



## News for the week of Nov. 9, 2015

### TECH ECONOMY EMPLOYERS TAKE PART IN BOYLE HEIGHTS TECH CENTER JOB FAIR



Uber, InstaCart, AirBnB and other founders of the new technology-based “sharing economy” brought the future to the Eastside this week, participating in a “Not Your Typical Job Fair” held at the Boyle Heights Technology Youth Source Center. The Nov. 7 event connected app innovators with about 250 East L.A. youth interested in learning more about available jobs. “The best way to hire someone is to meet them in person,” said Andrew Puccio, lead recruiter for a just-launched car-renting app called Evercar. “That’s why we’re glad we’re here today.” About 15 companies were on hand, explaining

service models, schedules and potential pay. Karolynna Meza, 18, fresh out of high school, talked with the operators of UrbanSitter, a childcare app that allows workers to set their own schedule. Meza liked that she could sign up online, and after a background check, be working within days. She’s soon headed to college and UrbanSitter, which pays an average of \$15 an hour, would let her be her own boss. “I want to work somewhere that fits *my* schedule,” she said. During a workshop, tech innovators emphasized the opportunities ahead. “The iPhone has allowed all of us to become entrepreneurs,” said Shumulik Fishman, a spokesman for Zirx, a parking app. Mayor Eric Garcetti’s economic division staged the fair as a way to bring the tech economy out of the Westside and into other neighborhoods. An earlier tech-centric job fair was held in South Los Angeles. “We want to be at the forefront,” said Scott Lee, Boyle Height Tech Center’s executive director and EWDD contractor. “We want our young people to know about these employers and to be able to access them.”



**BusinessSource Request for Proposal submission period closes:**

Nov. 9 was a busy day for EWDD staff as they accepted responses to the City of L.A.'s Request for Proposal to operate nine BusinessSource Centers. Hopeful operators stopped by the Garland Building throughout the day and dropped off their bids. The submission period is now closed. In coming weeks, EWDD will coordinate the scoring process and forward recommendations to the Mayor and City Council in time to execute BusinessSource Center contracts by March 31, 2016.

**Biz workshop held at LATTC WorkSource center:** Vernon Central/LATTC WorkSource Center's Nov. 10 workshop titled "Establishing a Non-Profit Business" drew more than 25 participants. The training is designed to help entrepreneurs learn the tools and methods of starting a new business and covers special regulations pertaining to nonprofits. Vernon Central, in collaboration with LATTC's Small Business Program, hosts a monthly slate of trainings and workshops for small business owners. The sessions are held on Tuesday and cover different topics.

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