Bringing Jobs to People: How Federal Policy Can Target Job Creation for Economically Distressed Areas

Timothy J. Bartik, Senior Economist

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W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research 300 S. Westnedge Ave. Kalamazoo, MI 49007 bartik@upjohn.org

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Principles for Efficient Job Creation in Distressed Communities

- Focus on "productivity services" rather than tax subsidies to business
- Productivity services have higher bang for buck
- Enhancing business productivity has direct national benefits



More Principles for Efficient Job Creation in Distressed Communities

- Targeting: Tight targeting based on objective measures of jobs shortage
 - Targeting permits adequate resources
 - Targeting redistributes jobs to where they have greater benefits

Rigorous evaluation

 Compare assisted with similar unassisted businesses and areas

Benefits and Costs of 3 Proposals to Bring Jobs to Distressed Areas

| | Productivity boost | Productivity benefits/ costs | Govt. costs per new local job |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Customized training | 0.5% | 1.8 | \$25,000 |
| Manufacturing extension | 0.8% | 2.1 | \$8,500 |
| Empowerment Zones | 3% | 2.1 | \$18,000 |