

BY LAURA BYRNES, APR, CPRC, COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER



Doors may be closed for now, *but we're still here for you*



When I first considered what I'd write about for this issue, which was way back in mid-March, my concern was that if I talked about our response to COVID-19, everything will have returned to normal by the time this issue hits the streets.

Now that is my fervent hope.

So if what's written here seems woefully out of step with reality, if we've flattened the curve and social distancing is a thing of the past, then hallelujah. But I suspect that's not yet the case.

It seems like a lifetime ago when we shared the enthusiasm and optimism of our Youth Career Expos and upcoming job fairs, not to mention our second annual State of the Workforce

conference, slated to take place on April 23. It was, in fact, in just last month's *Southeast and Country Club Living*. Since then, all our public events have been postponed or cancelled and, like so many other businesses, we have closed our offices.

I get how that may seem counterintuitive at a time when workers are being laid off due to COVID-19 and businesses are trying to figure out how to stay open when their customers are sheltering at home.

Here's what you need to know: we're still here for you.

Our entire staff is working remotely to continue to provide virtual services online and by phone and email. And as always, all

services are offered at no charge.

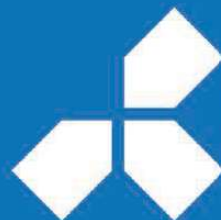
If you lost your job due to COVID-19, or were already looking for work when the outbreak hit, then please call 352-840-5700 or 800-434-JOBS (5627).

Whether exacerbated by the Coronavirus outbreak or not, if you are a business with specific workforce needs – from outplacement services to hiring extra temporary or fulltime help – please call 352-873-7955 or 800-746-9950.

All job seekers and businesses will find a wealth of information and help at www.careersourceclm.com. You'll find options for Live Chat as well as links to call or email us.

For those specifically impacted by COVID-19,

We Are Here To Help You



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Dear customers and friends,

While our offices are temporarily closed due to COVID-19, we continue to provide fee-free virtual services online and by phone and email to businesses and job seekers during this critical time.

We are available to serve you Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Please call us or visit our website to learn how we can help.

Job Seekers
800.434.5627

careersourceclm.com



Businesses
800.746.9950



CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available. A proud partner of the American Job Center network.

you will also find special, streamlined quick links on our website to get you connected to services as soon as possible.

One additional, but incredibly critical, piece of information you need to know, impacts those who are unemployed and trying to set up or submit claims for Reemployment Assistance, commonly known as Unemployment Insurance or Unemployment Compensation.

We know that, due to unprecedented demand, there have been delays and frustrations for those attempting to file claims online.

The Reemployment Assistance (RA) program, which provides temporary wage benefits for those out of work through no fault of their own, is administered by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO). Those frustrated in filing an online application for services now have the option of mailing in a paper application. You will find links to online and paper options on our website, careersourceclm.com, on our COVID-19 updates page, accessible at the top of every page on our site, as well as our Candidates and Reemployment Assistance

pages. You will also see a Reemployment Assistance Quick Link on our Home Page. You may also access at DEO's Keep Floridians First site at www.floridajobsresources.com/.

Additionally, work search, online work registration and waiting week requirements

have been waived for Reemployment Assistance applications.

Until next month, thank you for your patience during these uncertain times and please stay safe while we all do our part to help stop the spread.



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.



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