



*Alliance For
Workforce Development, Inc.
Providing pathways to success*

October 1, 2011 - December 31, 2011



Submitted By: Luis M. Moreno

BUTTE COUNTY ONE STOP LOCATIONS



**2445 Carmichael Drive
Chico, CA 95928
(530) 895-4364**



**2348 Baldwin Ave
Oroville, CA 95966
(530) 538-2228**



**78 Table Mountain Blvd
Oroville, CA 95965
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CSU Chico All Majors Career and Internship Fair



On Wednesday, November 2, 2011, the Chico State Career Center hosted an All Majors Career and Internship Fair. Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. Career Center Advisors Mark Alvidrez and Sharon Nilsson attended this exciting event. This opportunity allowed career advisors to discuss career opportunities and the services AFWD can offer the job seeker in attaining full time employment.

Nearly 1,000 participants attended this event and over 60 potential employers were on hand to assist participants. Many participants were seeking local internships in social services and health related fields. Job seekers were prepared with their resumes and professional portfolios. Students who are not currently seeking full-time positions or internships had been encouraged by the Chico State Career Center to attend the fair and talk with employers about the job market.

Many of these participants attended the AFWD booth and were given information detailing our services. Advisors also spoke to potential employers and advised them on our portfolio of business services. Overall, this event proved a great opportunity for AFWD to meet with members of Butte County's community and open the door to our services.

CSU, Chico Career Center Mock Interviews



Career Center Advisors Anthony Tardiville and Sharon Nilsson partnered with the CSU, Chico Career Center to assist with their annual mock interviews event for students approaching graduation. Ten students individually met with the CCA's to respond to sample interview questions, share their portfolio, and gather feedback on their performance.

Sharon and Anthony found the experience notably successful and enjoyable. The students came from diverse backgrounds and experiences, but everyone responded well to the coaching session after the interview. Areas of opportunity discussed were physical appearance, confidence level, appropriate sharing of previous work experience and examples, and verbal tone and pacing.

The CCAs were impressed with the students' levels of professionalism and the seriousness with which they took this assignment. This also presented a great opportunity to share the job search resources available through AFWD. Many students were unfamiliar with our services, and were encouraged to come by when they are ready to actively job search for their new career.

This is a great start to a positive relationship with the team at the Chico State Career Center. Thanks to our Lead Business Services Representative, Luis Moreno and Chico State Career Center Counselor, Ken Naas for initiating this valuable partnership.

BUTTE COLLEGE CHICO CENTER

Home Energy Rating System (HERS) Training



The California Building Performance Contractors Association (CBPCA) has been approved by the California Energy Commission as a HERS Provider to oversee Raters providing 2008 Title 24, Part 6 Field Verification and Diagnostic Testing.

Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. and Butte College have partnered to provide this certification training to the community. Classes started November 2, and AFWD's Program Manager Sue

Vivilacqua and Career Center Advisor Anthony Tardiville were there to help. The grant is able to help students with training in a green industry. AFWD staff assisted Butte College in enrolling participants from the class into this training program.

The orientation was held from 9am-10:30am and all of the participants were interested in learning another trait. The course provides theory and practice of the fundamentals with an overview of the systems and design. Basic HERS simulations and workshop activities include full contact with hands-on learning environment utilizing assessment tools for residential systems.

LEAN TO GREEN TRAINING

Introduction to the 7 "S"

On December 6 and 7, 2011, Butte College, in conjunction with DPMG Corporation, Inc., held the orientations for their "Lean to Green Training Course – Introduction to 7S" classes. The orientations and subsequent classes were held at the Butte College Field office in Gridley. The class will prepare the participants to understand the principles of 7S (Sort, Set in Order, Shine, Safety, Sustainability, Standardize, and Sustain) and how these principles can be applied to and benefit an organization in their efforts to become more sustainable and grow.



