



WORKFORCE CENTRAL FLORIDA

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BUDGET CUTS FORCE OFFICE CONSOLIDATION & CLOSURES:
WORKFORCE CENTRAL FLORIDA to Consolidate and Close Two Regional Offices

ORLANDO, Fla. ... Federal and State budget reductions will force WORKFORCE CENTRAL FLORIDA to consolidate and close two of our Central Florida Offices this year, lay off staff, and deliver services to customers differently. WCF has experienced budget cuts of 5-6 percent every year for the past five years and expects an even larger cut this year.

Difficult business decisions were made after months of planning, and will mean less staff and fewer offices. We will do this while continuing our strong customer focus and encouraging more employers and job seekers to take full advantage of our services via our website or uses of technology.

WCF presently serves five central Florida counties: Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, and Sumter. We will need to consolidate and close two offices so that we can continue to serve the five-county area. After much research of data and activity for each office, and based on the recommendation of our board of directors, it will be necessary to close our offices in Lake Mary and West Orange. Clients who have used those offices will need to begin getting services from our East Orlando office on East Colonial. In addition, there is public transportation bus service for these areas affected by this decision for easy access to WCF Offices.

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Specifically, we will be consolidating, and therefore closing, the Seminole County Office, located at 1097 Sand Pond Rd, Lake Mary, sometime in the fall. West Orange WCF Office, located at 5362 Silver Star Road, Orlando, by July 24, 2008. We plan to deliver some level of services from the Seminole County Office through sometime in the fall and the West Orange Office through about June 30. Customers can find services at our East Orange WCF office, located at 5166 East Colonial Drive, Orlando, or www.WorkforceCentralFlorida.com for services.

In addition to consolidating and closing two offices, WCF will begin to offer more and more services on our website, like our Virtual Job Fair taking place April 21 – 25, 2008. Job seekers can go to www.WorkforceCentralFlorida.com/JobFair to virtually send resumes to employers during that week. If they don't have access to a computer, they may access in any WCF Office.

Finally, WCF expects to lay off staff. By June 1st, between 30 and 50 staff will be notified that they will be affected by the lay off. Additionally, WCF will maintain a hiring freeze on 17 currently unfilled positions.

At all levels (local, state, and federal), publicly funded entities will have to do more with less. We plan to rise to the challenge.

WORKFORCE CENTRAL FLORIDA (WCF) is the region's workforce expert, helping over 4,700 employers connect with more than 38,000 job seekers. WCF offers innovative solutions to assist Central Florida businesses succeed in today's highly competitive workforce, while providing the tools job seekers need to find or advance in their current career. For more information, visit WCF online at www.WorkforceCentralFlorida.com.

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