



News for the Week of Sept. 14, 2015

SUCCESS STORIES, NEW CAREER PATHS EMERGING AS HIRE LA'S YOUTH 2015 SUMMER CLASS WINDS DOWN

Antoine is just 17 but he already has a lot of responsibility on his shoulders. He's helping his mother and sister find stable housing in Northern California while he pursues his dream of getting a degree in psychology in Los Angeles. This summer he took a big step on that career path by taking part in the EWDD-operated Hire LA's Youth (HLAY) summer jobs program. Antoine had just graduated high school and was living with his grandfather when he heard about the Hollywood WorkSource Center, a EWDD contractor. He dropped in to the center and was assigned a case manager who urged him to enroll in the summer jobs initiative. Within weeks he was working in administrative support for Health Care Integrated Services, which operates an on-campus medical clinic in the Compton Unified School District. When the summer session ended, Antoine was offered a permanent position with better pay, going from \$9 an hour to \$12 an hour. Now when he visits his family up north, he likes picking up the dinner bill. "Qualifying for summer youth was really important to me," Antoine told counselors at Hollywood WorkSource Center, "I am getting my life together and I can save to provide for my family." Antoine is not the only HLAY 2015 participant receiving praise for his work ethic. Vanessa Garcia Ponce was placed at UCLA Housing and Hospitality Services in the office of the Assistant Vice Chancellor. Her supervisors were so impressed that they wrote a letter to summer jobs officials praising Vanessa's professionalism and skills. "She was an ideal fit from the very first day," her UCLA supervisor wrote. Mayor Garcetti this year set a goal of finding summer jobs for 11,000 youths ages 14 to 24. The youths are placed in temporary employment in a variety of workplaces within the public, nonprofit and private sectors.



Student Recovery Day: EWDD staff and YouthSource contracting partners participated in the Sept. 10 LAUSD Student Recovery Day. Working with County of LA and LAUSD officials, teams fanned out across the city to knock door to door and encourage students to return to school. Mayor Garcetti launched the day's activities with a press conference at Manual Arts High School. Several TV stations covered the event and there was a [write up](#) in the LA Times.



Financial and Regulatory Training: In a series of training workshops, more than 100 staff from EWDD and its partner WorkSource centers learned the intricacies of new financial and regulatory requirements for federal workforce programs. Participants said the two-day sessions, led by EWDD's Financial Management Division director, were thorough, helpful organized and instructive. The sessions continue through next week.

State truancy briefing: EWDD General Manager Jan Perry and Asst. General Manager Robert Sainz attended a briefing by California Attorney General Kamala Harris on the release of her new report, "Report on Elementary School Truancy and Absenteeism Crisis" at the LA Chamber of Commerce. Among the findings: 230,000 students in California missed 18 or more days of school in the 2014-2015 school year. The report can be downloaded at oag.ca.gov/truancy/2015.

Grants awarded: Two of the EWDD's WorkSource Center operators, Managed Care Solutions and UAW, are recipients of the U. S. Dept. of Labor's National Apprenticeship grant.

Young Adults Job Fair: The State Employment Development Department, in cooperation with our WorkSource system providers, hosted a job fair Sept. 17 for young adults in Veteran's Memorial Auditorium in Culver City. A flyer announcing the event has been shared more than 500 times on EWDD social media, indicating strong interest.

BusinessSource Center RFP: The City Council on Sept. 16 approved the release of a Request for Proposal soliciting contractors citywide to partner with EWDD to run nine BusinessSource Centers, serving small businesses and start-ups with capital and technical assistance. The RFP will be officially released this week and responses are due back Oct. 30. EWDD hopes to forward recommend contractors to Council in early 2016 and enter into five-year contracts by March 2016.

Other economy-building events:

- **The South LA BusinessSource Center**, operated by VSEDC, held its *Digital and Beyond* training on Sept. 9. Forty five city businesses attended.
- **The West Valley BusinessSource Center**, operated by VEDC, held its New Start up Program on Sept. 9. The workshop included topics such as *Start Up Do's and Don'ts*. Nine people attended.

- **The West Valley and North Valley BusinessSource Center**, operated by VEDC, held their annual “Here’s The Money” event at Sheraton Universal on Sept. 12. Approximately 400 people attended. Staff from EWDD’s Small Business Lending group were there to meet potential borrowers and provide information about the EWDD’s small business loan program, 108 major project loan program and BusinessSource programs. EWDD’s booth was visited by over 100 businesses and more than 25 expressed interest in applying for a loan.
- **The Hollywood BusinessSource Center**, operated by MCS, helped a client launch a new business, Santos Trucking Services. The client worked in the moving industry before deciding to start his own business and needed help obtaining permits and licenses. With the help of BusinessSource staff, he applied for and received his City of LA business license as well as his DBA from the County of LA.
- **The Mid City BusinessSource Center**, operated by MCS, assisted two new business startups. The businesses received assistance with obtaining proper permits and licenses, and with loan packaging. Entrepreneur Colisha Turner opened a child care service called Rich-Full Events and Entrepreneur Sharon Gilmore opened a cafe called Love Bucket Cafe. Both businesses were launched on Sept. 10.

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

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