



DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY
Your Partner For A Stronger Arizona

News Release

Clarence H. Carter, Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 12, 2012

MEDIA CONTACT
Tasya Peterson
602-542-5204
TasyaPeterson@azdes.gov

DES hosts Mesa City Councilmembers at new Multi-Service Center in downtown Mesa

PHOENIX – DES Director Clarence Carter will host members of the Mesa City Council, along with staff members from Mesa City Manager’s Office and Harrison Properties for a tour of the new DES Multi-Service Center located in downtown Mesa on Thursday, September 13, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

The 100,000--square-foot facility opened on July 2 and will consolidate five Mesa-based DES offices into one office space, thus allowing DES to better serve its consumers and reduce state lease costs.

“We are pleased at the interest the City of Mesa has shown in our new facility and the work we are doing to serve our East Valley consumers more efficiently and effectively,” said Director Clarence Carter. “It’s truly a win-win situation for all involved when government teams with local developers to re-purpose buildings for beneficial public services.”

The building formerly housed the *Mesa Tribune* paper operations and has been vacant for many months. The site will eventually house more than 300 DES staff and draw several hundred clients annually to downtown Mesa.

The new multi-service center will house several DES services under one roof, including rehabilitation services, employment services, child care, developmentally disabled, assistance for the collection of child support, and Child Protective Services. In 2013, Medicaid, food stamps, and cash assistance eligibility will join the center.

“By placing several divisions under the same roof, we create synergies and efficiencies that didn’t exist before,” said Director Carter. “This effort also supports my vision of a person-centric delivery mechanism for Arizona’s safety net services. It is the Department’s goal to reduce consumers’ dependency on the system while simultaneously supporting them on a path towards self-sufficiency.”

The Mesa Multi-Service Center is just one of many located around the state. Last week, DES opened a Multi-Service Center in Casa Grande. Developers also recently broke ground on a new Safford Multi-Service Center that DES will occupy (along with local community partners) with an expected completion date of April 2013.

###