DAEDF, NationJob to expand employee search

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DUNCAN — Job seekers may have an easier time finding careers in Duncan through a collaborative effort of the Duncan Area Economic Development Foundation and NationJob.

On Thursday, NationJob and DAEDF made a presentation to employers about the use of the NationJob program to find employees outside the Duncan area. Lyle Roggow, DAEDF president, said Duncan's low unemployment rate, which sits about 4.2 percent, makes it more difficult to find qualified people to fill various positions in the Duncan community. By using NationJob, the goal is to bring more people into the area to fill those positions.

"Because we have a very, very low unemployment rate, we had to look at what we can do," Roggow said.

NationJob is a job search/networking program in direct competition with Monster and Career Builders. To get as many Duncan employers involved as possible, DAEDF is footing the bill for NationJob for the first year. After that time, it will be up to individual employers to renew.

Ralph Hejlik, NationJob CEO, spoke to more than 30 people at Red River Technology Center. Hejlik said NationJob is another avenue people can take to fill positions, but isn't the only opportunity.

"We have this program all over the nation," Hejlik said. "It allows our companies to expand their recruitment reach beyond their local area. This program works well in small communities as well as large communities. We know job seekers seek jobs in many different ways. We do the work. You don't touch it."

He said NationJob is just one way to look for employees. But he said there is still a need for advertising in newspapers and other methods for employees to extend their reach.

NationJob has been around since 1988, and works in communities throughout the nation. Hejlik said the organization started in kiosks, but has since grown because of the Internet, most notably search engines.

"I'm not saying NationJob is your sole recruitment source," Hejlik said. "Anyone saying that to you is lying. Companies use multiple recruitment sources."

Roggow said the introduction of NationJob to the Duncan community will help grow the labor pool in Duncan, while helping companies and businesses fill open positions. He said the goal is to help those companies find the qualified people they need.

"We'll be able to see how many jobs are right here," Roggow said. "It will all be right there. We'll see how we can recruit individuals. Let's move forward and give it a chance."

 $\hbox{- See more at: http://www.duncanbanner.com/local/x1667066748/DAEDF-NationJob-to-expandemployee-search\#s than LHL miJH.dpuf} \\$