July 12, 2013

Tri-Lakes Business Incubator offers Business start-up Support to Furloughed Government Employees

The Tri-Lakes Business Incubator (TLBI) has initiated a program to open up their membership facilities to local Government employees during days when they are furloughed from their Government jobs. Furloughs for Department of Defense civilians begin Monday July 15th, a move that amounts to a 20 percent cut in pay for hundreds of thousands of defense workers over the next three months and will disrupt operations at installations around the country, Pentagon officials warn. The furloughs, which were ordered by Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel to meet mandated budget cuts forced by the sequester, will affect more than 650,000 civilian defense workers.

The Tri-Lakes Business Incubator will provide access to their membership business facilities and will host business training classes run by local volunteers, aligned with the furlough days for local Government employees. The purpose of the “Furlough Friday” classes is to offer business start-up training to allow Government employees to get experience in other career areas that may be of interest to them in the future.

Dr. Alison Brown, the President of the Tri-Lakes Business Incubator, stated: “We started this program at TLBI to show appreciation for the benefit that our local Government partners have provided to the economic growth of the Colorado Springs area. I am excited about the enthusiasm of local business owners who are volunteering their time for the Furlough Friday training programs to pass on business skills that could assist new Entrepreneurs, currently working for the Government, to help further grow our vibrant small business community”.

The first Furlough Friday training class will be run by Tamyra Wallace of Executive Franchise Specialists ([www.executivefranchisespecialists.com](http://www.executivefranchisespecialists.com)) who will give a seminar “"Franchising 101 - Is Franchising Right for Me?" on July 19, 2013. This seminar provides an overview of franchising as an option to self-employment. Tamyra Wallace will review the different types of franchise systems; how to determine the franchise opportunities that best fit your skill sets, investment parameters, goals and objectives; identify approaches for financing a franchise, and provide information on how to thoroughly investigate any franchise company before deciding to commit.

Government employees who wish to take advantage of the TLBI business facilities and start-up business training programs can register at the TLBI web site [www.trilakesbi.org](http://www.trilakesbi.org) .

The Tri-Lakes Business incubator is located in the Tri-Lakes area, north of Colorado Springs. An objective of the Tri-Lakes Chamber of Commerce and Tri-Lakes Economic Development Corporation has been to expand the number of local businesses to provide more employment in the community, allowing residents the option of avoiding the commute to Colorado Springs or Denver. The Tri-Lakes Business Incubator, a 501c3 Non-Profit organization, was established to further develop the Tri-Lakes area business base is by supporting start-ups and home-based business owners and providing services to assist them in growing their businesses and creating employment in the Tri-Lakes region.

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