



Centreville Labor Resource Center

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News from the CLRC

Year 1, Vol. 1

The Centreville Labor Resource Center begins its third month of operations this week. The past month has witnessed many new developments and uncovered a number of challenges we continue to face.

We now have English classes offered almost every day at the CLRC, with much thanks to our ESL committee of volunteers. Classes often center around a specific theme each week (health, money, etc.) and are met with great enthusiasm from the participating workers. Saturday mornings we offer an electricity workshop that is taught by Prof. Fernando Silva. Workers learn about electricity and safety according to OSHA standards. Another new development has been that of the Women's Group, meeting now on Saturday mornings from 10-12 at the Center.

Challenges still revolve around getting more work to the Center, and attracting more workers to the Center. As we learn and converse more with the workers, we learn what external influences in the workers' lives are pulling them away from the Center. We hear in many ways that the workers' primary concern is finding work, and workers are not willing to risk losing a possible job by waiting in a Center where jobs are limited. Even so, the Center typically has about 20 workers, taking a chance on our new system.

Our February publicity campaign is about to go into full swing.

We will provide a "busy season operations" training session on Saturday, February 18, from 1:00-1:45, during which we will discuss how to talk to the employers and practice taking their information, and practice the role of those who will meet employers outside the Center on busy days.

Following that training, from 1:45-2:30 there will be a publicity training session, after which volunteers will be sent out to a list of different businesses in the Fairfax/Prince William County areas with brochures. Shani will discuss how to sell the Center to the different businesses in the area using the prepared information brochure, and there will be time to practice the pitch with partners before heading out.

Simultaneously, in the Education and Vocational Training Center (EVoT), Molly will work with our street side volunteers, discussing and practicing how to best approach employers safely on the street, from 1:00-1:45. From 1:45-2:30, Molly will work with our bilingual volunteers who can talk to the workers who remain on the street, how to talk with them and help them to see how much the CLRC can benefit them.

So please mark your calendars for a portion of the afternoon of Saturday, February 18! We will be in touch regarding the session we would like you to attend.

Our greatest need is for employer outreach volunteers. The workers say the main reason they remain on the street is because contractors are resistant to using the CLRC, so employer outreach is essential for changing the old system. Fewer volunteers are needed for general Center operations in this season, but we do need persons with Korean and Spanish ability.

Many thanks to volunteers from the 2-20 Ministry at Korean Central Presbyterian Church who have provided good coffee and water service. Lunch or healthy snack options would also be very helpful, and could be provided by church or school groups.

As we grow and learn, our volunteer needs also evolve. Thank you for the time, dedication, patience and understanding as we all learn and grow with the good work that is being done through the Centreville Labor Resource Center, and please know how appreciative we all are as we go forward!

Labor Resource Center statistics

Total registered workers with CLRC	Total workers registered in January 2012	Average number of workers daily in CLRC in January
180	62	23

Total registered employers with CLRC	Total employers registered in January 2012	Average number of employer visits/inquiries in CLRC in January
38	14	1.7

Total jobs arranged from CLRC	Total jobs out in January 2012	Average number of jobs/day in January
108	50	1.9

Total volunteers in January 2012	Total volunteer hours in January 2012
27	188

Centreville Labor Resource Center-February Calendar of Events

<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
		1	2 ESL: 9:30-11	3 Workshop: 9:00 Worker's Rights- Legal Aid Justice ESL: 10-12	4 ESL: 8-9 Electricity: 9-11 ESL Women's Group: 10-12
6 Résumés: 9-11	7 ESL: 8-9:30 ESL: 11-12	8 ESL: 7-9 ESL: 10-12	9	10 ESL: 10-12	11 ESL: 8-9 Electricity: 9-11 ESL Women's Group: 10-12
13 Résumés: 9-11	14 ESL: 8-9:30 ESL: 11-12	15 ESL: 7-9 ESL: 10-12	16	17 ESL: 10-12	18 ESL: 8-9 Electricity: 9-11 ESL Women's Group: 10-12
20 Résumés: 9-11	21 ESL: 8-9:30 ESL: 11-12	22 ESL: 7-9 ESL: 10-12	23	24 ESL: 10-12	25 ESL: 8-9 Electricity: 9-11 ESL Women's Group: 10-12
27 Résumés: 9-11	28 ESL: 8-9:30 ESL: 11-12	29 ESL: 7-9 ESL: 10-12			