Our Community Moving Forward

CareerSource Brevard is a dynamic agency, evolving as your circumstances and opportunities change. We stay on the leading edge of workforce trends and information to help you answer the challenges that a Workforce In Motion brings.

Regional planning and collaboration gives Brevard's businesses insight to the future for more effective steps to economic success.

In the world of workforce as in many industries, partnership planning and collaboration are key to business stability and long term success. Our partners are at the local, state and national level and include Workforce leaders, Employers, and Elected Officials. They support our mission and vision by engaging in our services, sharing our news and supporting initiatives that bring funding to programs our businesses need.

In the past quarter, CSB placed a greater emphasis on regional partnership planning and collaboration with the state's regional workforce boards and experts in the economic development and education industries to better support its business customers. These effort support businesses by:

- Developing and implementing innovative solutions to meet employer’s needs -one of which is to

Monthly Business Learning Events:

- Understanding Affirmative Action
- Employment Law: Starting Off on the Right Foot, Staying in Step Along the Way
- Creating a Healthy and Productive Workforce
- OFCCP Compliance
- Business Etiquette in Government Contracting
- Bring the Economy Alive

Ask about upcoming Business Learning Events: employersupport@careersourcebrevard.com
provide the talent pool necessary for economic growth.

- Sharing regional perceptions of the area workforce and learning what skills are necessary to create the talent pool needed by employers.
- Understanding the workforce issues employers/businesses face by learning more about each regions' unique challenges, differences and strengths.
- Preparing for and working to deliver—what businesses need to succeed within their regions and within the resources available to them.
- Leveraging a larger network of businesses and industries, workforce services and economic and community resources.
- Providing a cost effective means for planning, implementing, evaluating and reporting workforce programs and ideas.
- Embracing social media as a way to encourage and broaden conversations with employers and share workforce knowledge and resources with them.

There are more regional programs and partnerships in the works designed to benefit you and your business. Follow the news by following us on FaceBook, Twitter and LinkedIn and, as always, through our ongoing e-messaging to you.

**Note!** Read "Industry Updates", and learn how individuals can get the skills needed to launch a career in advanced manufacturing.

**And finally!** Click [here](#) to support Brevard's Military Spouses and Adult Children during our Jumpstart for Military Families event.

For all your workforce needs, contact us today at employersupport@careersourcebrevard.com or contact your business liaison directly.

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**Inaugural Tri-Regional Business Summit**

*Thank you to those who attended and the sponsors that made it possible. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive. Stay tuned for information about the next Tri-Regional Business Summit!*

For those who missed the Summit, here's a re-cap: Economic Development, Education and Workforce Executives from three regions shared information about workforce programs and initiatives specially designed to support business.

CareerSource Brevard, CareerSource Central Florida and CareerSource Volusia Flagler were hosts to an audience of more than 200 business professionals. Jason Guy from WESH 2 News moderated the event.

The agenda was packed with information and discussions surrounding: regional economic growth and planning, talent and skills gaps, social media tools for strategic marketing, cyber security for asset protection and a Q&A session for participants and attendees to share workforce issues, needs and concerns.

**A few questions and answers from the Summit:**

**Q:**
Florida is great at attracting a plethora of visitors to the state which keep taxes low and employment high but wages very low. Do you see a particular industry that is "shopping" the nation for a new home that could increase wages across the board for residents that would fit perfectly within the region? What's the next big business need?
The CSB Champion Program is comprised of leaders who help educate businesses about the workforce services available to them.

Patricia Stratton
VP and IMCS Program Manager, Abacus Technology

What is your association with CareerSource Brevard?
CSB Board Member and small business partner.

What CSB services do you find beneficial to Abacus Technology?
We utilize CSB for recruiting, job posting and candidate selection. We appreciate and find the onsite employee presentations and extensive resources available very beneficial for our team members.

What information would you like to share with the business community about Abacus?
Abacus has sustained excellent performance during our six years at Kennedy Space Center as the Information Management and Communications Support (IMCS) contractor. Abacus performs and delivers a myriad of Voice, Telephone, Imaging, Cable, Wire, Transmissions, Communications, Software, IT Security and Data Center support services to NASA programs.

