Pima County’s Sullivan Jackson Employment Center (SJEC) was founded in 1986 to respond to the employment and training needs of homeless men and women entering the workforce. SJEC is the only program of its kind in Arizona and one of a handful of such programs in the nation. Primarily supported by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development funding, SJEC has been a pioneer in developing effective approaches to assist homeless individuals and families seek and maintain self-sufficiency.

THE GOALS OF THE CENTER ARE:
• To increase the skill levels of homeless participants seeking full-time employment
• To provide extended job training opportunities to homeless participants, especially youth
• To work within the continuum of care to provide transitional opportunities to working men, women and families
• To provide post-placement supportive services or aftercare to enhance job retention and career advancement

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES
• Intake and assessment
• Employability skills training
• Self-directed job development and placement
• Specialized case management support services for employment-bound participants
• Extended training opportunities to enhance employment options
• Aftercare/job retention case management program

PROGRAM LOCATION
The employability skills instruction and job development portions of the program are located at 400 E. 26th St. Locations for skills training vary and may include:
• Pima Community College campuses and learning centers
• Charter schools and alternative education programs that serve homeless youth
• Private vocational schools and colleges
• On-the-job training sites and apprenticeship programs

Employability Skills Training
Support Services
Self-Directed Job Development
COMMUNITY NEED
A leading cause of homelessness is the inability of poor people to acquire and/or maintain employment skills necessary for meaningful employment and affordable housing. Those who are unemployed due to lack of skill are most vulnerable to becoming homeless. The ability to maintain a decent job is critical to preventing homelessness. However, the barriers to job search for a homeless person can be almost insurmountable, and for those with marginal skills or experience, employment opportunities are limited. Obtaining a decent job and the ability to maintain that employment is the necessary and critical final step that a homeless person must take to return to mainstream society. The ongoing support of a comprehensive employment program is crucial to help this population overcome multiple employment barriers and succeed in the world of work.

This is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.