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Job Skills and Career Workshop Planned for Feb. 21

Session for Laid Off Miners Open to the Public

Macoupin County-More than 30 schools, training programs and employers will attend the career, employment and job skills workshop planned for Thursday Feb. 21 from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Activities Center at the Lake Williamson Christian Retreat Center.

In an effort to help local coal miners who recently lost their jobs due to the closures of Monterey Coal Mine and the Crown II Mine, Macoupin County has joined with several local and state partners to present the workshop.

The workshop, sponsored by Macoupin County Economic Development, the Carlinville Entrepreneurship Center, The Carlinville Job Center, the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Opportunity Returns Program, and the Illinois Department of Employment Security, will feature exhibits by employers, schools, and training programs as well as three educational break out sessions.

Among the employers and schools exhibiting are: Addus Health Care, Aflac, Carlinville Rehab and Health Care, C-1 Truck Driving Training, Express Personnel, Illinois Family Farm, Labor Ready Staffing Agency, Lewis and Clark Community College, Lincoln Land Community College and Truck Driving Training, Metro East Industries, Midwest Technical Institute, National Pipe Trades, SIU-E Ethanol Training program, Springfield Police Department, WSMI and Vatterott College.

The break out sessions, which will run twice from 8:30 to 10 a.m. and from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., are "Tools for a Successful Job Search" by Jerry O' Hare, coordinator of Career Services at Blackburn; "Starting A Business in Illinois" by Art Knippel, director of the Carlinville Entrepreneurship Center; and "Financial Aid Tips and Tools" by Jane Kelsey, director of Financial Aid at Blackburn.

The employer and school exhibits will be open from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The Lake Williamson Christian Retreat Center is located on Illinois Route 4 approximately 2 miles south of Carlinville.

The public is also invited to attend the workshop. For more information about attending the workshop or to make arrangements to set up a school, training program or employer

exhibit, contact Susie Stinnett at The Carlinville Job Center at 217-854-9753 or Susie.stinnett@west-central.org.