

Inside JEVS

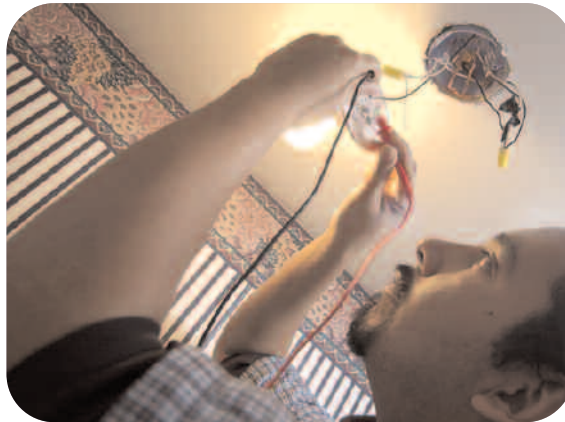
JEVS Human Services • Helping individuals from all walks of life overcome quality of life challenges

Career Education

A Practical Alternative For Better Workforce, Better Lives

Post-secondary career and technical education is an all-win situation. Individuals, families, communities, employers, the economy—everyone benefits. A new or enhanced skill set can be the key to avoiding unemployment, or alter the status quo for individuals working for minimum wage. Indeed, learning a trade can provide a first or second chance at a career, and for some, a second chance in life.

According to the Pennsylvania Association of Private School Administrators (PAPSA), three out of four jobs now require a technical or technological skill. As opposed to traditional academic education, career schools offer students occupationally oriented, hands-on skills training in two years or less so students can enter the job market sooner. Because courses stress training in specialized job requirements, career and



technical education adds marketable skilled labor to the workforce, allowing employers to readily find needed people. The increased earning potential—and consequently increased income—of a stronger labor force improves a region's economy, as more individuals will inevitably spend more dollars and give back via taxes as consumers in their communities.

(Full story continues on p.2)

What's in a Name? A lot.

New Corporate Identity Goes Beyond New Logo, Colors

You may have noticed our new name, JEVS Human Services, and were wondering "why the change, why now?" For more than 60 years, JEVS operated as the Jewish Employment and Vocational Service. For most of our history, we've provided a myriad of critical human services to people from all walks of life in addition to the employment and vocational programs that our old name implied. It was time to make sure that everyone understood our very broad scope of services and our commitment to serving those most in need in our community. We also needed a fresher, more modern look that could symbolize the hope and opportunity that we strive to bring to those we serve.

Over the next few months, you'll notice more changes in the way we talk about our services. For example, in the next year, we will launch a new, more user-friendly web site and publish the third edition of our popular *Guide to Services*. In the meantime, we hope you will help us spread the word about the important work we do at JEVS Human Services. Pass on your copy of *Inside JEVS* to a friend, call us for more information or check us out on the web. You will be surprised about the many positive ways we are "making hope happen."



For more information

JEVS Human Services • 215.854.1800
www.jevshumanservices.org

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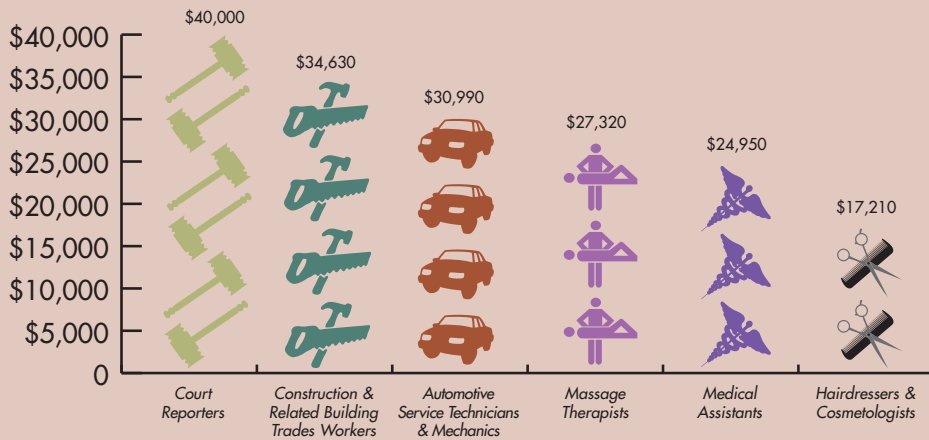
October 14 and 18
JEVS' Orleans Technical Institute
 Open house for new human services training program
 • 215.728.4733

