

We are Workforce

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About Us

Administration

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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

(800) 451-JOBS (5627)
workforce.sbcounty.gov

Message from the Director



Spring is one of my favorite times of the year! The weather is warming up, the days are getting longer, trees and flowers are blooming, and everything is lush and green. And speaking of green, springtime also means budget time and thinking about the completion of the current fiscal year and making plans for the new one. Although next year's budget won't be approved until June, our fiscal team has been hard at work for months to get the budget ready for review by the Board of Supervisors. Our AJCC's, Business Services and Youth Providers are enrolling, training and employing greater percentages of customers than ever. And our administrative team is perpetually delivering MOU's, RFP's, grants, contracts and board agenda items. Our amazing and supportive Workforce Development Board will be meeting in May to lay the foundation for new policy-level goals that will provide all of us with strategic vision and direction for the coming year. I look forward to sharing that direction with each of you in future meetings and communications. I am so proud of everything we have accomplished in 2022-23 and am confident 2023-24 will be even better. As always, thank you for all that you do to make a difference in San Bernardino County.

My very best to each of you!

We are Team

NEW EMPLOYEES

Jessica Fernandez
Saavedra
WDS, WVAJCC

Jennifer Galindo
OAI, WVAJCC

Delina Moreno
WDS, WVAJCC

Alex Rodriguez
WDS, WVAJCC

Christina Sarabia
Accountant I, Admin

Jannafer Torres
OAI, HDAJCC

Samuel Vasquez
WDS, EVAJCC

Sandra Zamarripa
WDS, Admin

PROMOTIONS

Inez Rodriguez
Acct Tech – Admin

SERVICE PINS

Anita Cirillo – 25 yrs
Danny Garcia – 25 yrs
Carla Ornog – 25 yrs
Dina Santangelo – 25 yrs
Jeri Lytle – 30 yrs
Sal Monica – 30 yrs

PERFECT ATTENDANCE FOR 2022

Fabian Garcia, Admin

Congratulations!

Employee of the Quarter 1st Qtr, 2023

RAVI BRAHMBHATT Administration



Ravi is currently working as the Staff Analyst for the Youth Program. The program has undergone a large amount of changes over the last year including designating the funding based on geographical need, implementing standard policies and procedures and changing the way the providers qualify youth. Ravi has implemented several tracking programs to ensure the providers are meeting goals. He also developed and implemented a process

(with the fiscal team) to allow for the electronic submission of invoices, a change that has saved both time and money. Recently, he worked to get the Road Trip Nation contract approved by the Board of Supervisors. He has developed very positive relationships with all of the providers. In the WDB Youth Committee meeting, one of the providers even stated, "We love Ravi!". He is always willing to help his fellow analysts to think of creative solutions.

Meet Our New WDB Chair



After serving on the Workforce Development Board (WDB) since 2011, Will Sterling was elected and began serving as the new WDB Chair in January of 2023. Will is married to Catherine Sterling and has 4 daughters: Renae 20, Abby 17, Emily 15, and Myla 14. They also have 2 dogs, 3 cats and some fish...as they love animals. The family has resided in Rancho Cucamonga since 2000 and they also have a home in Havasu Lake (California side), where they enjoy going on the water during the summer weekends. In the winters, they enjoy off road trips, with their favorite rides happening in Dumont Dunes.

Will currently has 2 active businesses: BCM Group and Sterling Synergy. BCM Group is a construction company and primarily does public works and commercial construction projects. In addition to serving on the WDB since 2011, he also serves on the Dignity Health Inland Empire Foundation Board, the South Coast AQMD Hearing Board Advisory Committee and his HOA board.

Will's hobbies include electronics, autonomous AI vehicles, and flying. He puts those together and designs, builds and flies some exciting things. In addition, he likes to fly Radio Control planes 2-3 times a week with friends, most of which he builds himself.

Fun Facts:

- Before getting into the construction business, Will was the Executive Pastor of a church in Chino.
- Will received his Doctorate Degree in Business (Operating and Technology) and holds the designation of Dr. Sterling!
- His first job was at the age of 14, working with a company that designed and manufactured equipment and machinery used by hospitals.
- His wife is a Folklorico instructor for Ontario/Montclair School District and teaches for a private dance studio in Rialto. Her passion for Folklorico has peeked the interest of their 3 youngest daughters to learn the art, character and technique for Folklorico.

