



Economic & Workforce Development Department (EWDD) Weekly Updates

NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 22, 2021

Success Stories

LA REGIONAL COVID-19 FUND

In 2020, the LA Regional COVID-19 Fund distributed \$39,275,000 in grants to 3,032 organizations in the City of Los Angeles. The program was a joint effort between the City and County of Los Angeles to provide financial assistance to micro-entrepreneurs, small businesses and non-profits experiencing economic hardships due to the coronavirus. Recipients were awarded grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$25,000. The program was funded by the CARES Act, which required that all funds to be awarded by December 30, 2020. This week, EWDD Updates shares stories featuring grant recipients from LA City Council District 3.



Pivoting to provide virtual services during COVID-19

GRANT HELPS WEST VALLEY BOYS & GIRLS CLUB HELP KIDS

The LA Regional COVID-19 Fund provided the West Valley Boys & Girls Club a grant that helped the organization continue to provide services to the 3,200 children that rely on its resources annually. Since 1992, the West Valley Boys & Girls Club has provided programs to children that build character, encourage healthy lifestyles, and boost academic performance. Many alumni have said that the Club's commitment to building communities and providing strong role models has helped keep them out of trouble and become more dedicated to their education. The COVID-19 pandemic forced the West Valley Boys & Girls Club to temporarily close their in-person center, which changed how they could offer programs and reach children in need. The LA Regional COVID-19 Recovery Fund grant helped the Club pivot how it delivers services and cover pandemic-related expenses. With the funds from the grant, the Club provided nearly 1,000 free breakfast and lunch meals weekly through its Grab N Go program. The funds also helped the club establish a virtual programming initiative that allowed staff to safely provide programs and activities, including mentoring and college prep assistance, to kids of all ages. The grant also covered the cost of sick leave for employees who have contracted COVID-19 or needed to take care of family members during these adverse times.



Shifting to virtual developmental services during COVID-19
GRANT HELPS CHILD INSTITUTE CONTINUE FOOD PROGRAM

The LA Regional COVID-19 Fund provided a grant that allowed the Child Development Institute to continue to provide their services and resources to families in need. For more than 20 years, the institute has been promoting healthy development and providing crucial information, products, and services to parents. The organization's website has become a "go to" for parents seeking support for child development questions and issues, and is referenced by major universities, school districts, professional organizations and public agencies. The grant helped the institute cover pandemic-related costs. The grant also helped the institute continued a program that provides fresh produce and other food items, food vouchers, diapers and feminine hygiene products. With the grant's help, staff were able to provide virtual development screenings for more than 75 children and teletherapy services for more than 450 children.



Helping essential businesses stay open during COVID-19

CENTRAL WEST BSC HELPS COMPANY SECURE CONTRACTS

After spending his career in the cleaning industry, entrepreneur Angelo Varsobia (above) used his savings to launch Premier Property Preservation, LLC. Established in 2017, the business entity includes several separate businesses that specialize in commercial and residential janitorial services, including sanitizing, disinfecting, repair, maintenance and debris removal. Prior to 2020, Premier Property Preservation, LLC was a growing business that received more than 70 small contract jobs in the public and private sector. During COVID-19, many of the company's government agency contracts were canceled. Sales dropped by 25 percent and the LLC was forced to reduce its staff from 30 employees to 25. In May 2020, Angelo reached out to the Central West BusinessSource Center (BSC) for help and connected with loan counselor Phuong (Bruce) Le. Bruce worked with Angelo on many complex financing cases for his various businesses to help the business entity survive 2020. Bruce analyzed the LLC's financials and helped Angelo navigate the various pandemic financial assistance programs, including the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and other government grant programs. In March 2021, Bruce helped Premier Property Preservation, LLC secure financing to

land a \$5.6 million contract with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR). Bruce also helped the LLC secure another contract with the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) to clean 1,100 campuses. These contracts will help Premier Property Preservation get back on track and create hundreds of jobs. Bruce also connected the business entity to the local WorkSource Center for assistance finding pre-screened, qualified candidates. Angelo said he is so glad that he found the Central West BSC and learned about the resources available to help small business owners. Angelo said with the new contracts, he is hopeful that he can hire back his five employees. Premier Property Preservation, LLC is located in LA City Council District 12.

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

LA CARES Corps: coronavirus.lacity.org/CARESCorps

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) March 15, 2021 to March 19, 2021	
Number of walk-ins	873
Number of walk-ins by appointment	680
Number of call/emails	2,621
Number of calls regarding Unemployment Insurance (UI)	608

YOUTH WORKFORCE DATA FY 20-21 (HIRE LA'S YOUTH) Week ending March 19, 2021	
Number of applications	11,373
Number of youth in lottery pool	1,089
Number of youth enrolled	3,443
YouthSource Center (YSC) enrollments	1,187
YSC enrollment goal	2,100
Percent complete	56.52%

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

LOS ANGELES BUSINESSSOURCE CENTERS (LABSCs) METRICS March 15, 2021 to March 19, 2021	
LABSCs Reporting: North Valley, West Valley, South Valley, South LA, East LA, Mid City, Central West, Hollywood and Harbor	
Microenterprise assisted	153
Microenterprise enrolled	8
Small businesses assisted	16
Small businesses enrolled	0
Number of BSC Clients who attended virtual workshops	58
Sidewalk vendors assisted	35
Sidewalk vendors enrolled	4



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