The classes were taught as ESL classes, giving non-English speakers the chance to learn about the 7S framework. AFWD staff helped register over 40 participants to help cover the cost of the training. With over 70 participants in attendance, the orientations were a great opportunity to provide an introduction on AFWD services to the Butte County communities.

INTERVIEW WORKSHOPS BEGIN

– Oroville Community Employment Center –

November 3rd, marked the beginning of our Interview Workshops for the Oroville Community Employment Center. Wendy Sweeny and Kristine Farrell, Career Center Advisor's at the Butte County Community Employment Center in Oroville held their first workshop with great success!

“Ace the Interview” was presented offering information on the *do's and don'ts* of job interviewing and ending with a mock panel interview for each participant. A survey given to the attendees of the workshop indicated overwhelming praise and thanks for the information AFWD is now offering to its clients in the Oroville area, free of charge.

Helping job seekers understand how to present themselves, how to respond to questions asked and when and how to follow up is just some of the information that is presented. Attendees also have the opportunity to interact and question fellow job seekers on their personal experiences. This interactive two-hour workshop is now offered every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month and is open to everyone that is interested in sharpening their interview skills.



ALLIANCE FOR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

PROVIDING PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS!

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICES FORUM

On November 9th Butte County Department of Employment and Social Services (DESS) and Alliance for Workforce Development (AFWD) sponsored a youth employment services forum. Agencies from all of Butte County met in Oroville at the Butte Community Employment Center to discuss the gaps in our Youth Employment Services, in regards to training, education, and employment. Linda Huffmon facilitated the forum, along with Cathi Grams, Director of DESS, and Traci Holt, Executive Director of AFWD, Inc.

In attendance were over 30 individuals representing non-profit agencies, public education, county behavioral health, foster agencies, a local community college and AFWD and DESS staff. All individuals in attendance had one commonality- concerns about the gaps in our Butte County Youth Services. Throughout the forum participants broke into small groups to discuss with other agency representatives the gaps we see in youth services. There were several gaps found, but the three most common were transportation, educational barriers (GED Test Prep, Transcript Evaluation, etc.), and funding.

It was very obvious how passionate youth services are to the Butte County community. The groups were very productive and discussed not only the gaps in youth services, but also potential steps to take toward finding solutions. As a result of the forum, local agencies agreed that partnership meetings would be a great way to begin closing many of these gaps. A future meeting has been set for January 11, 2012 in the same location to continue the discussions and improve access for training and employment resources for our youth.



PROVIDING PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS...

AFWD SUCCESS STORIES

By Rosalie Pagarigan, Career Center Advisor

A significant step to one person may be trivial to another. I have a customer who feels he has been turned away from help everywhere he's gone. I met him for the first time in August and saw that this individual had potential, but just wasn't aggressive enough. What he wanted to be, more than anything, was a security guard.

After weeks of working with him and assessing his goals, a request was submitted for his guard card training. Even when his request was approved and he was given the green light to enroll in classes, there was still a lack of excitement about him. This would soon change.

The customer completed phase one and was on his way to starting phase two of the three phase training. He was still unsure of himself. He has since completed phase two and is more than half way done with phase three of the training. His demeanor has changed and he now has the confidence to apply for jobs he couldn't apply for before.

My client is truly a success story not only because he is on his way to obtaining his Guard Card, but because he went from a person of doubt to a person of conviction.

By Sharon Nilsson, Career Center Advisor

Josh Renwick was unemployed for almost two years after working seven years as a sales rep when he came into the office. Josh was provided assistance with job search and updating his resume to highlight his skills.

Josh was encouraged to apply for the Pest Tech position at Hunter's Services in Chico. He was initially concerned about applying since he lacked experience in that industry, but after discussing his skills and strengths, he found that he could actually be a good fit for the position, and thus applied for the job.

Upon submitting his application, he was interviewed on the spot by the General Manager. The interview process even involved some role play situations through some tough scenarios. Although Josh lacked experience, his positive work ethic and work experience paid off and he was selected for the position.

Continued on page 7...

Continued from page 6...

