

We Want to Help You Find Your Yellow Brick Road to Success!

Are you out of work and feeling overwhelmed by looking for a job? Are you unsure where to start and what type of occupation interests you most? We can help! The Women's Center at CCM and Dress for Success of Morris County have teamed up to sponsor two Open Houses to assist you on your yellow brick road to a winning career and help you with any other personal or vocational issues you are currently facing.

The Women's Center has been helping thousands of women who are divorced, separated, victims of domestic violence, or single parents become economically independent for over 30 years through career counseling, job placement, computer classes and labs, legal workshops, and other supportive services. All of our services are free.

Dress for Success of Morris County "promotes the economic independence of disadvantaged women by providing professional attire, a network of support and career development tools to help women thrive in work and in life." The services of Dress for Success Morris County are free of charge and available to clients referred through New Jersey social service agencies.

Both agencies want to help you get back on track. Whether you have never worked before, were recently laid off or are re-entering the workforce after a long period of time, our services can provide you with the tools you will need to effectively and positively market yourself and land the career that was meant for you!

The Open House is an event that will celebrate Women's History Month, further explain the programs that are offered as well as define what path you should be taking to jumpstart your career and address any other issues you may be confronting. There will be an opportunity to have your resume reviewed to determine if you are presenting yourself in the best way as well as career tests to assist in deciding which occupation is most suited for you. It will also give you a chance to meet with other women, who are in a similar situation, build your confidence for your job search, and in other aspects of your personal life.

The Open Houses are on Tuesday, March 20th from 4 pm –
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Is it Okay For Me to Relocate ?

This answer seems obvious. The move to Cape May is almost 200 miles away and can easily upset the divorced family dynamics. On the other hand, the move to Manhattan is under eight miles and a \$6 toll, something most divorcing families with a parenting time arrangement can manage without a hitch.

Seems obvious, but it isn't. Not quite. While the example seems logical in the divorce courts of New Jersey, it is *not* the law of the state.

New Jersey law as it's written

Currently, if a custodial parent wants to move with the children from anywhere in New Jersey to another state (even to Manhattan), they must have permission from the non-custodial parent or the approval of the courts. On the other hand, the custodial parent who wants to take the child to Cape May and live in a beach house hours away is not required to seek consent or approval.

That's right. According to state law, one parent can just pick up and move almost 200 miles away without any consent or approval from anyone. This seems to be a quirk in the law that has been calling out to be fixed now for many years. But as of now, the law in New Jersey remains the same.

It is based on the controlling case of *Baures v. Lewis*, which deals with the subject of relocating out of state with children. The law according to *Baures* is clear and calls for the relocating parent to have the following:

1. A good faith reason to move.
2. The move must not be inimical to the best interests of the children.
3. The move must not be motivated by thwarting the other parent's parenting time.
4. The relocating parent must offer the non-custodial parent a compensatory parenting time arrangement. However, said compensating parenting time arrangement does not have to be hour-for-hour to the actual p/t arrangement.

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6 pm at Dress for Success of Morris County which is located at the Madison Community House, 25 Cook Avenue in Madison, or on Thursday, March 29th from 10 am – 12 pm at The Women’s Center at County College of Morris Student Community Center, Davidson Rooms A and B, 214 Center Grove Road in Randolph. Parking is in the blocked area of Lot #7. Refreshments will be served. Register for the one that is located closest to you. Please call or email Susan O’Connor at 973-328-5025, or soconnor@ccm.edu to reserve your spot. We look forward to meeting you!



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The bottom line

So, to move under eight miles away to New York from Ft. Lee, a parent has serious hurdles with which to deal. However, if they opted for Cape May, they could just pack and gas up the car for the 200 mile trip without even consulting anyone.

By Salvatore A. Simeone, Esq., The Simeone Law Group, LLC, Morristown, NJ

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Financial Workshops Coming to the Women’s Center

Are finances something that you avoid, or do you find budgeting very confusing? The Women’s Center and NORWESCAP are sponsoring 5 financial workshops to teach you to become more financially strong and stable. Learn how to put together a financial plan for your household, a budget that will work for you, different ways to save money that you probably never realized, and understanding credit and debt. The workshops will begin Thursday, May 24th and run every Thursday until June 21st. They will start at 10:30 am and end at 12:30 pm. Register soon as this workshop will fill up fast. Please call The Women’s Center at 973-328-5025 or email us at womenscenter@ccm.edu. We hope to see you there.

WC Newsletter

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Mission Statement:
To serve the varied needs of women in their quest for economic self-sufficiency.

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The Women’s Center at CCM is a nonprofit organization serving displaced homemakers, single mothers, and other women. It is sponsored by the **County College of Morris**. The program is funded by the **NJ Division on Women** and the **United Way of Northern New Jersey**. The legal education services are funded by a grant from the **IOLTA Fund of the NJ Bar Foundation** and the **Morris County Bar Foundation**.

REMINDER

FREE LEGAL CLINICS

1st, 2nd, & 3rd WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH
CALL 973-328-5025, OR EMAIL

womenscenter@ccm.edu

FOR AN INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENT

Scholarships Available

Are you a woman who is trying to further your education to enter the job market or advance your career? Are you in need of financial assistance to pay for those classes? The Business and Professional Women of Summit, NJ (BPW) are offering scholarships up to \$1,500. You must live within a 50-mile radius of Summit and complete the application by April 2, 2012. Please come into The Women’s Center if you would like further information or need assistance completing the application.

