



# DANE COUNTY

**Joe Parisi**  
County Executive



## Life and Employment Skills Initiative

The strength of Dane County's economy relies on the availability of a skilled workforce. Dane County Executive Joe Parisi created the Life and Employment Skills Initiative in his 2012 county budget to address this need.

"During my six economic development summits over the summer, the importance of a skilled workforce came up time and again," said Parisi. "A strong workforce means an investment in people. Businesses want to hire, but sometimes can't find the employees they need. People want jobs, but sometimes don't have the training they need. The county will play a role in strengthening our workforce with new and existing programming."

Parisi's Life and Employment Skills initiative partners the county with Operation Fresh Start (OFS) and other community leaders in providing at-risk youth with the tools, connections and skills necessary to land and keep a job.

The initiative provides \$62,730 to Operation Fresh Start to help fund a new 15 person work crew. OFS crews produce quality affordable homes for low to moderate income families and can assist local conservation efforts.

Dane County Human Services, the Boys and Girls Club of Dane County, Centro Hispano, and the Urban League will provide Operation Fresh Start with youth referrals to fill the crew.

You can learn more about the county's partners in the Life and Employment Skills Initiative through the following links:

Operation Fresh Start - <http://operationfreshstart.org/>

Boys and Girls Club of Dane County - <http://www.bgcdc.org/>

Centro Hispano of Dane County - <http://micentro.org/>

The Urban League of Greater Madison - <http://www.ulgm.org/>