

News for the Week of August 14, 2017

COMMUNITY OUTREACH – EWDD HOSTS BOOTH AT CENTRAL AVENUE JAZZ FESTIVAL

The City of Los Angeles Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) participates in community events throughout the year to promote the job training and business services available at EWDD’s YouthSource, WorkSource and BusinessSource Centers. In late July, EWDD staff spread the word about the department’s programs at the Central Avenue Jazz Festival in South Los Angeles. EWDD has sponsored a table at the festival for several years.



(Left to right) EWDD Youth Staff members Chang Kim, Karina Henriquez, Elis Lee and Brenda Anderson at the Central Avenue Jazz Festival

GANG INJUNCTION SETTLEMENT MOVES FORWARD – 216 CLAIMS CONFIRMED

EWDD has executed contracts with 21 providers from the Los Angeles Reconnections Academy (LARCA 2.0), the jobs and education program that will provide services for the 6,000 eligible class members in the case of Rodriguez v. City of Los Angeles. A contract has also been executed with program evaluator California State University, Northridge (CSUN), per the settlement agreement. Approximately 216 of the 223 total claims received to date were confirmed as valid claims. A total of 173 class members have requested expedited removal from the gang injunction. Ten class members have contacted service providers for services, which include tattoo removal services and opportunities for apprenticeships and vocational training, along with educational training such as English as a Second Language (ESL) courses and post-secondary education. Below is a timeline of services provided in August 2017, along with training planned for September 2017.

- **August 2:** First round of Approval Letter Packets went out.
- **August 14:** Trainers for Cultural Competency and Best Practices in Case Management, Employer Engagement and Job Development Training were selected and a training curriculum was approved.

- **August 23 & 25:** Site Visits/Tours of the LARCA 2.0 service provider sites by the Plaintiff Counsel and the City Attorney's office have been scheduled per their request.
- **September 7:** Proposed start date for five weekly training sessions.



EWDD WORKSOURCE CENTERS – RE-ENTRY PROGRAM SUCCESS STORIES

The City of Los Angeles Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) oversees 16 WorkSource Centers and two job portals that serve as a personal employment agency for Angelenos, providing job training services to help them find work. The WorkSource Centers improve employment outcomes for both job seekers and businesses, with Case Managers helping job seekers get job ready and Business Service Representatives connecting businesses with skilled workers and job placement services. This week EWDD highlights five success stories from the El Proyecto del Barrio WorkSource Center in the Valley and the Goodwill WorkSource Center in Northeast LA, representing all the WorkSource Centers and the vital services they provide every day. These success stories include participants from EWDD's re-entry program, which assists formerly incarcerated individuals find work. We have provided last names only to protect these individuals' identities.

A FRESH START – RE-ENTRY PARTICIPANTS FIND WORK IN CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY



El Proyecto del Barrio WorkSource Center in Sun Valley helped two re-entry program participants join a pre-apprentice construction program that provided them training for careers in the construction industry. Mr. Upton and Mr. Lozano turned to the El Proyecto WSC with the goal to work in the construction sector, with hopes to obtain employment as Carpenter Apprentices through a local union. The El Proyecto Del Barrio WSC helped them register for "Construction Work – We BUILD" pre-apprentice construction program at the Los Angeles Unified School District West Valley Occupational Center, where they completed 540 hours of training to earn three certificates in Construction Work Levels 1, 2, & 3 within an 18-week-long semester. The design of the pre-apprentice program prepares individuals to apply technical knowledge and skills to residential and commercial building construction and remodeling projects. Both Mr. Upton and Mr. Lozano went above and beyond to complete their required hours of instruction. At times they had to miss class due to court appointments, to fulfill mandatory appointments with probation or parole, or interview opportunities for gainful employment. During the re-entry program, the two candidates faced challenges, including limited resources and income. Today, both are employed at full-time jobs. Mr. Upton began work on July 20, 2017 as an electrician at Santa Clarita Power Systems, where he earns a livable income. Mr. Lozano is now employed full-time as a carpenter at IB CONSTRUCTION where he earns a livable wage of \$16 per hour.

