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Bridgeport

Job seeker survey: Unemployment still a problem

The Bridgeport Child Advocacy Coalition and Career Resources Inc. have released the results of an annual survey of job seekers and found that many still struggle to meet basic needs.

Nearly half of all respondents — 47.5 percent — had been laid off from their last jobs and have been unemployed for a year or more. Only 17 percent of respondents were receiving unemployment benefits, officials said.

“The results of the survey tell a clear story — five years into this recession, children and families in our community are still hurting,” said Mary Pat Healy, executive director of BCAC.

Just over half of the respondents reported incomes of \$15,000 or less, officials said, while 29 percent of the respondents had run out of savings. One of three said they were cutting back on meals.

The survey was taken among 536 job seekers at the Career Resources Job Fair held at Housatonic Community College in March.

For a summary of the survey results, go to: www.bcacct.org.

— lclambeck@ctpost.com