October 16
JEVS Career Solutions for 55+
 Job search information session
 • 215.560.5465 x. 268

November 2
JEVS' Strictly Business
 Annual fund-raising event
 • 215.854.1877

Cover Story: Career Education

Median Annual Wages for Those in Skilled Trades



source: Pennsylvania Center for Workforce Information and Analysis

(Continued from p.1)

For individuals who want specific training to improve their employment opportunities or a quick entry into the job market, career schools provide a practical, productive alternative to a university or community college education. The U.S. Department of Labor projects 80 percent of the jobs created in the next decade will require education beyond high school, but only 20 percent of these jobs will require a four-year degree.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the 2003 median income for individuals who attended a post-secondary school or had some college education (no degree) was \$35,700. This represents a 16 percent difference in earnings as compared to those who had a high school diploma (\$30,800) and 45 percent more than high school dropouts (\$24,600). When compared to individuals with an associate's degree, earnings were only slightly higher at \$37,600.

JEVS Delivers Wanted Skills

JEVS' skills training school, **Orleans Technical Institute (OTI)**, is among a network of 300 career colleges and schools in Pennsylvania that annually prepare more than 70,000 graduates

for employment in a wide variety of business, medical, technical and creative career fields.

Orleans Technical Institute is the only school in the Greater Philadelphia region to offer diploma programs in five major building trades, as well an associate's degree in specialized business (ASB) in court reporting—the only such program in Southeastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware that is approved by the National Court Reporters Association.

Sallie Glickman, CEO of the Philadelphia Workforce Investment Board, explains, "OTI provides a direct pipeline into our regional workforce that we critically need." School director Jayne Siniari adds, "Employers come back year after year for skilled graduates in these high-demand fields."

In 2005, 91 percent of the Orleans Technical Institute's building trades graduates available for placement found jobs in their field of training. Students are hired by a range of employers, from locally based national companies to small, family-owned businesses, or are self-employed general contractors. Building trades and construction was designated by the Pennsylvania

Department of Labor & Industry's Center for Workforce Information and Analysis as a "Targeted Industry Cluster," defined as industries where there is a high and growing demand for skilled employees.

In 2005 OTI's court reporting program enjoyed a 100 percent job placement rate in a field that offers flexibility and good wages. To meet the demand created by so many official court reporters retiring at one time, the Philadelphia Court System developed a special apprenticeship program for graduating court reporters from Orleans Technical Institute. In addition, "real-time" court reporters, or captioners—which are in short supply locally and nationwide—are highly valued by attorneys, the court system, schools, and broadcasting firms.

Career Training Serves Many

Career education also provides a rewarding education alternative for non-college-track youth, dislocated adult workers, individuals on welfare, refugees, ex-offenders, and those who may have few other opportunities to acquire the credentials needed to succeed in a specialized trade, become part of the workforce, and contribute back to their communities.

To enhance students' opportunities for educational and employment success, Orleans Technical Institute offers a number of support services. Federal grants through the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act help make vocational education programs accessible to special populations, as well as fund supplemental services offered at OTI, such as career guidance, academic counseling, remedial classes and other one-on-one supports that assist those overcoming barriers to self-sufficiency.

For more information

Orleans Technical Institute • 215.728.4700

You Can ~~Never~~ Go Home Again

Nursing Home Transition Program Comes of Age

Joan Orfe, 75, Orville Campbell, 45, and William Cardy, 56, have recently left nursing homes and are living independently. Transitioning older adults and people with disabilities out of nursing facilities is a nationwide trend, and in 2005 the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania began piloting its Nursing Home Transition initiative.

"The most important thing is that people being transitioned have a safe discharge," emphasized Donna Boyer, director of community services with **JEVS Supports for Independence**, which operates a Nursing Home Transition program in collaboration with the Commonwealth County Area Agencies on Aging, Liberty Resources and Homemaker Services of the Metropolitan Area (HSMA). JEVS provides Nursing Home Transition assistance to those residing in nursing homes in Bucks County and partners with HSMA in Montgomery County.

"We make sure that the residence provides for the consumer's requirements for safety and accessibility, and that individuals have the supports required, including personal attendants and home modifications as needed," said Boyer. "Our motto is, 'Home, you have a choice.'"

Orfe, Campbell and Cardy are among nine individuals whom JEVS has helped to transition from nursing homes to independent living over the last six months. In addition, there are 14 more nursing home residents whom JEVS is working with in various stages of their transition.

