

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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## CareerSource South Florida awards \$134,100 for an Overtown TechHire Training Initiative

**MIAMI – November 7, 2016 –** CareerSource South Florida today announced that it has awarded \$134,100 for an Overtown TechHire Training Initiative. The goal of the TechHire Overtown initiative is to train 18 out of school youth ages 18-24 to become entry level professionals in high demand IT careers. The students will attend a twelve week IT Help Desk Certification boot camp and each candidate will be enrolled in four weeks of Work Readiness training prior to attending the twelve week boot camp.

A stipend will be provided to each student throughout the training. Upon successful completion, participants will have the opportunity to be employed by employers focused on hiring the 18 TechHire graduates with a target wage rate of \$15.00 an hour. Partner companies that have committed to the project are: CompuCare Systems, Nerd Support, Conquest and OpticalTel.

The TechHire initiative is a bold multi-sector initiative and call to action to empower Americans with the skills they need, through universities and community colleges, but also non-traditional approaches such as "coding boot camps", and high-quality online courses that can rapidly train workers for a well-paying tech jobs, often in just a few months.

The White House announced Miami-Dade County as one of two "TechHire" communities designated in the State of Florida; representing the only TechHire community in South Florida. TechHire is a multi-sector national initiative launched one year ago by President Barack Obama to create a pipeline of Americans with technology skills.

CareerSource South Florida (CSSF), Neighbors and Neighbors Association (NANA), and Florida Vocational Institute (FVI) formed a specialized collaborative partnership to provide training opportunities for the residents of the Southeast Overtown and Park West communities, which creates pathways to economic opportunity and upward mobility through job placement in technology. The TechHire bootcamp is being offered in Overtown allowing easy access to residents of Overtown.

The initiative is currently accepting a limited number of applicants. To apply or learn more about this initiative please visit www.fvi.edu/helpdesk.

## **About CareerSource South Florida**

CareerSource South Florida is a public-private partnership that establishes state and federally funded workforce development and training policies for Miami-Dade and Monroe counties. CareerSource South Florida's services and resources are available to everyone at no cost through a network of centers located throughout the region. For more information on CareerSource South Florida, including valuable resources for businesses and job seekers, please visit <a href="https://www.careersourcesfl.com">www.careersourcesfl.com</a> or call 305-594-7615.

## **About Florida Vocational Institute (FVI)**

Florida Vocational Institute's mission is to empower students through education to start achieving their dream jobs in information technology and healthcare in less than a year. FVI achieves this mission through a passionate experienced team all focused on helping our clients achieve success. FVI is the first IT Coding bootcamp in Florida that is approved by the US Department of Education for Federal Financial Aid. For more information please visit <a href="https://www.fvi.edu/helpdesk">www.fvi.edu/helpdesk</a> or call 786-574-3350.