## **WIRED Initiative Gets Federal Funds** Deanna Garcia



Congressmen Randy Kuhl and Tom Reynolds, Monroe County Executive Maggie Brooks and Monroe Community College President Tom Flynn accept a 15 million dollar check

from deputy Secretary of the U-S Labor Department, Steve Law.

ROCHESTER, NY (2006-02-27) A new jobs initiative in the Rochester area got a major financial boost from the U-S Department of Labor today.

Deputy Labor Secretary Steven Law delivered 15-million dollars in federal funds for the WIRED initiative. As part of President Bush's Competitiveness agenda the WIRED program seeks to bring together lawmakers, businesses and educators to train a more advanced workforce for the future.

Law says our economy is now knowledge-based, rather than manufacturing based. He says now the workforce needs to catch up because there are jobs out there, but not enough

people trained to fill them.

The Finger Lakes area is one of 13 regions chosen for the WIRED initiative. Law says the strong support from area Congressional Representatives Tom Reynolds, Randy Kuhl, Louise Slaughter and Jim Walsh played a role in the area being chosen.

Reynolds today hosted a Job Creation Roundtable aimed at letting Law know what the Finger Lakes Partnership is doing as part of the WIRED initiative.

The Finger Lakes Partnership encompasses nine counties and will be led by Rochester Works Inc. Its 21 members inlude leaders in government, business, education and public-private partnerships.

© Copyright 2006, WXXI