



News for the week of October 10, 2016

LA:RISE OFFERING HOMELESS THE CHANCE TO GET JOB TRAINING, FIND WORK



Virgil Hiley

A new City of L.A. program aimed at helping homeless people get back on their feet and re-enter the workforce is paying dividends in its first year. Virgil Hiley, 45, was unemployed when he enrolled in LA:RISE through Chrysalis, one of seven social enterprise employers partnering in the program. His dream was to become a truck driver and, with the help of community partner LIFT, he was able to get the training he needed. Hiley recently graduated from a driving academy and is now working on securing his truck-driving license. Jule Carney, also 45, struggled to find work after serving a 15-year-prison sentence. He was unable to expunge his past convictions, creating a barrier to employment. He

enrolled in LA:RISE through Goodwill, another social enterprise partner, and completed a custodial maintenance program. He's now working at Goodwill and looking for other jobs and stable housing. Like Hiley, Carney's dream is to become a truck driver, a goal his caseworkers at LIFT are supporting. LA:RISE was launched in September 2015 with \$6 million in federal Workforce Innovation grant funding. The City of Los Angeles this year added \$2 million to expand the program to serve 775 people. The initiative is one of several recent actions taken by the City of L.A., under the leadership of Mayor Eric Garcetti, to address homelessness and empower those on the streets to find jobs and keep them. LA:RISE is aimed at those with a history of homelessness, incarceration and youth who are not in school or working. A total of 267 individuals to date are enrolled in the subsidized transitional jobs program, of which 30 have been placed into "bridge" or unsubsidized employment job

opportunities. To find out more about LA:RISE go to [this page](#) on EWDD's website.

Rapid Response gears up for Baxalta layoffs: EWDD's Rapid Response unit was notified that Baxalta is preparing to lay off up to 500 employees in Southern California, including an undetermined number in Los Angeles. Rapid Response staff contacted Baxalta's human resources office and has tentatively scheduled an orientation for affected workers on Nov. 14.

LACI celebrates completion of La Kretz campus: The City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles Department of Water & Power, and Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator (LACI) launched the La Kretz Innovation

Campus in downtown’s Arts District on Oct. 7. A former furniture and fabric warehouse, the 60,000 square-foot facility serves as home to LADWP customer service and engineering staff as well as home to LACI, a non-profit clean-tech incubator launched by the City of L.A. to stimulate economic development. La Kretz features offices, conference rooms, research and development labs, a prototype manufacturing workshop, a training center and event space.

Manufacturing plant gets help: Westfield Hydraulics specializes in custom engineered, precision hydraulic and fluid control components for aerospace and defense applications. Early this year company CEO Robert Schacht was faced with what many small businesses encounter when they have an opportunity to grow. He needed to hire a few more employees to expand manufacturing capabilities at the Pacoima plant, but lacked the financial resources. In March, he began working with the Central West BusinessSource Center and with their assistance, applied to the City of L.A.’s Small Business Loan Program. In September of 2016 Westfield was approved for a \$250,000 loan and has already employed five new staff with plans to hire more in upcoming months.

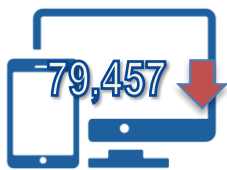


WESTFIELD
HYDRAULICS

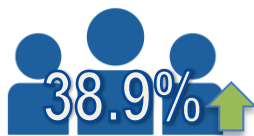
WORKFORCE METRICS:

(Arrows indicate weekly trend)

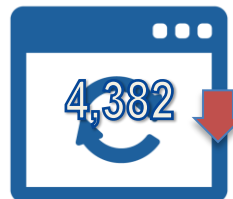
JobsLA (online and mobile)



Page Views
(Down 21.85%)



New Visitors
(Up 3.79%)



New Sessions
(Down 7.61%)



Registrations
(Down 3%)

WorkSource Centers



Enrollments
(Down 14%)

“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.