For more information

Supports for Independence 267.298.1300

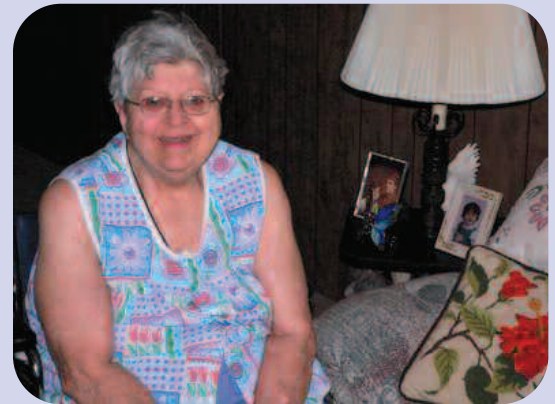
JEVS Provides One-on-one Support

Through its Nursing Home Transition program, JEVS Supports for Independence provides one-on-one support from a coordinator and assists in finding housing, planning the move and setting up the household. JEVS also assists—through funds from the Department of Public Welfare—with expenses, including security deposits and adaptive equipment as needed; and provides referrals to home- and community-based services.

There's no place like home

"I was ready to live on my own again from day one," said Joan Orfe, a resident of North Wales, Pa. After a knee replacement surgery, Joan became a resident in a nursing home for a year. Prior to that she had lived in the place where she raised her children and spent 43 years of her life: her home in the Mayfair section of Philadelphia.

"I've always been independent," said Joan, who is 75. Last June, with assistance from JEVS' Nursing Home Transition program, she was able to move from the nursing home to her own residence where, as she says, "I can do things on my own schedule, when I want to. Everything takes a little more time than it used to," explained Joan, "but ultimately, I feel the same as Dorothy in *The Wizard of Oz*: 'There's no place like home.'"



You have your life back—it's like being reborn

Orville Campbell was his foster brother's personal assistant, through JEVS Supports for Independence, until he had a fall and broke his neck. His brother William Cardy, who in the year 2000 developed a spinal abscess that disabled him, then had to move to a nursing home to receive the care that he needed. During his recovery, Orville was walking to the nursing home to see his brother when he was struck by a car. As a result of this accident, Orville was in rehabilitation in the same nursing home as his brother for a year-and-a-half.



"It's expected that most people will be in the nursing home until they pass away," said Orville. Orville, 45, and William, 56, were among the few younger residents. They were transitioned out of the nursing home by JEVS Supports for Independence and have been living in their apartment since last March. Orville emphasized that he is very happy that "we took the risk and left the structured environment of the nursing home. Being independent gives you a different outlook on life. You have your life back—it's like being reborn."

Making Hope Happen for...

Julius

Life Sharing Arrangement Boosts Julius Over Hurdles

Julius is a winner. He has competed in many events in Special Olympics, including track and field, bowling and basketball, and has won numerous medals. Julius, 40, has severe developmental delays, but he has leapt over hurdles.

Early this year, Julius moved from JEVS' Intermediate Care Facility to an arrangement called Life Sharing, where he lives with a family and receives the support he needs to participate in family life and the community.

"We help to keep him active and involved," said Delores Cooper, Julius's Life Sharing provider. Julius lives with Delores and her husband, and enjoys basketball games; going out to eat (his favorite is Chinese); family dinners with the Coopers, their adult children and grandchildren; and occasional trips to the Jersey shore.

Julius lived in the Intermediate Care Facility for five years, sharing a residence with six other individuals and JEVS staff who worked around the clock. There, he participated in activities as part of a group.

Renea Williams, program manager with **JEVS Community Living and Home Supports (CLHS)**, which offers a variety of residential living options including Life Sharing, identified Julius as a Life Sharing candidate through his participation on the CLHS bowling league. "He was so sociable and friendly," she said, "and now that he is one individual living with one family, he is more outgoing and comfortable with himself."

"Julius visited us for six months before he came to live with us," said Delores, "and now he is part of the family." Julius was quick to smile and nod in agreement with Delores.

Julius attends **JEVS Employment Network** in the Germantown section of Philadelphia from Monday to Friday. In addition to his life skills, pre-employment and art classes, he participates in Community-Based Instruction, where he works with a JEVS trainer and volunteers one day a week for three different organizations. He transports and cleans wheelchairs at Lankenau Hospital in Wynnewood, Pa.; he packs food at Manna's Center City Philadelphia location; and he cleans the toys at Smith Playground in Fairmount Park.

