



STIMULUS MAKES WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS MORE ACCESSIBLE

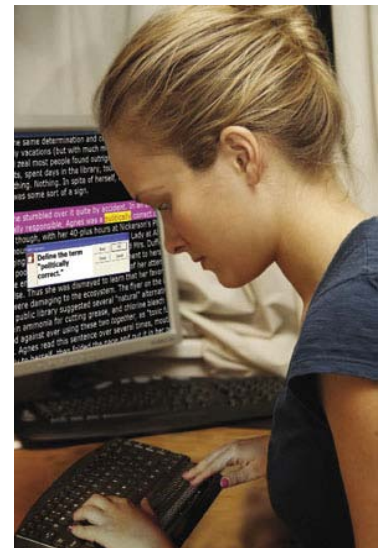
PORT ST LUCIE, FL—Recently, three products were installed in Indian River, Okeechobee and the St Lucie locations using Stimulus dollars that will allow for better accessibility to Workforce Solutions services. Martin County will be enhanced in the coming weeks too.

“For a long time, there has been a need and with the ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act better known as Stimulus) funds we were finally able to provide these services,” Wagner Peyser Program Coordinator Deborah Davis said.

The three products, JAWS, MAGic Screen and OpenBook, are all Freedom Scientific products and each provide different services. JAWS is a screen reader for our visually challenged clients and it can also translate applications and the internet into 23 languages. MAGic Screen is a magnification and color adjusting software that allows our clients with limited vision the opportunity to navigate facility computers independently. OpenBook converts scanned documents which may include graphic-based text to electronic text which is then masked and highlighted as the program reads it to the client with limited vision.

Workforce Solutions received \$4.8 million dollars in American Recovery and Reinvestment funds. This service enhancement cost less than 1% of the funds but will serve many.

Workforce Solutions is a private, non-profit, Florida corporation with a Board of Directors consisting of private business, economic development and education representatives, community and state agencies, and elected officials. Members of the Board represent the diversity of businesses, organizations and trades that operate in the Treasure Coast Region, including Indian River, Martin, Okeechobee, and St. Lucie County. We are chartered by the State of Florida to create and manage a workforce development service delivery system responsive to the needs of businesses and jobseekers. We offer award-winning programs and partnerships recognized locally, statewide, and nationally. Our staff members are certified workforce professionals often recognized by their peers as leaders in workforce development.



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