



THOMASVILLE JOBLINK

LINK LETTER



1ST QUARTER, 2011

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

VAN JOHNSON	1
DCCC REPRESENTATIVES	2
JOB LINK INTENSIVE JOB CLUB	2
EXTENDED DAY JOB CLUB	3
TABE ON-LINE	3
SETA CONFERENCE	
UPDATE FROM VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION	4
UPDATE FROM WS URBAN LEAGUE	4
Success story	4

Van R. Johnson
Business Relations Manager
Temporary Resources, Inc.

Van Johnson from Temporary Resources attended a workshop at Thomasville JobLink as Guest Speaker for our Job Search & Interviewing Magic Workshop on March 15, 2011. Mr. Johnson gave a presentation on "I Just Need a Job".

Topics Discussed:

- Developing a Successful Job Search Plan
- First Impressions
- How To Stand Out In A Crowd
- Things That Keep You From Getting A Job
- Resumes
- Interviewing Tips and Techniques
- How To Deal With Rejections

Van talked about how to plan your work and then work your plan. He gave us seven Quick Points for Selling Yourself in an Interview. He stressed the point of how important the interview is because it gives you the opportunity to showcase your qualifications to an employer. It pays to be well prepared for an interview.

Having a background of over 10 years in staffing, recruiting, and employment related industries; Van has a passion for what he does. Prior to becoming Business Relations Manager with Temporary Resources, Van held the positions of instructor and staffer. He has worked with the Department of Labor's Job Corps program as a Recruiter and as Jobs Coordinator for ACORN, in Evanston, Illinois.

Van teaches free job skills workshops and seminars through his church and in various communities as well. He is a public and motivational speaker as well as the Administrator of a program called "The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen" – a mentoring program for at risk boys.

DavidsonWorks



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Welcome Davidson County Community College Representatives

The Thomasville JobLink and DavidsonWorks would like to welcome Courtney Wilson and Jasmine Hargrave who are the new DCCC JobLink/DavidsonWorks liaisons. Courtney will be in the Thomasville JobLink Career Resource Center on Wednesdays from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. and Jasmine Hargrave will be at DavidsonWorks on Thursdays from 8:30 am - 12:30 pm. They will not only answer specific questions about DCCC and its services but will assist other customers as well.

They are especially interested in talking with folks about DCCC's Basic Skills Plus. The Basic Skills Department at Davidson County Community College has an exciting new program to offer called "Basic Skills Plus". This great opportunity allows students that are pursuing their GED or AHS (Adult High School Diploma) to take college courses while they are working on their High School credential. As a part of this program, the college tuition and fees are waived. The program provides a textbook check out program that eliminates the cost of books. It is a WIN-WIN situation! Students can get a jumpstart on their college courses, so when they graduate with their GED or AHS they can transition directly into college. To learn more about the program or any of the other great programs offered, please contact Courtney Wilson. cnwilson@davidsonccc.edu, 336-224-4537.



Jasmine assists a customer at the DavidsonWorks resource room in Lexington.



Courtney is pictured here in the Thomasville JobLink Resource Room

Job Club

The JobLink staff continues to extend invitations for participation in the Intensive Job Club to those customers who are identified as exhibiting interest in extended "intensive job search assistance".

Some of the things participants obtain upon completion:

- Resume.
- Reference sheet and generic cover letter.
- Sample documents to compose salary history/salary requirement letters.
- Interview preparation techniques and participation in mock interview session.
- Review of "soft skills" and how to change attitudes and motivations.
- Criminal background discussion.



DavidsonWorks



Extended Day Job Club

This Spring, DavidsonWorks has been partnering with Davidson County Extended Day School by providing a Job Club for ten students. Participants were identified by school Graduation Coach / Career Counselor, Regina Moore, as students who were self-motivated and seeking out employment opportunities. DavidsonWorks Career Development Consultant, Beth Abernathy, has been facilitating the Job Club sessions which have included topics such as Job Club expectations, career assessments, completing job applications, resume writing, and interviewing skills. Most recently, students participated in mock interviews where they were able to practice their new interviewing skills. If students participate in each of the monthly sessions and are WIA eligible, they will be given the opportunity for a summer Work Experience where they will get hands-on job experience and earn some money.



