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Fulton FOC Bridge Program

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Spotlight Funder

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Fulton FOC clients get hands-on work experience

Greater Fulton's Financial Opportunity Center, located at the Neighborhood Resource Center (NRC), recently launched a program to give FOC clients on-site work experience.

The bridge program began as a way to offer specific skill set training to clients already enrolled in FOC services.



Ms. Fredrika Simpson gets experience as the front desk receptionist at the NRC. Photo: Killeen King, LISC communications coordinator.

"The program gets our participants, especially those who have been out of the work force, acclimated to working and gives them skills and tools that they can add to their resumes," said Ashley Patrick, the FOC program director and financial coach.

Right now the three-month pilot bridge program has two participants that are receiving skills and training in office administration--customer service, Microsoft Office, dual phone lines

and other administrative tasks. But the hope is to eventually expand the programming to include training in other fields at the NRC like gardening and experience running after-school programming.

So far the participants have found the pilot program helpful.

"This is the best opportunity to help me launch my career because it has given me the work experience I need," said Ms. Fredrika Simpson.

Simpson said the receptionist skills she is learning through the training program can be applied to any number of jobs.

"The FOC has been great in helping me manage my finances and do my taxes and now this training program is helping boost my resume for job applications," she said.

April is financial capability month and Virginia LISC is proud to support family financial stability through our three FOCs located in Greater Fulton, Richmond's Northside and in Petersburg. For more information on the FOCs, contact Virginia LISC program officer Ebony Walden at 804.505.4697 or ewalden@lisc.org.