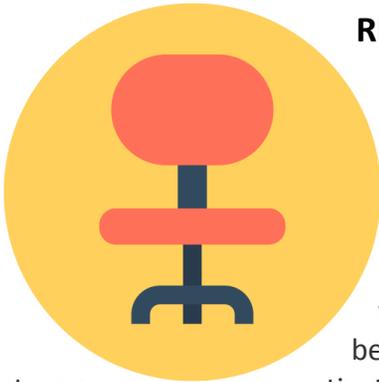
where they completed 540 hours of training to earn three certificates in Construction Work Levels 1, 2, & 3 within an 18-week-long semester. The design of the pre-apprentice program prepares individuals to apply technical knowledge and skills to residential and commercial building construction and remodeling projects. Both Mr. Upton and Mr. Lozano went above and beyond to complete their required hours of instruction. At times they had to miss class due to court appointments, to fulfill mandatory appointments with probation or parole, or interview opportunities for gainful employment. During the re-entry program, the two candidates faced challenges, including limited resources and income. Today, both are employed at full-time jobs. Mr. Upton began work on July 20, 2017 as an electrician at Santa Clarita Power Systems, where he earns a livable income. Mr. Lozano is now employed full-time as a carpenter at IB CONSTRUCTION where he earns a livable wage of \$16 per hour.

FINDING WORK WITH THE CITY OF LA – A TARGETED LOCAL HIRE SUCCESS STORY

With support from El Proyecto del Barrio WorkSource Center staff, a re-entry participant successfully found work as a maintenance worker for the City of



LA. Mr. Burton enrolled at El Proyecto WorkSource Center and began his participation through Paid Work Experience (PWE) and Transitional Subsidized Employment (TSE) where he was assigned to the Los Angeles County Housing Authority for subsidized training. Mr. Burton was co-assisted through the re-entry program where he received additional job readiness support and career guidance. Through his participation in PWE, Mr. Burton was invited to several recruitment and hiring events, including the City's Targeted Local Hire program, which provides alternate pathways for Angelenos from underserved communities to civil service jobs. Mr. Burton ultimately secured a full-time permanent position as maintenance Worker for the City of LA. Mr. Burton said he is very grateful for all of the services and support he received from El Proyecto and never imagined he would be working at the City, earning a livable wage of \$22.43 an hour.



RE-ENTRY PARTICIPANT EXCEEDS EMPLOYER EXPECTATIONS IN CLERICAL ROLE

Ms. Galed enrolled at El Proyecto del Barrio WorkSource Center as a re-entry customer. She followed through with all her job readiness appointments, including resume and interview workshops and soft-skills coaching. After several rejections from employers, Ms. Galed was introduced to the Latin American Civic Association in Panorama City, where she began a job training program in clerical and office training. She began her program part-time. Ms. Galed impressed her employer with her strong motivation, drive to learn and high performance as a team player, prompting her employer to increase her training to full-time. While in training, Ms. Galed juggled mandatory appointments with her probation officer, court appointments and was searching for housing. Ms. Galed's performance exceeded her current employers' expectations and she is now working full-time. She also found housing and is now renting an apartment with her mother near work.

NEW WAREHOUSE JOB FIRST STEP TOWARD A NEW LIFE

Mr. Samuran is currently on parole for the next five years after having served an 18-year prison sentence. Mr. Samuran enrolled in the re-entry program at the Northeast LA WorkSource Center, run by EWDD partner Goodwill, where he immediately expressed his eagerness to get back into the workforce and reintegrate into society. Staff helped Mr. Samuran with mock interviews, life skills coaching and intensive one-on-one services. After three weeks and a successful interview, Mr. Samuran was hired to work at the Forever 21 warehouse. Mr. Samuran's case manager also provided him a clothing voucher and a bus pass to assist with purchasing new clothes and transportation for his new job. Mr. Samuran said he is very grateful for the help he has received from the WorkSource Center. He successfully retained employment for the last four months and is currently saving up to buy his first vehicle. Once he is released from the transitional home, he hopes to find his own home and continue to work on being a law-abiding citizen.

BUSINESS METRICS:

| | |
|---|-----|
| LABSCs Reporting: North Valley, West Valley, South Valley, South LA, East LA, Mid City, Central West, Hollywood and Harbor | |
| LABSCs Not Reporting: N/A | |
| Pre-Startups Enrolled | 46 |
| Pre-Startups Assisted | 32 |
| Start-ups/Operating Businesses Enrolled | 32 |
| Start-ups/Operating Businesses Assisted | 32 |
| Workshops: Number of Clients Attended | 132 |

WORKFORCE METRICS:

(Arrows indicate weekly trend)

JobsLA (online and mobile)



Page Views

(Down 3.9%)



New Visitors

(Up 0.2%)



New Sessions

(Up 3%)



Registrations

(Up 1%)

WorkSource Centers



Enrollments

(Down 2%)

"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.