Participants in the Job Club include: (Front Row, Left to Right) Cameron Jones, Cheryl Michael, Megan Bell. (Back Row, Left to Right) Dylan Simpson, Steven Burchette, Matt Davis, Dwight Houpe (Not Pictured: Tony McDowell).

From the Front Line

TABE On-Line

- DavidsonWorks and JobLink staff participated in a webinar for the Basics of the online TABE.
- TABE is an assessment resource that provides a complete picture of adult student performance and helps us to evaluate a client's abilities in basic skills (reading, language, mathematics).
- One of the most important factors for TABE on-line is the immediate scoring and reporting. TABE is the most widely used adult test in the United States for Adult Basic Education.

SETA Conference - March 6-9 2011 - Greensboro, NC

Staff members from JobLink and DavidsonWorks attended the SETA conference in Greensboro, NC. The conference provided attendees with information on workforce development issues and shared ideas on how to better prepare customers for the challenges ahead. This conference was hosted by TriadWorks.

Thomasville By the Numbers

The following figures have been compiled from monthly reports as taken from the daily sign-in logs. For the 1st Quarter of 2011, Thomasville JobLink had a total of 3,841 customer visits, with 892 being new customers. The total number of job placements for this quarter was 95, with 59 employer contacts and 43 services to businesses.



Your Link to Success

Linking People and Businesses to
Services

Update from Vocational Rehabilitation

Vocational rehabilitation is happy to report that despite the state budget issues, VR services have not been affected. VR will continue to offer full services to job seeker clients and business services clients in Davidson, Davie, and Randolph Counties.

In fact, Vocational Rehabilitation statewide has embarked on a new program that puts focus on business relations. While services to businesses are not new to VR, the agency has worked to develop a more comprehensive approach that creates a partnership with businesses. Traditionally, business contacts have been only to inquire about job openings for qualified seekers. The new approach looks to create a relationship that makes the employer feel at ease to call the local VR Business Relationship Representative (BRR) for help in any area of concern and know that that BRR is going to work for her/him to help find a solution to the problem.

Job Placement will always be an important component of VR. However, it is hoped that by knowing the local employers at a more personal level we can better screen job seekers for open positions at local businesses. To know more about this approach or get to know your local BRR in Davidson County call our office at (336) 249-0241.



Richard Michaels, VR
Team Member

Update from Urban League

Ms. Kale recently completed the re-certification process for 41 SCSEP participants for Davidson and Davie Counties.

The program is still on an enrolling freeze. However, Ms. Kale continues to welcome all referrals to add to her "waiting list".



Dora Kale, Winston Salem Urban
League Team Member

**JobLink maintained a
99% positive Customer
Service Rating for the
1st quarter of 2010**

Satisfied Customer Returns

James (not his real name) is a 42 year old male who came to the Thomasville JobLink Center in January, 2008 after his release from prison having served over five (5) years for a felony offense.

After he completed his registration, he received JobLink orientation which highlights services, partners, workshops, training programs, and a needs assessment to identify needed services.

James then began discussion with the Customer Service Representative regarding his concern that his criminal background would probably be a barrier to successfully obtaining employment. He was then registered for the JobLink Ex-Offender Straight Talk: Breaking Free of Job Barriers workshop; which he attended.

The workshop content consists of open discussion of employment barriers or roadblocks to workforce re-entry, creating resumes, completing job applications, and interviews. It uses tools such as videos and handouts.

During the workshop James indicated that he needed a resume and intensive job search assistance. His past work experience prior to incarceration was Material Handling, Shipping/Receiving, and Forklift Operation. After he attended the resume workshop, he was also provided counseling, job search assistance, networking tips, and job referrals.

After several months of intensive job search assistance, counseling, and networking, James obtained a position with Metalcraft of Mayville in Greensboro, NC as an Assembler at \$10.00/hr. in April, 2008 where he worked until a recent plant closing in October, 2009.

Upon layoff James once again came back to JobLink for intensive job search assistance and job referrals. Also, he independently began working towards obtaining his Commercial Driver License and has recently obtained a CDL Class B license with the goal of obtaining employment as a Local Truck Driver.

Submitted by,

Jackie Gilmore-Davis