It is MEDA’s privilege to submit this report for the current contract to the Governor’s Office of Economic Development, Montana Department of Commerce, Montana Department of Labor and Industry and Montana BEAR Team participants regarding Business Expansion and Retention (BEAR) Program activity in the state. The following is a summary of MEDA BEAR activities as provided for in the Scope of Work under Amended Contract MT-MEDA-ED-12-01 for the month of June 2012.

ACTIVITY REPORT FOR June 2012

UNIQUE REPORT FOR JUNE
Due to ExecutivePulse taken off line while Montana is updated to Version 6.0, the usually monthly report is not available. The next report under the new system will demonstrate new reporting options that will be available to all Montana BEAR Teams. The new structure will be very integrated and very user friendly.

Don’t worry if you missed the two orientation sessions held in June; Laith Wardi has promised to provide many opportunities once ExecutivePulse is back online.

THIS AND THAT
- Mike and Gloria O’Rourke presented on *A Different Kind of BEAR in Montana* for The Mobilizing Rural Communities Webinar Series on Wednesday, June 20th. A history of Montana's BEAR Program was shared as well as the success of the current operating model.

- The Kalispell area BEAR Team was featured in a local newspaper on its great success with the program and integrating IWT grants for small businesses.

IWT - Wow!
There was a flurry of activity as the Fiscal Year End wrapped up and deadlines were met regarding IWT applications. Many thanks to all of the MDLI staff involved with IWT for their hard work. In case you had not heard, Dave Morey will be retiring soon. Dave was instrumental in the set up of the IWT program that has delivered hundreds of thousands of dollars to businesses in need of training dollars. Thank you, Dave!

Reminders:
- Reimbursements for SFY12 funding must be submitted to the State within 90 days after the completion of training.
- SFY13 funding will be available July 1st. Applications may be submitted now, but they may not be processed until SFY12 funding activities are finalized.

Thank you for your patience as Montana makes the switch to ExecutivePulse 6.0!