BY LAURA BYRNES, APR, CPRC, COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER PHOTOS COURTESY DANIELLE VEENSTRA/CAREERSOURCE CITRUS LEVY MARION



NEW HIRE? NEW JOB? CareerSource CLM offers workforce solutions you'll love

'm just going to come right out and say it, there's a lot to love this month and I'm not **L** just talking about Valentine's Day.

I'm talking about the abundance of great programs and services available to businesses interested in recruiting the right talent and job seekers interested in upping their employability game in order to get hired.

And did I mention these programs and services are available a no charge? Cupid has nothing on CareerSource when it comes to making the right workforce match.

Let's start with business services. CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion understands the challenges business leaders face every day. Our team

of experienced Business Development professionals stands ready to provide workforce solutions and comprehensive services customized to meet your unique needs.

Think of us as your Human Resources partner, helping businesses recruit, screen and hire the talent you need to succeed.

It starts with crafting a job description that gets to the heart of your needs and helps ensure candidates with the right skills and experience know about your positions. Our team uses the power of Employ Florida, the state's premier job board, to post your open positions online. And once we find qualified candidates, you can be confident in the selection process through candidate screening



which test and score skills and work habits.

And here's the kicker: CareerSource CLM can also offset costs of training new hires that may lack skills or experience for the job but who would otherwise make ideal employees. We can also help enhance existing employees' skills. If you are interested in learning more about any of the following, call our Business Development tam at 352-873-7955.

On-the-Job Training (OJT) is perfect for businesses with difficulty filling skilled labor needs. The program reimburses up to 75 percent of wages for up to six months. It may

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CONNECTING **BUSINESSES** & PROFESSIONALS

Would you like to hire the right job candidates with the right skills? You can be sure you're heading in the right direction with fee-free business solutions that meet your needs from CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion and the Talent Center.



CareerSource Citrus Lew Marion and the Talent Center, its affiliate in partnership with the College of Central Florida, are equal oppo Phone numbers may be reached using TTY/TDD equipment via Florida Relay at 711. For accommodations, please call 800-434-5627, ext. 7878 or 844-364-9859, ext. 7879. Proud partners of the American Job Center network and members of Career/Source Florida



Paid Adult Internship and Work Experience Trainee programs offer businesses the opportunity to try out potential hires at no costs while providing needed experience to candidates lacking specific skills. CareerSource

Laura Byrnes, APR, CPRC, communications manager at CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion, is Accredited in Public Relations, a Certified Public Relations Counselor and a Florida Certified Workforce Professional. She would love to hear from you and learn what kind of information you'd like to see each month. Please contact her at (352) 291-9559, (800) 434-5627, ext. 1234 or lbyrnes@careersourceclm.com.



Ocala campus.

Customized Business Training (CBT) helps businesses upskill existing employees to maintain a competitive edge in the marketplace. The program covers up to 50 percent of out-of-pocket training costs; training may be for a single employee or multiple employees, and may be for up to 12 months. Also, as mentioned in last month's column, we're rolling out the popular 180 Skills program that offers more than 700 courses in manufacturing and related fields.

CLM covers 100 percent of training wages and Workers' Compensation. Businesses interview/select pre-screened candidates and trainees, if hired, qualify for tax credits.

If you or someone you know is looking for a new job in the New Year, the best and first thing to do is visit one of our career centers and get started with fee-free staff-assisted services. Our Marion County Career Center is located at 2703 NE 14th St. For professionals and highly-skilled candidates, including those with management experience, we also have our affiliate Talent Center in partnership with the College of Central Florida, located at CF's

Both options offer candidates career

counseling, job search assistance and referral, interest and skills assessments, resume and interview assistance, support services referrals, specialty services for veterans, and much more.

You are also welcome to attend any and all of our free employability workshops which include Computer Essentials, how to develop a Job Specific Resume, how to Navigate Today's Workplace, managing Your Digital Footprint, Interview Strategies and Tips for Federal Jobs.

In addition to all that, working with our myriad partners, CareerSource CLM has expanded the Youth Career Expos, which took place here last month, are set for Citrus County later this month, and will be held in Levy County in March. Also on the horizon much more on this in next month's column is the 2020 State of the Workforce Conference, Focusing on Your 21st Century Workforce, which takes place April 23 from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Circle Square Commons.

The thing about Valentine's is we know that eventually flowers will wilt and chocolates become a sweet memory, but when it comes to workforce solutions, there's a lot to love this month. And beyond.