



*Hispanic Chamber  
of Commerce*  
WISCONSIN

May 23, 2012

The Honorable Gwendolyn Moore  
**Attention:** Shelia Payton, Outreach Coordinator  
219 North Milwaukee Street Suite A  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202

Dear Congresswoman Moore:

The Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Wisconsin (HCCW) is a non-profit business organization that is recognized as a determined leader and relentless advocate for expanding opportunities in commerce, education and employment. Our efforts support entrepreneurial enterprises that encourage and support job development that serve as an economic catalyst.

On behalf of our membership, area employers and businesses in our communities along with thousands who look to the HCCW for leadership, we urge you to prevent the closures of the vital Job Corps centers; and to weigh heavily the detrimental impact that these closures would have on Wisconsin communities, businesses and the over-all economy.

No other career preparation program is more closely allied with local and regional employers and their needs. These employers actively work with their local centers to customize training in 100 different trades in 11 major industries and shape curricula in numerous disciplines. Small businesses in our communities work closely with their Job Corps centers because these centers effectively produce skilled and responsible workers who can contribute to small business growth.

The vast, untapped talent and potential of our youth, ages 16-24, is clearly evident. Training and developing a quality workforce is critical so as to respond to employers who are clamoring for trained workers and who are offering family supporting employment opportunities. Milwaukee Job Corps is a structured, well-managed program that is results-oriented; and once which provides the necessary supportive services, comprehensive training and education so vital to our youth's upward mobility.

It has been reported, that every dollar invested in the program results in approximately \$2 in economic activity in the local economy because of the purchasing of goods and services in the community. As a result, the average Job Corps center directly and indirectly supports 228 local jobs. Nationally, the 125 Job Corps centers support 30,000 jobs, the vast majority of which are in the private sector.

To ensure continued economic growth and a well-trained workforce, our nation has a responsibility to invest in smart programs that have a proven track record of success. Job Corps is one of the most worthwhile investments toward these goals. For the sake of youth, the employers who hire them, and our communities, Congress must prevent the closure of any of the 125 Job Corps centers across the country.

**We encourage you to use your considerable influence and leadership to convince your colleagues of the importance of Job Corps centers.** Your attention and support are sincerely appreciated, as is the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Maria Monreal-Cameron, President & CEO  
Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Wisconsin

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