

October 19, 2017

Dear Business Partner,

As you know, the recent hurricanes in Puerto Rico, Texas, and Florida have displaced many fellow citizens. Hurricane Maria especially had a devastating effect on Puerto Rico.

As a result, numerous Puerto Rican residents must seek employment on the mainland to support their families. There is a large number of families of Puerto Rican heritage in the greater Holyoke, Chicopee, and Springfield area, and it's expected that numerous friends and relatives will be relocating here to be with families and to start new lives.

Many of these citizens have rich work histories and come with a wide variety of talents and skills. However, English language fluency is not universal, and it is expected that many of those relocating here will not be able to converse in or read English well.

There are several local efforts being initiated to offer relocation support for those who probably will soon be arriving. One of the most important needs is to find suitable and sustaining employment. To assist with this effort we are trying to identify organizations and businesses that are able and willing to hire non-English speakers who at this time are relocating Spanish speaking citizens.

If your company or organization has a history of hiring non-English speakers, or is willing to become one, we'd very much like to hear from you. CareerPoint is creating a list of potential employers to whom qualified and skilled job applicants can be referred.

If you have questions or if you are open to hiring non-English speakers, particularly Spanish speakers, please let Yolanda Ruiz-Klopfer know. Her contact information is yruiz@careerpointma.org, or 413-322-7136. Thank you very much.

Cordially,



David Gadaire
President and CEO



Yolanda Ruiz-Klopfer
Business Accounts Director