



Leo Hudson takes advantage of the Job Fair held at King School to find out about procedures and openings for state employment. Hudson

gets information from Gail Kellerman, Asst. Personnel Officer for Workers Compensation Department. Photo by Richard J. Brown

Job Fair Held at King School

by Jerry Garner

Last Wednesday, a job information fair was held at the Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School in Northeast Portland. The job fair gave the public an opportunity to learn about state jobs, proper application procedures and current openings and recruitment programs. The job information fair was co-sponsored by the Oregon Department of Transportation, the Urban League of Portland, the Urban Indian Council, and the International Refugee Center.

Other participants at the job fair were: PTS Business Development Center, Department of Human Resources, Department of Energy, Oregon Liquor Control Commission, Bureau of Labor & Industries, Public Employees Retirement System, Oregon Health Sciences University, Water Resources, Multnomah County, City of Portland Police Department, City of Salem, Private Industry Council, International Air Academy, and the Internal Revenue Service.

During the seven-hour event, potential employees met individually with personnel and affirmative action staff personnel. According to a spokesperson with the Oregon Department of Transportation, more than 800 people attended the job fair last year at King School. Attendance for this year's job information fair weren't available.

The fair is an attempt by employers to reach out to women and minorities in an effort to make them aware of job opportunities and training programs that are available to them. PTS Business Development Center, a Portland based minority business enterprise consultant and training center, was one of the participants in the job fair offering information to minorities and women about careers in highway construction.

PTS offers an on-the-job training program in federally aided highway construction projects. Pre-entry training is provided for apprenticeship or trainee programs, approved by the state Bureau of Labor and Industries, in all highway construction crafts or trades. PTS programs also provide training to apprentices and trainees already in approved programs.

James L. Posey, a spokesman for PTS, said special emphasis will be on indenturing placing recipients of these services in carpentry, equipment operation, teamster, and ironworker crafts and trades. Posey said emphasis will be on the retention of apprentices and trainees on highway construction contractor's workforces.

"PTS Development Center has what it believes is a straightforward approach in placing minorities and women in construction jobs. PTS will make the aggressive effort to seek and identify the best minorities and the best women for jobs," Posey said.