News for the Week of May 13, 2019

LAHTA CELEBRATES NEW CULINARY TRAINING FACILITY IN KOREATOWN

EWDD partner Los Angeles Hospitality Training Academy (LAHTA) celebrated the grand opening of its state-of-the-art Culinary Training Facility with a ribbon cutting ceremony May 7, 2019. EWDD and the City’s Workforce Development Board (WDB) help finance LAHTA programs with grant funding. The new, fully equipped kitchen facility will allow LAHTA to expand the reach of its programs and provide the most up-to-date, industry-recognized
training to a broader and more diverse population due to its centralized location at the heart of Koreatown. The celebration also marked the culmination of the LAHTA’s first Culinary Apprenticeship cohort at the Koreatown facility. The LAHTA Culinary Apprenticeship is an intensive seven-week training program registered with both the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) and State of California Division of Apprenticeship Standards (DAS). After completing the training, participants move on to work as apprentices and as line cooks, at one of LAHTA’s 160 union employer-partners including luxury hotels and concessions at the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX). The students prepared a buffet at the celebration for 145 elected officials, guests and community partners. WDB Executive Director Gregg Irish attended the event and provided remarks.

**LA:RISE – A CONFIDENCE BOOST INTO THE WORKFORCE**

This week, EWDD Updates highlights two LA:RISE success stories. EWDD is a leadership team partner of LA:RISE, an innovative, collaborative partnership that unites the City and County of Los Angeles’ Workforce Development System (WDS) with non-profit social enterprises and for profit employers to help individuals with high barriers to employment get good jobs and stay employed. The City’s WorkSource Centers and LA:RISE prioritize individuals recently released from prison, the unsheltered or those at risk of homelessness, and youth ages 18-24 who are neither in school or working. After working in a transitional job at a social enterprise and leveraging training and services from the WorkSource Center, LA:RISE participants are placed at jobs in the private sector, in public-sector jobs in the City of LA, or in vocational training programs.

**LA:RISE – PARTICIPANT GAINS CONFIDENCE, LEADING TO FULL-TIME JOB**

When Marnella enrolled in the LA:RISE program, she was struggling to find housing and faced homelessness. Even though she was in school and working part-time as a security officer, she was not given enough work hours to pay her rent. Working at YWCA’s Digital Learning Academy (DLA), an LA:RISE social enterprise partner, put Marnella on the path to self-sufficiency and allowed her to pursue her passion in graphic design. The experience also provided her with the structure and confidence she needed to advance in her day job. As a result of the personal and professional growth she gained while enrolled in LA:RISE, Marnella was offered a full-time security officer position and a salary increase. She also is still pursuing her passion and doing freelance design work.
LA:RISE – PARTICIPANT GETS JOB AS CAMERA OPERATOR, HELPS SUPPORT FAMILY

Erik enrolled in the LA:RISE program when his family faced financial challenges, including the possibility of homelessness, and he was unable to find a job to support his mom. LA:RISE social enterprise partner New Earth gave Erik a job as a camera operator, which has helped him gained confidence. He is proud of his hard work and dedication to the program and he now feels he has the tools and experience to prepare for his future. He is excited for a career where he will be self-sufficient and able to financially support himself.

HARBOR-WATTS BSC HELPS ENTREPRENEUR GET $128K LOAN TO LAUNCH STUDIO

The Harbor-Watts BusinessSource Center helped entrepreneur Ashley Rios obtain a $128,000 loan from the U.S. Small Business Administration to open Fit Culture Pilates in San Pedro, creating three full-time jobs and 15 part-time jobs. Ashley was referred to the Harbor-Watts BusinessSource by the San Pedro Chamber of Commerce in late 2018 for assistance with funding to start a contemporary Pilates and barre studio. Working with a business coach, she developed a business plan along with projections on project costs and how much capital was needed to open the business. Ashley was approved for a loan package in early 2019 and spent the next several months negotiating the loan structure. By mid-March, the lender committed to a $128,000 SBA start-up loan to open Fit Culture Pilates and the loan was funded on March 29, 2019. Ashley received a referral to the Harbor-Gateway WorkSource Center to learn about programs available to help her staff her new business, and she also plans to participate in the City’s HIRE LA’S Youth program, which offers 120 hours of work experience to youth between the ages of 14 to 24. Fit Culture Pilates is scheduled to have its grand opening June 8, paving the way for three full-time jobs and 15 part-time jobs. Ashley also plans to hire two youth year round from the HIRE LA’S Youth program.
BUSINESS RESPONSE UNIT OBTAINS 31 NEW CASES AT SMALL BUSINESS SUMMIT

EWDD’s Business Response Unit obtained 31 new business cases at Mayor Eric Garcetti’s Small Business Summit, held April 29, 2019. EWDD’s Business Response Unit (BRU) and Business Lending Programs staffed two resource booths in support of the event. Approximately 75 participants visited the BRU booth. Staff provided business assistance, including describing resources and availability for financing, obtaining business assistance from our Business Source Center partners, getting certified and landing contracts, the City’s Business Assistance Virtual Network (BAVN) registration, Business Tax Registration Certificate (BTRC) and seller’s permit, benefits of incubators, zoning and land use, mobile vending and expanding or growing a business.
BUSINESS METRICS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LABSCs Reporting:</th>
<th>North Valley, West Valley, South Valley, South LA, East LA, Mid City, Central West, Hollywood and Harbor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Microenterprise enrolled</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microenterprise assisted</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small businesses enrolled</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small businesses assisted</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of BSC clients who attended workshops</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WORKFORCE METRICS:

(arrows indicate weekly trend)

CalJobs (online and mobile)

598 Registrations
10%↑

WorkSource Centers

1,203 Enrollments
21%↑

"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