

September 8, 2008

Goodwill Announces Opening of Neighborhood Career Center

Shoreline Workforce Development Services, a division of Goodwill Industries, opened a Neighborhood Career Center (NCC) on July 1, 2008 as part of the Workforce Investment Board's employment services.

Located at the Goodwill Main office, 350 Encinal St. Santa Cruz, the NCC operates Monday through Thursday, 9am to 1pm. The Center expands the access to employment services that are currently provided at the Watsonville and Capitola Career Centers, where job seekers also have access to computers, resume assistance and job search assistance.

The NCC is open to the public to provide employment, job search services and resources to the community.

When asked about the additional site, Director of Santa Cruz County Workforce Investment Board, Kathy Zwart says : "The Workforce Investment Board (WIB) congratulates Shoreline Workforce Development Services on the opening of the Neighborhood Career Center. This new center will be an asset to the community by providing an additional site where job seekers and employers can both find workforce development services.

The Neighborhood Career Center is equipped with brand new computers with a high-speed internet connection. Access to copy and fax machines are also available. The NCC is staffed by Shoreline's trained Employment Specialists. The team's expertise in employment services, job search, applications and resumes, interviewing tips, labor market information and community resources provides both the job seeker and potential employers with valuable information and tools.

In addition to computer access, job leads and job search resources, the NCC also provides links to free online typing tutorials, computer training, financial literacy, and skills certification. Shoreline's NCC can administer skills proficiency certification exams in a variety of areas through their site license. The subject areas include, but not limited to are: computer proficiency in many Microsoft applications, typing, data entry, customer services, administrative

support skills, receptionist skills, medical and legal skills, bookkeeping and accounting skills and more. This provides the job seeker with verification of their skills and also provides local employers an opportunity to assess potential applicant's skills before hiring.

Employers are welcome to contact the center when they are seeking employees. There is no charge for any of the services provided at the NCC. For more information please call (831) 423-8611 x 285.

Photo 1 caption: *Employment Specialist II, Allen Barnes helps a job seeker at the Encinal St. Neighborhood Career Center.
Photos by Charlotte Smith*

Photo 2 caption: *Employment Specialist II, Allen Barnes is part of the team at Shoreline Workforce Development Services and helps staff the Neighborhood Career Center.
Photos by Charlotte Smith*