



The Quarterly Newsletter
of Westover Consultants, Inc.

Summer/Fall 2011

Vol. 1, Issue 3

In This Issue

- Westover in Action
- Awards & Achievements
- Feature: Bath Salt Concern
- Employee Spotlight
- Capability Spotlight

Westover Awards and Achievements



Westover is Awarded Two New Contracts

Westover was recently awarded two new contracts for conference support services. The first is a three-year contract to coordinate the national and regional conferences for the Administration on Aging's (AoA's) Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) program, which seeks to reduce fraud in the Medicare program. The national and regional conferences bring together state SMP leaders to discuss best practices and strategies for preventing fraud.

The second contract is a five-year contract to provide logistical support for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA's)

continued on page 2

Westover in Action

Substance Abuse Prevention, TUCK-WBENC Exec. Program, and IWF Leadership Conference

Westover Implements Substance Use Prevention Project on HBCU Campuses

The *Check Yourself* Project is a collaboration between the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), The National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame Foundation (HoF), and Aetna to develop, implement and evaluate a national pilot to detect usage levels and decrease substance use among students of historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs). This will be done via screening, brief intervention, referral and treatment services (SBIRT). This initiative has one major goal: to educate, create awareness and establish a substance use disorder program that will decrease substance use among students of HBCUs by identifying risk, usage and implementing early prevention, intervention and resilience services as needed. The *Check Yourself* initiative is being supported under SAMHSA's Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT), Partners for Recovery Contract lead by Shannon Taitt, Public Health Analyst. Partners for Recovery provides technical, administrative and logistical support to a collaboration of organizations, educational institutions, and communities mobilized to help individuals and families achieve and maintain recovery, resilience and lead fulfilling lives.



During the month of September 2011, which is SAMHSA's Recovery Month, Westover implemented the *Check Yourself* project during the 105 Voices of History Conference. Representatives from 105 HBCUs come together to this annual conference to develop leadership skills through the arts, while learning to serve as behavioral health Ambassadors in their communities and respective campuses. The SAMHSA Team facilitated a behavioral health workshop that featured SAMHSA's priorities, introduced, distributed and collected the results from the alcohol assessment, distributed resources materials through the PFR exhibit, and took part in the Health Walk.

Westover ended the month with supporting HoF's Annual Conference. The purpose of the conference is to honor HBCU alumni who have made significant contributions, enlighten middle and high school students on the viability of HBCUs as an opportunity for higher learning, and support the sustainability and retention of HBCU students. The SAMHSA Team facilitated a *Check Yourself* Project Orientation workshop for 5 HBCUs who will pilot the *Check Yourself*

Continued on page 2

Westover in Action (cont'd)

Project using SBIRT on their respective campuses, provided an overview to the general audience on SAMHSA's priorities, focusing on workforce development and substance use disorder prevention programming, as well as distributed and collected the results from the alcohol assessment.

TUCK-WBENC Executive Program

Dr. Faye Coleman, President and CEO of Westover Consultants, Inc., was recently selected to participate in the prestigious



TUCK-WBENC Executive Program, part of the Tuck Executive Education program at Dartmouth College. Sponsored by IBM and held at the Dolce Palisades Conference Center in Palisades, New York, this intensive, week-long executive leadership program is designed for seasoned and highly accomplished women business owners, and offers them the latest strategies and executive leadership "best practices" from some of the most notable thought leaders in the field of executive education who are on the faculty at Dartmouth's business school. Participants in this sought-after program are selected from scores of applicants nationwide, and they represent the best and the brightest business leaders from WBENC's database of certified women business owners.

The Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC), founded in 1997, is the largest third-party certifier of businesses owned controlled, and operated by women in the United States. WBENC, a national 501(c)(3) non-profit, partners with 14 Regional Partner Organizations to provide its national standard of certification to women-owned businesses throughout the country. WBENC is also the nation's leading advocate of women-owned businesses as suppliers to America's corporations.

2011 International Women's Forum (IWF) World Leadership Conference

Westover's Dr. Faye Coleman has been invited to attend the 2011 International Women's Forum (IWF)'s World Leadership Conference, as a guest of IBM, one of the event's premiere sponsors. This year's IWF Leadership conference, held in Washington DC, will be at-

tended by over 700 female leaders, executives and professionals of significant and diverse achievements worldwide. The conference theme is "Balance and Power in the 21st Century". It will feature some of the world's leading experts, advocates and catalysts for change. Dr. Chieko Asakawa, award-winning Chief Technology Officer of Accessibility Research at IBM, will one of the distinguished plenary panelist at this event.

Westover Awards and Achievements (cont'd)

Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS), whose mission is to treat mental illnesses by promoting mental health and by preventing the development or worsening of mental illness when possible.

Westover Employee Recognized for Outstanding Service

At the 2011 Federal Partners in Bullying Prevention Summit the Department of Education presented **Pamela Wallace** with a Hero Award for outstanding customer care, logistical performance, character, integrity, kindness, responsibility, and courtesy and overall leadership abilities. Pamela who according to HR frequently receives email kudos and job well done from our customers, is a Manager for Westover's Conference Services Practice Group.



