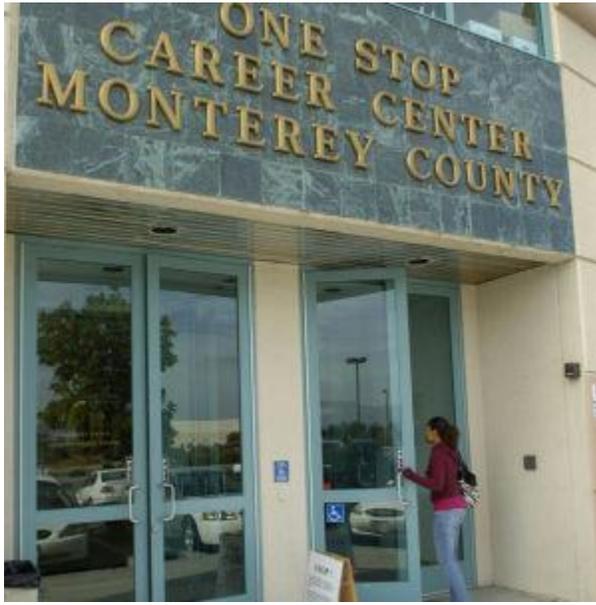


County wins grant to support worker training, considers buying Capital One building.



America's Job Center of California, which was formerly called the One Stop Career Center, will use grant funds to train 65 workers seeking employment.

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Around the time [Capital One management was laying off 869 Salinas workers](#), they were opening a new credit card processing facility in Sioux Falls, S.D. It was May 2012, and Salinas was still reeling from the worst of the recession.

By June 2013, all the workers had lost their jobs. About the same time, River Ranch Fresh Foods closed its Salinas operations, slashing 171 administrative, processing, and shipping jobs.

The state awarded the Monterey County Workforce Investment Board (WIB) \$875,000 to help train and re-employ workers.

The grant is expected to help the WIB provide services to 160 individuals, 65 of whom will receive [job training services through America's Job Center of California \(formerly called the One-Stop Career Center\)](#).

A [state audit in 2011](#) found the WIB had misspent federal stimulus money on training programs that were redundant.

CSU Monterey Bay's Small Business Development Center [received a \\$72,000 federal grant](#) in January to support training and networking for the laid-off Capital One workers.

“We have been working on this grant application since October 2013,” WIB Executive Director Joyce Aldrich said in a statement. “Due to state budget cuts over the past several years, we currently have very limited resources to serve the businesses and laid-off workers of Monterey County.

“We simply could not afford to retrain these workers if we didn’t receive this grant. This funding will support the retraining of workers so they can continue to provide for their families through what is going to be a very difficult transition.”

Workers looking for jobs are welcome to call 796-3600 to connect with the Office of Employment Training.

Meanwhile, the county is considering buying the Capital One building on Schilling Place in Salinas.

County officials will hold a community meeting tonight, Thursday June 5, from 5-7pm in the county government center at 168 West Alisal St. to outline their business interest in acquiring the building, and welcome public input.