

Pasco-Hernando Workforce Board Chairman's Report

Volume 2: 2013

Employment Statistics Pasco / Hernando Region December 2012

Unemployment Rate

- 9.4% Hernando
- 8.7% Pasco
- 7.9% Tampa Metro
- 7.9% Florida
- 7.6% U.S.

*Source: Florida's Department of
Economic Opportunity
(www.employflorida.com).

Numbers are not seasonally adjusted.

Job Fairs and In-House Recruitments

Veteran's Workshop

February 15, 2013

9.00 a.m.

Career Central - New Port Richey

PPN Meeting

Successful Interviewing
Strategies

February 18, 2013

9.00 a.m.

Career Central - Spring Hill

Workshop

Basic Computer Skills for Job
Seekers

February 28, 2013

8.30 a.m.

Career Central - New Port Richey



On-the-Job Training - A Win-Win for Area Employers and Job Seekers

After 21 years in the Navy, Ricky Clotter found employment with a Tampa based company while living in Spring Hill. When that business closed, Mr. Clotter found himself seeking employment for a second time. Aware that the Tampa Bay Workforce Alliance had programs specifically for Veterans, Mr. Clotter sought their services and found a job order for a Quality Control Inspector/Manager with Kinematics and Controls Corporation in Brooksville. The job was available through the NEG/OJT program and since the employer was based in the region serviced by the Pasco-Hernando Workforce Board, Mr. Clotter was referred to their NEG/OJT Program Coordinator, Blake Harding.



Mr. Clotter forwarded his resume which detailed his lengthy career of operating and maintaining aircraft launch and recovery equipment aboard Navy aircraft carriers. Impressed with his background, experience and skillset, Kinematics interviewed Mr. Clotter and expressed an interest in hiring him. Mr. Clotter completed the eligibility process and was determined NEG/OJT eligible. He was hired on January 14, 2013 by Kinematics and Controls Corporation as Quality Control Inspector/Manager.

Both the employee and employer are pleased with the outcome of the placement through this program. John Rakucewicz, President of Kinematics has hired at total of 5 people through the various OJT programs available. On the value of these programs Mr. Rakucewicz had this to say, "Skilled workers are the single most essential component of any successful business. I see this as especially true in a small technical manufacturing company such as ours. We consider your programs to be a vital life line for our business

Job Seeker Finds Services, Support and Success at Career Central

Having been employed steadily since 2005, Eileen was unfamiliar with the services, programs, and information that Career Central had to offer. But in October of last year, after becoming unemployed, she was pleased to learn about and take advantage of the many services available to her at Career Central.

The Employment Representatives she met at Career Central were eager to assist her with accessing online courses so that she could update current skills and learn new ones. They encouraged her to remaining positive and focus on the job search. She received assistance with updating her resume and Employ Florida Marketplace account to reflect the new and updated skills she'd acquired.

Eileen was successful in gaining employment and attributes her success to the great customer service and support she received from the Employment Representative Team.

Upcoming Events and Meetings

2013

February 21, 3.00 p.m.

Board Meeting
Career Central
New Port Richey

March 14, 8.30 a.m.

Audit Finance Committee
Board Office
Brooksville

March 14, 9.30 a.m.

Executive Committee
Board Office
Brooksville

April 18, 1.30 p.m.

Youth Committee
Career Central
Spring Hill

April 18, 3.00 p.m.

Board Meeting
Career Central
Spring Hill

For a full list of meetings,
visit the Career Central
website and view our
calendar.



Youth Program Internship: Connecting Youth with Employers

Having aged out of the foster care system and new to Pasco County, Mary Millwater found the Youth Program at Career Central. On entering the Youth Program, she expressed an interest in hands-on work, especially that which involved mechanical parts and being outdoors. She completed the Customer Service workshop and received a credential from the National Retail Federation.

Then Mary was placed at SI Electric as an electrician's helper. Judy Nicta, owner of SI Electric and supporter of the Youth Program, was eager to serve as a mentor and role model to Mary. During the internship, Ms. Nicta was impressed with Mary, noting her commitment to her work, and her positive, professional demeanor even during tasks such as climbing into attics, under houses, and on rooftops to take measurements. Mary's hard work and dedication paid off. At the conclusion of the internship, Mary was offered and accepted the full-time position of Electrician's Assistant with SI Electric.

Ms. Nicta is committed to Mary's success, helping her study and prepare for the GED exam after which their sights are set on Mary becoming a certified Electrician's Apprentice.



Professional Placement Network

After more than 13 years with Southwest Florida Water Management District as an Administrative Supervisor, Donna L. Holdrege was advised that her position was being eliminated. Armed with more than 30 years of Administrative experience, a college degree, and a determined attitude, Ms. Holdrege sought the services of the Professional Placement Network at Career Central.

There she found many helpful staff members ready to assist with skill assessment, job search, and navigating the unemployment compensation.

With an updated resume and a Silver certificate from the Florida Ready to Work on-line test, Ms. Holdrege approached the job search and networking with a new level of confidence.

Her perseverance paid off when, in January 2013, she submitted her resume in response to an administrative position with the Pasco County Board of County Commissioners. She interviewed for the position and accepted their offer of employment.

Ms. Holdrege says that the nearly 4 months of unemployment were difficult. Having been steadily employed for over 13 years, it was overwhelming to start the job search again. From updating her resume and skills to navigating the unemployment compensation system, staff at Career Central were helpful and supportive.