



THE SCOOP



WORK OPTIONS' QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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Now Training in Adams County

by Tessa Houston
Special Projects Manager

Work Options hosted a Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting at its brand-new location in Adams County on Wednesday, September 15, 2021. The demand and success of the program has led to the opportunity to expand services and programs to more candidates. Adams County Commissioner Emma Pinter and Swire Coca-Cola, USA were on hand to celebrate with Work Options and Adams County Human Services.



This is a wonderful opportunity for our program to reach into new communities and support people into economic advancement with culinary training and wrap around services now in Adams County. We are incredibly fortunate to have the partnership and support of Adams County Government and champion in Commissioner Emma Pinter and from our corporate partner, Swire Coca-Cola.

Adams County Commissioner Emma Pinter has championed this project, shepherding the partnership with Adams County Government. "This organization has a proven track record of successful outcomes that adds value to the communities it serves," said Commissioner Pinter. "We are so excited to have this effective community partner in Adams County making significant impacts for our residents and culinary industries."

Swire Coca-Cola, USA, the Coca-Cola bottler servicing the Denver Market with two locations, has a strong tradition of support of the culinary and food-service industries. "Swire Coca-Cola's mission is to be the best employer, the best business partner and the best corporate citizen wherever we do business," said Jenifer Freeman, Director of Public Relations and Government Affairs for Swire Coca-Cola. "Partnering with Work Options is a natural fit for Swire Coca-Cola to help build stronger and economically vibrant communities and continue to contribute to Colorado's renowned restaurant and culinary industry."

Work Options Cafe, on the 3rd floor of the Adams County Human Services Center at 18600 N Pecos Street in Westminster, is the fourth training location for Work Options and will be open for breakfast and lunch Tuesday through Thursday from 7:30 am - 1:30 pm.



Work Options chefs and students prepared delicious displays and samples of menu items for the event.

Coca-Cola



Give Where You Live

by Julie Stone
Executive Director

Hello Friends,

Fall has arrived and with it a time of reflection. The pandemic has been impacting our lives and work for the last 18 months. This has been a time of trauma, change and struggle. We grieve for all that we have lost and for the plans we made that were never realized. And yet, with your support and the dedication of the Work Options staff and board, we have continued to provide our culinary job training programs to folks who are willing to work hard during this unimaginably difficult time.

This October all our culinary training programs are in full operation including a new program in Adams County. Since the pandemic began, we have provided holistic culinary job training and individualized barrier reduction to over 200 people. This has been especially profound for the food service industry since there is a crisis level culinary workforce shortage in Denver. The result of all these economic factors is the greatest wage rates ever paid to culinary workers. Our students are being hired between \$17 to \$24 per hours!!



We continue to increase our geographic and demographic scope as we find new ways and new partners to support our culinary training programs. Not only have we grown into Adams County, but we have also been granted new contracts to continue providing high quality nutritious emergency meals to folks in Denver who have limited or no access to food. And as in the past our students are using their newly acquired food preparation skills to help make the meals. They receive valuable food prep practice and the incalculable feeling of pride and self-esteem by feeding people in need. The Helping Hen, our Food Truck, is providing over 1500 hot meals weekly to the SOS camps, unhoused families and families that are struggling to get by. Our Core Training program is making over 2000 meals weekly for distribution in Sun Valley a neighboring immigrant community. Our Mobile Culinary Classroom is parked at the Second Chance center providing our training to individuals who have recently been released from incarceration. And we have just opened a new training center in Adams County.

All this is only possible with your help. We start our Colorado Give Campaign November 7th on Giving Tuesday and it will run through December 7th. Please support us again this year, every contribution helps. And there will be a new way to give this year. Instead of giving one large gift why not spread it out over 12 months for impact.

Whatever you give know that we will put that donation straight into helping people get and keep great jobs in the food service industry right here in Denver.

Thanks so much,

Julie Stone

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ColoradoGivesDay.org Dec. 7