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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DeKalb Workforce Development to Receive 'Go Build Georgia' Grant Funds *More than \$50,000 to help train DeKalb youth*

DECATUR, Ga – DeKalb County Interim CEO Lee May announces that DeKalb Workforce Development has received over \$50,000 in grant funds from the Georgia Department of Economic Development – Workforce Division for the Go Build Georgia initiative.

The Go Build Georgia initiative was introduced on January 17, 2012 by Governor Nathan Deal and strengthens the skilled trade workforce. DeKalb Workforce Development competitively bid for the Go Build Georgia initiative grant and was the sole grantee from a total of 19 local workforce areas throughout the state of Georgia.

"DeKalb Workforce Development continues to stand out among the best," said ICEO May. "This grant money provides opportunities for so many young people in our county by exposing them to potential careers in high demand fields."

Go Build Georgia is designed to introduce and prepare aspiring young professionals for employment opportunities in skilled trades, such as construction, transportation, energy, telecommunications and manufacturing. Through a partnership between the State, technical colleges, pre-apprenticeship programs and industry professionals, DeKalb Workforce Development will provide valuable exposure through classroom training and hands on instruction to 22 rising high school seniors from the DeKalb County School District.

Participants will "earn while they learn" through paid internships, thereby allowing them the opportunity to use their skills in a professional setting. The expected program outcomes include, but are not limited to, attainment of a high school diploma, professional training in a high-demand occupation and ongoing opportunities to network with key stakeholders and business professionals.

In addition to the paid internship program, DeKalb County Workforce Development will also implement a pre-apprenticeship training program. Both programs will concurrently develop and mold in-school youth as they gain marketable skills for their future employment endeavors.

(more)

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For additional information regarding Go Build Georgia in DeKalb County, please contact Melfred Garrison at (404)687-3400 or mngarrison@dekalbcoutyga.gov .

DeKalb Workforce Development is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program and auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Persons with hearing impairments may contact 1-800-255-0135.

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