

## SUCCESS STORIES WEEK OF MAY 9, 2022



#### SOUTHEAST LA BUSINESSOURCE OPENS

Through the leadership and support of Los Angeles City Councilman Curren Price (CD9), the <u>Southeast Los Angeles BusinessSource Center (BSC)</u> recently opened its doors to provide one-on-one assistance to small businesses and aspiring entrepreneurs in the Southeast LA area. Located on the Historic Central Avenue Business Corridor, the Southeast LA BSC's mission is to provide an array of services to new and existing business owners. These services are geared toward strengthening the local economy through planning, access to capital, small business stabilization, and supporting the resiliency of the Southeast LA community.

The Coalition for Responsible Community Development (CRCD), a non-profit organization founded in 2005, will operate the Southeast LA BSC. The center's mission is to expand entrepreneurial and small business services throughout <u>Council District 9</u> and parts of <u>Council District 14</u>. CRCD also oversees EWDD's Vernon Central <u>WorkSource Center</u> and the South LA <u>YouthSource Center</u>.

You can reach the new Southeast LA <u>BusinessSource Center</u> by calling 323-450-7226 or emailing <u>southeastLABSC@coalitionrcd.org</u>.

#### **EWDD YOUTHSOURCE CENTERS**

EWDD currently operates 14 <u>YouthSource Centers (YSCs)</u> that provide young Angelenos ages 16-24 services, including mentoring, counseling, job skills training and career exploration. The YSCs are located in underserved neighborhoods throughout the City and offer services at no cost. This week, EWDD Updates highlights a success story from <u>Para Los Niños (PLN)</u>, which operates the Northeast and Central LA <u>YouthSource Centers</u>.



#### **ENGINEERING PATH TO AUTOMOTIVE CAREER**

Natalia is currently enrolled in the <u>Para Los Niños YouthSource</u> program and is attending Los Angeles Trade Technical College (LATTC) as a first year, first generation college student. Natalia is pursuing a pathway in Advanced Transportation and Manufacturing, specifically the Automotive and Related Technology program. She will receive instruction in maintenance, diagnosis and overhaul procedures of electrical and fuel injection systems, preparing her for her goal of becoming an Automotive Engineer and Automotive Designer.

When she began her courses, Natalia said that she faced challenges as a firstgeneration college student and as a female pursuing a degree and career in a predominantly male occupied space. Natalia recently participated in a career panel to share her journey with YouthSource high school seniors. During the panel, she shared her struggles and achievements. Natalia worked graveyard shifts while attending college, which was exhausting for her, but she didn't stop pursuing her goals. Natalia reached out to the <u>YouthSource Center</u> for support in finding a better job. Her college and career advisor helped her apply for a position at the Ford Dealership in downtown Los Angeles. Natalia was hired and started her job in mid-April. She said that she is excited to find a job that works well with her college schedule and exposes her to a career in the automotive industry.

#### **AFTER WILDFIRES, NEW JOBS**

The California Employment Development Department (EDD) National Dislocated Workers Grant (NDWG) provided paid work experience for workers to assist with recovery efforts to residents and businesses that were severely impacted by the state's megafires. The NDWG also funded temporary employment opportunities for individuals who lost their jobs during COVID-19.

EWDD's <u>WorkSource Centers</u> and workforce partner <u>Managed Career Solutions</u> (<u>MCS</u>) help administer the NDWG, which has provided temporary employment to hundreds of Angelenos.

This project is 100% federally-funded in the amount of \$1.8 million.



The Bobcat Fire was one of the largest wildfires to date in Los Angeles County. It started in September 2020 and by the time it was contained in December 2020, the fire had scorched nearly 116,000 acres in the central San Gabriel Mountains and in-and-around the Angeles National Forest.

The photos above illustrate how crews restored Monrovia Canyon Park and Hillside Canyon Park. (Before restoration, above left) Crew members worked on the edge of the fire road to clean up overgrown vegetation that grew post-fire and with recent rains. (After, above right) Removing the vegetation ensures the fire road is safe for emergency vehicles and returns the road to its pre-fire state.



#### **RESTORING LANDSCAPES CLOSE TO HOME**

David (pictured above) first enrolled in the National Dislocated Workers Grant (NDWG) program in November 2021. As a local resident of Monrovia with personal experience enduring the Bobcat Fire, he was very motivated to assist with restoring Monrovia Canyon Park. He wanted to help reopen it to the public as it is a place near and dear to his heart. After demonstrating a strong work ethic and his commitment to the program, David was promoted to the position of backup supervisor. In this role, he continues to provide leadership and mentorship to his fellow crew members.

# EWDD METRICS

Week of <u>May 2 to M</u>ay 6



#### WorkSource Centers assisted:

899 Walk-in visits

- 1,812 Phone calls and emails
  - 144 Unemployment Insurance

#### YouthSource Centers - HIRE LA's Youth:

9,551	Applications
2,451	Youth in application pool
4.203	Youth enrolled

### BusinessSource Centers assisted: 207 Microenterprises 50 Small Businesses

7 Sidewalk Vendors

**149** Virtual Workshops



The Economic & Workforce Development Department is headquartered in the Garland Building located at 7th street and Garland Ave in downtown Los Angeles.

1200 West 7th Street Los Angeles CA 90017

> 213-744-7300 711 for TRS (TTY)

If TTY/TTD is needed to contact us, please use 711 for Telecommunication Relay Services (TRS)

If you have any questions, comments, or wish to have a contribution considered for inclusion in an upcoming "Updates," please feel free to contact Jamie Francisco at (213) 744-9048 or <u>Jamie Francisco@lacity.org</u>