Career Corner**Careers, Cars, and Doing the Homework**

Lay-off? Reorganization? Downsizing? Any way you look at it, you are without a job and a regular paycheck. Your resumes are out there in cyberspace, you have a strong network of friends and former colleagues helping you. You may be working with a One-Stop Career Center, recently filed with an employment agency, and have joined the Job Club.

If you are looking for a position similar to your last job, short-term training to update your skills may be sufficient. However, if you are seeking to move to a new career field, you will need more formal training, perhaps a certificate, license, or a degree.

Do your homework. Think about shopping for your training as though you are in the market for a car. Most of us would not think about buying a car without arming ourselves with *Consumer Reports* and frequent discussions with friends and colleagues who may have that model.

Head to your local library and locate this excellent career reference book: *Occupational Outlook Handbook* (also available online at www.bls.gov/oco). This book is updated every two years and includes hundreds of occupations, the nature of the work, the training required, sources of further information and related careers. Especially note the employment outlook for your field of interest.

Plan to do an Informational or Research Interview. An informational interview is an opportunity to speak with an individual in your interest area and a means of gathering more “on-the-job” details. It is definitely *not* a job interview and should not be considered as such. The Wisconsin Job Center has an excellent article on “Informational Interviewing” and suggests how to identify people to interview (www.wisconsinjobcenter.org/publications). A list of twenty interview questions can also be found in this article. This website provides many other helpful articles on job readiness, job search, resumes, and interviewing.

Where would I go for training? After you have identified the training required for your field, consider researching educational opportunities through your local community college, four-year colleges, community and professional

Upcoming Job Club Topics

Mar. 2 ABC’s of Successful Job Seekers
 Mar. 16 Health & Wellness
 Mar. 30 Working w/Employment Agencies
 Apr. 13 Demystifying the Job Boards
 Apr. 27 Job Hunting on the Internet
 May 11 What Employers are Looking For
 May 18 Summertime Job Hunting

Job Club meets on alternate Fridays from 10 – 11:30 and is a great way to network and meet other women. All of this free help is available by calling 973-328-5025, or emailing www.womenscenter@ccm.edu and reserving your place.

Donations

The Women’s Center is a non-profit that offers services free of charge. As with many other community programs and businesses in tough economic times, we are in need of monetary donations. Your dollars allow us to provide career counseling, computer classes/labs, legal clinics and workshops to those who would otherwise not have these services available to them. Your donation is tax deductible. Please send all donations to The Women’s Center, 214 Center Grove Road, SCC 115, Randolph, NJ 07869. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



programs, vocational-technical schools, and adult schools. Take time to compare tuition and fees. Keep in mind how many class hours are involved, quality of instructors, availability of classes in day or evening, and whether or not a certificate, diploma, or college credit is awarded.

The time you set aside to explore and research career options and educational opportunities will help to provide a solid path towards your next job or new career.

By Maureen Haggerty – Career Counselor



Women's Center at CCM
Spring 2012 Calendar of Activities

**March**

2 - Job Club: ABCs of Successful Job Seekers
 5,6 – Power Point class
 7,14,21 – Legal Clinic-Individual appointments
 7,14 – Support Group meets
 8,13,15,20 – QuickBooks class
 9,16,24,30 – Intermediate Word class
 12,19,25 – Excel class
 16 - Job Club: Health & Wellness with Holistic Counselor
 20, 29 – Open Houses-Let Us Help you Find your Yellow Brick Road to Success!
 30 – Job Club: Working with Employment Agencies
All weekdays – Computer Lab
Tues-Fri – Career Counseling appointments

April

2,9,16 – Excel class
 3,5 – Excel 1 class
 3 – Legal Workshop: Overview of the Family Law System
 4,11,18,25 – Support Group meets
 4,11,25 – Legal Clinic – Individual appointments
 10 – Rockaway Library Workshop: Overcoming the Age Barrier
 10,12,17,19 – Excel II Class
 13 – Job Club: Demystifying the Job Boards
 13,20 – Intermediate Word class
 24 – Legal Workshop: Case Information Statement
 24,26 – Access class
 27 – Job Club: Job Hunting on the Internet
All weekdays – Computer Lab
Tues-Fri – Career Counseling appointments

May

1 – Legal Workshop: Mediation and Choosing an Attorney
 1,3 – Access class
 2,9,16 – Legal Clinic – Individual appointments
 2,9,16,23,30 – Support Group meets
 8 – Legal Workshop: Child Support, Custody, Enforcement, Schedules, Geographic Limits
 8,14,15,21 – Outlook class
 11 – Job Club: What Employers are Looking For
 15 – Legal Workshop: Post-Matrimonial Relief
 18 – Job Club: Summertime Job Hunting
 22 – Legal Workshop: Financial Aspects of Divorce
 24,31 – NORWESCAP Financial Workshops
All weekdays – Computer Lab
Tues-Fri – Career Counseling appointments

Spring Support Group Starting April 4th

Did you know The Women's Center started a support group back in January? We now have a regular group joining us on Wednesdays at 1 pm, and we have openings for five more individuals to become members. It is a great place to meet others who are facing a variety of personal issues while searching for a job or starting a new career. Members share their stories and support and encourage one another to increase confidence and success in finding the job of their choosing and in their lives overall. If you would like to join us, please call Susan O'Connor at 973-328-5025 or email at soconor@ccm.edu.

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