What message do you think other businesses should know about CSB that they may not already know?
CSB can augment your Human Resources staffing function. They provide high quality resources and can also assist with employee training.

What is your experience with CSB?
Partnering with CSB on a variety of services has been a very rewarding experience. I’ve personally experienced the major layoffs as a result of the end of the Shuttle Program. The extensive services CSB provided during the close-out enabled our Shuttle team to focus on the mission of safely flying out the program. They knew the CSB team was with them every step of the way, assisting with resume classes, new career job training, stress/change management and opportunities to

A:
The EDC of Florida’s Space Coast focuses on manufacturing and high tech industries which are high wages sectors; the manufacturing average wage in Brevard County is 71% higher than the all industries combined average wage. In addition the site expansion and relocation phenomena the County has seen so far brought thousands of jobs to the area in sectors such as defense, aviation aerospace, avionics and other advanced manufacturing companies. Those business' needs being ubiquitous to workforce availability and more particularly software engineers and production side manufacturing work. --- Lynda Weatherman, president, EDC of Florida’s Space Coast

Q:
There are a growing number of entrepreneurial resources in the area to help startups. What are we missing to increase the number of success stories in the region?

A: Access to capital and microlending and we’re working on this! --- Beth Gitlin, executive director, Women’s Business Center, Florida Institute of Technology

Please visit these Tri-Regional Business Summit sponsors. They support YOUR business growth.

New Horizons - Event Title Sponsor
Health First Health Plans - Gold Sponsor
LaSalle Computer Learning Center Orlando - Bronze sponsor
City of Palm Bay - Bronze sponsor
Canaveral Port Authority - Host sponsor
Florida High Tech Corridor Council -
pursue college and technical degrees. It was truly a great team effort and excellent partnership. Today, Abacus and CSB continue that same partnership and culture of assisting our teams to navigate change together and provide an opportunity to prepare for the future.

2014-15 CareerSource Brevard Champions:
Patricia Stratton, Abacus Technology, LLC; Gwendolyn Anello, Anello Consulting; Jack Rood, Architects in Association Rood, Zwick & Kerr; Travis Proctor, Artemis; Geo Ropert, Brevard Family Partnership; Dale Coxwell, Coastal Steel; Ron Taibl, Compsys, Inc.; Carol Craig, Craig Technologies; Cathy Beam, Eastern Florida State College; Susie Van Meter, Eastern Florida State College; Catherine Mallozzi, Everest University; Ellen Onieal Little, EWL Enterprises; Julie Song, FL Business & Manufacturing Solutions, Inc.; Terry Schrumpf, Florida Sports and Spinal Rehab; George Hauer, GHauer & Associates; Susan Glasgow, Kegman Inc.; Margo Witcher, Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company; Carolina Riva, Midair USA; Daryl Bishop, Seacoast National Bank; Julie Tookes, Vance, Lotane & Bookhardt, PA; Thomas Fulmer, Thomas Fulmer Company.

Our Champions are now helping to identify speakers for CSB's local and regional business learning events.

For more information about the Champion program, contact Denise Biondi at dbiondi@careersourcebrevard.com.

Talent Gap Survey Sponsor

ASK LISA

Employers ask-- "When hiring a candidate CSB provided for an Adult Work Experience (AWE), do we have to provide Workers' Compensation liability insurance?"

The answer is no. The candidate CSB provided for your AWE has Workers' Compensation insurance provided by the state during their work experience time with you.

To ask a question or share your feedback, please contact Lyn Sevin, my Executive Assistant: lsevin@careersourcebrevard.com

Have a workforce-related question? Your question will be answered by Lisa at: employersupport@careersourcebrevard.com

Workforce News & Other Updates

Join the conversation! Click on images below.

Business To Jobs

Did you know, over the past year, CSB helped businesses find talent to fill 14,853 jobs - that's a 15% increase over last year! Now take a look at that talent: 63.4% have an education level beyond High School, including 14.2% with a Bachelor's degree and 5.6% with a Master's degree or higher. We have an educated workforce!

