

Transitional Jobs Project

The CFL Workers Assistance Committee's Transitional Jobs Project (TJP), launched in September, is unique because it offers transitional jobs to dislocated (laid-off) workers, a group often regarded as not needing help transitioning into the workforce. But with the unemployment rate at record highs and increased competition for limited jobs, dislocated workers need skills training. TJP connects these workers to the workforce while they attend training and/or apply newly-gained skills.

According to the **National Transitional Jobs Network**, a network of transitional jobs program operators, a transitional job "is an employment strategy that seeks to overcome employment barriers and transition people with labor market barriers into work using wage-paid, short-term employment that combines real work, skill development and supportive services."

TJP provides a small, bi-weekly stipend (which does not interfere with the worker's unemployment compensation) for CFL Workers Assistance Committee customers while they complete a 15-hour per week training assignment at a local non-profit, public or private organization. Training areas vary based on customer interest and range from administrative support to health care to information technology.

Prospective TJP participants must meet these requirements:

- ▶ City of Chicago resident
- ▶ Family income 200% or less of the Federal poverty level (approximately \$1,800 per month for one person; \$3,675 for a family of four)
- ▶ Prior, current or future enrollment in training
- ▶ Authorized to work in the United States
- ▶ Goal to secure full-time, unsubsidized employment

To register for an upcoming TJP orientation or for more information, contact the CFL Workers Assistance Committee at 312.565.9431.

Or, if your organization wants to serve as a worksite, contact Judy Lai, CFL Workers Assistance Committee's program manager, at 312.565.9431, ext. 237 or laiju@cflwac.org.

TJP offers benefits to individuals and organizations alike:

WORKERS

Increase confidence in newly-gained skills

Use skills to help a local social service agency deliver services to its clients

Connect to the labor market, fill gaps in your work history and keeps you in the "going to work" habit

Earn additional income

EMPLOYERS

Expand capacity to provide services without any financial investment

Evaluate prospective workers

Access individuals recently trained in the latest technology and systems

Provides opportunity to be a good corporate citizen

benefits