



START SMART WORKFORCE PROGRAMS

ON THE FRONTLINE



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

WORKFORCE CENTRAL

As the Knoxville Community moves further into the 2022 year, finding workers is still a top concern for employers. The Knoxville Area Urban League Start Smart Workforce Programs are ready and prepared to support recruiting efforts for local employers and job seekers with an array of services. We are Scheduling a Spring Hiring Fair on May 5th from 9:00 am – 12:30 pm located at the Pellissippi State Community College Magnolia Campus. We are hosting over 45 employer vendors and community resource agencies. If you are interested in being a vendor at the hiring fair call 865 – 524 – 5511 for more information. There will be a flyer for job seekers to register for the event coming soon.

WORKFORCE SPOTLIGHT – CROSSOVER PROGRAM SUCCESS STORY

Michele Thomas served as primary caregiver to her terminally ill husband and homeschool mother to their son for six years before the death of her husband. Her confidence level was low and her belief that she had something to offer employers was even lower. She had no source of income and needed to go back to work as quickly as possible. Staff met with Michele and through the CrossOver job readiness component she got her confidence back. She took a transition job at Food City Gas-n-Go to provide a source of income while staff assisted her with creating a professional resume and allowing her to upskill her virtual platform knowledge and QuickBooks skills. Michele had earned her bachelor's degree years ago, she just needed to reframe her value to employers. She applied for a position with the State of Tennessee, and after 3 interviews and submitting a requested project for their evaluation she accepted a position as Internal Control Auditor. She is back in the workforce as a professional and loving it. She will graduate from the Start Smart Workforce CrossOver Program in April 2022. The CrossOver Program provides job readiness services to individuals that have been out of work for more than a year. To learn more about any of our Start Smart Workforce Programs call Denise Carr or Jackie Robinson at 865 – 524 – 5511.



FEATURED EVENTS – CELEBRATING NATIONAL SECOND CHANCE MONTH

April is National Second Chance Month; its focus is to bring awareness to the barriers and challenges justice involved individuals returning into the community experience after incarceration. To show how the Knoxville community is supporting our justice involved, the Knoxville Area Urban League is hosting two Hour of Power sessions on April 6th and April 20th. A vital factor in the success of those returning to the community after incarceration is having the opportunities to access sustainable employment. The April 6th event will be in-person at the Knoxville Area Urban League from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm with light refreshments being served. The company spotlight will be Harrison Construction in how they are supporting and hiring justice involved individuals and to hear the testimonials from three of their employees who have previously been involved in the judicial and correctional systems. They will share about how Harrison Construction has given them the opportunity to pursue a career not just a job. The April 20th Hour of Power is a ZOOM event from 11 am – 12 pm that will focus on three local occupational training opportunities that will provide individuals with employer recognized skills and access to growing and rewarding careers. To register for the Hour of Power sessions call the Knoxville Area Urban League at 865-524-5511



JOB SOURCE GET PLUGGED IN

A proud partner of the **American Job Center** network
TENNESSEE

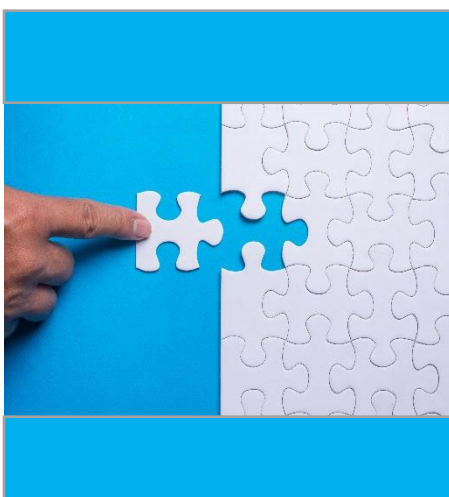
The Knoxville Area Urban League is an American Job Center (AJC) Access Point for individuals seeking assistance with creating a Jobs4tn account, to file an unemployment claim or to access the American Job Center services through the Virtual American Job Center Website. KAUL schedules all AJC Access Point services by appointment on either Mondays between 1:00 pm – 3:30 pm or Thursdays between 10:00 am – 12:30 pm. KAUL’s computer lab has computers available with internet access. Staff is available if assistance is needed. In our computer lab there is literature and materials about AJC programs and services available to the individuals including job opening announcements. Staff can assist individuals with creating up to 5 different resumes in Jobs4tn and setting up a virtual recruiter that will notify them each time a new job posting matches their skills. To make an appointment call the KAUL Workforce Department at 865 – 524 – 5511.

JOB SEEKER TOOLBOX - YOUSCIENCE

Have you asked yourself lately, what am I good at? What am I passionate about? These are just a few of the questions that can have an overwhelming effect on having a successful job search. For the last two years many job seekers have become discouraged and stagnated in trying to find a job that best suits their interest, skills, and new lifestyles after living through the COVID 19 pandemic. More people are looking for flexibility in their work schedules to better balance their career and family responsibilities. The Knoxville Area Urban League’s Workforce Department has the right assessment tool for you. Youscience is a web-based career aptitude assessment that gives excellent results in measuring your natural talents and matching them to the best career options that suit your interest and skills. The Youscience assessment is a featured job seeker tool used in our Start Smart Workforce Programs. The assessment consists of 11 exercises that shows how you work, think, and understand different types of information and tasks. For more information about the Youscience Assessment call Denise Carr or Jackie Robinson at 865 – 524 – 5511.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Cherokee Health Systems Mobile Bus has partnered with the Knoxville Area Urban League to provide access to free health care. The mobile bus is scheduled to be at KAUL on April 21st, May 19th, and June 16th from 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. No appointment is required. The health services being offered are primary/acute care, rapid testing, flu vaccines, HIV and Hep C rapid testing, behavioral health services and referral services.



**Knoxville Area
Urban League**

*Empowering Communities.
Changing Lives.*