

SLUG: PROJECT HIRE  
DATE: 4/16/13

WRITER: LUCI LOPEZ

TIME: 2:30

ANCHOR LEAD:

SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE HOSTED A KICK-OFF CELEBRATION FOR PROJECT HIRE – A 1.25 MILLION DOLLAR GRANT HELPING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES SUCCEED IN COLLEGE.

HERE’S LUCI LOPEZ WITH MORE.

Time: 9 sec	INTRO:
Time: 10 sec	PROJECT HIRE – HELPING INDIVIDUALS REACH EMPLOYMENT – CELEBRATED YEAR TWO OF ITS FIVE YEAR GRANT DESIGNED TO ASSIST STUDENTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.
Time: 24; 15 Gfx= Ron Garza DRS Region V Operations Director, DRS Project HIRE	SEVERAL COMMUNITY PARTNERS, INCLUDING SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF ASSISTIVE AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES, RECOGNIZED COHORT ONE FROM PROJECT HIRE’S FIRST YEAR.  >>Take Ron Garza<<  “Even before they began classes at STC, they did an intensive summer training program and just preparing them for the world of college. In our field of working with disabilities and vocational rehabilitation, the big term is “transition.” What we needed to do was transition them from high school students to college students. Even before they took a class they were totally focused on what was going to make them successful students.”  >>Take Paul Hernandez<<  “Not only were we celebrating our first cohort group, which was very successful this past year, but we’re welcoming the second cohort group, which is going to double the size of the program. They’ve accomplished a lot of things. They have a very high GPA, which is a 3.1. That is a very good average; it’s actually higher than our traditional student. So, it’s showing that the support these students receive has worked, and we’re going to continue to support these students and expand the program to reach out to more students.”
Time: 35;12 Gfx= Paul Hernandez Dean of Student Services, South Texas College	
Time: 7 sec	THIS COLLABORATIVE EFFORT WILL OPEN NEW DOORS FOR THESE STUDENTS WHO SEE CAREERS IN CULINARY

	ARTS AND OFFICE MANAGEMENT.
Time: 25; 27	>>Take Hernandez<<  “We have DARS, UTPA, Easter Seals, CAAG, that are very involved, the commission of the blind. It’s a partnership of all these state agencies coming together to focus on what we do well. Any time we can work collaboratively and we can work in helping students be successful, this is where we can maximize our resources.”
Time: 18;20	>>Take Garza<<  “I myself have served on all kinds of teams and alliances and coalitions, but this one it’s truly one of a kind because every partner is such an equal portion. There’s accountability across all partners. Everybody is focused on making the students successful, so that’s definitely what sets it apart.”
Time: 5 sec	FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT PROJECT HIRE VISIT D-R-S PROJECT HIRE DOT COM
Time: 3 sec	THIS HAS BEEN THE SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE JAGWIRE COMMUNITY REPORT.
Total: 2:30;00	###