TO: STATE GOVERNORS
STATE LABOR COMMISSIONERS
STATE WORKFORCE AGENCIES
STATE WORKFORCE LIAISONS
STATE AND LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARDS
AMERICAN JOB CENTER DIRECTORS & MANAGERS

FROM: JOHN PALLASCH
Assistant Secretary

SUBJECT: Release and Availability of Research Reports on the Self-Employment Training Demonstration

1. Purpose. To announce the release and availability of two evaluation reports and two briefs on the Self-Employment Training (SET) Demonstration.

2. Action Requested. This notice is for informational purposes.

3. Summary and Background.

   a. Summary – The reports provide information on the SET program implementation and findings from the impact evaluation. The briefs provide highlights from participant focus groups on their experiences and summarize impact findings.

   b. Background – The SET pilot program was funded by the U.S. Department of Labor’s Employment and Training Administration (DOL/ETA) to test strategies for supporting dislocated workers interested in starting their own businesses. Unemployed and underemployed workers who proposed businesses in their fields of expertise were eligible to participate. SET participants received free access to 12 months of case management, customized training and technical assistance and up to $1,000 in seed capital micro-grant funds for business start-up costs. The program operated in four sites—Chicago, Illinois; Cleveland, Ohio; Los Angeles, California; and Portland, Oregon—between 2013 and 2017. The estimated program impacts were based on a post program survey of participants that were randomly assigned to a program group and control group.

4. Weblink to Reports. To view or download the reports, visit https://www.doleta.gov/research.

   • Creating Jobs When You Can’t Find Any: Implementation Lessons from a Self-Employment Pilot Program for the Unemployed – Final Implementation Report
• In Their Own Words: Voices of Study Participants in the Self-Employment Training Program - Brief
• Supporting Self-Employment as a Reemployment Strategy: Impacts of a Pilot Program for Dislocated Workers After 18 Months - Brief

5. **Inquiries.** For further information, please contact Wayne S. Gordon, ETA Office of Policy Development and Research at (202) 693-3700 or gordon.wayne@dol.gov.

6. **References.** Not Applicable.

7. **Attachments.** Not Applicable.