Creating Awareness for the Workforce Needs of the Seaport Industry
They say it comes in three's...

KATRINA
2005

RECESSION
2007

OIL SPILL
2010
THE GOAL

- CREATE 1,300 NEW JOBS
- "TO MAKE AVAILABLE TO THE GREATEST EXTENT FEASIBLE TO LOW AND MODERATE (LMI) PERSONS 51% OF THE JOBS CREATED FROM THE PORT'S RESTORATION PROJECT."
SOME OF THE CHALLENGES

- Public perception of the Port Restoration Project
- Mississippi economy ranks 48th in the country
- Poverty rate – ranks 50th
- Workforce participation rate – 49th
- Mississippi ranks 49th in health rankings – children in poverty, obesity, diabetes, frequent mental/physical health, drug use, teen pregnancy
- Low educational attainment rates
You can't just build it and expect that "they" will come...
MAKING IT REAL

- SMART START
- ACT WORK READY COMMUNITY
QUESTIONS?