

INTERSECTIONS

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR CROSSROADS JOBS

WELCOME TO OUR NINTH EDITION – THE YEAR SO FAR!

PROGRESS IN STEPS...

BY CAROL SMITH, DIRECTOR

It is hard to believe that we are saying good-bye to summer months and welcoming the beautiful colors of fall ushered in by crisp, cool air. Seasonal hiring is in full swing, which can offer a leg-up for individuals with employment barriers. At Crossroads Jobs we value these opportunities but encourage applicants to stick close by their job counselors to focus on the next steps to building a successful, satisfying and stable career.

We are grateful for generous donors and look forward to reaching our goals for 2019!

LUNCH & LEARN @ CROSSROADS JOBS

We are incredibly grateful to Wells Fargo for hosting a 3-month series as part of our Lunch & Learn support group titled 8 Rules of Thumb to Financial Health. The series,

held at the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce, has been made available to clients from public and private sector human service organizations and the feedback has been VERY positive. Topics included, budgeting, credit scores and identity

theft. A huge thank you to Wells Fargo and their amazing team!



KUDOS TO OUR LOCAL PARTNERS

- Time Line Plumbing – Sterling
- Loudoun Free Clinic – Sterling
- FedEx – Ashburn
- Giant Food - Leesburg
- Safeway - Leesburg

2019 MISSION UPDATE

We are currently at 58 placements for 2019 in a wide range of local industries. We are always looking to establish good working relationships with local companies, allowing us to more effectively pre-screen applicants for employers. This is especially helpful for more than 20% of our applicants who have an intellectual or physical disability, requiring accommodations and support. If the applicant needs someone to accompany them on an interview to rephrase questions or assist with employment forms, our job counselors work with the employer to make the necessary arrangements. We find that this extra service provides great value to local employers. They share job descriptions and we can send individuals who fit the description, not only in terms of skills and experience, but schedule and other miscellaneous requirements. A win/win!

SPOTLIGHT ON OUR VOLUNTEERS

This month we are grateful for **Gloria Diaz**, one of our superstar volunteers who, after conducting our orientation sessions in Spanish, is now assisting us with data entry, a time-consuming but incredibly valuable task. If our job counselors are freed up from entering data, it means they can spend their time communicating with applicants and employers, matching individuals with available jobs. Thank you to **Gloria** for all your hard work and dedication!



RECENT GRADUATE SUCCESSES

John came to us, unemployed and homeless. Even though he struggled with sobriety in the past, he had a good paying job for many years. An arrest and a few months in jail changed that. He knew the first step out of homelessness was getting a job but was concerned about having a recent misdemeanor on his record and how that might affect his chances of being hired. He came to Crossroads Jobs with a can-do attitude, telling us he was willing to do any type of work and work any schedule to gain employment. He was proud of maintaining sobriety for more than 2 years and knew it was something he had to focus on every day. **John** needed assistance in getting interviewing clothing. We gave him a donated Target gift card and bus pass to get to and from interviews. He got a job offer from a nearby grocery and started his position one week later. He stopped by the office in his uniform to thank us and tell us how much he likes the job. He also let us know that he has an appointment to apply for a room to rent. Fingers crossed!



Call us today at (703) 771-4112 or email
findajob@crossroadsjobs.org.

Mitch is a friendly, hard-working individual with an intellectual disability. He needed to find the right job in a location close to home. **Mitch** was called in for an interview at a grocery store located within walking distance from his house. Accompanied by his job counselor, he did a fantastic job on the interview and was hired! **Mitch** now works in the front end, providing excellent customer service to shoppers and stocking shelves.



Maria had stayed home to take care of her children but was now ready to return to the work world, daunting because she had been out of the workforce for almost 15 years. **Maria** worked closely with her job counselor to find a job that could utilize her stellar work ethic and transferable skills. An interview was arranged for a temporary, entry-level position at the Loudoun Free Clinic. **Maria** was hired and, after just a few short weeks, the “temporary” part time position was made permanent and FULL TIME due to her ability to quickly master the skills needed to be an essential member of the team!

Crossroads Jobs is a Loudoun County nonprofit, offering individualized job search and placement services to unemployed and underemployed area residents

Crossroads Jobs

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