



MEDIA RELEASE

CT Department of Labor *Communications Office*
Commissioner Scott D. Jackson

Waterbury American Job Center Employees Taking Part in May 3 Financial Reality Fair

WETHERSFIELD, April 21, 2017 – Employees from the Connecticut Department of Labor’s Waterbury *American Job Center* will be at Crosby High School on May 3 to take part in the school’s *Bridge to Success* Community Partnership Reality Fair. The event, sponsored by the *Bridge to Success* Workforce Development workgroup, will run from 8 a.m. to noon.

According to Steve Romano, director for the agency’s Waterbury *American Job Center*, the Financial Reality Fair offers a 2.5 hour “hands-on experience where students, after identifying their career choice and hoped-for starting salaries, are then provided with a budget sheet that requires them to live within their monthly salary while paying for such ‘basic necessities’ as housing, utilities, transportation, clothing and food.”

After visiting a variety of informational booths, the students will balance their budget, and sit down with a financial counselor to review their overall standing and determine how to overcome any challenges.

“The BTS Workforce Development workgroup, in collaboration with the CT Credit Unions, has planned this financial reality fair with the assistance of various organizations, including the Connecticut Department of Labor,” Romano explains. “Our employees look forward to helping out and meeting with the students. We will distribute the agency’s comprehensive *Career Path* publication that offers career strategy tips, job advice and descriptions, information on education and training for various careers, projected wages, and statewide and online resources.” The agency will also provide pocket résumé guides, tote bags, and bookmarks that outline workplace laws and guidelines for school-aged workers.

More than 500 junior and senior high school students enrolled in business classes are scheduled to visit the fair. Crosby High School is located at 300 Pierpont Road.

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