



THOMASVILLE JOBLINK  
**LINK LETTER**



WELCOME TO ISSUE 15

2ND QUARTER, 2009

**Get REAL Students Visit the JobLink**

On May 7, WIA/DCCC program coordinators Cheryl Jefferies and Jonathan Thill escorted seventeen students from the Thomasville Education Center Get Real program to the Thomasville JobLink to learn about career services and job opportunities. The students spent the morning at JobLink participating in an orientation and tour of the center. Resource information and available services were presented by Jackie Gilmore-Davis, JobLink Job Developer. The JobLink has a Young Adult section and special note was made of the youth guides and targeted resources. Also, each student was given a folder with job and career information.

The Get REAL Coordinators hoped this field trip would expose the students to a valuable community resource that they could use now as well as in the future.

The following are comments from some of the youth that visited that day:

*“Today I went to the JobLink and it helped me a lot.....the program taught me how to find a job over the internet and how to get ready for an interview...how to use different websites to look for jobs and careers. Thank you very much.”*

*Jimmy*

*“The lady was very nice, she told us information about websites where we could find jobs.”*

*Cody*

*“I learned a lot at JobLink, I learned how to get online to find jobs and how to complete an application....now when I go looking for a job I can go there....Thanks for sharing with us.”*

*Tracy*



*“I learned a lot on my first trip to the JobLink center, I had no idea how helpful you are to people who are looking for jobs... Thank you.”*

*Rafael*

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Cheryl Jefferies, WIA Youth Coordinator, assists in the Resource Room at the Thomasville JobLink. Rafael is one of Cheryl’s Get REAL students who recently completed his GED. His story, “In His Own Words” appears on page 3. Cheryl says she is very proud of students like Rafael, who work hard to achieve success despite obstacles.



Ineta Cherry, serves customers at the JobLink on Mondays and Wednesdays each week.

Project Re-entry continues to realize success in Davidson County. Fifteen participants became graduates of Project Re-entry at Davidson Correctional on June 24, 2009. We began our Fourteenth Session on July 8, 2009 at Davidson Correctional with eighteen participants. Although not all of our graduates are released to Davidson County, I meet with each graduate, pre-release, to ensure their needs are met in the county of their release.

I am excited to share that one of my clients is currently in training at a local employer through the DavidsonWorks Summer Youth Program and an offer of full time employment has been made and accepted when the Summer Youth Program concludes.

I would like to thank Jackie Gilmore-Davis, JobLink, for presenting at both Davidson Correctional and North Piedmont Correctional for Women. I am delighted and humbled at the number of agencies and individuals who have expressed interest in presenting at our county prison facilities. For that I thank you.

Please know I am available to meet with your agency or department to share Project Re-entry in order to better serve our ex-offender citizens of Davidson County, promote public safety, and reduce recidivism.

*Cindy Livengood, Thomasville JobLink Manager, is pictured at the TriadWorks JobLink Management Committee meeting held at Regional Consolidated Services in Asheboro on April 23rd. JobLink Managers from across our region met to discuss regional approaches to service delivery and share best practices.*



**JobLink has a 100% Positive Customer Service Rating for the 2nd quarter of 2009**

**Comments from the surveys completed during the 2nd quarter include:**

- ⇒ "Very efficiently operated"
- ⇒ "Awesome help —Thank you"
- ⇒ "Open 24/7, 365 days"
- ⇒ "Best in Davidson County"
- ⇒ "Thanks a Million, Just wanted y'all to know that I am thankful and grateful for all the help and support."

## In His Own Words

### My TEC Success Story @ Get Real

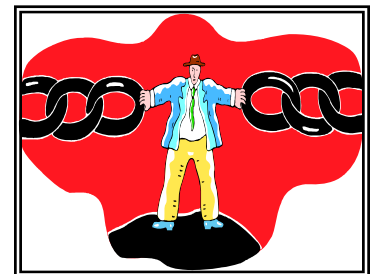
Hi, my name is Rafael Diaz. I'm one that does not deal well with peer pressure and school drama, so I dropped out of high school and took home schooling because I thought it was the easiest way out. I didn't know then how wrong I was. Home schooling did help but because it wasn't a proper working environment, I lost a lot of my knowledge in just a year and a half. I was studying for the GED, my last resort, but wasn't getting anywhere with my current books. One day my counselor told me about the "Get Real" program which is free and has many benefits as well as study for a High School and GED diploma. However, because it was in Lexington, I sort of gave up on the idea. It wasn't until about a month later that I found out there was a campus under the Get Real program close to our current household. (T'ville Education Center) I decided to take advantage of this program. For the past six months, I've been in the program and have not regretted my decision. I learned nearly everything I lost in the two years I was home schooled in the time I've been here. I've also participated in programs that are helping me in finding and sustaining a job, which in my case I really need. All of the staff and teachers are extremely helpful as well as an extraordinary help in providing an excellent and worry free work environment.

In this time alone, I have been able to complete my GED. I have been able to enjoy special paid for programs that allowed me to travel with my fellow classmates to obtain new learning experiences about places that I never knew existed because of limited finances and financial related issues that are obstacles to me and my family. I have accomplished something that I've never done in any school and that is I'm one of the Vice Presidents of the SGA (Student Government Association) for Get Real.

This program has helped me greatly and I should be moving on to better education shortly. My life is going by so fast. This program has been the first stepping stone to a successful future and I'm looking forward to the many career opportunities that will be open to me once I'm finished with this program. I will miss everyone who's helped me get this far and will remember them every time I succeed in every future goal I accomplish. I am on my way and hoping for the best in my future.



**Get REAL is an alternative school that offers youth ages 16-21 an opportunity to obtain their High School Diploma/GED, explore careers, and prepare for vocational training and/or finding employment. Get REAL is a partnership between DavidsonWorks and Davidson County Community College.**



*Linking people and services*

# Congratulations!



JobLink team member, and ESC Employment Consultant, Francine Bowens just completed her MBA, from Strayer University, Greensboro. Francine started with ESC in November 2008, she now provides ESC services to customers 2 days a week at the JobLink. As a prior JobLink customer, Francine knows what it is like to be on the other side of the desk.

Resume Workshops are really popular with customers, unfortunately our space limits the numbers we can accommodate in these sessions.



Jackie Gilmore Davis, JobLink Job Developer, facilitates the Resume Workshop at the Thomasville JobLink

## Thomasville By the Numbers

*The following figures have been compiled from monthly reports as taken from the daily sign-in logs. For the 2nd Quarter of 2009, Thomasville JobLink had a total of 4,008 customer visits, with 994 being new customers. The total number of job placements for this quarter was 84, with 49 employer contacts and 28 services to businesses.*



Members of the JobLink Leadership Team met recently to update the Memorandum of Understanding.



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Linking People and Businesses to Services

DavidsonWorks



*We appreciate the support of our local WDB*