

ISSUE

01

JANUARY
2023

We are Workforce

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About Us

Administration

290 North D Street, Suite 600
San Bernardino, CA 92415
(909) 387-9859
Mail Code: 0046

East Valley AJCC

500 Inland Center Drive,
Space 508
Inland Center Mall
San Bernardino, CA 92408
(909) 382-0440
Mail Code: EVAJCC

High Desert AJCC

17310 Bear Valley Rd.
Suite 109
Victorville, CA 92395
(760) 552-6550
Mail Code: HDAJCC

West Valley AJCC

9560 9th Street, Suite A
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730
(909) 941-6500
Mail Code: WVAJCC

Message from the Director



Happy New Year Team WDD, and welcome to the first issue of our new department newsletter! It's hard to believe we are already one month into 2023, as 2022 seemed to come and go in a blur. But what a year it was! As we review the past year, we have much to be proud of – most significantly, the thousands of lives we touched through our programs and services. But, it's also important that we each pause to recognize the “small” wins that occur each and every day in WDD – the youth that receives a diploma, the fiscal process that goes perfectly, the DDC activity that was so much fun, the great new business lead, the well-run and collaborative staff meeting, the thoughtful thank-you note from a customer, and countless other examples.

As we move forward in 2023, I encourage all of us to take a moment to reflect each day on our individual and collective accomplishments. I promise that you will be amazed and inspired by what you, and we together, will have accomplished, and that inspiration will fuel more and more great things for our County. I am proud to serve as your Director and wish to express my heartfelt gratitude for each of you.

My very best to all of you for a fulfilling and successful new year!

(800) 451-JOBS (5627)

wp.sbcounty.gov/workforce

We are Team

NEW EMPLOYEES

Melissa Franco
Payroll Clerk,
Administration

Danny Garcia
Supervisor,
HDAJCC

PROMOTIONS

Robyn Caliver
Supervisor – EVAJCC

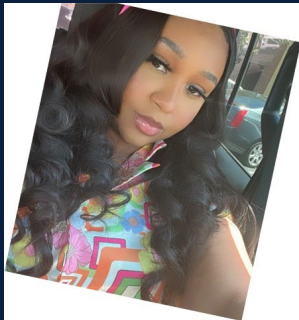
Vince Ramirez
Supervisor - WVAJCC

Kristina Pimentel
Supervisor - WVAJCC

SERVICE PINS

Devra Bell – 5 yrs
Marc Chacon – 5 yrs
Ulises Lopez-Becerra –
5 yrs
Chantal Gibbs – 10 yrs
Michael Holtz – 30 yrs
Bessine Richard – 40 yrs

ALL ABOUT ME



Anaya Redd OAII – EVAJCC

Anaya began working for Workforce Development in October 2021! She enjoys working with the public and is very grateful to work with such an AMAZING team at EVAJCC.

Read More...

<https://ddc.sbcounty.gov/wdd/meet-the-staff/>



Employee of the Quarter

4th Qtr, 2022

Angie Simmons High Desert AJCC

Angie started with WDD as a contract Workforce Development Specialist (WDS) and was able to go on to obtain permanent status. She has worked multiple grants and is currently assigned 1/3 of the department's youth follow up cases, as well as adult cases. She has assisted many youth with their employment / education

goals. She is proactive in contacting customers who are eligible to receive incentive cards and provided those to them. From July – December, she has captured 38+ employments. Angie works every case to meet performance measures. She maintains professionalism while working with a variety of cases, and regularly volunteers to assist

her coworkers with job fairs and outreach opportunities. She is funny, optimistic and a lover of life with a strong passion for helping others. When she isn't working, you can find Angie spending quality time with her family, friends and animals. She enjoys traveling, immersing herself in nature, and exploring hidden gems.

Linda Ferguson - Retiring



After 8 years with WDD and 30 total years of public Service, Linda will retire in February 2023. She joined San Bernardino County in 1993 as a Programming Team Assistant at the Office of Management Services, which is now ITD. In 1995, Linda moved up to Alaska and worked with the University of Alaska, Fairbanks as

a Fiscal Supervisor for 20 years. She decided to return to San Bernardino in 2015 and joined WDD as an Accounting Technician. Linda was awarded the Countywide 2020 Award of Excellence for WDD. Linda plans to enjoy retirement with various home projects, and spending time with her mother and family.

Q&A Technology Tip

Q: How can I get more space for my Outlook Emails?

A: We all know the struggles with keeping our mailbox clean and making sure we have enough space for all our emails. Well, I have news you will love to hear; we are getting more space! That is right, you heard correctly. We currently only have 3 GB assigned to us, but in the future we will all have 100 GB.

