



OIC of South Florida Awarded Department of Labor Adult Reentry Grant

Every year more than 600,000 people are released from federal and state prisons, with millions more leaving county and local jails. Without proper support, many of these returning citizens are in danger of falling into the cycle of poverty, crime, and recidivism.



Since 2001, more than 6000 unemployed and underemployed individuals have been served and placed into jobs through OIC of South Florida.

Through the **Training to Work 3 (T2W3)** competitive grant opportunity, \$21.2 million has been awarded to 16 organizations by the U.S. Department of Labor, Employment and Training Administration (ETA), including \$1.4 million to OIC of South Florida. The grant serves individuals in high need areas and offers returning citizens, including veterans and people with disabilities, in state or local work release programs the opportunity to participate in a career pathway program that clearly defines a sequence of education and workforce skills training, resulting in skilled workers that meet the needs of local employers.

Beginning in 2005, OIC-SFL has consistently been awarded U.S. Department of Labor grants, most recently Training to Work 1 (T2W1), serving Broward County, in 2013 and Training to Work 2 (T2W2), serving Dade County, in 2014. To date since 2014, OIC-SFL has utilized the Training to Work grants to provide 430 returning citizens with training, job placement, and numerous other services while surpassing all Department of Labor performance outcomes.

OIC-SFL has chosen target communities located within Miami-Ft. Lauderdale. The communities targeted include zip codes located within the cities of Pompano Beach, Ft. Lauderdale, Lauderdale Lakes, Hollywood, Dania Beach, Pembroke Park, and Hallandale.

Through T2W3, OIC-SFL will focus on career pathway programs in: construction/ building trades, technical/ mechanical trades, information technology, sales/ food services, and materials moving & building in 5 demand sectors, comprised of 20 occupations.

OIC-SFL has assembled a Career Pathways Collaborative (CPC) with members that will provide services to 170 Returning Citizens from within work release programs operated by the Florida Department of Corrections Community Release Centers (CRC's), including: Hollywood CRC, Opa Locka CRC, and Miami North CRC. OIC will also provide services to eligible individuals within 2 Bridges of America CRCs (State Contracted WRPs - Work Release Programs): Turning Point Bridge CRC, Pompano Beach, FL and Broward County Bridge TC/CRC (Pompano Transition Center), Ft. Lauderdale, FL, which are operated under contract with the Federal Department of Corrections. Services will begin up to 9 months pre-release and will be identified based on individuals' assessments, goals and tasks as documented in individual career

plans.

OIC will implement an integrated strategy that includes case management, mentoring, education, and training that leads to industry-recognized credentials, integrated workforce activities, job placement, and 9 months of follow-up services, all of which will enable participants to enter and advance along the identified career pathways as they acquire additional skills.

For 15 years, under the leadership and guidance of Board Chair George W. Allen, Newton Sanon, President & CEO of OIC-SFL, has led OIC of South Florida in realizing sustained growth and recognizes U.S. Department of Labor funding as a key factor in OIC-SFL's ability to serve the community. Mr. Sanon stated, "OIC of South Florida was recently recognized by the Ford Foundation Benchmark Study as a leading provider for reentry services and this renewed funding provides an opportunity for OIC, as we celebrate our 15th Anniversary, to continue its work in providing quality self-help skills and employment opportunities to returning citizens."

For more information contact info@oicsfl.org or visit www.OICSFL.org.

About Opportunities Industrialization Centers of South Florida

Opportunities Industrialization Centers of South Florida (OIC-SFL) is a community-based workforce development, education and training organization that prepares individuals for the world of work by reducing barriers to employment, providing comprehensive vocational skills training and fostering youth aspirations through prevention and intervention strategies that support positive youth development and strengthen families.

To date, over \$40 million dollars have been secured to serve the South Florida community. Since 2001, OIC of South Florida has placed over 6000 community residents into high-demand occupations and serves over 4500 youth annually. Our goal is give everyone the opportunity to realize their full potential; to offer a "Hand UP" not a hand out.



***Please visit us on
our website,
OICSFL.org.***



***Support OIC of
South Florida
TODAY!***

For more information, visit www.OICSFL.org. Interviews and Media Coverage are available upon request. MEDIA CONTACT: Arlene L. Connelly, Director of Communications & Strategic Partnerships, aconnelly@oicsfl.org
| (954) 563-3535 | ext. 206



Be sure to visit us on our social media!



OICSFL.ORG houses an archive of short videos highlighting our work with adults and youth in the community.

[To view the videos, click here or on the photo above.](#)