



News for the week of August 29, 2016



BOYLE HEIGHTS TECH ACADEMY LAUNCHED; OFFERS DIPLOMA PROGRAM FOR RETURNING JUSTICE SYSTEM YOUTH

Thousands of Los Angeles students returning from juvenile halls and probation camps each year will have the opportunity to transition back to school, thanks to the launch of two new academies this week. At a ribbon-cutting ceremony Aug. 30, EWDD

officials joined with partners at the Los Angeles Unified School District and the Los Angeles County Probation Department to open the Boyle Heights Tech Academy located on the campus of the Boyle Heights Technology YouthSource Center, an EWDD contractor. Speaking to the youth, EWDD AGM Robert Sainz said, “We don’t care about what you did in the past—we care about your future.” Eleven students are enrolled at the Boyle Heights campus with more pending. A second school, called Central Academy, is located at 134 Witmer Street and will provide students with an alternative educational program. Youth returning from the justice system face challenges such as gang involvement, exposure to trauma and a high risk of academic failure. The academies provide wrap-around supports such as social and emotional counseling and access to college and career courses.

Rapid Response: Envoy Air, located at LAX, will be laying off 32 bus drivers as American Airlines will in-source the work being done by the drivers. EWDD Rapid Response staff made contact with the company’s human resources department in Fort Worth to offer transition services for affected workers. American Airlines officials said they may offer in-house positions to some of the drivers.

LA:RISE adds Social Enterprise partner: The YWCA Digital Learning Academy has joined the LA:RISE partnership as a Social Enterprise employer, providing stipends and on-the-job training to participants. In addition, the Digital Learning Academy will provide printing services to REDF, who is contracted with EWDD to assist with LA:RISE implementation. The Digital Learning Academy is a revenue-generating printer center and training program for disadvantaged youth. The DLA operates a full-service, multimedia print center serving the needs of businesses throughout the Los Angeles area. The purpose

of the academy is to fill the employment skills gap in the digital technology industries by placing youth into entry-level career opportunities. As an LA:RISE partner, it will expand its job training to those with a history of homelessness, incarceration and youth who are out of school. The City of Los Angeles launched LA:RISE in 2015 with a \$6 million federal Workforce Innovation grant; this year Mayor Eric Garcetti asked the City Council to approve an additional \$2 million in city funding to increase the number of homeless eligible for employment services. The five-year grant is expected to serve 775 homeless individuals. To date 267 participants have received subsidized temporary jobs, and 30 have moved on to the employment in the open labor market.

Hire LA’s Youth wrap-up event planned: EWDD staff and community partners are marking the end of this year’s Hire LA’s Youth program with a push to help youth ages 16 to 24 find continued employment. Organizers are planning a “Workforce Wednesday” event on Sept. 21, to be held at each of the 16 YouthSource centers located across the city. From 1 to 5 p.m., case managers will be on hand to help youth transition from summer jobs to permanent employment. For individuals out of school, staff will offer assistance in enrolling in high school or adult school. Hire LA’s Youth is one of Mayor Eric Garcetti’s premiere initiatives. This year, the mayor has set a goal of connecting 15,000 Los Angeles youth with jobs. For more information about the program, go to HireLAYouth.com. For a list of the facilities participating in “Workforce Wednesday,” go to EWDD’s [YouthSource center locator tool](#).

BusinessSource center help gives Randle the edge: Natalyn Randle founded Ease On Down the Road, a Los Angeles-based home improvement company, in 2007. In 2015 she reached out to the South Los



Angeles BusinessSource Center for help and participated in an eight-week business plan writing workshop. The classes helped Randle set goals such as expanding her client base, increasing sales and finding office space. She moved her business operation to offices located in the Vermont Slauson Business Enterprise Center and is planning to hire three to five employees in 2017. Randle is driven by her passion to help women entrepreneurs achieve their goals. She does this through her online newsletter “Black Business Women Rock” and hosting her annual Black Business Women Rock business expo. With over 10,000 online social media followers, last year’s annual conference had 55 vendors and drew over 1000 attendees. This year’s expo is slated for December 10, 2016.

BUSINESS SOURCE METRICS:

LABSC’s Reporting: Harbor, North Valley, West Valley, South Los Angeles, and Hollywood	
LABSC’s Not Reporting: East Los Angeles, South Valley, Central West, and Mid-City	
Pre-Startups Enrolled	17
Pre-Startups Assisted	12
Start-ups/Operating Businesses Enrolled	9
Start-ups/Operating Businesses Assisted	11
Workshops: Number of Clients Attended	64

WORKFORCE METRICS:

(Arrows indicate weekly trend)

JobsLA (online and mobile)



Page Views
(Up 18.08%)



New Visitors
(Down 2.31%)



New Sessions
(Up 16.6%)



Registrations
(Down 14%)

WorkSource Centers



Enrollments
(Up 3%)

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