That is a vast jump for us and it should be a big stress releaser as well. We do not have a current date when everyone should be enrolled in the new system, but should be in the next couple of weeks.



We are Success



My First Job – Leeahna Wright

Leeahna Wright is a Workforce Development Specialist at the West Valley AJCC. Her first job was working for Jamba Juice. She started when she was 16 because she wanted to earn money to buy \$200 boots that looked like they were from Star Wars. She shares she was lucky to have a great

manager who taught her about teamwork, being accountable and still having fun at work. They approached each customer as an individual and she really enjoyed when she remembered a customer's order because they would get a kick out of it. She worked in Century City at the Twin

Towers so a lot of their customers were trying to get their order fast. She would try and help them take a few minutes to decompress and have fun while they were waiting for her to make their drink. All of these sound like great transferrable skills!

Michael Holtz - Retiring

"I'm with the government, and here to help your business!"

A personal tagline shouted with hands lifted high, from Business Services Specialist, Michael Holtz. The tagline was heard many times by hundreds of chamber members. Mike Holtz has been a Business Services team member since 1999 when he joined the Workforce Development Department (WDD), then known as Jobs and Employment Services. Prior to joining WDD, Mike served as an Eligibility Worker I, II, III, and Eligibility Worker Supervisor in the County's Transitional Assistance Department.

Mike has talked with countless business owners, managers, and recruiters over 23 years. His first goal was to serve businesses, offering recruitment and hiring assistance, On-the-Job Training, Rapid Response Services, Human Resource Hotline information and many more resources available through WIOA and outside resources partners. During Mike's time with WDD he received the San Bernardino County, WDD, Public Service Award in 2010, became a Certified Business Services Consultant, served on the High

Desert Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Board and was a nominee of the statewide CWA Workforce Professional of the Year Award.

We are excited for Mike as he hangs up his Business Services Hat and Suit, retiring after 30 years of SB County service on January 27th, yet we are sad to see him go. We all wish Mike many, many years of well-deserved, adventure filled, retirement. I'd like to suggest a new tagline for Mike; I'm Retired, Ready to make the rest of my life, the best of my life!



AJCC SUCCESS STORY

Lynette Patton

Lynette started as a WEX participant during the height of COVID-19 Pandemic as a volunteer through the CalWORKs Welfare-to-Work program at the East Valley AJCC. Despite having to overcome multiple barriers during this difficult time, Lynette was resilient in the face of adversities and carried herself professionally. She provided great clerical support at reception and was always warm and welcoming. During her time at East Valley AJCC she attended various workshops to improve her own job searching skills and techniques as well as helping others in the resource room. Lynette applied, competed, and was chosen to attend the very first San Bernardino County, Human Resources, Career Path-Builders Training. This training enabled her to meet education and experience requirements for several entry level jobs with the county. During a November 3rd job fair at the center, Lynette secured an interview on November 4th and was offered a job with Child-Care Careers as a Substitute Teacher on November 8th, and started full time on November 28th!

The East Valley AJCC are so proud of Lynette.



ddc.sbcounty.gov/wdd/

ACTIVITIES/ TRAININGS 4TH Quarter

July:

National Monuments
Patriotic Gear
EMACS Part 2 Training

August:

National Lefthanders Day
American Adventures

September:

National Daughter's Day
Grandparents Day
Self Care & Cubicle
Workout Training

October:

National Sports Day
Halloween
Italian Heritage
Cancer Awareness
Excel Tips & Tricks

November:

Veterans
Thanksgiving
Book Lovers Day
How to Avoid Burnout
Training

December:

Toy Drive
Holiday Traditions
End of Year Celebrations
Goal Setting Training

4TH QUARTER AWARD WINNERS

High Desert AJCC

We are Diverse

What's Happening Around the Offices



4TH Quarter Award Winners



We are Community



Heavy Rain? No Problem, We're There!

With New Year's resolutions set, not even an atmospheric river could keep job seekers away from East Valley AJCC's monthly hiring event held on, Thursday, January 5, 2023. Over 200 job seekers and 20 employers connected for the event, the most ever attending such an event at the East Valley Location. The Center was relocated to the Inland Center Mall in July of 2021, shortly after the pandemic. Since that time the attendance, while steadily increasing, had not reached the numbers realized at the previous location. "The numbers have increased month over month", said Carmela Giliberto, Business Services Representative and co-coordinator of the monthly events. She added, "There were reservations as to whether this event would be a success given it was so close to the holidays. The turnout was amazing!"

If there were real signs that people aren't entering the workforce, then those sentiments may have been eclipsed by this month's turnout, especially if the trend continues. What's next for East Valley AJCC?

