



Centreville Labor Resource Center

YEAR 2, VOLUME 8

August 2013

Next board meeting of the Centreville Immigration Forum: Tuesday September 24th 7 PM

Monthly Statistics: August at a glance

Total Jobs	81
Total workers out on jobs	118
Average rate for August jobs	\$14.40 per hour
Percentage of total jobs going out at Average rate	60 %

August has seen modest job placement in comparison to other summer months. While most of CLRC employers do return for multiple jobs, there have been fewer employer visits overall this month.

'Green Box' Update



Workers practicing box assembly

The CLRC's Green Box Project is ready to launch! A group of workers who have been trained to make garden boxes following the CLRC's unique design has decided to start the box project as a workshop/volunteer

project. While the project is in its infancy, workers have agreed to make the boxes for sale as a fundraiser for the center, with participating workers being eligible for paid work installing the boxes should anyone want that additional service. Remember, these are made of chemical free cedar, estimated to last a long time!

They can be ordered as 2 X 2 or 3 X 6, with 2 or 3 boards of depth. Deeper boxes are recommended for growing root vegetables like carrots and potatoes. While we are in the start-up phase of this project, we will be unable to accommodate custom size orders.

Suggested donation/pricing for the boxes are listed below:

2x2, 2 boards deep: \$100
2x2, 3 boards deep: \$125
3x6, 2 boards deep: \$150
3x6, 3 boards deep: \$175

Boxes will be sold as kits of pre-cut wooden planks that must be assembled by hand. Dirt and mulch are not included. The Center will hold a manufacturing session on September 3rd. Boxes will not be ready until after this date. If you would like to place an order, please contact us at (703) 543 6272 so we can have it ready for you this fall! Visit www.centrevillelrc.org for more information.

What's in your name?



Children enjoying summer

With the school year starting soon, there is lots of chatter at the Center about children. A few workers have children living with them and are excited about the education they will receive and a bit nervous about interacting with teachers and the school system in general. Some parents have talked about their anxieties about not being able to help their children with their school work because of the language barrier or even because they themselves never had the opportunity to go to school.

Through these conversations here at the Labor Resource Center I have been able to learn about the family lives of many of our workers. Most interesting to me are the names of the children. I like to think that names reflect the hopes and dreams our parents have for us.

For example, I am named after a relative that bravely supported her family in her husband's absence dur-

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ing the Spanish American war. My parents hoped to pass some of that strength to me with that family name. I think the same can be said for the children of our workers. Almost every child I have met or heard about has a distinctly American name. The name of a certain folk singer that will remain unmentioned is very popular, along with many other "American" names. The juxtaposition of the two cultures can bring about some pretty interesting names, which I won't divulge here, but I'll say that we have heard names comparable to something like "Hendrix Chavez".

I think these names show a degree of optimism on the part of the parents. They give these names in hopes that their children will grow up to be successful members of their community in the United States. They give these names in hopes that they, as parents, will be able to remain in this country. The immigrants that we meet daily are the "they" in the immigration debate, as in "'They' don't want to assimilate" or "'They' don't want to learn English". To those who say this, I would tell them to look to the children. Many of the workers have told me, "It's too late for me to learn a whole new language and culture, I am too old. What I know is my work, and I work for my children's future."

They are now living for their kids, hoping that they will be able to achieve a dream that is unreachable for their immigrant parents. Whenever the news mentions back to school time or the immigration debate, I smile a little

and think of little Hendrix Chavez, carrying his family's hopes and dreams to school with his proudly multicultural "American" name. Rock on, Hendrix, your parents believe in you!



