



# Workforce News

August 13, 2021

## Pinellas Workforce Moment

**Unemployment Rate:** 4.9%  
**Year-Over-Year Job Change:** 59,700+  
**Labor Force:** 514,187



## Mark Your Calendar

### Professional Networking Groups

- [Wednesday, August 18 @ 1 pm](#), join psychologist Dr. Carlos Garcia and Joe Jones, the founder of Transition Masters for a discussion on job search fatigue
- [Wednesday, August 25 @ 1 pm](#), join certified executive resume writer and career coach Debraca Russell for a discussion on interview skills

### Career Networking Groups

- [Thursday, August 19 @ 10 am](#), join WIOA specialist and veterans transition specialist Dewey McGuirk for a discussion on combatting ageism in the hiring process
- [Thursday, August 26 @ 10 am](#), join IT training specialist Suzanne Ricci for a discussion on beating applicant tracking systems

### Hiring Events

- Tuesday, August 17 @ 1 pm
  - BioDerm, Inc. will be at the Gulf to Bay Career Resource Center (2312 Gulf to Bay Blvd, Clearwater) hiring for the following positions:
    - Assembler Job #11477235
    - Kbar Operator Job #11477249
    - Mixing Extruding Lamination Operator Job #11477267
    - Shipping Clerk Job #11477305

### Professional Skills Workshops

- [Wednesday, August 18 @ 3:00 pm](#) - Resume Writing Workshop
- [Friday, August 20 @ 10:00 am](#) - Mock Interviews (15 mins)
- [Wednesday, August 25 @ 5:30 pm](#) - Cover Letters
- [Thursday, August 26 @ 3:00 pm](#) - Essential Technology Skills
- [Monday, August 30 @ 11:00 am](#) - Cleaning Up Your Online Presence
- [Tuesday, August 31 @ 10:00 am](#) - Professional Etiquette: How to Make a First

## Partner Highlights



CareerSource Pinellas CEO Jennifer Brackney and Director of Workforce Strategic Initiatives April Torregiante partnered with Suncoast HR to present A Not So Trivial Pursuit: Workforce Development.

This interactive, solution-focused workshop offered practical solutions that support business engagement and connecting job candidates with employers through training/education programs, on-the-job training, specialized recruitment and career fair participation.

In a fun twist, attendees participated in a team-style trivia, which ended with two winning teams: Team Oregon (left) in first place and Tiger Team (right) as runner-up.



### YouthBuild Success Story

Jacob Parrish entered the YouthBuild program this year where he earned his GED, participated in hands-on construction training, received job skills training, financial literacy classes, and more.

Before YouthBuild, he struggled in school to stay focused and, after working a hybrid model of classroom and hands-on lessons, he found a passion for working with his hands.

While learning under Construction Instructor, Marlon Ramgeet, and being exposed to employers from various trades, Jacob decided to pursue a career as an ironworker. He currently is enrolled in an apprenticeship with Ironworkers Local 397 and is loving every minute of it.

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