



SOLUTIONS

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

South Florida Workforce epitomizes visionary leadership through its commitment to supporting economic development, which aims for higher-skilled and better paying jobs for all of South Florida's regional citizens. Our strong partnerships between the public and private sector works hard to grow the region's economy and build its competitive edge.

Our underlining goal is to help communities attract and retain businesses and make our region a better place to live, work, and do business. In doing so, we value the business community, the lifeline of our economy- the jobs they create and the dollars that are invested back into our communities.

We are committed to strengthening the talent supply chain in our region and provide businesses valuable resources to secure a sustainable and vibrant economic future. Over the years, South Florida Workforce has provided training that meets the workforce-skill needs of existing, new and emerging industries. We work with

private industries to develop skills training programs that not only deliver quality workforce place outcomes, but are geared towards meeting specific business goals.

Through our valuable support, businesses are able to receive various financial incentives, assistance with recruitment, training dollars to upgrade the skills of new and existing employees and more. From the trainings, these businesses often experience significant productivity gains by producing more products with their existing workforce. Most of all, the employees are able to gain skills that are transferable and can be applied elsewhere in the future.

We hope you enjoy this edition of Solutions, as we share insight on the future jobs projected through 2019, the mechanism by which On-the-job Training works and more. As always, we thank you for your continued support and we hope you'll join us on this road to economic prosperity.

Respectfully,

Rick Beasley

Executive Director, South Florida Workforce

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INCENTIVES FOR HIRING THE UNEMPLOYED



Bob Mena, Interactive Blue, LLC.

When owner Bob Mena of Interactive Blue, LLC, a telecommunications engineering firm, in Coral Gables, heard that his business could qualify for up to 100 percent for a new hire's wage, he immediately pursued the offer. For many businesses like Interactive Blue, providing training for new and existing employees can be costly.

Companies may be eligible for various tax credits through specific employee hiring practices and job creation. South Florida Workforce Investment Board offers incentives to help businesses, who are interested in creating new positions, but are concerned with the financial burden of hiring and training a new person. Federal and local governments all provide tax incentives. In fact, businesses can benefit from incentives and recoup thousands of dollars each year for hiring qualified candidates and creating jobs.

Bob Mena was able to hire 51 year-old Jerold Nelson through the On-the-Job Training (OJT). OJT provides resources for occupational training and development by which businesses are reimbursed up to 100 percent of their new employee's starting wage.

Jerold had been laid off for nearly a year, when he landed a job earning \$15 an hour with Interactive Blue. Despite having an associate's degree in construction technology and some experience in the field, Jerold had no knowledge of high-tech cable system or skills in surveying as required of the position.

"In this economy, it's tough to take a chance on hiring someone who is not an exact match," Mena said. "It gave us more flexibility." Companies of all sizes are embracing aspects of training as a means of acquiring a highly skilled workforce. The quality of work from employees and the upgrading of their skills and productivity through training are now widely recognized as vital factors in ensuring the long-term success and profitability of a business.

The OJT aims to place participants in occupations that will enhance their prospects for long - term employment and lessen their chances of returning to the unemployment rolls. With three months of extensive training, Jerold now possesses the exact skills necessary to do his job successfully. He is now a full-time permanent employee for Interactive Blue.

NEW LEGISLATION SPURS ECONOMIC GROWTH

Residents will now have first dibs on jobs offered by businesses that have contracts with Miami-Dade County (MDC). MDC Commissioners approved First Source for Hiring Referral program, an initiative that seeks to ensure residents have the first opportunity for employment consideration.

The First Source Hiring Referral Program was spearheaded by MDC Commissioner Barbara Jordan, the MDC Attorney's Office, People Acting for Community Together, Inc. (PACT) and South Florida Workforce Investment Board (SFWIB). The program establishes SFWIB as a first source job registry and referral system for employment through Miami-Dade County (MDC). Businesses, who receive a contract with the County, are required to post their openings with First Source and offer qualified County residents the first opportunity for referred to those positions.

"The First Source for Hiring not only maximizes employment opportunities for area residents, it better connects workforce and economic development to be mutually beneficial and reinforces the overall economic growth and sustainability of Miami-Dade County," said Rick Beasley, executive director for South Florida Workforce Investment Board.

SFWIB will be charged with compiling and maintaining a registry of unemployed persons qualified to fill jobs created to satisfy the requirements of MDC contracts. While the ordinance does not require an employer to hire a specific candidate, it does require that businesses make a good effort to fill a minimum of 50% of the number of entry-level job openings with candidates from First Source.

For more information First Source for Hiring Referral program, contact Business Services at 305-594-7615. Ext 407.

A NEW CAREER CENTER OPENS IN SOUTH MIAMI



In this photo (from left to right): Josh Liebman, Vice-Mayor for the City of South Miami; Walter Harris, City of South Miami Commissioner; Carlos Manrique, Board Member, SFWIB; Deltravis Williams, Community Redevelopment Agency Board Member and Member of Weed and Seed; Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos A. Gimenez; Rick Beasley, Executive Director, SFWIB; Stephen David, Director, Community Redevelopment Agency Board; Bob Welsh, City of South Miami Commissioner.

The City of South Miami, Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos A. Gimenez, and the South Florida Workforce Investment Board (SFWIB) in partnership with the City of South Miami Community Redevelopment Agency Board (SMCRA) celebrated the grand opening of the South Miami Career Center.

