



Business Partnership Network NEWS

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vrbpn.scvrd.net

Fall 2010

BPN welcomes new partners

All About Kids, Sumter
American Services Inc., Greenville
Benjamin's Bakery, Myrtle Beach
Berchtold Corporation, Charleston
BKI Industries, Simpsonville
City of Charleston Housing
Authority, Charleston
Covidien, Camden
Fairfield County Chamber of
Commerce, Winnsboro
Hand H Enterprises, Murrells Inlet
International Paper, Laurens
Jostens Inc., Laurens
Kershaw County Chamber of
Commerce, Camden
Kershaw County Economic
Development, Camden
Lee County Economic Development
Alliance, Bishopville
Leigh Fibers, Wellford
Live Oak Veterinary Clinic, Moncks
Corner
Miller-Motte Technical College,
Conway
Moldwood Products Co., York
Palmetto Sleep Labs, Myrtle Beach
Parker Hannifin, Moncks Corner
Pawmetto, Columbia
Perdue Farms Inc., Dillon
Pierborg Inc., Fountain Inn
Renfro Corporation, Clinton
SCANA, Cayce
Schaeffler Group USA Inc., Cheraw
Signode Consumable Products,
Latta

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VR partnership benefits employer, former client

It is a good day when you hear from a former South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department client that they are doing well and enjoying success on the job, but it is a great day when you hear from a client that they just received a promotion.

Such a success story was possible through the hard work of Lisa Benson and the collaboration with one of our valued business partners.

Benson contacted us with exciting news that she had just been promoted from a bank teller to a member service representative. As she thanked us for our services, we reminded her that success came through her hard work and dedication. The success also was due in part to All South Federal Credit Union, which has been a valued business partner of SCVRD for several years.

All South participates in the Skilled Workforce Apprenticeship Training (SWAT) program, an SCVRD initiative that provides a structured training period where clients learn on the job under the guidance of a mentor to become fully competent in all aspects of the job, including knowledge,



Lisa Benson enjoying her new role at All South

skills and company culture.

Through the partnership in the SWAT program, SCVRD pre-screens potential candidates and reimburses a portion of the training costs. As a result, All South saves thousands of dollars and, most importantly, gains valuable employees. Several SCVRD clients have received bank teller training at All South which has resulted in successful employment.

Not only does a partnership with SCVRD make hiring a diversified workforce simpler, it allows businesses to benefit in a multitude of ways.

Share in the success by contacting your local SCVRD representative.

Check nondiscrimination laws online

The U.S. Department of Labor has a new tool to help America's employers ensure their employment policies and practices do not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities.

The online Disability Nondiscrimination Law Advisor, available at <http://www.dol.gov/elaws/odep.htm>, helps employers quickly and simply determine which federal disability nondiscrimination laws apply to their business or organization and their responsibilities under them. It asks users to answer a few relevant questions in order to take into account relevant variables, such as nature of organization, size of staff and whether the business or organization receives federal financial assistance.

Based on the responses provided, the advisor then generates a customized list of federal disability nondiscrimination laws

that likely apply, along with easy-to-understand information about employers' responsibilities under them.

The laws addressed by the Disability Nondiscrimination Law Advisor include:

- Titles I and II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990
- Section 188 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (as it pertains to federal financial assistance)
- Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended
- The Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, as amended

The advisor also can help employees, job applicants and people applying for or participating

in federally funded programs learn more about their rights under these laws. In addition, it includes a Guide on Employing People with Disabilities that outlines resources available to help employers comply with disability nondiscrimination laws.

The Disability Nondiscrimination Law Advisor is one of a series of Employment Laws Assistance for Workers and Small Businesses, or "elaws," advisors developed by the Labor Department's Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy, working with other department agencies, to help employers and employees understand federal employment laws. To access this set of advisors, visit the elaws website at <http://www.dol.gov/elaws/>.

—From *disabilityworks.org*

New partners

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Southern Uniform & Screenprint Inc., Sumter

The O'Dell Corporation, Ware Shoals

The Sheraton Myrtle Beach Convention Center, Myrtle Beach

YMCA of the Upper Pee Dee, Hartsville

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Disability Mentoring Day

A Beaufort student who shadowed a radiologist during Disability Mentoring Day listens as a nurse explains procedures. Hundreds of students with disabilities and employers across the state recently participated in the event, which is held in October during National Disability Employment Awareness Month. Students are matched with workplace mentors according to the students' career interests. The students experience a typical day on the job and learn how to prepare for employment. Employers gain an increased awareness that people with disabilities represent an overlooked talent pool.