



EWDD

# UPDATES



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## News for the Week of May 15, 2017

### INNOVATIVE EWDD PROGRAMS HIGHLIGHTED AT CWA WORKCON 2017



The City of Los Angeles Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) made a strong showing at last week's California Workforce Association (CWA) WorkCon 2017, delivering presentations about two of its nationally recognized programs – Los Angeles Regional Initiative for Social Enterprise (LA: RISE) and Los Angeles Reconnections Career Academy (LARCA). An estimated 450 partners from the workforce development field attended WorkCon May 10 to 12 in Anaheim, CA, a convention that showcases best practices in workforce development strategies, innovation and collaboration among government, non-profit community based organizations, educational institutions and industry sector partnerships.

- On Wednesday May 10, EWDD Senior Project Coordinator Donny Brooks, along with REDF Initiatives Manager Ashley Cordero and Social Policy Research Associates (SPR) Senior Associate Christian Geckeler presented their findings and lessons learned from the implementation of LA: RISE, a five-year, \$6 million program designed to serve the populations hardest to place in jobs, including the homeless, those with histories of past incarcerations and disconnected youth. Initially funded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Workforce Innovation Fund, the program began with 1,000 participants. In 2016, the City of Los Angeles provided an additional \$2 million to serve an additional 275 people. Approximately 40 people attended the workshop, which presented lessons in building partnerships between private social enterprises, public workforce system agencies, non-profit service providers and employers.
- On Thursday May 11, EWDD Program Manager Kendra Madrid, along with SPR Senior Associate Christian Geckeler delivered a standing-room only presentation to more than 50 people about the process of creating LARCA, a large-scale effort that transformed the City of LA's youth centers into a one-stop shop for youth to gain access to education and work resources. The LARCA program enables participants to speak on-site with Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) counselors about educational planning, sort out previous academic records and hear about work readiness certificate programs and pathways to healthcare careers. With nearly 1,100 youth receiving services since 2015, this innovative all-in-one approach has been very successful in producing big changes in the lives of youth that it serves. Ms. Madrid's presentation also covered findings from a random assignment impact study conducted on LARCA, which showed that within 2 years of enrollment: 64 percent re-enrolled in secondary education; 25 percent graduated with a diploma or earned a

high school equivalency degree; 40 percent enrolled in an Los Angeles Community College District college with the likelihood of post secondary education training much higher; and, 73 percent were employed.

In addition, the outcomes for participants in secondary and postsecondary education were greater and more impressive than those observed in the study's control group, leading to the conclusion that youth who participated in the program fared better than those who had not participated in the program.

## EWDD YOUTH ATTEND 2017 WOMEN FOR A NEW LOS ANGELES LUNCHEON



*Paulina Alvarez and Paris Thomas with El Pueblo de Los Angel Commissioner at the Women for a New Los Angeles Luncheon*

Paulina Alvarez, 18, from Boyle Heights Technology Youth Center and Paris Thomas, 17, from Brotherhood Crusade Youth Source Center were invited by Commissioner Robert Vinson from El Pueblo de Los Angel and Vinson Real Estate Group to join him at his table for the largest Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy (LAANE) event in California, the 2017 Women for a New Los Angeles Luncheon. Founded in 1993, LAANE is a nationally recognized advocacy organization that combines research, public policy, and the strategic organizing

of broad alliances to promote innovative economic approaches based on good jobs, thriving communities, and a healthy environment. The event brought together more than 700 progressive women statewide to celebrate and explore women's leadership and vision in Los Angeles. Paulina and Paris had the opportunity to meet with women leaders ranging from organized labor, to entertainment to elective officials.

## SOUTH VALLEY BUSINESSSOURCE CENTER CELEBRATES YOUTH SUCCESS STORY



The South Valley BusinessSource Center would like to congratulate and acknowledge their youngest entrepreneur awarded the success story of the quarter, high school student Brendan Thompson. Mr. Thompson's event Create and Share Art (CASA) was a huge success with more than 100 attendees establishing his new business, Guild of Arts Los Angeles (GALA) as an emerging leader in the San Fernando Valley arts and music community. With the assistance of BusinessSource consultant Eric Lara, Mr. Thompson launched his event with a successful KickStarter campaign. The South Valley BusinessSource Center is proud to be a part of Brendan's first big win since his graduation in summer 2016

from their Youth Entrepreneur Training Program, where he developed the business plan and built the foundation for his creative endeavor.

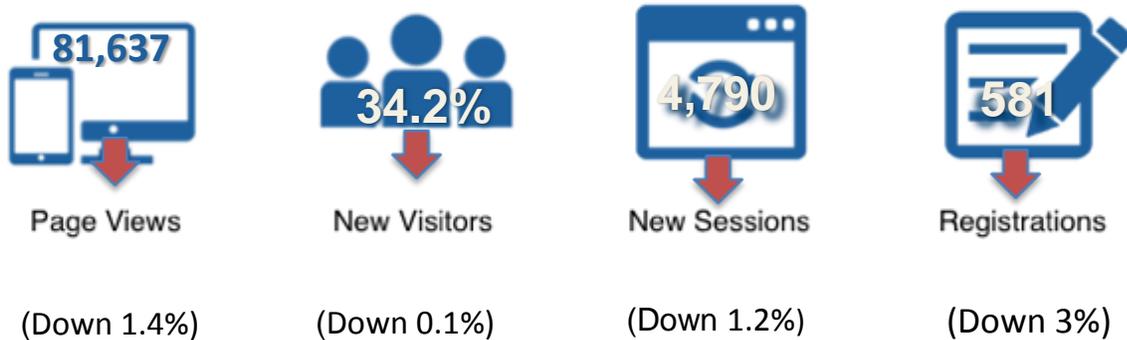
**BUSINESS METRICS:**

<b>LABSC’s Reporting:</b> North Valley, West Valley, South L.A., Mid City, Central West, Hollywood, South Valley, East LA, and Harbor. <b>LABSC’s Not Reporting:</b> None.	
<b>Pre-Startups Enrolled</b>	23
<b>Pre-Startups Assisted</b>	33
<b>Start-ups/Operating Businesses Enrolled</b>	39
<b>Start-ups/Operating Businesses Assisted</b>	25
<b>Workshops: Number of Clients Attended</b>	118

**WORKFORCE METRICS:**

*(Arrows indicate weekly trend)*

JobsLA (online and mobile)



WorkSource Centers



*“Updates” is produced by EWDD’s communications department. If you have questions, comments or wish to contribute to an upcoming “Updates,” please contact Jamie Francisco at (213) 744-9048 or Jamie.Francisco@lacity.org.*