The new Career Center, located at 5825 SW 68 Street, Suite 3, offers valuable employment and training services to all those seeking employment or new career opportunities. The Career Centers assist with job searching, screening and referrals, career counseling, and if eligible, provide occupational training opportunities for job seekers in demand occupations, among other things.

“The South Florida Workforce provides a great service by connecting employers and job seekers through the state’s online job matching system, Employ Florida Marketplace,” said Mayor Gimenez. “I’m happy that we can continue helping our residents move forward.”

The SFWIB’s Career Centers have impacted the communities economically throughout our region by providing valuable services by offering job-ready, competent skilled workers to businesses and training, education and employment opportunities to individual citizens.

“We are excited to embark on a partnership with the City of South Miami Community Redevelopment Agency Board in providing employment services for area residents, which is critical to the continued economic growth of the community,” said Rick Beasley, executive director for South Florida Workforce Investment Board.

There are 13 Career Centers located throughout Miami-Dade and Monroe counties. The hours of operation are from Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. and Fridays from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. For a listing of Career Centers, visit www.south-floridaworkforce.com or contact SFWIB at 305-594-7615.

TOP TEN FASTEST GROWING OCCUPATIONS IN THIS DECADE

Fastest Growing Occupations This Decade	2011-2019 Annual Percent Change	2011 Median Hourly Wage
Home Health Aides	4.79%	\$10.59
Security & Fire Alarm Installers	4.26%	\$17.21
Network Systems & Data Communication Analysts	3.95%	\$36.94
Security Guards	3.59%	\$11.57
Pharmacy Technicians	3.56%	\$14.01
Cost Estimators	3.50%	\$27.27
Personal & Home Care Aides	3.41%	\$9.32
Surveying & Mapping Technicians	3.39%	\$19.56
Civil Engineers	3.37%	\$43.73
Construction & Building Inspectors	3.09%	\$29.35

This table illustrates the top ten fastest growing occupations in the region, according to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO).

ON THE ROAD TO ECONOMIC RECOVERY

The road to economic recovery in the region shows signs of promise. Though in June, the unemployment rate (not seasonally adjusted) in the region inched upward to 10.1 percent in June from 9.6 percent in May, mainly due to the schools closing over the summer, over-the-year job gains continued. Compared to June 2011, the region's unemployment rate demonstrated a downward trend of 2.1 percentage points from the year-ago rate of 12.2 percent.

In June 2012, the region's unemployment rate also illustrates a continued long-term decline when compared to 12.7 percent reported in June 2010, according to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO).

Miami-Dade County's unemployment rate was 10.3 percent, which was 2.1 percentage points lower than the year-ago rate of 12.4 percent. However, Miami-Dade County gained the second most nonagricultural jobs over the year compared to the other metro areas in the state, with 10,800 jobs gained. There were 1,001,800 total nonagricultural jobs in the Miami-Miami Beach-Kendall metro area in June 2012.

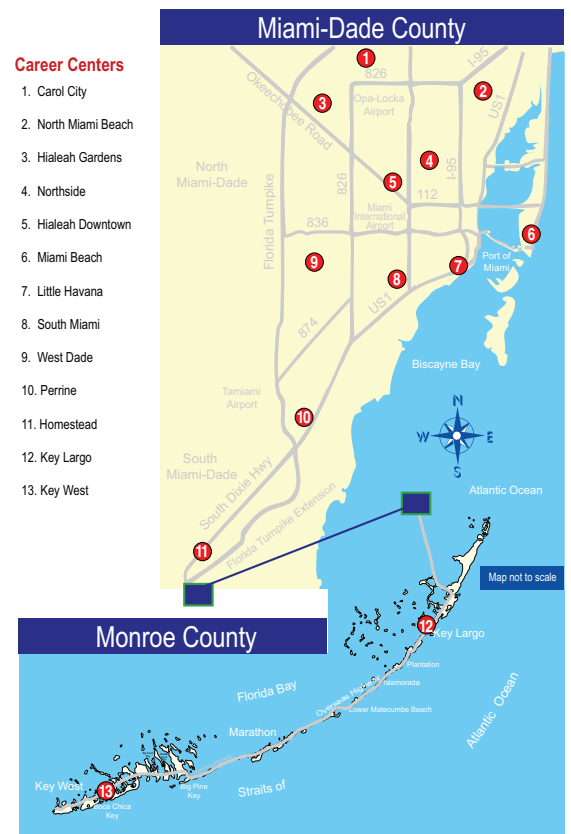
The unemployment rate for Monroe County was 5.0 percent in June 2012 and remains the lowest in the state. The rate was 1.5 percentage points lower than the year-ago rate of 6.5 percent. As reported by the DEO, Monroe has the lowest unemployment rate in the state due mainly to the high levels of government jobs and the strength of the region's tourism industry.

In Miami-Dade County, trade transportation and utilities gained the most jobs over the year (+9,600 jobs), followed by education and health services (+7,000 jobs). Other sectors showing improvement included professional and business services (+1,400 jobs); other services (+300 jobs); and leisure and hospitality (+200 jobs).

Industries losing jobs over the year included mining, logging, and construction (-3,500 jobs); government (-2,800 jobs); manufacturing (-1,100 jobs); financial activities (-200 jobs); and information (-100 jobs).

Find more information on the Regional Unemployment Outlook by visiting <http://floridajobs.org/labor-market-information/labor-market-information-press-releases/monthly-press-releases>.

WHERE TO FIND US



SOUTH FLORIDA WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

The South Florida Workforce delivery system provides high quality, customized employment and training solutions to workers and employers in support of economic development in Miami-Dade and Monroe counties.

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