News for the Week of May 6, 2019

THIRTY-FIVE EMPLOYERS, 150 PARTICIPANTS ATTEND SOUTHEAST LA WSC JOB FAIR

Approximately 150 job seekers attended a job fair hosted May 2, 2019 by the Southeast Los Angeles WorkSource Center, operated by EWDD partner Watts Labor Community Action Committee (WLCAC). In total, 46 booths set-up at WLCAC's Phoenix Hall for the job fair, including 35 employers and service providers, some of which were offering positions, said Elton Blake, Executive Director of Employment and Training Services at the Southeast LA WSC. “A lot of people showed up,” he said. Initially set-up as a job fair for veterans, the job fair was expanded to include job seekers at large, he said. A wide range of employers were present, offering jobs in construction, the automotive and aerospace industry and government sector. Truck driver services company ProDrivers has hired up to 50 drivers from the center’s job fairs in the past six years.
job seekers from the Southeast LA WSC job fairs in the past six years, said Virginia Montana, Driver Relations Specialist. ProDrivers has had a lot of success with the WorkSource Center’s participants and has helped provide direction for job seekers who were uncertain what career path to take while seeking work, Virginia said. “We’re the stepping stone for them, if they’ve been out of the workforce for a long time,” she said. ProDrivers supports the City’s WorkSource system because, “It’s a great cause,” she said. “That’s the goal. There are opportunities for people. There’s work available.”

ONE YEAR LATER – TARGETED LOCAL HIRE ATTAINS CIVIL SERVICE STATUS AT HCID

From the moment Tyren Brown started working part-time for the City of Los Angeles, he searched an opportunity to join the City full-time. Today, Tyren is a full-time Admin Clerk with civil service status, thanks to the Targeted Local Hire Program (TLHP), which is designed to help under-served and under-employed Angelenos find an alternative pathway to civil service careers at the City. In partnership with the City’s Personal Department, EWDD has processed nearly 8,600 TLHP applicants at nine WorkSource Centers that are approved application sites. Approximately 505 positions have been filled to-date, including clerical, vocational and custodial jobs at various City departments. The TLHP placed Tyren at the Housing and Community Investment Department (HCID), where his daily duties include reviewing
complaints and scheduling visits so inspectors can check buildings to make sure residents have hot water, electricity and gas, the necessary accommodations to make housing livable, he said. “My services also provide a contributing factor to making sure that properties stay low income for certain people so that they can afford to stay there,” he said. His efforts work toward “Reducing homelessness, making it to where there are more properties that are affordable for people who don’t make enough.” Working at the City makes him feel that he is part of a group of people whose lives are dedicated to providing services to local residents. “It kind of gives me a sense of pride,” Tyren said. “I feel like I now have become an added link in the chain to strengthen that. I feel like my contributions are maybe not as great but they are of some positive nature. It brings me a lot of joy to know that I’m helping some people.” Before joining the TLHP, Tyren worked part-time at the City for two years as a Special Programs Assistant, where he worked on graffiti removal, waste removal, painting, electrical work and other odd jobs, he said. At age 41, Tyren said he appreciates working in an office environment after years of working outdoors. He looks forward to promoting and is appreciative of the opportunities the TLHP has opened for him. “It’s been an awesome feeling for me,” he said. “I feel like the program is an excellent program. It is definitely helping the community. I hope it stays around to continue helping the community and helping people get into the City who would like to pursue a career with the City of Los Angeles.” Tyren said he received a lot of guidance toward the TLHP from his former supervisor and others at the (now temporarily closed) Crenshaw WorkSource Center, but it was his persistence that helped him land a job through the TLHP within four months. “It definitely requires dedication,” he said. “Be persistent, don’t give up. Stay in contact with whoever they appoint you to be in contact with. In my persistence it led me to get where I am now. It’s a lot of steps and it’s worth it.”
HOLLYWOOD WSC HELPS JOB SEEKER GET ON CAREER PATHWAY THROUGH TLHP

