

**Welcome  
to Senior  
Community  
Service  
Employment  
Program  
(SCSEP)**

**Our Mission**

Provide job training and placement for individuals age 55 or older with limited financial resources and to provide employers with trained, motivated workers.

Caritas Family Solutions SCSEP is operated under a USDOL grant and in cooperation with The Center for Workforce Inclusion, Inc. SCSEP is funded by a \$45.2 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor. This funding provides 90% of the support for SCSEP with The Center providing 10% match or \$5 million. The SCSEP Program is an equal opportunity program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

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**From the Manager**



In 1987, Congress declared March as National Women’s History Month in perpetuity. A special Presidential Proclamation is issued

every year which honors the extraordinary achievements of American women.

The achievements, leadership, courage, strength and love of the women who built America was as vital as that of the men whose names we know so well.

In the U.S., the role that women play in business has changed dramatically over the years, with women now owning over 38% of all businesses, totaling over 11.3 million women-owned businesses in our great nation.

So let’s acknowledge National Women’s History Month, but celebrate women all year long!



**Gary D. Woods**  
SCSEP Program  
Manager



## Caritas SCSEP Participants Set to Return to Host Agency Training

The Center for Workforce Inclusion (formerly SSAI), announced in March 2020 that the Department of Labor (DOL) in an effort to maintain safety during the pandemic, was suspending on-site training for SCSEP participants. However, participants continued to receive their allocated wages under a DOL Act that provided Emergency Paid Sick Leave (EPSL) equaling the 20 hours per week at minimum wage SCSEP participants receive; while providing remote opportunities for participants training from home.

One year later, and COVID-19 rates are decreasing nationally; and in Illinois they are at less than 15 cases per 100,000; allowing participants to return to host agency sites.

The Center for Workforce Inclusion will be ending EPSL for participants across the board by March 15, 2021 and shifting to participant training.

Why? The Center's Vice-President for Workforce Development, Christine Garland said, "Other states and national sponsors have already ended EPSL. Our SCSEP functions within a competitive environment

and since other national grantees and programs have achieved the end of EPSL, we should as well. However, participants will be able to continue to train remotely utilizing additional skills training and other resources for use with tech and non-tech participants."



"SCSEP has been a blessing during the COVID-19 pandemic," said Gary Woods, Caritas SCSEP Program Manager. "Our participants have been able to continue to be paid emergency pandemic sick leave while they stayed at home and received remote training. Continuing to receive funds has prevented participants from becoming homeless; and the majority are looking forward to being able to safely return to their training sites where they help local community, faith-based, and public agencies carry out their mission."

**For more information concerning SCSEP, contact 618-688-1180.**

## Host Agency Profile: Madison County Employment & Training

To increase economic opportunity, Madison County Employment & Training (MCET) utilizes partnerships and technology to expand seamless and real-time access to workforce development resources aimed at individuals, employers, and workforce/education partners.



Through partnerships that leverage technology, Madison County Employment & Training realizes a common vision to plan for the economic futures of communities and provide a seamless array of services. MCET offers "no-cost" solutions for both job seekers and businesses to achieve mutual employment goals.



Innovative partnerships span state economic development, workforce development, education agencies, and local workforce innovation boards along with their public and private partners, including local governments, community colleges, and non-profit organizations.

### March Birthdays

Joe Mitchell,  
Robynne Moore,  
and Clarence Williams