Prior to becoming the WDB Chair, Will has also held additional elected positions on the Board, including Vice Chair, 2nd Vice Chair and Treasurer. His passion for our work shows in his commitment to our Board and WDD staff. With his continued support, San Bernardino County can lead the way in providing exceptional services and support to the residents of our community.

We are Success

My First Job – Daniel Garcia



Daniel knew he needed to make some money when he was a sophomore in high school and wanted to take a girl to homecoming. He applied at Carl's Jr. down the street from his house. He practiced for the interview and went in confident in his ability to talk about his transferable skills, since he had no work experience. He got the job! They very quickly recognized his charisma and positive attitude, so he was a

regular in the drive-thru, where he was often encouraged to apply for a job at Disneyland because of how fun he made the wait. During his two years at Carl's Jr., he learned good customer service and how to work with a diverse group of people, skills he still uses today. Back to the homecoming date, he had enough funds and got up the nerve to ask the girl, but unfortunately, her family wouldn't let her go.

AJCC Success Story- Damon Bridges



"How WDB, InTech and apprenticeship changed one man's life"

Through the challenges of devastating life events, Damon Bridges needed something to change his fortunes and bring peace to him and his family. He found that through the support of WDB and an apprenticeship program that prepared him for a life-changing career change.

Bridges' seemingly impossible journey began as a young man with dreams of attending a four-year university, but believing it was out of reach. In 2009, his wife died of breast cancer, leaving Bridges to raise two young children while working two full-time jobs to make ends meet.

"The years passed and my children grew older. At 41 two full-years old, I grew tired of working two jobs, and realized it was time for a career change," Bridges said.

Through WDB and the Chaffey College InTech Center, he enrolled in an industrial apprentice program. "There were a lot of long days and long nights, but with the support of Workforce and Chaffey, things just felt right," he said.

Then, tragedy struck again, when, on August 21, 2021, his son Shemar was murdered. "In life, people go through things that will cause you to lose focus, but I knew my son would have wanted me to complete my goal. He was my motivation to complete the program," Bridges said. He graduated in November 2021, and the next month was hired by Ventura Foods in Ontario as an apprentice. This past December, he was promoted to Maintenance Mechanic.

"I wouldn't call this a success story because it is not a race, it is a marathon," he said. "There is so much I want to do for my community. I'd love to mentor the youth. Help them accomplish their goals and dreams. Show them that anything is possible if you believe in yourself and put in the necessary work."

Q&A Technology Tip

Q: Is there a more efficient way to process WPEs?

A: There is now! Introducing the new online Work Performance Evaluations (WPE) and Automated Wage (Step) Progressions. Go to your "Employee Self Service" page and click on the ePerformance FAQ's Q&A. There you will find all the training documents. Video trainings are coming soon!

WORKFORCE POEM CONTEST

Winner

Tamika Tonge

When the weight of work
feels heavy and tough, and
you wonder if you're strong
enough,
Take a moment to exhale
and look around, for
inspiration that can always
be found.

The tasks before you may
seem daunting, But
remember that you are
always learning
Each challenge you face is
a chance to grow
As you successfully achieve
a new goal

Believe in yourself and your
abilities, and don't be afraid
to embrace possibilities,
With hard work,
determination, and drive,
Success will come if you are
not afraid to strive.

Take pride in all that you
accomplish, and don't
forget that you're capable
So keep your head held
high and remain resilient,
For you are absolutely
brilliant!

And when you reach the
end of the day, Reflect on
your progress and find a
way,
To release any doubts and
fears,
And celebrate your triumphs
with cheer.

Each small step is a part of
your journey,
So stay motivated, stay
inspired, and always
persevere
For the world is waiting for
your greatness to appear.



ACTIVITIES/ CELEBRATIONS

1st Quarter

January:

New Year Resolution
Clean Desk
Healthy Alternatives
Lunar New Year

February:

Superbowl Party
Presidents Day
Black History
Valentines Day

March:

Walk in the Park
Read Across America
Red Nose Day
Workforce Poem Contest

2023 DDC REPS

Admin/EDA:

Mariann Johnson,
Facilitator
Cher Bliss, Website
Coordinator
Andrew Escobedo, Co-
Chair
Anita Cirillo
Miguel Garcia
Ryan Niesen

EVAJJC:

Carmela Giliberto, Co-
Chair
Yesenia Olague
Jessica Zabala
Ariana Elizalde, Secretary

HDAJJC:

Lucy Gutierrez
Nilda Mireles
Angie Simmons

WVAJJC:

Rena Heath
Leeahna Wright

ddc.sbcounty.gov/wdd/

We are Diverse

What's Happening Around the Offices



1st Quarter DDC Award Winners



High
Desert
AJCC

We are Community



Local Assistance Centers (LAC)

In response to the unprecedented Snowstorms which left hundreds of San Bernardino County residents reeling from its devastating aftermath. WDD joined forces with other San Bernardino County agencies and community partners in what is known as San Bernardino County Storm Response 2023, to offer hope and support to mountain community residents through Local Assistance Centers (LACs).

