



**Economic & Workforce
Development Department (EWDD) Weekly Updates
NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 20, 2021**

Success Stories



LA:RISE

EWDD is a leadership team partner of the [Los Angeles Regional Initiative for Social Enterprise \(LA:RISE\)](#). This innovative, collaborative partnership 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. In this week's issue, we share inspirational stories from LA:RISE participants Trudy and Dustin.



FORMERLY SEEKING ELECTED OFFICE, LA:RISE HELPS REBUILD LIFE

Trudy Magee (pictured above) was living in a homeless shelter and struggling to recover from a spinal surgery that she said slowed down her ability to think, talk and walk. She had a career in local government and in 2012, ran for California State Assembly, where she garnered 2,487 votes.

“My struggle with homelessness took its toll on me. After my spinal surgery in June 2017, I could not revive myself and return to work. At age 70, I felt very defeated, especially after having a very successful career working for the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and running for California State Assembly. I was raised by my grandmother and also spent numerous trips to foster homes. I had two marriages and experienced domestic violence and struggled with drug abuse. I raised five children, two who suffered from kidney disease and autism.”

LA:RISE partner **YWCA** provided Trudy training that allowed her to rebuild her soft skills and improve her ability to interact with other people. Trudy also received computer skills training and data entry, tools she said would increase her chances to pursue employment opportunities for seniors.

Today, Trudy is working as an intern for YWCA.

“I am thrilled to come to work. I now have single housing for myself. My low self-esteem no longer exists, but has been replaced with empowered self-confidence because the YWCA program saw something worth salvaging. I feel good! Thank you very much!”



LA:RISE HELPS LGBTQIA RE-ENTRY PARTICIPANT FIND JOB

Dustin Kramer (pictured above) is part of the LGBTQIA community and has been navigating life alone since being impacted by the justice system. He does not have a close relationship with his family and after his charges, his family withdrew their support completely. He is currently on parole supervision.

LA:RISE partner [Center for Employment Opportunities \(CEO\)](#) helped connect Dustin with re-entry services, along with employment readiness training. He actively worked with his job coach and job developer, who have assisted him with resume building and job interview skills.

Dustin has also received supportive services, including: Metro TAP cards for public transportation accessibility and weekly TAP reloads, assistance with DPSS Snap & Medical Enrollment, in-office interview clothing, LYFT transportation for urgent needs, housing navigation through LAHSA, legal assistance and therapy.

Dustin is currently employed at a café in Santa Monica. He recently married his partner Bella. LA:RISE has assisted Dustin with building a strong work ethic and ultimately achieving a feeling of financial security.

"Don't give up on trying to find a place, a job, or anything that you want to accomplish," he said. "It is hard to survive sometimes when you are homeless, but you have to look at the bright side. The word 'No' won't stop the next opportunity and just because one door closes doesn't mean another one will close. We have to keep knocking!"

LINKS to COVID-19 RESOURCES

JOB RESOURCES

LA JOBS PORTAL: jobs.lajobsportal.org

VIRTUAL ORIENTATIONS: bit.ly/LAjoblosshelp

BUSINESS RESOURCES

LA REGIONAL COVID FUND: lacovidfund.org

SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAM: ewddlacity.com/index.php/small-business-loans

BusinessSource Centers: bit.ly/LABusinessSource

WorkSource Centers: bit.ly/EWDDWorkSource

YouthSource Centers: bit.ly/EWDDYouthSource

EWDD Metrics

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

WORKSOURCE CENTER CONTACT PERFORMANCE (COVID-19) December 13, 2021 to December 17, 2021

Number of walk-ins	1,152
Number of walk-ins by appointment	532
Number of call/emails	2,361
Number of calls regarding Unemployment Insurance (UI)	249

YOUTH WORKFORCE DATA FY 20-21 (HIRE LA'S YOUTH) Week ending December 17, 2021

Number of applications	6,650
Number of youth in lottery pool	1,452
Number of youth enrolled	2,749
YouthSource Center (YSC) enrollments	912
YSC enrollment goal	2,100
Percent complete	43.4%

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

LOS ANGELES BUSINESSSOURCE CENTERS (LABSCs) METRICS

December 13, 2021 to December 17, 2021

LABSCs Reporting: North Valley, West Valley, South Valley, South LA, East LA, Mid City, Central West, Hollywood and Harbor

Microenterprises assisted	102
Microenterprises enrolled	9
Small businesses assisted	32
Small businesses enrolled	8
Number of BSC Clients who attended virtual workshops	54
Sidewalk vendors assisted	43
Sidewalk vendors enrolled	6



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 Jamie.Francisco@lacity.org