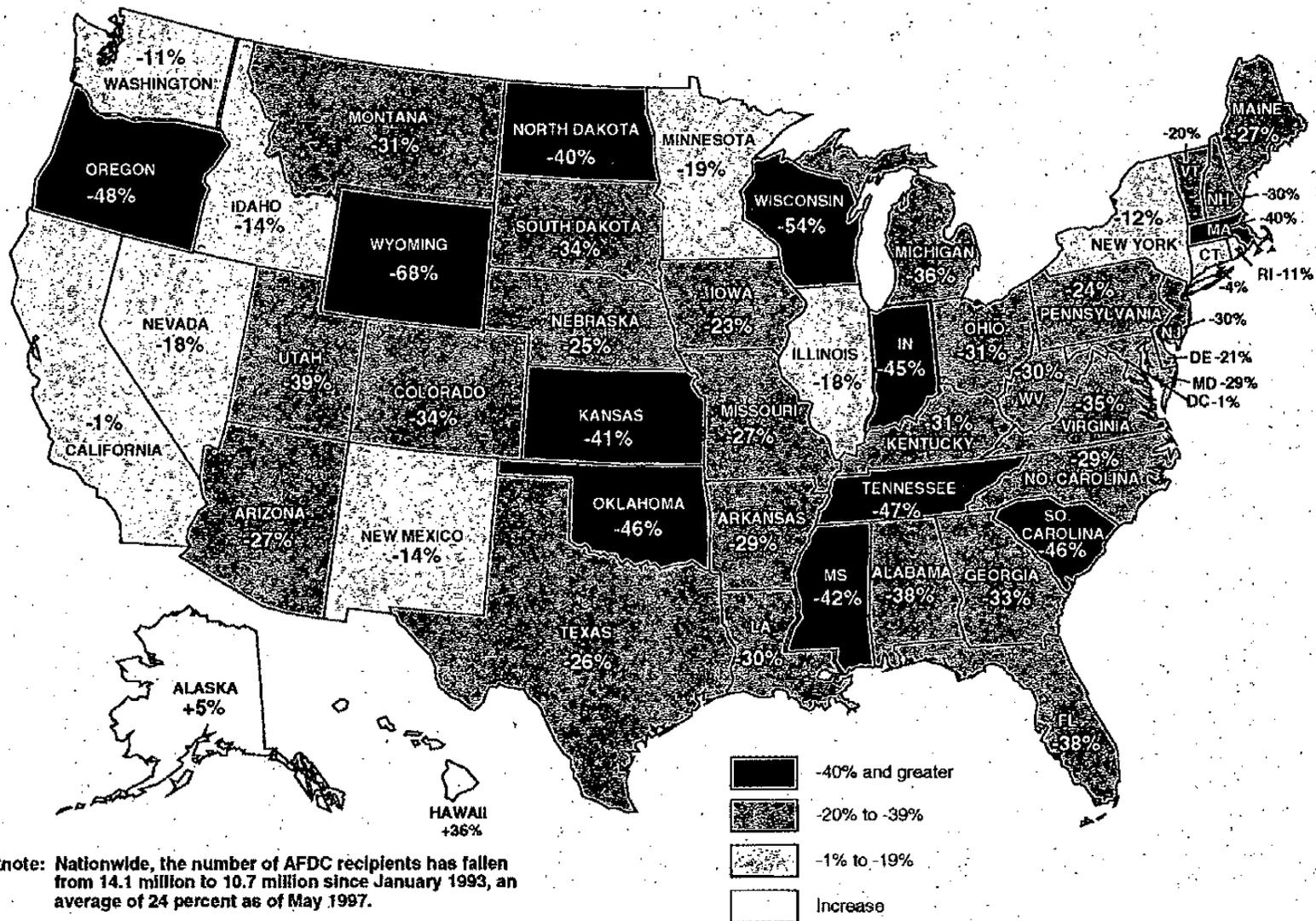
# MORE THAN 3 MILLION FEWER PEOPLE ON WELFARE SINCE 1993



Footnote: Nationwide, the number of AFDC recipients has fallen from 14.1 million to 10.7 million since January 1993, an average of 24 percent as of May 1997.



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**PRESIDENT WILLIAM J. CLINTON**  
**REMARKS FOR WELFARE TO WORK EVENT**  
**ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI**  
**August 12, 1997**

Acknowledgments: Sec. Shalala; Sec. Herman; Administrator Alvarez; Rep. Dick Gephardt (for being here today and for doing such a good job representing the 3rd District and fighting for his constituents.); Sen. Bond; Gov. Carnahan; Steve Gaw, Spkr. of House; Steve Ehlmann [ELL-man], Sen. Minority Ldr.; Bob Holden, State Treas.; Mayor Harmon; Eli Segal, Pres., Welfare to Work Partnership; Bob Shapiro, CEO, Monsanto; Barry Corona, Chairman, Mid.Tec.

