

**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Governor Musgrove Presents Research Award to Delta Consortium**

(Greenwood, MS) – Governor Ronnie Musgrove presented a \$250,000 grant to Dr. Lester C. Newman, president of Mississippi Valley State University, Dr. Clinton Bristoe, president of Alcorn State University, and Cornelius J. Jones, director of Mississippi Action for Community Education.

The award will pay for the implementation of a study to assist in the training and development of the public service workforce, as well as provide the tools necessary to effectively and efficiently utilize Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funds in their respective communities.

“These funds will go to strengthening the partnership between local officials and the Workforce Investment Network (WIN) programs and ensure the needs of all segments of community are met. All partners will be working together on solutions to address issues of workforce and economic development, training, and education in the Delta,” Governor Musgrove stated.

The research will focus on five areas of workforce related issues:

- The examination of the experiences and outcomes of manufacturing plants in Tennessee and Alabama, both of which have successfully hired and trained local workers for second tier jobs in the automotive industry.
- The evaluation of the existing plan for the local area’s WIN Job Centers. Researchers will review and evaluate the current workforce, and the existing WIN in Mississippi Program including the goals, objectives, and strategies for the local workforce development system.
- The ways to assist local leaders in implementing local plans for WIA covered WIN Job Center services and other funded employment and training services for youth, adults, and dislocated workers.
- The surveying of the impact of workforce development activities relative to local elected officials, local workforce boards and youth councils, the business community, labor organizations, educators, vocational rehabilitation agencies, and other interested parties.

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