LACs are activated following major disasters to provide support for residents and businesses that

suffered losses due to a major disaster. Three centers were established (Running Springs, Crestline, and Wrightwood) in mountain communities to serve those most impacted in our County. The LACs offered assistance that included snow removal reimbursement, behavioral health, help for small businesses, employment resources, pre-school services, food and utility assistance, insurance claims, tax assistance, rebuilding permits help, veteran services, legal aid, and more.

The LAC helped hundreds of residents from the storm-worn region who were grateful for the support, including our own business services technician, Angelica Villaseñor, a resident of Crestline, who also volunteered for this great effort. "What brings me the most joy is being able to see the relief on the faces of people from my own community who I had the privilege of serving. It's an honor," she said. WDD will work to continue to support mountain residents needing to find work or businesses in need of vital resources to keep the doors open.

BUSINESS SERVICES SUCCESS STORY

U.S. Rubber
SPORTFLOOR & MORE!



WDD has partnered with US Rubber to help upskill existing workers through an Incumbent Worker Training (IWT) partnership. US Rubber, a San Bernardino County based manufacturer of rubber flooring solutions for gyms, sport venues, and vegetation control applications, hopes to benefit by upskilling recently promoted supervisors with leadership training.

Through this venture, WDD hopes we can encourage the employer to back fill vacancies created by the promotions. IWT, is part of comprehensive regional sector pathway program that include strategies for developing a skilled work-force, increase income mobility, to help businesses avert layoff.



We are Action



Professional Development

FRANKLINCOVEY

We have continued with FranklinCovey training this past quarter with a 3-week minicourse.

Admin Team Leads, Managers and Supervisors were assigned to the "Addressing Unconscious Bias (for Managers)" minicourse that identifies and addresses their biases so that every team member can thrive and contribute their best.

All other staff have been taking the "Addressing Unconscious Bias (for Individual Contributors)" minicourse that identifies and addresses yours and others biases so that everyone can thrive and contribute their best.

These minicourses will be ending by April 30.

Our next training series will be on The Speed of Trust.

If you have any suggestions for the next set of courses, please let your manager know.



UPCOMING EVENTS

May

- 05/04/23 EVAJCC Hiring Event @ 9:00 – 12:00
- 05/10/23 WDB General Board Meeting @ 10:00 – 12:00
- 05/17/23 Victor College Community Job Fair @ 10:00 – 12:00
- 05/18/23 WVAJCC Hiring Event @ 9:00 – 12:00
- 05/24/23 Mid-Year Labor Law Update Webinar @ 10:00 – 11:30
- 05/29/23 Holiday

June

- 06/01/23 EVAJCC Hiring Event @ 9:00 – 12:00
- 06/14/23 WDB Executive Board Meeting @ 10:00 – 12:00
- 06/15/23 4th District Job Fair/Expungement Event @ 10:00 – 2:00
- 06/19/23 Holiday
- 06/22/23 Top 10 Ways to Stay Out of Court Webinar @ 10:00 – 11:30
- 06/22/23 HDACJJ Hiring Event @ 10:00 – 1:00

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **New Website Address Coming!**

Our website address is getting an update and will be available May 3rd. The new address will be: workforce.sbcounty.org. Don't forget to change it in your Outlook signature block. If you see any materials with our old address, please send it to Cher Bliss for updating.

- **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!**

The new AJCC Orientation video is ready! It will be released with the new website.

- **Regional Equity and Recovery Partnerships (RERP) Grant coming in May**

This grant is in partnership with our local community colleges. It includes funding for EMT/Paramedic training, hiring bonuses for customers who complete the Industrial Maintenance Mechanic programs at InTech and the High Desert Training Center and then go to work for a small company, truck driving training at VVC and construction internships. Watch for more detailed information coming soon.