The Center hopes to build on the success it enjoyed by aggressively engaging those job seekers to offer services to help reskill through training or assist with the job search efforts. Hopes are high that the attendees will spread the word about the experience. The Business Services Unit will redouble outreach efforts to reach more job seekers through marketing the monthly event and working with it's AJCC partners and share the event schedule through their networks.

The San Bernardino County Workforce Development

Board oversees the operations of three America's Job Center of California locations in San Bernardino, Rancho Cucamonga, and Victorville.

A hiring event is held monthly at each location. For more information on how to access business or job seeker services, visit wp.sbcounty.gov/workforce/

SCHEDULE

East Valley AJCC

1st Thursday each month

West Valley AJCC

3rd Thursday each month

High Desert AJCC

4th Thursday each month

Hiring Events

BUSINESS SERVICES SUCCESS STORY

United Furniture Industries (UFI)

At 6:22 am, 11/22/2022. Sal Monica (BSR) received a text message from UFI Director of Operations, Mario Gonzalez:

"They terminated everyone from all of our companies by text/email last night."

Phase 1, Intervention: Sal stepped into action and called Mario to find out about 300 employees that were suddenly, and without notice, laid off. The Business Services Team (the Team) rallied and met before 8:00 on the 22nd. They decided to visit UFI and distribute information about Rapid Response Services. Michael Holtz, Sal Monica, LaTanya Fennell-Logan and Eric Rivas taped flyers to windows, doors and walls and met with former employees (collecting email addresses and phone numbers) as they arrived to collect belongings.

Phase 2, Planning the Rapid Response: The Team met again on 11/22 and decided on a different Rapid Response and began coordinating an event for 12/08/2022 @ 9:00 am – 12:00 pm, at the **High Desert Training Center**. The event included: AJCC job search services, veterans' services, On-the-Job Training, financial assistance for training, COBRA, 401(k) options, Covered California, Child Support Services and employers!

Phase 3, the Plan in Action: The Rapid Response event took place on 12/8. Along with resource providers, more than 30 employers were onsite to offer opportunities to 445 job seekers (more than 100 of which were former UFI employees).

Phase 4, the Outcome: On 12/13/2022, Mario reported that 238 former [UFI] factory workers and 36 Drivers are newly employed. On 01/06/2023, Mario reached out again, in his new position as Director of Operations for Brentwood Drive, he has hired 15 former UFI drivers and plans to hire more!



Professional Development

FRANKLINCOVEY

Our department has been participating in the FranklinCovey training this past quarter and will be ending by the end of February.

Management/Supervisors have been taking The 6 Critical Practices for Leading a Team which equips leaders with the essential skills and tools to get work done with and through other people. The content applies to leaders of all levels, whether they are new first-level leaders who need to transition successfully from individual contributors to leaders of others, or leaders who have been in their roles for some time and are looking for practical and relevant guidance on how to effectively lead and manage their teams.

All other staff have been taking the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People: Signature Edition 4.0 which aligns timeless principles of effectiveness with modern technology and practices. The content helps learners sustain lasting success by effectively leading themselves, influencing, engaging and collaborating with others, and continually improving and renewing their capabilities.

Stay tuned for the next training series.

UPCOMING EVENTS

• February

- 02/02/23 EVAJCC Hiring Event @ 9:00 – 12:00
- 02/09/23 Communicate Like a Leader Webinar @ 10:00 – 11:30
- 02/16/23 WVAJCC Hiring Event @ 9:00 – 12:00
- 02/22/23 General Board Meeting @ 8:30 – 10:30
- 02/23/23 HDACJJ Hiring Event @ 10:00 – 1:00

• March

- 03/01/23 Executive Board Meeting @ 8:30 – 9:30
- 03/02/23 EVAJCC Hiring Event @ 9:00 – 12:00
- 03/16/23 WVAJCC Hiring Event @ 9:00 – 12:00
- 03/22/23 General Board Meeting - Budget Workshop @ 8:30 – 10:30
- 03/23/23 HDAJCC Hiring Event @ 10:00 – 1:00

• April

- 04/12/23 Board Committee Meetings @ 8:30 – 12:30
- 04/20/23 All Staff Meeting via Zoom @ 2:00 – 3:30

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• Prison 2 Employment funding is coming back soon!

The Inland Empire received notification that we are being funded for the next round of funding-more info coming soon!

• WDD received a grant to pilot a Disability Navigator program.

We will be hiring two contract staff: one WDS and one BSR to work specifically with customers with disabilities and employers to encourage them to hire customers with disabilities.

• A new AJCC Orientation video is coming soon!

Filming occurred and production is underway. Watch for the release in the upcoming weeks!

• Regional and Local Plan Two-Year Modifications.

The regional and local plan two-year modifications are available for public comment through February 17. We are adding two new targeted industry sectors: Government/Education and Mining. Read the plans to learn more about our goals for the next two years.