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Our Mission

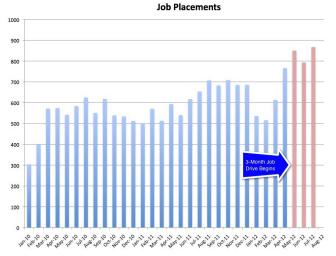
The Center's mission is to provide a safe and supportive environment to connect day workers and employers. In addition, the Center strives to empower day workers and their socioimprove economic condition through fair employment, education, job skills training, and community service. The Center also supports advocacy efforts on issues that affect day workers.

Job Development Campaign

Here we are at the end of summer, and what an eventful summer it has been! On July 31st our 3 month job campaign ended, and although we didn't reach our goal of 1000 jobs in one month, we set a new record with 867 jobs. Check out the graph to compare.

"The jobs drive significantly increased the income of the workers and directly improved their standard of living during this time," writes Craig Sherod, President of the Center's Board of Directors. "Increases of 20%-30% in job placements over 3 months is a huge victory, dwarfing any previous months in the history of the Center."

To achieve these increases, our job development team has worked hard. Headed first by Jasmine McBeath and then Brianna Kirby, they



Job campaign months are shown in red.

worked with KMVT to produce a commercial currently airing on Channel 15, implemented a new rating system for jobs, and gave presentations at senior centers, housing associations, and churches.

Members of the job development team include: Bill Lambert, Brianna Kirby, Craig Sherod, Edda Rottscheidt, Hal Nystrom, Jasmine McBeath, Liz Davila, Kevin Fox, Marcos Leyva, Maria Marroquin, and William Lucas. A huge thank you to everyone!

Worker Handicrafts For Sale on Facebook!



Bags, scarves, hats, and bracelets made by Ester.

Did you know that many of the workers avidly crochet and knit? They are constantly making lovely scarves, hats, headbands, bags, scrunchies, and much more. Now at long last thanks to the photography and writing skills of Karen, one of our volunteers, these items are now on display and for sale on Facebook. Thank you, Karen!

All the women have stories to tell of how they began to crochet and knit. Some learned here at the Center from other workers, and finetuned their skills making baby blankets for premature babies at Lucile Packard Hospital. Another woman comes from a family of artisans, and has been working with yarn since she was a child.

You can check out the items the ladies have made on Facebook in the album "Worker Handicrafts for Purchase," or email directly to jeannette @dayworkercentermv.org if you are interested in purchasing from the ladies. Please share with friends and family! Our hope is that this publicity boost will assist the ladies to turn their skill into an additional source of income.



Scrunchies crocheted by Aurora.

Meet Our Amazing Summer Interns!

Brianna Kirby - Job Development Coordinator



"I am a senior at Stanford, studying cultural anthropology, Spanish, and Italian. My goal is to combine my studies with community-based research and public service work. I found the DWC while searching for a non-profit through which to earn community-service work-study, and so I became introduced to the organization and the dynamic team of women who run the front office. I've learned so much since I've been here; in addition to practicing my Spanish, I've gained experience in job development and community networking. Above all, I've enjoyed making friends with the people here and I hope that I've helped to bring more jobs to the Center. After school starts I won't be able to continue as the Job Development Coordinator, but I definitely plan to come back as a volunteer. Thank you so much for the opportunity and the experience!"

Angela Torres - Community Health Intern



"I am a Stanford senior studying Human Biology. I am very happy to have had the opportunity to work with the Center and act as a liason between the Center and Stanford University's Office of Community Health (OCH). This internship is the continuation of a course I took with nine of my peers, in which we identified areas in the health services at the Center that needed strengthening. Nutrition was a major concern for workers, so we are now working with two organizations, Collective Roots and Second Harvest, that are helping with the Center's garden and providing health education. It's been a fun summer in this thriving community, and I'm excited to continue the work into the school year. I hope that in my time at the Center, the *companer@s* will become conscious that small, daily decisions can make a huge impact on their health."

Recent and Upcoming Events

Jul 4 - Helped set up and break down at Fourth of July Celebration at Shoup Park

Jul 14 - Green Cleaning training given by Geri

Aug 20 - Blood Drive in partnership with the Stanford Blood Center

Aug 25 - Sunnyvale Centennial Parade

Aug 26 - First Presbyterian Church of Palo Alto presentation, Borderless Dreams screening, food, and handicrafts

Sept 2 - Trinity United Methodist Church presentation and Borderless Dreams screening

Sept 7 - Latin Band performing at Los Altos First Friday

Sept 8-9 - Mountain View Art & Wine Festival

Computer Classes Continue

Computer classes have been in full swing since the beginning of June! We have been able to offer two levels of classes twice a week, thanks to our wonderful instructor, Sergio. These evenings students can be found creating simple informational fliers in Microsoft Word in the Intermediate Word class, or perhaps practicing right-clicking and left-clicking in the Introduction to Computers class.

Students come to the classes for different reasons. Miguel is one of the more advanced students. He says, "I feel satisfied to have learned the basics of computers—I feel the necessity of integrating myself into the modern world." To him, familiarity with the computer is a skill that will serve him for the rest of his

life. Others, like Reyna, attend to learn how to communicate with her children back at home in El Salvador. Although she had never used a computer previously, she is happy to be learning how to use the internet to find directions, recipes, crochet patterns, and more.

Sergio has taught computer classes for adults for more than three years now, and it's because of rewarding experiences and students like these that he continues to teach. "Technology literacy...has allowed me to meet very hard-working people who want to learn and get ahead, people who make space in their valuable time...in order to be able to dedicate a few hours per week to start or improve their computer abilities.



Students, instructor, and director celebrating students' completion of the Basic Computer class.

"Without a doubt it is a blessing for me to have the opportunity to share a class with such wonderful people who are already amazing examples of selfimprovement."

12 students have earned certificates so far. Congratulations to them, and may they keep up the hard work!



Testing sound before a performance at El Camino Hospital.

A Musical Summer

It has been a very musical summer here at the Center with the Latin Band! Under the guidance of one of our volunteers, Christine, the workers have been practicing hard and performing frequently. This summer they have played at El Camino Hospital as well as on a monthly basis

at Los Altos First Fridays. You can catch their next performance at Los Altos First Friday on Friday, September 7th at 6pm in downtown Los Altos. They sing in Spanish and English, and their repertoire includes traditional Latin American songs as well as pop and rock & roll.