



By Laura Byrnes, APR, CPRC
Communications Manager

CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion

Serving both sides of the workforce universe

CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion is a proud partner of the American Job Center network and one of nearly 600 business-led, not-for-profit workforce development boards operating under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act throughout all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the US Territories.

Formerly known as “Workforce Connection,” we became part of the unified CareerSource Florida brand in 2014, so we’re celebrating our fourth anniversary as CareerSource CLM this month. As our name implies, our area covers the three counties of Citrus, Levy and Marion. There are 24 CareerSource Florida areas of carrying sizes and more than 100 career centers throughout the state.

Areas collaborate regionally and statewide to provide services to businesses and Floridians.

We are part of an integrated, job-driven public workforce system that connects diverse talent to businesses and adopts a broad perspective for talent development by linking economic development, educational institutions and other community-based organizations for comprehensive planning, collaboration and service delivery. That’s perhaps a long-winded way of saying we know we can’t go it alone to effect positive change, so we leverage resources and community partnerships for the greater good in our communities.

The foundation of what we do is connect businesses with qualified, skilled talent and candidates with employment and career development opportunities – all at no charge.

For candidates, we provide career counseling, job search assistance and referral, skills assessment, resume and interview assistance, employability workshops and training assistance, support services referral and specialty programs. We also provide services to young adults, ages 16 to 24, through Eckerd Connects Workforce Development, as well as specialized priority of services for veterans, including the grant-funded Homeless Veteran Reintegration Program. That’s literally just scraping the surface.

On the business services side, that can take the form of recruitment, developing descriptions and posting positions, screening applicants and making referrals – even assisting with the hiring and/or interview process – providing On-the-Job Training, Paid Adults Internship, Work Experience, Apprenticeship, Incumbent Worker and other training grants and hiring incentives designed to ease the uncertainty and financial burden of hiring or training employees.

In 2015, we launched the Talent Center at the College of Central Florida in partnership with the college. Talent Center provides employment and recruitment services for skilled, degree-holding professionals and secondary students and the businesses interested in hiring them.

Our clients are both sides of the workforce universe: businesses and candidates. If you own or run a business, whether you have five employees, 50 or 500, think of us as your Human Resources partner. We understand the challenges businesses face every day, whether your business is large or small, and our team of experienced Business Development professionals can provide you with workforce solutions and comprehensive services tailored to meet your needs. Yes, we work with large companies such as Lockheed Martin, FedEx, AutoZone and Chewy.com to fill hundreds of positions, but we are just as dedicated to helping you hire the right candidate, even if you have just a handful of positions to fill.

Equally important is ensuring businesses can find the right candidate, so we work with the talent pool to help them sharpen their employability skills, get training if needed, and ready to hit-the-ground running.

Our goal is to make meaningful, long-lasting connections between businesses and the candidates they hire.

This community weathered some pretty scary times. At the height of, and in the wake of, the Great Recession, our unemployment rate topped 14 percent; there was a deep-seeded economic need to help people get back to work.

Today, the labor market is tightening and we find that the needs of candidates and businesses are shifting, so it is important to remain responsive to the changing and unique needs of our area.

CareerSource CLM is led by a business-driven board of directors. Kathy Judkins of SECO is our board chair and Kevin Cunningham of Re/Max Realty One is not only past chair, but was involved in creation of our three-county workforce development area more than 20 years ago.

I’ll point to three other examples of responsiveness and performance.

When we needed to focus on advanced manufacturing, we hired Rob Adamiak, MRMA's executive director, as our manufacturing program and training manager. Among other initiatives, he has been instrumental in finding and promoting the Computer Numeric Controlling (CNC) virtual training we provided to CF, Marion Technical College and others. Last year, Adamiak received the Distinguished Partner Manufacturing Service Award last year from the Florida Advanced Technological Center of Excellence.

To my knowledge, CareerSource CLM is the only member of the CareerSource Florida network to have had two leaders named as Florida's top Workforce Development Professional by the Florida Economic Council. Our executive vice president, Kathleen Woodring, earned the honor in 2017 and our CEO Rusty Skinner was recognized in 2013.

To learn more, or to get started with our fee-free services, candidates can call 352-840-5700 or 800-434-JOBS (5627) and businesses can call 352-873-7955 or 800-747-9950. Those interested in the Talent Center should call 352-840-5570. You can also visit our website at www.career-sourceclm.com and follow us on our social media.



High Schoolers hope to focus in on their futures at the 2017 Marion County Youth Career Expo, one of the projects CareerSource CLM is involved with in the community.



Lisa Reynolds works with a candidate at the Talent Center, an affiliate of CareerSource CLM in partnership with the College of Central Florida.



Ocala City Mayor Kent Guinn surrounded by Phoenix Rising YouthBuild graduates in Ocala. Another YouthBuild is now under way.



In addition to three Career Centers and the Talent Center, CareerSource CLM operates two mobile resource units, bringing staff-assisted services to locations throughout the three-county region.



CareerSource CLM Board Chair Kathy Judkins of SECO Energy, center left, accepts a grant from Dorothy Pernu of Duke Energy, center right. The grant helps fund CareerSource CLM's Career Awareness-Talent Pipeline project. Also pictured, from L-R, are John Lott, assistant superintendent of the School Board of Levy County; Mark Vianello, Marion County Schools executive director of technical education; and Carol Jones, Levy County School Board coordinator of career pathways/literacy. Vianello and Jones are also members of CareerSource CLM's board.



Graduates from one of the CareerSource CLM youth services programs celebrate.



We Recruit. You Win.



Solutions that work for you

For the fifth straight year, the Ocala/Marion County metropolitan statistical area has been named to Forbes Magazine's **Top 10 Cities for Future Job Growth** among the 200 largest metros in the nation. If your business is ready to grow, we're ready to connect you to qualified, skilled talent. At no charge!

Get Connected

352.873.7955 | 800.746.9950

3003 SW College Road, Suite 205 | Ocala, FL

careersourceclm.com     

Source: Forbes Magazine Oct. 25, 2017 / <http://bit.ly/OcalaTop10FORBES>

CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids/services are available upon request in Spanish and to persons with disabilities. Phone numbers may be reached using TTY/TDD equipment via Florida Relay at 711. For accommodations, call 800-434-5627, ext. 7878 or email accommodations@careersourceclm.com. A proud partner of the American Job Center.