The Hollywood WorkSource Center recently helped J Trinidad Vega get a job as a vocational worker with the City of Los Angeles through the Targeted Local Hire Program, which is designed to help underserved and underemployed Angelenos find an alternative pathway to civil service careers at the City. After working many jobs in labor, security, retail and towing in Los Angeles and Las Vegas, J was struggling to earn enough money to support his family. He often worked more than eight hours a day and still could not afford health insurance due to high costs. J was motivated to find a better job and once his girlfriend was hired by the Targeted Local Hire Program, she encouraged J to apply as well. The Hollywood WorkSource Center staff, overseen by EWDD partner Managed Career Solutions, provided guidance for J to become job ready and helped process his application for the TLHP in December 2018. He interviewed with the City in February 2019 and soon received a job offer. On April 29, 2019, J started work as a vocational worker with the City’s Department of Public Works Wastewater Collection Systems Division. He will start with six months of on-the-job training, after which he will enter a six-month probation period as a maintenance assistant. After a full year, J will gain full civil service status with the City of LA as a maintenance laborer. At that point, J is eligible for promotional opportunities to many career pathways through civil service exams. J said he is happy to have comprehensive benefits, including health insurance for him and his whole family, stable pay and a work schedule that will allow him to spend more time with his children.
The South Valley BusinessSource Center (BSC) provided long-term assistance to entrepreneur Suzanne Chery, helping her establish Love and Kare Home Health, a home care business. The South Valley BSC has been assisting Suzanne since February 2016 with her other business ventures, including selling Mary Kay Cosmetics and hair extensions. In 2017, Suzanne approached the South Valley BSC for assistance in establishing a non-medical home care organization business. While Suzanne was studying for her Business Management degree at California State University, Northridge, she started working for an elderly couple to help pay her way through school. After she graduated, she worked for the couple full-time for eight years until both passed. During her time with the couple, Suzanne realized that she had a passion for taking care of elders and decided to turn her passion into a business and help families at the same time. After working an independent home care provider for the last eight years, she was ready to expand her business. The South Valley BSC assisted Suzanne with completing the Home Care Organization application with the California Department of Social Services and helped her develop her business plan. In November 2018, Suzanne received her Home Care Organization License from the State of California and launched her business in the City of Los Angeles. Earlier this year, the South Valley BSC assisted Suzanne with filing and publishing of her DBA and Business Tax Registration Certificate for Love and Kare Home Health under the Love and Kare LLC, which is located in Woodland Hills, CA. In addition to assisting Suzanne with her license and permits, the South Valley BSC assisted with marketing efforts, including social media logo design, branding, and networking, developing business cards, and website development. Suzanne also received human resources assistance, was provided with tips and tools on how to hire and manage employees and was assisted with creating a job description and an employee handbook. Love and Kare Home Health is looking to hire 5 employees. The South Valley BSC referred Suzanne to WorkSource Centers located in the San Fernando Valley for assistance in finding skilled and vetted local employees, including: the Canoga Park/South Valley WSC, Northeast South Valley WSC and the West Valley WSC. For next steps, the South Valley BSC is scheduled to assist Love and Kare Home Health with bookkeeping, building business credit and Minority Business Enterprise and Women Business Enterprise Certifications.
BUSINESS METRICS:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>LABSCs Reporting:</th>
<th>North Valley, West Valley, South Valley, South LA, East LA, Mid City, Central West, Hollywood and Harbor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Microenterprise enrolled</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Microenterprise assisted</td>
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<td>Small businesses enrolled</td>
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<td>Small businesses assisted</td>
<td>51</td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of BSC clients who attended workshops</td>
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WORKFORCE METRICS:

( arrows indicate weekly trend )

CalJobs  (online and mobile)

545 Registrations
13% 

WorkSource Centers

995 Enrollments
14% 

"Updates" is the weekly report from the EWDD Interim General Manager to the Office of Mayor Eric Garcetti, and is produced by EWDD’s communications section. If you have questions, comments or wish to have a contribution considered for an upcoming "Updates," please contact Jamie Francisco at (213) 744-9048 or Jamie.Francisco@lacity.org