

Job fair can meet the needs of all involved

Friday, January 21, 2011 – *The Kentucky Standard*

The fact that our country's unemployment rate is alarmingly high is no secret. It's getting better, but it has a long way to go before we can say it's good. In the meantime, many Americans are without work or wondering when their unemployment benefits will expire. That's a situation that affects every aspect of one's life, from nourishment to shelter to raising children.

In Nelson County, something curious is happening regarding unemployment. Companies that have open positions are struggling to fill them, according to Nelson County Economic Development Agency President Kim Huston. Although the reasons for this aren't clear, one thing is — employers and those hoping to be employed can get together at the NCEDA job fair 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Feb. 9 at the Bardstown-Nelson County Civic Center, 321 S. Third St.

Applying for a job without the benefit of a face-to-face meeting is sometimes unsettling. You can tell a lot about a business by speaking to its representatives. On the other hand, when you simply mail or e-mail a resume, you can never be sure it gets the attention it deserves. You wait for what seems like an eternity for someone to make a decision that directly impacts your future.

The NCEDA job fair is a chance to take that future into your own hands. If you're without work or looking for a new job, don't sit around waiting for one to fall into your lap. Also, don't rely on unemployment benefits to get you through, because no one knows how long that will last.

If you are with a business that needs quality workers, what better place to find them than a job fair? Even if you don't have open positions now, you can still participate. Employers are not required to have positions immediately available. If they are expecting to expand their business later in the year, they can go ahead and collect resumes at the job fair.

There is no charge for job seekers or employers to participate in the job fair, but employers must register by close of business today, Jan. 21, to reserve a table. Contact Kim Rogers at kimrogers@nceda.net, Kim Huston at kimhuston@nceda.net, or call (502) 348-6402, Ext. 101.

Businesses outside Nelson County but in the Lincoln Trail region can also participate.

Those seeking employment should bring a current resume.

Though the job fair is funded by NCEDA, the Lincoln Career Center in conjunction with the Lincoln Trail Area Development District will be onsite to help with the process and answer questions.

This is an excellent opportunity to seize the moment and start down a new path. It's even free. Don't miss out and let that great job go to someone else.