



THOMASVILLE JOBLINK LINK LETTER



WELCOME TO ISSUE 18

2ND QUARTER, 2010

JobLink Job Club

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

The Job Club began in November 2008 . Meetings are held once a week (3 hour sessions) for four weeks every other month. Participants are referred by staff invitation with 100% attendance required. Job Club members who complete the Intensive Job Club and have 100% attendance have the following after completion:

- Completed resume.
- Completed generic cover letter. Copies of samples for salary history and salary requirement letters.
- Reference Sheet (contacted three (3) references and received permission to use).
- Completed sample job applications.
- An understanding of various interview questions and techniques (participation in mock interviews).
- Group discussions regarding changing of attitudes and motivations.
- Receipt of a Certificate of Attendance and a "Get A Job" kit.
- Referral to WIA for further career development or training.

July, 2009—May, 2010 46 Participants
22 Obtained Employment

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Above, customers apply for United Furniture jobs at the Thomasville JobLink. 898 applications were taken on May 4th, at DavidsonWorks, ESC and JobLink.

From the Front Line

With summer and the exhaustion of UI benefits for some job seekers, we have seen a sharp increase in our customer flow. The job market has made clear to us the need for every job seeker to have basic computer skills with more and more employers preferring online applications.

We will continue to promote workshops available here at JobLink and DavidsonWorks along with the "FREE" classes through Davidson County Community College .

On a positive note, there have been more folks reporting that they have found employment. Hopefully this will continue through the months to come.

Update from Project Re-Entry

Year to date, 34 of Project Re-entry's Davidson County Participants have found employment. At Goodwill Career Connections, Project Re-entry is facilitating Job Readiness and Job Retention Workshops once a month for men and women, with a criminal backgrounds, who are in arrears in their child support. Project Re-entry will be offering our third workshop on July 27, 2010. The workshop consists of a two hour orientation on the fourth Tuesday of the month and workshops from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. on Thursday and Friday. In order to get a Certificate of Completion, participants must complete the entire workshop. From our first two workshops, we have eight certified participants and two are already working. Referrals are made through Child Support Enforcement or may be court ordered. These workshops are offered at no cost, and Project Re-entry works with the participants as long as services are needed.

At Davidson Correctional, our 18th session begins on Wednesday July 28, 2010. Many thanks to Jackie Gilmore-Davis, Thomasville JobLink. Jackie facilitates a session at Davidson Correctional and North Piedmont Correctional Center for Women for Project Re-entry. Jackie personalizes JobLink and shares how the participants can use the resources and services offered by JobLink while job searching.



Ineta Cherry, JobLink Team Member
and Project Re-entry Coordinator

DavidsonWorks



New Workshops at DavidsonWorks

Monday, August 23- Basic Computer Skills Workshops

Monday, August 16 and Monday, August 30- Resume Writing Workshops

The Basic Computer Skills Workshops are targeted to those without any basic computer knowledge. Topics to be covered include: using a mouse, opening and closing web pages, opening and saving files, accessing the Internet.

The Resume Writing Workshops are for customers that have basic computer (and typing) skills and will use the WinWay Resume software that is very user friendly. Customers should either have a resume template filled out or have a working resume that they can use to reference dates before attending the Resume Workshop.

Update from Vocational Rehabilitation

The North Carolina Division of Vocational Rehabilitation currently has stimulus money to expand their On the Job Training (OJT) program. Traditionally, VR has offered their program to employers as an incentive to hire and train persons that VR recommended for employment. The client placed in the position needed to be cost eligible in order to use this program. The employer would then be reimbursed for the new employees wages at 50% for a predetermined number of training weeks. With the stimulus money in place, VR has waived the cost eligibility and the program is open to any VR client. In addition, the employer can be reimbursed at 100% for the determined training period. The basic requirement is that there is a candidate that would be a good fit for the employer and that candidate lacks the skills to do the job; if the candidate has transferable skills, then the program cannot be used. In addition, a business *may* also be eligible for the WOTC. For additional information, please call Richard Michaels at the Lexington Unit of Vocational Rehabilitation at 336 249-0241.



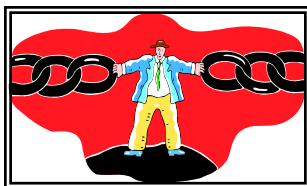
Update provided by Richard Michaels, JobLink Team Member and Business Services Representative for VR.