In the past four years since she has worked with Julius, Edith Crowder, program specialist with JEVS Employment Network, has observed that, "Julius has learned to communicate with staff in his own special way."

The skills that Julius has learned at JEVS Employment Network and his newfound self-confidence from his Life Sharing arrangement are working in tandem to help him meet his goals.

"We are also working with Julius to help him learn to become more independent at home," said Renea. "He'd like to eventually be able to take public transportation by himself and become prepared to enter the workforce."

Julius is proud of his success and is quick to demonstrate, with a bent knee and a winner's keen expression, lining up for the track and field event. Then he raises his hands over his head—holding an imaginary ribbon—and shows how he has placed the medals around his neck, again and again.

For more information

Community Living and Home Supports • 215.848.7855
Employment Network • 215.848.6000



Julius enjoys gardening and many other "extracurricular" activities, such as gardening and making a clay plate during a trip to a ceramic studio as part of his art class at JEVS Employment Network-Germantown.

Nov 2, 06

◀ **S M T W T F S** ▶

**Don't Miss the Region's Premier Awards and Networking Luncheon...
JEVS Strictly Business 2006**

JEVS Strictly Business honors businesses that have made extraordinary commitments to the region's workforce, as well as individuals who have overcome significant obstacles on the road to personal and career success.

This year's *Business Leadership Award* recipient is Montgomery County-based Scheerer Bearing Corporation (SBC). For nearly two decades, SBC has hired individuals from the far corners of the globe from **JEVS Center for New Americans**.

Through this partnership, SBC has helped dozens of refugees realize their own American dreams by offering them the opportunity to earn competitive wages.

SEPTA is this year's winner of the *Workplace Solutions Award*. SEPTA began working closely with JEVS' career training school, **Orleans Technical Institute** (OTI), to help meet its need for skilled maintenance workers. SEPTA's recruiters attend OTI's employer advisory committee meetings to ensure that students receive the technical skills needed for success in the workplace. Once employed by SEPTA, OTI grads benefit from the company's

commitment to ensuring the personal and vocational success of its employees. Many SEPTA employees attend OTI to update skills and prepare for promotions.

JEVS will honor two *Inspiration Award* winners this year at Strictly Business, Paul Gordon and Andrew Sargent.

In 1990, Gordon suffered a serious spinal cord injury from a motorcycle accident. While his accident confined his body to a wheelchair, it did not confine his spirit. Gordon went on to marry, earn his master's degree in social work, and become a father of two. Thanks to "behind-the-scenes" in-home supports from **JEVS Supports for Independence**, Gordon leads a full and rewarding life both at home and at work.

After a nearly 20-year-long personal journey through addiction, homelessness and incarceration, Sargent became a counselor at a halfway house where he had previously resided. Realizing that he needed more career opportunities than counseling could provide, he enrolled at JEVS' **Orleans Technical Institute**. Upon graduating, he won the coveted Tradesperson Award in carpentry, and continues to excel in both his career and personal life.

Save the Date!

Thursday, November 2, Noon-1:30 pm

Loews Philadelphia Hotel in Center City

Featuring CBS 3 Meteorologist Kathy Orr

Special Recognition of Orleans Homebuilders





Christopher Burge Strictly Business Scholarship Recipient

Christopher Burge thought he had opportunities for career development with his employer until he received a pink slip with his paycheck. The company was experiencing a client reduction, forcing a cutback in its labor force. After an exhaustive job search he was unable to find anything similar to his previous job and pay rate.

Stepping up to the challenge, Chris desired a career change to residential and commercial electricity. This brought him to JEVS' **Orleans Technical Institute**. At first he was hesitant about going back to school full-time because his family needed his salary so that his wife could be home with the children during the day. That's when Chris received a Strictly Business Scholarship from JEVS, enabling him to pursue career training. He graduated in the top 10 percent of his class, received the Tradesperson Award, and had a perfect attendance record.

Since graduating from Orleans Tech in August 2005, Chris has started his own company: BAT Electric, named after the first initials of his three children. He enjoys the work, which allows him to keep a flexible schedule and spend time with his family. He is still in touch with many of his previous instructors at the school. He knows that obtaining technical skills and entering a new field would not have been possible without the scholarship: "Wherever the money came from, thank you!"

Strictly Business 2006 Sponsors

Proceeds from Strictly Business fund scholarships to JEVS' vocational assessment, job readiness, skills training and career management services for individuals in need.

For sponsorship or ticket information, call 215.854.1827 or visit www.jevshumanservices.org.

