ACTIVITY REPORT FOR September 2015
MONTANA BEAR PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

NEW at MDOC: Montana Office of Tourism and Economic Development
As anyone closely involved with Montana economic development knows, big changes took place in MT Dept. of Commerce on July 1st with the merging of the Business Development Division with Montana Tourism Division. The new division, Montana Office of Tourism and Economic Development is sure to more closely align business development efforts, community planning, and tourism resources. Visit the website and become familiar with the five bureau chiefs who are here to help your business clients: http://www.marketmt.com
IWT FUNDS NOW AVAILABLE
According to the new schedule, Second Quarter Funds are now available (October 1st) for Incumbent Worker Training Grants. Here we go with round two!

BEAR OUTREACH DATA FOR SEPTEMBER
Number of business surveys or contacts: 17

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Flathead County</th>
<th>Anaconda/Deer Lodge County</th>
<th>Stillwater County</th>
<th>Gallatin County</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>13</td>
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</tbody>
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BEAR Team Members conducting visits:
- Mike Jackson - 2
- Warren Vaughan - 13
- Joel Bertolino - 1
- Jillann Knutson - 1
- Kim Morisaki - 1
- Gloria O’Rourke – 1

DATABASE FINDINGS – from July 1 to September 30, 2015
YOU ARE INVITED – REGISTER AS A MEDA MEMBER
If you have not yet registered to join colleagues at the MEDA Fall Conference, save $ by registering today. Check out the updated agenda for both the conference and the MT Infrastructure – Call to Action Town Hall Meeting. AGENDA and REGISTRATION Plan on obtaining information to sharpen the tools in your economic development tool box and enjoying networking as only MEDA/BEAR can provide.

Catch the Main Street Montana Project Symposium prior to MEDA:

BEAR SURVEY LINK
New MT BEAR Survey Link for the survey in Word format for easy note taking as it matches the form. Users must eventually enter the information directly into the survey.

TRAINING
Mike and Gloria are available either via webinar or in person to conduct a BEAR training, refresher course, or organize presenters for a specialized business topic. Contact the office by dialing 406.563.5259 or emailing gloria@medamembers.org.