It is wonderful to be back in St. Louis, City of the Arch -- your monument to the spirit of the pioneers who came to this rich river valley, and made it their home. The same forward-looking spirit is alive today in St. Louis. You can see it all over this great city: in your revived downtown area and your record job growth, in your commitment to education reform-- and your short commutes!

I want to talk to you today about one of the most important challenges we face as we prepare America for the 21st Century -- moving people from welfare to work. Here at Mid.Tec, you are already doing your part. I took a tour of the facility just before the program began, and the training program here is a model for the entire country.

Fixing our broken welfare system has been one of the top priorities of my presidency. Since I first took office, we have granted waivers to 43 states to help them launch welfare reform experiments all over the country.

Then, one year ago next week, we took the bold step of ending welfare as we know it when I signed historic legislation to make welfare a second chance, not a way of life . . . and to make personal responsibility the law of the land. There were those who said that welfare reform would not work, and that private business could never create the jobs we need to make it work.

**One year later, the debate is over. We know that welfare reform works. Today, I am proud to announce that since I signed the welfare reform bill into law, there are now 1.4 million fewer people on the welfare rolls. And since I took office, we have seen the largest decrease in welfare caseloads in history -- almost 3.4 million people -- and the smallest percentage of our population on welfare since 1970.**

This news is cause for celebration. But it also gives us an opportunity to recommit ourselves to the goal of giving every American the dignity of work, and . . . to redouble our efforts to meet our next challenge of moving one million more people from welfare to work by the year 2000.

To meet that challenge, the single most critical thing we must do is to create jobs for the people we are now requiring to work.

The national government is committed to doing our part. Last week, I signed into law the first balanced budget in a generation, one that honors our values, invests in our people, and prepares our nation for the 21st century. That historic legislation includes a \$3 billion Welfare to Work Challenge Fund to move long-term welfare recipients into lasting jobs.

We also made sure that the budget includes the expanded Work Opportunity Tax Credit -- a powerful incentive for private employers to hire long-term welfare recipients. I believe every one of those new workers should earn at least the minimum wage and receive the protections of other existing employment laws.

To help former welfare recipients to succeed in the workforce, the Vice President launched a new initiative that brings civic groups and businesses together to mentor new employees. And the Vice President is also leading our federal effort to hire 10,000 people off welfare in the next four years. And I am proud to say that we have already hired welfare recipients at the White House.

States must also do their part. Forty-eight out of 50 states have already seen their caseloads decline dramatically -- by 27% here in Missouri -- and the welfare rolls in Wisconsin and Wyoming have declined by more than half in the last four and a half years. I challenged states to take what had been welfare checks and turn them into paychecks -- and 36 states are already subsidizing private sector jobs for welfare recipients.

We know that the vast majority of jobs must be created by the private sector. The most lasting way to bring people on welfare into the mainstream of American life is with a solid job in a private business.

The Welfare to Work Partnership was founded by some of our nation's largest corporations -- including Monsanto -- to reach out to the business community and mobilize its resources to help create jobs for welfare recipients. Under the leadership of my good friend, Eli Segal, over 800 companies -- 300 here in St. Louis alone -- have already joined the Partnership, and I am confident that they will be at 1,000 soon.

You don't have to be a Fortune 500 company to join the Welfare to Work Partnership. The businesses that have already joined are manufacturers and health care providers, retailers and restaurants. They are companies large and small. But as different as they are, they share a belief in the bottom line -- and a commitment to their communities.

**Hiring people off welfare isn't just the right thing to do -- it is good business. So let me say to every employer in America: join this crusade -- call 1-888-USA-JOB1 -- and help give a welfare recipient that first job.**

The Welfare to Work Partnership's "Blueprint for Business" is an invaluable resource for businesses that are interested in learning more about how to hire people off welfare, and how to help them succeed in the workplace.

**Felicia Booker**, who is on stage with us today, is a wonderful example of a former welfare recipient who overcame serious obstacles to become a valuable and successful employee. There are hundreds of thousands of people on welfare like Felicia. Her success took courage, responsibility, and a dream that she could make a better life for her two young children. But it also took an employer -- and many people along the way -- to help her realize that dream.

If we are to prepare America for the 21st Century, stronger and more united than ever, we must all take responsibility, not only for ourselves, but for our communities, and for our common future; we must all make a commitment to give something back. At the Presidents Service Summit in April, people from all walks of life came together in Philadelphia to make that commitment. And I thank those of you who have joined the Welfare to Work Partnership today for doing your part.

Thank you and God bless you.

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# BLUEPRINT FOR BUSINESS

REACHING A NEW WORK FORCE

THE WELFARE TO WORK PARTNERSHIP  
AND  
NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF BUSINESS