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State of Wisconsin  
Department of Workforce Development  
Jim Doyle, Governor  
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On the Web: <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/news.htm>

## Secretary Gassman Welcomes White House Official to Wisconsin, Pledges Support for Continued Cooperation During Recovery

*Dr. Ed Montgomery, Director of Recovery for Auto Communities and Workers,  
visits workers and community leaders during stops in Janesville and Kenosha*

JANESVILLE – Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Roberta Gassman today joined other leaders in welcoming Dr. Ed Montgomery, White House Director of Recovery for Auto Communities and Workers, to Wisconsin to hear from workers, community representatives and other leaders about economic issues at the regional level.

“While the economy is steadily improving, many people in Janesville, Kenosha and other communities remain out of work, and we need to maintain and strengthen partnerships at all levels to succeed in putting Wisconsin back to work,” Secretary Gassman said. “Today’s visit by Dr. Montgomery and representatives from other federal agencies represents the collaborative efforts to help advance Wisconsin’s recovery from the worst national economic downturn since the Great Depression.”

Secretary Gassman said that under Governor Doyle’s leadership, Wisconsin is poised for growth with some of the strongest economic development tools in the nation. In April, Wisconsin gained 16,400 jobs, more than in any month since 1996. Wisconsin has gained 32,000 jobs during the first four months of 2010.

“With the support from our federal partners and the leadership of Governor Jim Doyle, Wisconsin is focused on helping businesses create jobs and providing workers across the state with opportunities to get those jobs,” Secretary Gassman said. “And, through the efforts of our dedicated staff, dislocated workers in communities across the state are receiving the services they need to help them gain employment.”

Secretary Gassman thanked President Obama and Congress for investing in Wisconsin’s economy, particularly with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Dr. Montgomery toured the Rock County Job Center, where he learned about the many employment services and programs available to the public. Following the tour, Dr. Montgomery, along with Secretary Gassman, U.S. Representative Tammy Baldwin, Wisconsin Assembly Speaker Mike Sheridan and other officials, heard presentations at the UAW Hall in Janesville. They learned about the region’s economic future from Bob Borremans, Executive Director of the Southwest Wisconsin Workforce Development Board, and other members of the Collaborative Organizations Responding to Dislocations (CORD) group. Later Friday, Dr. Montgomery was scheduled to visit with Kenosha officials at UAW Local 72.

As Director of Recovery for Auto Communities and Workers, Dr. Montgomery is working to ensure federal resources are used to assist workers and communities that depend on the auto industry. Joining him were representatives from the U.S. Departments of Labor, Housing and Urban Development, Transportation, Health and Human Services, and Justice; the Environmental Protection Agency; the Small Business Administration; the Economic Development Administration, and the National Institute of Science and Technology.

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