

it's your business, get connected

the larimer county workforce center



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The Big Picture



Employers Moving toward Skills-Based Recruitment

The Larimer County Workforce Center has been selected as one of two pilot sites in Colorado for implementing Skillful, a Markle Foundation Initiative. Skillful was previously titled ReWork America but has been recently rebranded.

This initiative is focused on addressing the national workforce

Service Spotlight

Ecommerce Firm Taps ReHire Colorado Talent Pool



Prior to her ReHire Colorado internship, Cherie Strauser felt she had little hope for a steady job, let alone one with a rewarding career pathway.

Cherie had been out of the workforce for ten years, was homeless and faced background check impediments.

Now she has graduated from internship to employee, she's living on her own, and she is rapidly learning new skills that she is confident will lead to an even brighter future.

And all thanks to good coaching and a progressive high-tech employer who understands the value of ReHire Colorado, a program that helps individuals facing barriers to employment.

In early fall of 2015, Cherie's case manager at the homeless shelter recommended she try for an internship through the Workforce Center. Once she was accepted, things started to turn around quickly for her.

"Within a week of being in the program, I already had an opportunity to meet with Dave Kramer at AllProWebTools," Cherie said.

The initial match with AllProWebTools (www.allprowebtools.com) was such a good fit that Cherie didn't have to interview anywhere else.

[Read More](#)

Business Insights

Local Business Leaders Solve Engineer's "Car Problem"

Andy Osborn was having car

challenge in hiring middle-skill workers. There is a paradox in the challenge. On one hand, employers report a talent shortage for middle-skill positions. However, many of those same employers include bachelor's degrees as a requirement in job postings, thereby ruling out people who have the skills but not the degree.

The problem is more acute in Colorado. We have one of the fastest-growing economies in the country, but middle-skill jobs in Colorado take 16% longer to fill than in the rest of the country.

Perhaps the most appealing factor about Skillful is its big vision: To ensure access to opportunity, good work, and successful career paths for all Americans. [Read More](#)



Strategic Partners

trouble – he needed one! As part of the Workforce Center's up-skilled talent pool, Osborn is building his professional profile as a non-traditional electrical engineering student at CSU. Non-traditional? He's raising three teenaged sons, but was trying to do so without benefit of auto transportation.



His car problem was solved by a collaboration among a local auto dealer, a marketing guru, a former Workforce Center employee and the Rotary Club of Fort Collins.

Sound confusing? Not when you consider how dominoes typically fall in our community.

It all starts with Cjay Manthey, owner of Cutting Edge Automotive of Fort Collins. As a way to give back to the community, Manthey launched an annual program to award a free automobile to a deserving applicant through Project Self Sufficiency. When his business grew to a second location, Manthey expanded the program, too.

Kerrie Luginbill of Old Town Media, a Rotarian and special friend of Manthey's, suggested that the Rotary Club of Fort Collins would be an ideal second partner. Luginbill connected with fellow Rotarian Lucinda Kerschensteiner, a social entrepreneur who reached out to her former co-workers at the Workforce Center. [Read More](#)

Strengthening the Workforce

Leadership Demands Interpreting Gray Areas

Companies across the country and even worldwide turn to northern Colorado-based business consultants their management and leadership challenges.



Fortunately, a team of those world-class coaches share their expertise as instructors in Elevate, our leadership and workforce development training program. With little or no compensation, these experts conduct workshops for two major reasons:

1. As a way to give back to their community. And ...
2. Because of their passion for growing great leaders.



Michael Clingan, founder of the Loveland-based Claymore Group, fits that mold. His “Thinking Like a Leader” challenges managers and supervisors with case studies and simulations that explore the gray areas of team leadership, those tough decisions that are anything but cut-and-dried. [Read More](#)

Upcoming Events

Upcoming Events – March 2016 edition

March 9

Skillful, a Markle Foundation Initiative
Fort Collins

March 10

How Engaged Employees Drive More Profit
Fort Collins

March 22

Employer Update on Unemployment Insurance
Fort Collins

March 24

Enlisting Employees as Brand Champions
Fort Collins

March 28

How Employees Grow Your Brand and Your Profit **Estes Park**

March 31

Engaging Employees in Profit Growth
Fort Collins

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