



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Headline: CareerSource Pasco Hernando and Pasco County Renew Partnership, Increase Funding for Workforce Re-entry Program

Pasco County (Region 16), Florida- The Pasco Board of County Commissioners and CareerSource Pasco Hernando are renewing and expanding their commitment to the Workforce Re-Entry program following a year of exceptional results. Recognizing the significant success of the program, the Board voted July 9, 2019 to increase Workforce Re-Entry funding for one year to \$700k, to train and place 100 additional Pasco County residents into full-time jobs. The Workforce Re-entry program is designed to help residents who are under-served or under-employed.

The first-of-its-kind program launched in October 2018 and assisted 50 Pasco County residents, improving their skills through on-the-job-training and employer-driven education. All 50 individuals have successfully obtained employment, including 26 participants who were homeless.

The initial \$350K investment returned \$1.5 million back to the community, and through its success has encouraged 50 individuals to regain purpose and re-enter the workforce. The continued partnership of and \$700K investment in the Workforce Re-entry program, funded by Penny for Pasco dollars, is projected to yield an additional \$3 million return.

“As we continue to attract targeted industries, we’re doubling our investment in a proven program that serves both our citizens and Pasco County’s overall economic potential,” said Pasco County District 4 Commissioner Mike Wells. “I’m proud to lead this effort as the Workforce Re-Entry program transforms Pasco residents in need of opportunity into competitive, qualified candidates through education and training.”

Offering community members a training program or employer-driven training will create transferable skills, which align with the targeted industries and strategic goals of Pasco County and CareerSource Pasco Hernando. Local industries will also benefit from the ability to hire quality, skilled employees who can help organizations become more competitive in today’s global market. By gaining transferable skills, participants will have the ability to gain high-wage employment and skilled trade positions in local businesses, which will lead to economic growth and stability throughout Pasco County.

“The Workforce Re-entry program has assisted Pasco County’s hardest to serve population, and by continuing our partnership we will be able to provide more opportunities for employment to those in need. We are excited about our continued community partnership with Pasco County and look forward to growing a positive relationship through workforce innovation.” - Jerome Salatino, CEO/President of CareerSource Pasco Hernando.

The Workforce Re-entry program will serve:

- The under-served / under-employed
 - Veterans
 - Individuals with disabilities
 - Ex-offenders in an effort to reduce recidivism
 - Individuals with substance abuse issues
 - Pasco County Homeless shelters, including halfway houses
 - Pasco County employers and education system, as well as Pasco County Government
- *Pasco county eligible residents must be at least 18 years old to participate.*

For more information about the Workforce Re-entry program,

*please contact CareerSource Pasco Hernando at:
(727)484-3400 x 3023 / reentry@careersourcepascohernando.com.*

About CareerSource Pasco Hernando

CareerSource Pasco Hernando enhances economic development efforts of our region by providing a well-trained, high quality workforce which supports the success of local business and improves the quality of life. CareerSource Pasco Hernando is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. All voice telephone numbers on this website may be reached by persons using TTY/TDD equipment via the Florida Relay Service at 711

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