



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

“Promoting Student Awareness through Job Shadowing”

Job Shadowing for Students; “Job shadow, a career exploration activity, is an organized visit in which students observe the workday of a professional at his/her worksite. Throughout the day, students get a “day in the life” perspective through interacting with clients or customers, as well as attending meetings and other appointments with the host. Students will expand their **awareness** of careers and work environments, make connections and observe how employees apply job-specific skills.” (Emphasis added)

Source: Santa Barbara County Education Office; Regional Occupational Program / Career Technical Education (ROP/CTE)

Premise: One of the more pressing challenges facing society is having the skill set of the labor force meet the requirements of the job market. This very much applies to our youth.

Rotary can help address this challenge through facilitating job shadowing for high school students who may be interested in exploring vocational (or “industrial technology”) careers.

Why Rotary is well-suited for this role:

--In every community, Rotary Club members are among its leaders, and know their community’s other leaders in various types of organizations; **business, education, civic, non-profit** (think of these organizations as potential “**Host Businesses**”).

--Rotary’s primary purpose is to serve.

--Rotary International is putting special focus on Vocational Service.

--Facilitating job shadows draws mostly on the resources Rotary has in plentiful supply: e.g. time, energy, and connections.

--Resources in relatively short supply are not (or minimally) required; e.g. money.

How It Works—4 steps:

1. Source **identifies and refers** a potential Host Business and notifies Solvang Rotary, using form on website (www.solvangrotary.com)

2. Solvang Rotary contacts/visits Business, explains basic program (**including that the Business will not incur compensation costs or liability**), and obtains its willingness to be contacted by Santa Barbara County Education Office (“County Office”).

3. Solvang Rotary sends **pre-qualified** Business information to County Office, which then contacts the Business to verify and assure understanding of procedures and responsibilities of the program.

4. County Office **enrolls** the Business as a **Host**, and coordinates with SYV High School to **connect the Host Business with students.**