Donor Levels

\$5,000 Sponsor

- 8 seats (one table) and company name listed:
- Event table sign, invitation, program, slide show
- JEVS newsletter, web site, annual report
- Pre/post event publicity

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- Event table sign, invitation, program, slide show
- JEVS newsletter, web site, annual report

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- Event table sign, program
- JEVS newsletter, web site, annual report

\$500 Patron

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- Event program
- JEVS newsletter, web site, annual report

\$250 Contributor

- 2 seats and company name listed:
- Event program
- JEVS newsletter, web site, annual report

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JEVS partners with the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia & the United Way of Southeastern PA.

United Way Donor Choice Number: 75

Reducing Risk Behaviors in Families



JEVS Achievement through Counseling & Treatment (ACT) received \$250,000 for “The Family Project,” a substance abuse and HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment program. The program, funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, targets families in which there is a drug-dependent adult in methadone maintenance treatment and an adolescent at high-risk for substance abuse and/or exposure to HIV infection. Additional funding of \$25,000 has been awarded by the W.W. Smith Charitable Trust and will be used to address clients’ basic needs so they can focus on recovery. The strategy of “The Family Project” is to intervene early and intensively with families in order to prevent drug use and HIV-risk behaviors in the next generation.

For more information • 215.236.0100

Training Behind the Walls



JEVS’ twenty years of experience providing short-term vocational skills training programs to inmates behind prison walls through **JEVS Program for Offenders** will continue with an \$800,000 one-year contract from the Philadelphia Prison System. Behind the walls of six correctional facilities—five of which are for men and one for women—JEVS will enroll an estimated 3,000 inmates in one of the following six-week vocational skills training programs: Computer Training, Environmental Maintenance, Building Maintenance, Customer Service, Life Skills, World of Work, and Steps to Success. The goal is to increase the skill level, employability and morale of each inmate who participates in the vocational training program and prepare him/her to enter the workforce upon release.

For more information • 215.685.7115

Keeping the Flame of Hope Alive



The United Nations General Assembly designated June 20 as World Refugee Day to recognize refugees’ achievements in the face of adversity and celebrate refugees’ contributions throughout the world. This year the theme was “Keeping the Flame of Hope Alive” in order to draw attention to refugees worldwide who are forced to flee their homes and rebuild their lives elsewhere. **JEVS Center for New Americans** marked World Refugee Day by participating in a collaborative event at the Arch Street Friends Meeting House, where refugees who’ve settled in this region shared their remarkable and inspiring stories of personal struggle and triumph. JEVS’ participation in the event included a staff person serving as co-chair, an instructor offering personal testimony, and approximately 20 clients attending the event.

For more information • 215.728.4210

Inside JEVS

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Editor • Jeanette Rattle, Senior Communications Manager
Editorial
Kristen Rantanen, Vice President of Communications & Public Affairs
Mindy Bogue, Communications Manager
Ilana Dean-Schmidt, Major Leadership Gifts Director
Marni Honigman, Business Development Specialist
Janet Mason, Communications Manager
Katherine Shinholster, Development Specialist

Design/Production • Amy Weiss, Graphic Designer
Photography
John Bansemer, Laura Hilferty, Janet Mason, Veronica Yankowski
Printing • Southwest Graphics 0906

Inside JEVS has been honored by the Apex Awards for Publication Excellence and the Communicator Awards



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On the Cover



Career Education

A Practical Alternative For
Better Workforce, Better Lives

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

From the Inside Out



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You've finished high school and you aren't sure what is next or maybe you are an adult looking to join the workforce for the first, second or even third time. A university education isn't exactly for you...and you are anxious to start working. You want a job, but not just "any job." You want a good job that offers career possibilities and a wage you can more than just "get by on." Career education—learning a trade—might just be for you.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the difference between the median annual earnings for individuals with no high school diploma and those with just some post-secondary education is more than \$10,000. Clearly learning equals earning.

As you will read in this issue, JEVS Human Services has been in the business of helping people achieve their personal and career goals through vocational education for more than 30 years. While we are proud of our own track record of helping countless individuals get the skills they need to get ahead at our Orleans Technical Institute, we are even more proud to be part of the bigger picture...to be part of the skills solution that strengthens our region's families, labor market and economy.

Jay Spector • JEVS President & CEO

Welcome new board officers Marcia J. Plotkin and Rodger Levenson, and new board members Jack Bienenfeld, Mark Deitcher and Greg H. Goldman.