

About The Center for Living and Learning

The **Center for Living and Learning** is a non-profit organization engaging in programs to aid disadvantaged persons in acquiring and holding stable employment, thus allowing them to become contributing members of society. Since 2001, we have provided successful vocational education to disadvantaged adults and at-risk youth. With over 125 apprentices assisted and counting, our organization has expanded consistently during the last year.

For those not accepted into our apprenticeship program we offer a job search preparation course teaching vital job search skills, including application and interview techniques. We offer:

Apprenticeships
Financial assistance for interview clothing
Job Search Preparation

In addition to our main vocational programs, we also donate to other charitable organizations whose aims align with ours. Further, we offer free web hosting and low-cost website development to other licensed charitable organizations.

Since 2001, we have provided successful vocational education to disadvantage adults and at-risk youth.

Mission Statement

The mission of Center for Living and Learning is to improve lives by assisting individuals transitioning from rehabilitation or with barriers to employment, into the workforce so that they may become contributing members of society.

How We Are Funded

Our charitable programs are funded solely by donations. The primary source of funding is vehicle donations, which we specialize in (we do not use commercial fundraisers, as many other charitable organizations do).

We pick up donated vehicles and sell them. The proceeds go directly to our organization, and the donor can take a tax deduction based on the sale price of the vehicle.

How are donated vehicles monetized?

After pickup, donated vehicles are sold at auction. The purchaser may be a dealer or a licensed vehicle recycler.

Our vehicle donation service provider is an established, registered, licensed and insured national service that meets all local, state and federal legal and environmental requirements. The company is a publicly traded corporation on the NASDAQ stock exchange.

The Elephant in the Room

How much of the money actually goes to charity? 100% of the proceeds go to the Center for Living and Learning, a non-profit organization engaging in programs to aid disadvantaged persons in acquiring and holding stable employment, thus allowing them to become contributing members of society. We provide successful vocational education to rehabilitated criminals, recovering drug abusers and other disadvantaged individuals. For those not accepted into our apprenticeship program we offer a job search preparation course teaching the vital skills of job search, application and interview.

In addition to our main vocational programs, we also donate to other charitable organizations whose aims align with ours. Further, we offer free web hosting and low-cost website development to other licensed charitable organizations.

Our charitable programs are funded solely by donations.

Suggested Interview Questions

How much of the money you make actually goes to charity?

Where do you think the car donation industry is headed?

What makes your company unique among auto donation companies?

Interviews with actual graduates of our program

Common Vehicle Donation FAQ's

What can be donated? We accept cars, trucks, motorcycles, boats and motor homes. Cars, trucks and motorcycles do not need to be in running order. Motor homes and boats must be dropped off at the nearest facility.

Will you accept a vehicle that has not run in years? Yes, a car, truck or motorcycle need not be in running condition.

Is there any cost to the donor? No-in most cases we provide free towing.

Is the donation tax deductible? Yes a car donation is tax deductible. We will provide all necessary documentation as required by federal law.

What are legal guidelines for IRS vehicle donation tax deductions? Excerpted from the article "IRS Officials Urge Care for Those Making a Car or Truck Donation; New Law Changes Rules for 2005":

"As tax payers plan their charitable giving, donors should understand the way that the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 will alter the rules for the contribution of used motor vehicles after Dec. 31 2004.

"In 2005, if the claimed value of the donated motor vehicle exceeds \$500 and the item is sold by the charitable organization the taxpayer is limited to the gross proceeds from the sale.

"Under the new 2005 rules, the charitable organization must provide an acknowledgement to the donor within 30 days of the sale stating the amount of gross proceeds."

(To view this article in full, see [Publication 4302, "A Donor's Guide to Vehicle Donations"](#).)

The Center for Living and Learning is a 501(c)3 charity. Our charitable tax ID is 95-4406897. The IRS can be called at 877-829-5500 for more information. Donors with questions about whether a contribution is tax deductible should call the IRS at 1-800-829-1040 or, for TTY/TDD help, 1-800-829-4059.

How will the value of a donation be determined? As of 2005, if the claimed value of the donated motor vehicle exceeds \$500 and the vehicle is sold by the charitable organization, the taxpayer is limited to the gross proceeds from the sale for his deduction.

What documentation is received for a donation? We will provide a receipt acknowledging the tax-deductible charitable donation of a vehicle, as required by the IRS.

How are donated vehicles monetized? After pickup, a donated vehicle will be sold at auction. The purchaser may be a dealer or a licensed vehicle recycler.