Westover's Conference Services Senior Manager Earns CMM Designation

Michelle J. Taunton, Senior Manager of Westover's Conference Services Practice Group, recently earned her Certification in Meetings Management (CMM) designation. Issued by Meeting Professionals International



The mission of the CMM program is to select, educate, and certify management-level meeting and event professionals. The focus of the certification is to provide continuing educational enhancements to the strategic decision-making ability of these leaders to manage and deliver exceptional meetings and events that drive organizational success.

Feature Article

WARNING: Not Just Your Grandmother's Bath Salts

A Message from Dr. Faye Coleman: *The following article is a synopsis of a presentation entitled "Bath Salts and Spice Aren't What they Used to Be: Drug Trends in 2011" at the U.S. Department of Education-Office of Safe and Drug Free Schools 2011 National Conference, held on August 8-10 at the Gaylord National Hotel, National Harbor, MD.*

"Ivory Wave", "Cloud Nine", "Bliss", "White Snow", "K-2 Spice", -- these are a few of the street names used for Bath Salts-- the latest craze in synthetic drugs-- that exploded on the US market in June of 2011, and has grown exponentially in recent months. These drugs, which originated in the Far East and generally enter the US via Europe, are used as stimulants. Due to the dangerously potent compounds used to produce these drugs, they can cause serious side effects, such as dizziness, hypertension, panic attacks, chest pains, confusion, hallucinations and worse. The MDPV these drugs contain often prevent them from showing up on drug test, which further complicates monitoring and treatment.



Alarmingly, some of these products are being advertised online as legal, because they are labeled "Do Not Ingest". Viral marketing via often underground social media sites has helped create an exploding demand for these drugs, especially among the 15 - 25 year old demographic . Because they are so new, many States have not had sufficient time to include them on their list of controlled substances.

Most disturbing, however, is the fact that there has been insufficient time to conduct studies to reveal the full breadth and scope of the effects of these drugs. The growing number of documented cases of combative, violent behavior, paranoia and even psychosis, some of which have led to suicide attempts, are particularly disturbing. Education and awareness about the existence and dangers of these new synthetic drugs aimed at the target population are keys to prevention. Time is of the essence, however, as this trend is growing at an alarming pace.

Employee Spotlight

Bernard Warren

As Program Director in Westover's Management Consulting Division, Bernard recently completed a supplemental funding and technical assistance assignment for the Faith and Community Based Support Initiative (FCBSI) project under the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention. This project focused on organizations that had existing HIV or substance abuse prevention programs. On September 30th, Bernard began a new assignment as program director on the Center for Mental Health Services Logistics (CMHS) contract which requires support for events ranging from small meetings with 50 or fewer attendees to large conferences with up to 500 attendees. Westover will provide full technical, logistical, and administrative management support encompassing all required pre-event,



onsite, and post event services.

Prior to joining Westover in October of 2009, Bernard provided organizational development services for health care and community based organizations throughout the US. This included technical assistance and training to organizations--specifically focusing on strategic planning and technical assistance for public and private concerns.

A graduate of American University's School of Public Affairs with a Bachelors degree in Political Science and a Master of Public Administration in Govern-

Continued on page 4

Employee Spotlight (cont'd)

mental Management/Political Behavior, Bernard is a member of the American Society of Public Administration and the Association of Strategic Planners. He is also a Program Innovation Award recipient from the National Association of Counties.

In his spare time Bernard enjoys photography and working with the Youth Sports ministry.

When asked about how he feels working at Westover, Bernard replied, "To improve the human condition summarizes my mission in life, so I feel at home."

Aisha Walker

As a Conference Coordinator for Westover's Conference Services Group, Aisha is responsible for providing logistical services for several Federal clients, such as the Administration on Aging, Center for Substance Abuse Prevention and Center for Mental Health Services for their meetings and conferences. These services include site selection, developing online registration web sites, production of meeting materials, vendor negotiation, finalizing travel/hotel arrangements, providing onsite support and management, and processing invoices.

Prior to coming to Westover, Aisha worked as a contractor at Northrop Grumman on a CSAP contract.

A member of the Society of Government Meeting Professionals, Aisha is a graduate of the University of Maryland, College Park where she earned a Bachelor's degree in Communications

In her spare time Aisha likes traveling, reading and cooking.

Capability Spotlight

Staff Augmentation

Westover takes pride in helping clients increase their efficiency and productivity by providing timely and flexible staffing solutions. Our staff augmentation practice specializes in providing a quick turnaround for high-caliber talent.

By providing top-notch, information technology experts, financial and accounting personnel, administrative, research and mental health professionals, Westover gives its customers the flexibility they need to achieve the "right" talent for every opening, quickly and cost-effectively.



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About Westover

Established in 1984, Westover Consultants, Inc. (Westover) is a multidisciplinary professional services firm offering information technology, management, training, editorial, and social marketing expertise to Government agencies, private industry, and non-profit organizations.

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