

South Dakota Department of Labor  
700 Governors Drive  
Pierre, SD 57501  
[www.sdjobs.org](http://www.sdjobs.org)

**For Immediate Release:** September 19, 2008  
**Media Contact:** Dawn Dovre, 605.773.3094

## **Governor Rounds supports National Employ Older Workers Week**

**PIERRE, S.D.** — Governor Mike Rounds today announced the state’s celebration of National Employ Older Workers Week Sept. 21-27. A proclamation was issued to show support for workers past the traditional retirement age who have remained in and re-entered the workforce.

Governor Rounds states in the proclamation, as our population continues to age, older workers will play an increasingly important role in maintaining our economy. Their contributions to the nation are immeasurable.

“Many issues face our older workers today, and we are working hard to ensure both those individuals and employers are aware of the workforce opportunities available,” said Secretary of Labor Pam Roberts.

The Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP), funded by the U.S. Department of Labor, brings employment and training opportunities to older Americans across the nation. Currently, the program serves more than 100,000 seniors each year nationally, and nearly 600 in South Dakota. Overall, it has helped millions of Americans find jobs in community service and the private sector.

The South Dakota Department of Labor (SDDOL) receives the SCSEP grant and administers it through a sub grantee program, Experience Works. Participants are offered training opportunities in a variety of fields while they prepare to transition into full- or part-time employment in the public and private sectors. “We are proud of the many successes of SCSEP and Experience Works,” Secretary Roberts said.

For more information, contact Jean Bennett of Experience Works at 605.332.7991 or Todd Kolden of SDDOL at 605.773.4999 or visit [www.sdjobs.org](http://www.sdjobs.org).