Our vehicle donation service provider is an established, registered, licensed and insured national service that meets all local, state and federal legal and environmental requirements. The company is a publicly traded corporation on the NASDAQ stock exchange.

Actual Client Testimonials



“I started working in the apprenticeship program in October of 2003. At the time I was still in a drug rehabilitation program having come from jail. When I began working here I was a felon and recovering drug addict with no home, no car and few job skills. During the time I have spent working here, I have gained the skills and attitude I need to succeed in the world. I now have a bank account, a car and a place to live. I received training in office clerical work, customer service, computer skills and management during my time here. Most of all I am grateful for the self respect and sense of accomplishment this place has given me.” Brian

“Before I started working here, I was working with my father in construction. When I first got released from prison, I tried looking for jobs. It was real hard for me; nobody would hire me because of my background and still being on parole. I was tired of working in construction. When I applied for the apprenticeship program, I got a chance to prove what I'm capable of doing. I have worked here for over a year, and built the self-esteem and will to complete my parole, get my license and buy my first vehicle.

Working in this program, I have been learning how to use a computer. I have learned management skills and also to control my anger. I have been given the chance to go to GED classes on the weekend. I have built the confidence to look for other jobs without worrying about my old background.” Richard

“I have struggled with drug addiction for many years. My life had become totally unmanageable. I had lost contact with my family, and could no longer hold a job. My life consisted of drug use on a daily basis. I was totally miserable feeling like my life would never amount to anything. There was no hope for a

bright future for me. Then I started getting arrested to top off the total mess. I started going to jail on a regular basis I really thought things would never change for me.

In June 2001 I was sentenced to 16 months in prison where I served one year. While I was in prison I was put in a drug program. One of the benefits of the program in prison was going into a residential treatment center when I paroled. On April 9, 2003, I paroled to a treatment center in North Hollywood. That was the beginning of my life totally changing in ways I thought mine never could. As time went by in that treatment center, I started feeling better about myself due to going to groups meetings etc. After being in that treatment center for three months it was time to look for work.

Although I was feeling so much better about myself, better then I'd ever felt in my whole life, looking for work was a very scary thing. I went out every day looking for work with no luck. This was becoming very discouraging for me. I felt like I would never get a job. There are not a lot of employers out there who want to give drug addicts or parolees a chance. After quite some time of looking for work my case worker at that treatment center I went through, told me about this program. I started the Apprenticeship Program August 8, 2003. I totally believe in this Apprenticeship Program and what it can do for people who are trying to change their lives. Since I've been here I've learned so much. I've been given the tools and skills to leave here and get a decent job.

Currently this is what's going on in my life. I now have almost three years clean and sober. I manage a sober living house with twelve women. I've been discharged off parole, my family is back in my life and I have a driver's license and a car with insurance too. Some of these might not sound like such a big deal but to someone who was wasting their life away on drugs for years these things are huge. Also I have confidence and feel so much better about myself. I'm truly grateful to that treatment center, and for this Apprenticeship Program. My life has totally turned around, and is better then I ever could have imagined. Also, this Apprenticeship Program is currently helping me get my GED. I really can't say enough about this program and what it's done for me.”
Rhonda

“I am a part of the apprenticeship program. Today I am the administrative assistant; however, I did not start out this way. Prior to working here I could not fax or e-mail, because I did not know how. Today I work with Excel to do most of my work and I also work with QuickBooks Accounting software. It is a powerful tool I have learned to use since working here. I have also learned how to do payroll for the company. I am very proud to have obtained such useful skills during my apprenticeship.

Before working here I had just finished a six-month drug treatment program. Basically, I was hopeless as to what the future held for me. I had nothing but a

bag full of clothes and a small amount of hope to stay clean and sober. I was living in a home called sober living, with no aim or direction until I started working here. I began to have goals and a sense of achievement and self-esteem.

Today I am proud to have over two years clean and sober. I have moved out of sober living and into my own apartment. I got my driver's license and a car since working here as well. Also, now I am a part time student at Pierce College. I am working on an Addiction Studies degree. I must say that this job has been one of the best opportunities of my life. I cannot imagine where I would be, if not for this program." Naomi

Contact Information

The Center for Living and Learning can be contacted at:
14549 Archwood Street #221
Van Nuys, CA 91405
818-781-1073
<http://center4living.org>
Maria Alexander, Director
Rhonda@center4living.org

