



VGS NEWSLETTER



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October 2008

VGS Columbus:
serving Franklin, Fairfield, Licking
& Delaware Counties

New Fall 2008 Programs Just in Time!



90%

Or more of the Custodians who completed VGS's Custodial Skills Training course retain employment

for at least 90 days. Many have been on the job for more than a year; the longest VGS job retention so far is Sanfer C., working as a custodian at OSU for 3 years and counting!

NEW! 4-WEEK CUSTODIAL TRAINING COURSES DESIGNED TO PREPARE MOST WORKERS FOR BASIC JOB DEMANDS

Feedback is so important to VGS. We use suggestions from our referring counselors, community advisors, and past program participants to build new programming or make changes to existing offerings in an effort to provide the best possible experience for our participants.

As a direct result of suggestions made about our IEHA certified seven-week VGS Custodial Skills Training, we will now be testing a new version that focuses on providing participants with the common fundamental skills, reserving training on expert skills for those interested in pursuing careers as trainers, managers, or specialty technicians in the field.

VGS Custodial Basics Training courses require *only 4 weeks attendance*, and touch on the fundamental skills of working as a custodian. Progress is reviewed after 4 weeks, and additional needs discussed. Participants are paid for work performed during training.

What a VIEW!

FREE VOCATIONAL INFORMATION ESSENTIALS WORKSHOP (VIEW program) SET TO BEGIN OCTOBER 2008

An ocean of resources offering job seeking tips and pointers exists for experienced professionals who know how to find it. Unfortunately, for most people, it is too difficult or expensive to navigate all the information to get to something useful. That's where the VGS VIEW program fits in.

VGS is launching a pilot program for people with barriers to employment, geared towards exploring the basics of computer use, job hunting, interviewing, and correspondence.

Registration is required, maximum class size is 6. The course is 4 days of 2-hour sessions from 2pm-4pm Tue-Fri. **There is no fee for this workshop.** At the conclusion of the course, participants will be given a final rating and mock interview to assess their readiness to start job hunting and to reinforce the fundamental concepts they've learned.

About VGS

Vocational Guidance Services changes lives and communities. With services that enhance individual abilities, VGS breaks down barriers to employment and helps individuals realize their potential.

We promise to treat every customer with dignity, respect and kindness while uncompromisingly pursuing fulfilling job opportunities for persons with physical, mental and socio-economic barriers to employment.

Our dedicated and knowledgeable staff will provide vocational rehabilitation and other supportive services tailored to the individual needs of each customer.

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Visit us on the Web!
www.vgsjob.org

Preparing people with barriers to employment for a brighter future!

Say Hello to Our Latest Addition!

IT IS OUR PLEASURE TO INTRODUCE KARRIEJOI COIT, NEWEST MEMBER OF THE VGS REHABILITATION SERVICES STAFF



Karriejo Coit is an Employment Specialist in our Placement Division. She has spent time getting to know each of VGS's active consumers to help facilitate job searches, placement, and retention.

Karrie will also be assisting in the presentation and development of additional Life Skills Training, Community-Based Work Adjustment, and ongoing enhancements planned for VGS this coming year.

Karrie has worked in Job Development before, with S.H.A.R.E.S. She is experienced in networking with organizations to find job seekers the best opportunities, and to help employers find the best workers. Job Coaching comes naturally to her, as she is an experienced workshop facilitator. Karrie's background as a special education instructor gives her the passion to motivate people.

She says that she is very excited about new unique opportunities that VGS can (and will) bring to Columbus and Central Ohio. She is a motivated quick responder and a team player who takes initiative when needed.

Please feel free to drop Karrie a note or call to say hello. She can be reached at (614) 291-0233 ext. 200, or karriejoicoit@vgsjob.org

VGS Contracts Update

Ohio State University Custodial

VGS continues to enhance our reputation for outstanding service at OSU. Hopkins Hall, home to the Computer Art and Design Labs, has complimented our crews on the great work they do, and others are following suit. Our custodial staff and Area Managers are working closely with building inspectors to keep up the great results.

Bricker Federal Building Custodial

VGS maintains the high standards of this Federal Office Building. Even with changes in the crew, work carries on as usual, and results continue to improve.

Beightler Armory Custodial

Work is in progress to get the floors gleaming, and we know that once he sees them, the Commander will continue to be pleased with VGS quality.

BTMC Inc. Warehouse

VGS has placed workers at BTMC for several months, and they continue to exceed expectations. VGS is working to uncover additional logistics work opportunities for local job seekers.

Need More Information?

If you would like to know more about any of the programs, features, or stories in this issue, please contact our office at **614-291-0233**, or send a message to the general manager at brendacartell@vgsjob.org