DATE: February 23, 2016

TO: LA's Workforce Development System

FROM: Robert Sainz, Assistant General Manager
Economic and Workforce Development Department

SUBJECT: WDS INFORMATION BULLETIN No. 16-04
DIVERSITY JOB AND CAREER FAIR, FOCUSED ON TRANSGENDER JOB SEEKERS, JUNE 2016, LOS ANGELES CITY COLLEGE CAMPUS

EFFECTIVE DATE
This bulletin is effective upon date of issuance.

PURPOSE
The purpose of this bulletin is to provide information and solicit participation of the City of Los Angeles Workforce Development System’s WorkSource/America’s Job Centers of California and YouthSource Centers regarding the Diversity Job and Career Fair scheduled for June, 2016 at the Los Angeles City College campus.

This job fair is focused on serving transgender individuals who are job seekers. A working/planning group has been formed to develop this event.

The WDS System providers are expected to:

- Participate and assist in the planning and execution of this event.
- Refer transgender job seeker candidates and interested employers to the event.
- Participate in the transgender basic cultural competency toolkit training.

Please email the name, title and contact information of your Center’s representative who will participate in the planning group to lacitywib@lacity.org by Friday, March 4, 2016.

BACKGROUND
Several national surveys have substantiated that transgender individuals face unemployment at a level estimated to be at least twice as high as the national unemployment rate. Further, the unemployment rates of minority transgender individuals, especially those who are African-American, are twice as high as the overall transgender unemployment rate.
Economic insecurity is also pervasive in the transgender community, and the homelessness rate of transgender individuals is four times the national average.

The proposed Diversity Job and Career Fair at Los Angeles City College is being modeled on the successful annual job fairs conducted by Transgender Economic Empowerment Program (TEEP) for the City of West Hollywood, which draw a significant number of participating employers and job seekers. In addition, the Mayor’s Office has been very supportive of the City of Los Angeles taking a lead in increasing workforce development services to this job seeker population.

Prior to the job and career fair, WorkSource Center and YouthSource Center case managers, as well as employers, will be offered on-site training in the utilization of a Transgender Youth Employment Toolkit developed by the LA LGBT Youth Center on Highland. While the toolkit is geared to the employment of older youth and young adults, it provides an understanding of the basic cultural competencies required to effectively serve the multifaceted transgender community.

This training instrument is one of the deliverables of a “Return 2 Work” Accelerator Grant the UCLA – Community Based Learning/Central Los Angeles YouthSource Center and the LGBT Center’s Youth Center received from the California Workforce Development Board in 2014, with the support of the City’s Workforce Development Board (WDB). The WDB has allocated funding to continue support of the work of the Return 2 Work activities.

**EWDD CONTACT**

If you have any questions regarding this event, please contact the Workforce Development Board at lacitywib@lacity.org or (213) 744-7164, TTY (213) 744-9395.

RS:DE