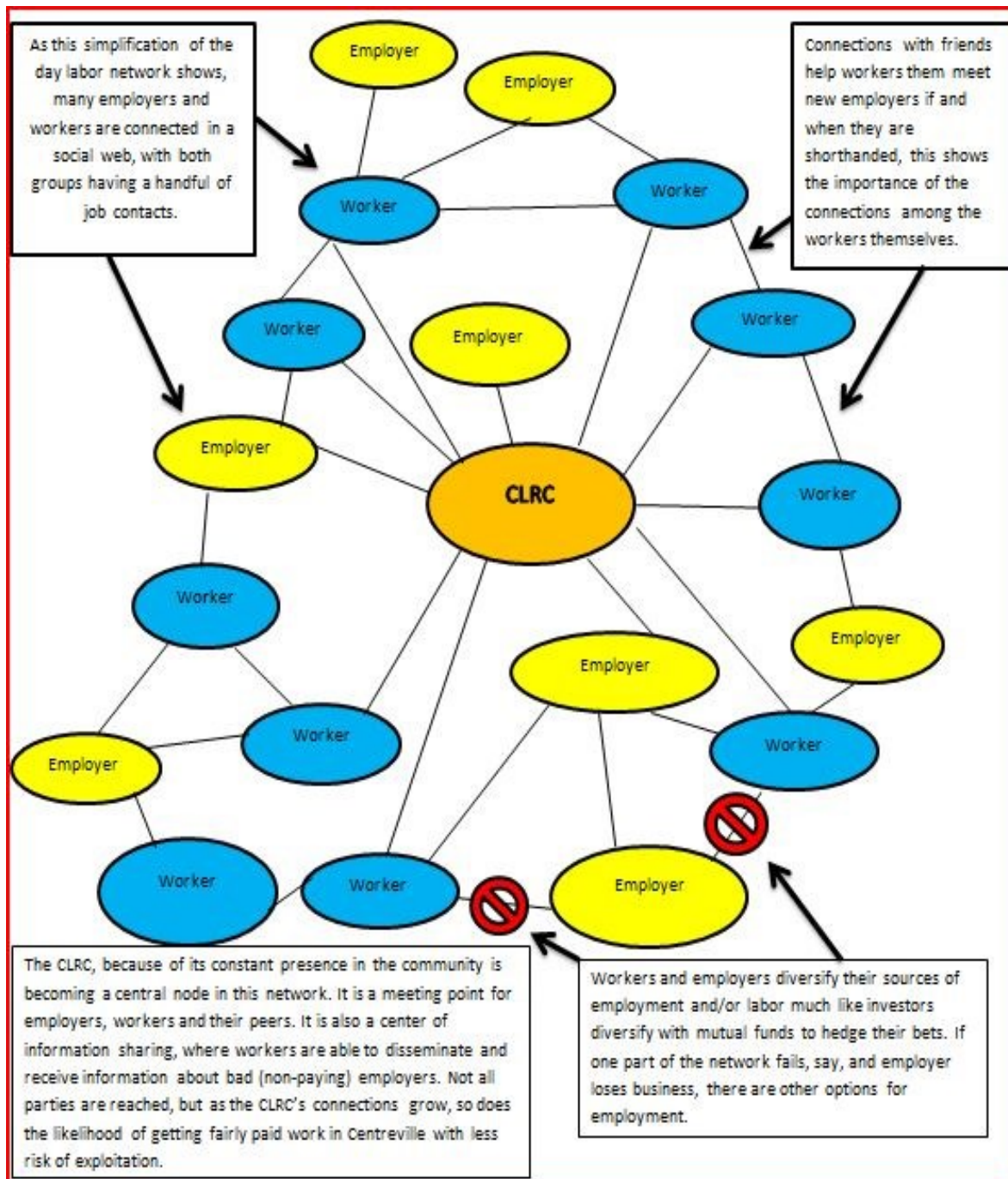
Thank You!!!

Thank you to the Alpha Delta Kappa sorority for their donation of backpacks full of school supplies to the children of CLRC workers.



CLRC Job Network Map

As CLRC staff, we are often asked about how day labor “works”. It is no shock that workers make up part of a larger community, and this map is a simplification of the complex work network in which the CLRC finds itself. The map is best read clockwise, starting from the top left corner.



TESTIMONIAL FROM A VERY HAPPY EMPLOYER

“I hired Joe for some landscaping and trimming bushes, to my surprise his edging abilities were excellent and he is perhaps the best person I have hired to do this kind of work. I will hire him again and will recommend him to a friend.”

HOW TO HIRE A WORKER FROM THE CLRC

If you have work you'd like some help on and would like to hire a worker, follow these simple steps:

1. Call us 703.543.6272 or visit us on the web at www.centrevilleLRC.org and click on the “How to Hire” link.
2. Tell us what kind of work you need, how many workers you need and when you need them for.
3. We will match your needs to our registered workers skills and set up the job.
4. Negotiate the price for work.
5. Provide us with feedback after the job to ensure we're doing great work, that you are satisfied and that our workers are fairly paid.

It's that easy!!! The CLRC serves businesses and homeowners who need help with just about any home remodel or maintenance project.



Deck painting

Deck painting completed

