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EDITORS: The following information is for immediate release. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Costello, program and marketing coordinator of the Chester County Economic Development Council, at 610 458-5700.

Economic Development Council, WIB report training 2,461 individuals during fiscal year

Industry Partnerships results show 610 companies participated

EXTON _ A fiscal year-end report by the Chester County Economic Development Council and the Chester County Workforce Investment Board shows training for 2,461 individuals was delivered to employees from 176 of Southeastern PA companies, and 610 companies in the region took part in the five Chester County managed industry partnership programs.

Some of the highlights of the industry partners include:

The Innovative Technology Action Group (ITAG) worked with Penn State Great Valley to establish the “Igniting Innovation” series, provided outreach services to 599 students and celebrated the 10th anniversary of Girls Exploring Tomorrow’s Technology (GETT) program. ITAG also trained 525 individuals from 22 companies.

The Smart Energy Initiative trained 170 individuals from 69 companies. The organization also worked with geothermal, solar photovoltaic and energy efficiency working groups to address workforce and business needs.

The Chester County Health Care Partnership trained 1,046 individuals from 18 companies. It also conducted outreach to 2,000 youth and adults and organized health care career showcases at Bryn Mawr Rehab, Kendal-Crosslands Communities and Paoli Hospital.

The Southeastern PA Agriculture Industry Partnership trained 132 individuals from 82 companies and did an outreach to 981 youths in programs supported by 157 companies and 15 educational partners. The organization also supported artisanal cheese production in the region.

The BioScience Industry Partnership trained 637 individuals from 22 bioscience companies and through the Life Science Career Alliance provided outreach to 1,100 youths in the region. The group also created a job seeker program to assist displaced workers from bioscience-related fields.

The Regional Career Education Partnership served 2,118 students supported by 79 companies and 13 educational partnerships. The organization held six showcases in conjunction with industry partners and took students to health care and agriculture employers. An on-line career fair was also held.

The Keystone Innovation Zone (KIZ) served 26 companies operating within a KIZ and another 20 potential companies. The organization helped to create 55 new jobs and supported 11 interns.

The Chester County Economic Development Council is a private, non-profit economic development organization that has been nurturing economic growth in Chester County and the surrounding region for 50 years. The Council’s portfolio of business growth services includes: low-interest financing, small business lending, workforce training, retention and expansion, customized international business assistance, land and building site selection, brownfields consultation and remediation, urban redevelopment, and agricultural economic development. The

Council also offers state-of-the art conference and training facilities at its facility in Eagleview.
For more information, see www.cceconomicdevelopment.com.