Since starting the new job, Josh's reviews have all been exceptional. The General Manager, Michael Donarski, recently shared that Josh is one of the best new hire's he has ever had. Michael is impressed with his professionalism and eagerness to learn and grow with the company. In Josh's second month he had the single highest new account acquisition income for the month over the entire sales team, and In his third month he set a record in daily collections, and continues to outsell even tenured employees.

Josh has set himself up for success with continued growth at Hunter's Services. We couldn't be more proud of his great success!



Thank you so much for all your help. This has turned out to be such a wonderful program. We've gained a valuable team member, and helped with job placement for an unemployed individual that may still be out of work if not for this program. Thanks to both you and Sharon Nilsson for seeing value and showing excitement for this program! It works!

Thanks,

*Michael Donarski
General Manager
Hunters Services*



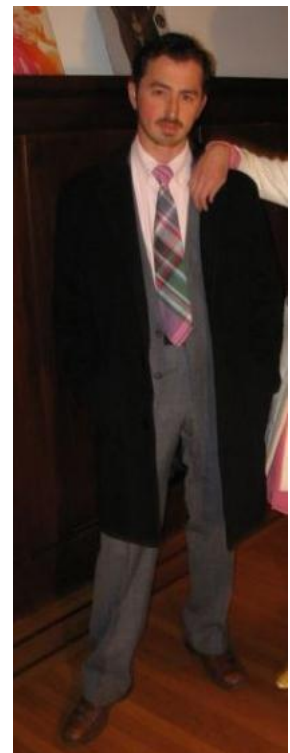
"I started working with the Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. in October of 2011 with the OJT program. This program has been very beneficial to Feather River Termite in this economy. It has been very easy to comply with and the staff has been great. I would recommend this program to everyone."
~ Billie Love
Owner- Feather River Termite

AFWD Welcomes New Staff

Patrick Bradley and Sandra Wangberg Join the Team!

Alliance for Workforce Development welcomes Patrick Bradley to the Chico Office as the new Service Coordinator. Patrick recently moved from the bay area where he was an analyst at a commercial real estate firm. He lives in Chico with his wife, their two pit bulls and a cat. He has worked primarily with computer systems in the past, writing software and administering databases. He looks forward to helping the job seekers of Butte County acquire the necessary skills needed to obtain employment, as well as assisting the Butte County staff accomplish their daily tasks in a much faster and efficient manner.

We'd also like to welcome Sandra Wangberg as our newest Career Center Advisor! Sandra moved to Chico in 1985 to attend CSU Chico, where she studied marketing. She previously worked in building material sales for over 25 years for 3 local companies. With the down turn in construction in California, she was seeking employment in a new field after her last employer permanently





closed. She used the One-Stop services in Oroville, with Wendy Sweeney as her advisor when she interviewed for this position. Sandra's customer service and management experience will be an asset to our organization.

When Sandra is not working, she enjoys riding her horses, camping, fishing, and scrapbooking. Sandra and her husband Rob lived on a few acres in Durham with their daughter, Katie who attends Durham High School. They also share their property with 3 horses, 2 goats, 1 dog, 4 cats, and 15 or so chickens.

Sandra rides her Percheron, "Clyde" at Camelot Equestrian Park

Young Builders Construct Basketball Courts

In YouthBuild programs, low-income young people work full-time for 6 to 24 months toward their GEDs or high school diplomas while learning job skills by building affordable housing and constructing various community service projects in their communities. Oroville's YouthBuild program is involved in the installation of basketball courts in three city parks and rehabilitating a half-court at the YMCA.

Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. provided a five-member YouthBuild team that has installed two courts at Hewitt Park that are ready for play. The team worked on a half court at Rotary Park and also started on a full court at Hammon Park. A basketball court will also be refurbished at the YMCA.

Funding for this project includes several grants to assist with construction cost totaling \$137,164. AFWD also stepped up to help by providing funds to reimburse the city for hiring the youth in the work training program.

