

EWDD **UPDATES**



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News for the Week of August 13, 2018



EWDD General Manager Jan Perry (third from left) at the ribbon cutting for the West LA WorkSource Center

WEST LA WORKSOURCE CENTER CELEBRATES GRAND OPENING AUGUST 10, 2018

The West Los Angeles WorkSource Center/America’s Job Center of California celebrated the grand opening of its new Culver City location Friday August 10, 2018 with a reception that included a moving testimonial from success story Lorrie Williams. “Every day is the best day ever,” said Lorrie, who received assistance from the West LA WSC to attend the Maxine Waters construction course and is now working as a pile driver for the \$1.7 billion Metro Regional Connector Construction project. “Everything is so exciting and I’m loving it. I’ve passed my 90-day probation and I now have medical, dental, vision and life insurance coverage. The best part is this is not just a job. It’s a career with a real future.” Held on a sweltering LA summer morning, Lorrie shared how she was on the brink of homelessness after experiencing addiction, a period of incarceration and estrangement from her children when staff at the

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West LA WSC provided resources for her to pursue the training she needed to find a job with stability. “I really don’t have words to tell what it means to me to have so much support and encouragement when I needed it most. I’m very grateful to everyone who makes services like this available. You can’t imagine the impact you’re having on people’s lives,” she said. “Thank you so much for helping me make a second chance for myself. I’m happy to tell you that I’m no longer estranged from my children and that they are very proud of me. I tell everyone ‘When you want to reinvent yourself, this is the place to be.’ This is a joyous occasion and I am so happy to be here celebrating another best day ever with all of you. Thank you.” The new West LA WSC/AJCC represents a successful partnership between the City of Los Angeles Economic and Workforce Development Department and the Los Angeles County Department of Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services to combine their resources to provide more services to the community, said EWDD General Manager Jan Perry. “A lot of times people feel like governments don’t work together, the City, the County, but we actually do and we do it because we share the same mission,” she said. “How important it is, how significant it is when we work together and we leverage the resources we have at hand and then what comes out as a result of our efforts is a beautiful life story that we just heard. It makes it all worthwhile.”



With guidance from the West LA WorkSource Center, Lorrie Williams (pictured) now has a career as a pile driver on the Metro Regional Connector project.

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LAHTA CULINARY ACADEMY STUDENTS SHOWCASE GOURMET BUFFET SKILLS



EWDD staffer Gary De La Rosa fills up his plate at the LAHTA Culinary Apprenticeship Buffet.

Serving up flavorful dishes including Coq au Vin and Chicken Fricassee Supreme, 16 students from the Los Angeles Hospitality Training Academy (LAHTA) Culinary Apprenticeship Program showcased their skills at a gourmet lunch buffet Tuesday August 14, 2018. City of Los Angeles Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) General Manager Jan Perry and City of Los Angeles Workforce Development Board (WDB) Executive Director Greg Irish attended, along with EWDD staff and representatives from workforce partners. EWDD and the WDB help finance LAHTA programs with grant funding. “We’re developing cooks who are ready to step into the workforce,” said Chef Mitchell Frieder, lead LAHTA instructor of the seven week program, which prepares participants to become line cooks at large hospitality employers throughout Los Angeles. Shamia Goodloe, 28, always had a passion for cooking and previously used her culinary skills cooking for her family and her church. Being part of the program has allowed her to pursue a culinary career. “It’s changed my life,” said Shamia, who was recently hired to work full-time in the kitchen of Planet Hollywood in the Tom Bradley Terminal at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX). “I think I found what I’m going to be doing for the next 30 years.”

PARA LOS NIÑOS STUDENTS COMPLETE HIRE LA'S YOUTH INTERNSHIPS AT CSULA



A group photo of the 57 Para Los Niños participants who interned at CSULA through HIRE LA'S Youth

Approximately 57 Para Los Niños (PLN) Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) participants completed their HIRE LA'S Youth paid internships at California State University, Los Angeles (Cal State LA) where they had the opportunity to work at 28 departments throughout the campus. Several former PLN alumni who previously worked at Cal State LA through the SYEP served as supervisors and mentors to current PLN students. Deborah Mier participated in the PLN SYEP program in 2011 and was hired by her worksite in 2012. She has since graduated from Cal State LA and is working in the CSULA Veterans Affairs department. Deborah supervised and mentored four PLN SYEP participants this summer. She will be starting graduate school soon and agreed to assist with the PLN YouthSource alumni program. One of this year's interns was Luis, who enrolled in PLN's Central Region YouthSource Program last year and recently graduated from Belmont High School. Luis worked in Cal State LA's transportation department this summer where he was mentored by CSULA staff and learned about campus resources. He will be attending Cal State LA this fall and has been offered employment at the university. Luis plans to major in business.

LA:RISE – CRCD HELPS YOUNG MAN GET A JOB AND RECEIVE FINANCIAL TIPS



LA:RISE participant Vincent Vargas (center) got a job in solar with Grid Alternatives and gained financial literacy skills from the Vernon-Central/LATTTC WSC

The Vernon-Central/Los Angeles Technical Trade College (LATTTC) WorkSource Center helped Vincent Vargas get a job in the solar industry and provided financial training to help him save his earnings. Vincent enrolled in the LA:RISE program a year ago after graduating from the Coalition for Responsible Community Development (CRCD) Youth Build Charter School. EWDD serves as the program administrator for LA:RISE, which helps individuals with high barriers to employment get good jobs and stay employed. CRCD Career Coach Maria Esparza guided Vincent toward a 10-week internship solar program with Grid Alternatives, a company dedicated to making solar energy available for low-income communities while providing pathways to clean energy jobs. Grid Alternatives hired Vincent following his internship. Vincent then attended a financial workshop held at CRCD's Financial Opportunity Center,

which was led by CRCD Senior Financial Coach Treasure Owens. After the training, Vincent set up his first bank account and applied for his first credit card. "Thank you CRCD and Vernon-Central/LATTTC WorkSource Center for helping me get training, find a job and build my credit. I never thought all of this would happen for me. Thank you."

CENTRAL WEST BSC HELPS ENTREPRENEUR LAUNCH BLENDED BERRIES TEA



The Central West Region BusinessSource provided one-on-one business coaching to entrepreneur Lisa Berry, helping her navigate through complicated government processes to build up her Blended Berries Tea business. Lisa launched the business in November 2017 to help people live a more natural and healthy lifestyle. A BSC business coach helped Lisa obtain a seller's permit and advised her to set aside money from the 9.5 percent sales tax on her products to pay taxes to the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration at the end of each quarter. The business coach also advised Lisa to update the settings on Blended Berries Tea's website to account for the sales tax. The assistance she received allowed Lisa to keep her Seller's Permit and continue her business, creating and retaining her job.

Lisa will continue working with the Central West Region BSC as her business grows and will need financing when the time comes to expand.

BUSINESS METRICS:

Beginning August 16, 2018, EWDD will begin reporting updated business service categories that reflect how EWDD is currently managing the Los Angeles BusinessSource program.

LABSCs Reporting*: North Valley, West Valley, South Valley, South LA, East LA, Mid City, Central West, Hollywood and Harbor	
Microenterprises enrolled	14
Microenterprises assisted	18
Small businesses enrolled	12
Small businesses assisted	29
Number of BSC clients who attended workshops	80

WORKFORCE METRICS:

(arrows indicate weekly trend)

WorkSource Centers



367
Enrollments

83%

“Updates” is produced by EWDD’s communications department. If you have questions, comments or wish to contribute to an upcoming “Updates,” please contact Jamie Francisco at (213) 744-9048 or Jamie.Francisco@lacity.org