Update from Urban League



Update provided by team member Dora Kale, Senior Employment Specialist, Winston Salem Urban League

- Program year ended June 30, 2010.
- Busy accepting applications, conducting interviews and reviewing eligibility.
- Have made several assignments in Davidson and Davie counties.
- Will be recruiting for new host agencies (must be non-profit).
- Developed one new host agency in Davie County.
- Will be holding a Digital Inclusion Keyboarding classes beginning in August or September, 2010.
- Rotated two (2) participants to different host agencies to gain new skills.
- Eight (8) participants exited the program; two (2) were placed in unsubsidized jobs.



Linking people and services



We appreciate the support of our local WDB

DavidsonWorks



Success Story

Thomas first came to the Thomasville JobLink Center on March 26, 2010. He had recently moved to North Carolina from Swanton, Ohio where he had previously been employed for a Transport Company as a Truck Driver. Due to the slow economy, Thomas was laid off. He decided to move to North Carolina thinking the economy was better than in Ohio with hope he would get a job and then send for his family to move to North Carolina to live.

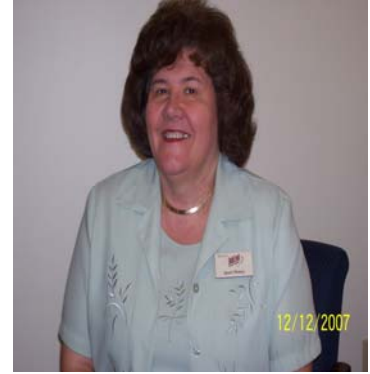
Thomas was committed to attending workshops that were offered, (Basic Computer Skills, Resume, Job Search Magic/Interviewing,) searching daily on the internet, reviewing jobs posted on the Job Boards, and talking to Employment Security Commission representatives as part of his daily job search. Job Referrals and leads were given to him, a few interviews were conducted, but no job offers were appearing.

After faithfully searching for employment for two months, Thomas found himself homeless: nowhere to live **and** no money. He remained positive and continued to work hard on job searching every day.

May 18th 2010, an invitation was extended to him to attend the Thomasville JobLink Intensive Job Club. The JobLink Job Developer worked with him intensively on obtaining employment. One of the responsibilities of the Job Developer is to proactively assist employers with identifying potential applicants to fill job openings. She made several job development contacts to see if any employers had open positions for which Thomas qualified.

After some discussion with representatives, there was a position open with a local temporary agency for a Machine Operator with no experience required. The employer required a criminal background check, and Thomas's report came back with no offenses. There was only one problem: the job site was located in Seagrove, NC, (Thomas had only relocated to North Carolina three months prior). A search of support services in Randolph County was conducted, and a list of agencies was given to Thomas for assistance with housing and other services available. He obtained an appointment at the temporary agency in High Point to complete a job application. After receiving some assistance, (unfortunately, he was out of gas in the parking lot of the JobLink Center), Thomas interviewed and obtained employment through the temporary agency. Because of intensive job search assistance, Thomas is currently working 12 hour shifts. He did move to Seagrove and is no longer homeless or unemployed.

He stopped by the JobLink Center on June 14, 2010, just to thank everyone for their help. He also expressed his appreciation to all of the JobLink staff. Thomas is a prime example that perseverance, a positive attitude and hard work pays off!



Success Story submitted by Janet Money, Customer Service Specialist at the Thomasville JobLink Center

JobLink maintained a 99% positive Customer Service Rating for the 2nd quarter of 2010

Customer Service

Comments from the surveys completed during the 2nd quarter 2010

- *"Keep the positive smiles and attitudes. They are very welcomed."*
- *"Thanks for all you do and keep up the good work!"*
- *"In this job market, clients should have the ability to print out more than 3 pages..."*
- *"I have no suggestions but am very satisfied at this time."*
- *"JobLink has been very good at what they do and that is a blessing—Thank you"*

Thomasville By the Numbers

The following figures have been compiled from monthly reports as taken from the daily sign-in logs. For the 2nd Quarter of 2010, Thomasville JobLink had a total of 4,222 customer visits, with 987 being new customers. The total number of job placements for this quarter was 113, with 68 employer contacts and 38 services to businesses.