JumpStart for Florida's Military Youth

Because of CSB's high-value and creative approach to workforce development with regional, state and national impact, CSB will implement the program using effective and efficient strategies, cross-regional collaboration and leveraged resources.

CareerSource Florida awarded CSB, with a grant to provide career preparedness services to military dependants in three
regions around the State of Florida between the ages of 16-24.

JumpStart for Florida’s Military Youth program will provide:

- Information that focuses on life, career and transferrable skills which enhance the career focus and job marketability of its participants.
- Financial literacy and budgeting exercises.
- Lessons on how to conduct career exploration and navigate a job search.
- A free tablet computer to be awarded upon successful completion of the program.

Jumpstart for Military Families - the opportunity to donate ends this week!

Military families are the support foundation our soldiers need to accomplish their service to our country. Military spouses and children face many challenges due to constant moving from base to base, and according to the Department of Defense, 85% of military spouses want or need to work in order to contribute to the well being of their families. This crowdfunding event is aimed at helping military family members succeed in today’s job market while giving their soldiers peace of mind.

To learn more and to donate, click here: https://www.crowdrise.com/JSMF

BizLaunch for Entrepreneurs

hosted a BizLaunch Business Showcase at the Rockledge career center gathering 30 vendors, and 70+ attendees. Vendors ranged from companies specializing in "green" products to computer services companies, to senior services providers. Each had the opportunity to network and market their products. Daniel Rensing, CEO of The Smart Baker, and entrepreneur who entertained multiple business offers during his 2012 Shark Tank appearance, shared his testimonial and behind-the-scenes stories about Shark Tank.

Get your monthly BizLaunch eNews: bizlaunch@CareerSourceBrevard.com

Join the BizLaunch conversation: here.
Prove It!
Prove It! is a skills testing and pre-employment assessment tool used to evaluate a job candidate's competencies in various occupational skills. We offer employers an opportunity to have job applicants prove they have the skills needed before the hiring process is complete. Prove It! testing provides employers with the opportunity to measure a candidate's skills with certainty and has a thorough validation process that adheres to EEOC guidelines.

Contact employersupport@careersourcebrevard.com for more information.

Collaboration:
Lisa Rice, President, CareerSource Brevard, was asked to join 25 workforce executive directors from across the nation to be a part of the National Association of Workforce Board's Workforce Policy Roundtable in Washington, DC. The EDs discussed workforce development, policy, experiences and best practices as it related to the direction of the Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA) policy and other policies of concern to the national workforce system.

Partnerships:
CSB partnered with Eastern Florida State College (EFSC) to address the advanced manufacturing industries' shortage of skilled workers. To provide skilled workers, CSB purchased CNC simulator software for students to perform tasks encountered in a manufacturing environment on a virtual CNC simulator as well as master tasks associated with running production on a CNC machine. The course includes classroom and manufacturing facility visits.

Legislative Updates:
View the latest Aerospace Workforce Transition report for Congressional Leaders Here.

Women's Business Center (WBC) and CareerSource Brevard have partnered to expand the WBC. In January, aspiring entrepreneurs can gain information needed to start a business by visiting the WBC at its newest location, CSB Rockledge career center and asking about the Dreambuilder program. For more information about the program or to inquire about becoming a mentor, contact the WBC at wbc@fit.edu.

Energy Launch Program--success story! Energy Launch is a cooperative effort between CSB, NASA and the Women's Business Center at Florida Tech, designed to teach the unemployed to develop commercialization plans for NASA and FIT technologies in Clean Energy fields.

Dennis Walker registered for the program in 2013 to gain entrepreneurial training. That summer, Dennis and his wife, Jessica incorporated National Marine and Diving -- a construction restoration, diving services and environmental business. Dennis recently shared news about being awarded a $1.6 million dollar contract for bridge restoration work in Key West, a $300k project in Port St. Lucie and work at the Port of Jacksonville, a $250k contract obtained before completing the Energy Launch program. Jessica and Dennis have self-funded their business and currently employ a crew of four.