



Please take a moment to view our weekly update to keep current on the exciting happenings around the Upper Peninsula.

## Granholm, MEDC Announce New Fund to Help Auto Suppliers Diversify

***Program will help companies expand into emerging markets.***

Governor Jennifer M. Granholm and Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) President and CEO, Greg Main recently announced the Michigan Supplier Diversification Fund, a multifaceted initiative designed to help Michigan manufacturers and auto suppliers diversify into new emerging sectors such as alternative energy, homeland security/defense, medical instruments and aerospace.

The first program launched under the Michigan Diversification Fund, the Michigan Loan Participation Program, will address the current lack of bank financing available to companies that are attempting to diversify. Under the loan program, the MEDC will partner with private lenders to offer loan participations with little or no interest payments for a specific period of time.

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Look for full story in the July edition of Michigan Works! Business is UpDate.

## USDA Rural Development Announces 2009 Funding for Rural Energy For American Program (REAP)



Nationwide, there will be \$60 million available in this program for 2009, up from roughly \$17-23 million annually in previous years. The funding is to support investments in renewable

energy systems, to make energy efficient improvements, and to conduct feasibility studies for renewable energy systems for agricultural producers and rural small businesses.

Applications for grants, guaranteed loans, or loan/grant combinations must be completed and received by the USDA Rural Development Office or Area Offices no later than July 31, 2009. For further program information, contact the USDA Rural Development Business & Cooperative Division in the East Lansing State Office at (517)324.5157.

## Diversifying Michigan Manufacturers

July 15, 2009

For more information or to register

[CLICK HERE](#)



### **June 17, 2009 Starting A Business Workshop**

Michigan Works! Service  
Center  
Escanaba, MI  
For More Information  
Contact  
906.789.9732

### **June 17, 2009 Michigan Works! Sponsored Business After Hours**

Teddy's Pub & Bistro  
Manistique, MI  
For More Information  
Contact  
800.562.4808

### **June 19, 2009 Starting a Business Workshop**

Michigan Works! Service  
Center  
Marquette, MI  
For More Information  
Contact  
906.228.3075

### **July 15, 2009 Diversifying Michigan Manufacturers**

Traverse City  
231.995.7105  
Iron Mountain  
800.562.4808  
Gaylord  
989.731.0288

### **July 23, 2009 MEDC UP Small Business Regional Forum**

Bay College  
Escanaba, MI  
For More Information  
Contact  
800.562.4808

# 2009 Upper Great Lakes Economic & Workforce Development Summit

Save the Date! September 16, 2009

*Economic and Workforce Development Summit*

**9:00 AM – 3:30 PM EST**  
**NMU Great Lakes Rooms, Marquette, MI**  
*Agenda and Program to Follow –*  
*More Information Soon at [www.jobforce.org](http://www.jobforce.org)*

Here is what last year's participants had to say:

“**E**very year  
*I leave the Summit  
renewed & re-charged!*”

“**G**reat event!  
*Informative, relevant  
and inspiring!*”



**Lodging:**

A block of rooms are reserved at the  
Country Inn & Suites (906-225-1300),  
Ramada Inn (906-228-6000) and  
the Landmark Inn (906-228-2580).

Equal Opportunity Employer. Michigan Relay (800) 649-3777.  
Auxiliary Aids and Services Available to Individuals with Disabilities upon Request.



Our vision is to create and maintain a healthy and growing economy with a local workforce that has the knowledge, skills and abilities to enable local employers to compete and succeed in a global and technologically sophisticated market place.

Thank you for your continued support of economic and workforce development efforts throughout our region.

***Sincerely,***

Orrin Bailey  
Michigan Works! The Job Force Board



**Equal Opportunity/Employer. Michigan Relay (800) 649-3777.**  
**Auxiliary Aids and Services Available to Individuals with Disabilities upon Request.**

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