



NEWS

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**LaBrea Bakery:
GRANT PROVIDES FRESH EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

Deptford Twp. – Gloucester County College is pleased to announce a \$71,400 New Jersey Department of Labor & Workforce Development Training grant has been awarded to LaBrea Bakery of Swedesboro.

Through a customized training grant, which runs until August 2010, employees receive specialized instruction in areas such as English as a second language, lean manufacturing, business communications, team effectiveness, problem solving, and leadership for results. All 380 LaBrea employees will receive on-site training to enhance their technical, leadership and language skills. During the training sessions, LaBrea Bakery will be investing more than \$114,900 in employee wages, emphasizing the company's commitment to improving the advancement of their workforce. The grant, developed in partnership with Gloucester County College's Continuing Education Division, makes all courses available through the College's Business and Industry Training (BIT) Center.

“We are excited to be able to provide additional training and development opportunities for our employees through the grant,” said LaBrea Bakery Human Resources Manager Sally Switzer. “Our on-going relationship with Gloucester County College's Business and Industry Training Center has enhanced our ability to train in many areas of the business. We look forward to working with them to best utilize the customized training grant.”

“LaBrea Bakery makes some of the region's most wonderful breads. The Department of Labor & Workforce Development grant will help to expand employee skills and assist the company as it continues to grow and prosper,” said Freeholder Director Stephen M. Sweeney.

“This training grant provides a wonderful opportunity for LaBrea Bakery to use the many business and industry resources available at Gloucester County College,” stated College President Dr. Russell A. Davis. “We are excited about assisting in this important partnership.”

Liaison to the County’s Department of Education and Department of Economic Development Freeholder Joseph A. Brigandi Jr. said, “Providing LaBrea employees with educational opportunities to better assist in their jobs is not only a plus for the workers and the company but also benefits consumers as a whole. Working smarter is more efficient, reducing costs and improving product quality.”

The College’s BIT Center, located on Kings Highway (Route 551) in West Deptford, allows area employers and employees to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary for today’s workplace. Seminars and training programs are designed to maintain and improve workers’ skills and productivity. For more information, please contact the BIT Center at (856) 384-8511.

GCC’s 250-acre campus is located on Tanyard Road in Deptford, just off Exit 56 of Route 55.