



South Bay Workforce Investment Board
11539 Hawthorne Blvd., Suite 500
Hawthorne, CA 90250
(310) 970-7700

South Bay Workforce Investment Board

Update Report - July 2021 for the SBCCOG

Healthcare Training and Employment Assistance

The SBWIB received a \$500,000 grant from the California Workforce Development Board to partner with SELACO, another area workforce board, to enroll 75 individuals in a specialty nursing apprenticeship program developed through Health Impact. Individuals will be trained in the areas of specialty nursing, certified nursing assistant, phlebotomy and clinical laboratory science. This project will help underrepresented populations and individuals from disadvantaged areas to enter meaningful career pathways while helping meet the local demand caused by the pandemic at local hospitals and healthcare facilities.

A cohort of 17 out-of-school youth were enrolled in the SBWIB YouthBuild Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program and 14 have successfully completed the program. Ten of the graduates have already passed the State licensing exam and were extended offers of employment by local healthcare providers.

The SBWIB was approached by the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency and the California Dental Association to pilot a new dental assistant training program for the Los Angeles region. The program will be implemented through a unique hybrid model that includes classroom training and on-the-job training.

Youth Job Fair

The second annual Blueprint for Workplace Success Youth Resource & Job Fair took place virtually this year on Thursday, June 17th. Hundreds of students from high schools, colleges, charter schools and adult schools throughout the South Bay attended with 17 employers ready to hire on the spot for summer jobs and permanent employment. The event consisted featured a rotation of speakers every 20 minutes from in-demand employers who addressed career options, company culture and what it is like to work in their field. Preregistered attendees also had an opportunity to submit a 30 second elevator speech video to showcase their skills directly to employers. Once the top videos are reviewed, those individuals will have an opportunity to win up to \$500 in gift cards.

Apprenticeship

Construction

Since January 2017, the latest Construction and Utilities Preparation Program (CUPP) has served over 1,200 individuals by hiring them to work on a construction site or enrolling them in an

apprenticeship program. Last quarter, 118 individuals attended the virtual information sessions, 56 reconnected with the SBWIB to complete assessments and career pathways counseling, and as a result, 28 individuals were directly hired or enrolled into an apprenticeship training program.

The South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) manages two non-traditional apprenticeship programs called Aero-Flex and Bio-Flex for the advanced manufacturing industry. The SBWIB received recognition from the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) last month for its online enrollment platform to allow participants to easily self-enroll into the pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs. DOL would like to use the SBWIB's platform as an example to other organizations across the country.

Aero-Flex

The team is working with Northrop Grumman's STEM program in three locations to wrap Aero-Flex Pre-Apprenticeship around their summer internship. This will be offered to 11 students and begin this month.

A cohort of nine students are currently participating in the Pre-Apprenticeship program under the Howmet/Arconic Foundation grant as part of Northrop Grumman's cooperative program with El Camino College's Machine Tool Technology work-study summer semester. Northrop expects to hire some successful graduates, potentially into apprenticeships.

The SBWIB enrolled one apprentice and two pre-apprentices at The Airplane Factory / Sling, an aircraft manufacturer at the Torrance Airport. The employer has hired one of the pre-apprentices full-time. Additionally, the SBWIB has recently enrolled two pre-apprentices at Lisi Aerospace in Torrance.

The SBWIB is working with a wide range of employers to enroll participants in our \$12 million DOL apprenticeship grant in collaboration with West Los Angeles College, including Aerojet Rocketdyne in El Segundo, Magnetika in Gardena, and The Airplane Factory in Torrance. The team has enrolled 45 apprentices with at least 20 to be enrolled in the next month.

Bio-Flex

Twenty-four students completed the Bio-Flex Pre-Apprenticeship program, including one from North High School in Torrance, one from Lawndale High School and one from City Honors International Prep High School in Inglewood (see attached press release). The three-track program included work readiness training, occupational skills training, and exposure to multiple bioscience career pathways.

The SBWIB received DOL approval to sponsor the following three apprenticeship occupations: Biomedical Maintenance Technician, Bio-Medical Quality Assurance Specialist, and Bio-Production Technician. Once they are registered, staff will submit them to the California Department of Apprenticeship Standards (DAS) for approval.

In partnership with El Camino College, the SBWIB is working on a California Apprenticeship Initiative (CAI) grant to enroll 50 apprentices within the bioscience industry. The team is supporting Bachem Americas, Inc. in Torrance to get their first occupation approved by the Department of Labor (DOL) and then the California Department of Apprenticeship Standards (DAS) so they can enroll their first two apprentices. The SBWIB started promoting the finalized job description and outreach collateral. The CAI grant helps cover training costs and provides employers an on-the-job training incentive of \$1,000 per apprentice. Bioscience companies who are interested in hiring or enrolling existing employees into this program may contact the SBWIB at (310) 970-7700 for additional information.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

South Bay Workforce Investment Board
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June 25, 2021

**HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS GRADUATE FROM
SOUTH BAY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD BIO-FLEX
PRE-APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM**

HAWTHORNE – Twenty-Seven high school and college age students completed the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) Bio-Flex Pre-Apprentice Program and were honored during a virtual graduation ceremony, June 2, 2021.

Patterned after the SBWIB’s highly successful Aero-Flex Apprenticeship program that prepares individuals for career pathways in aerospace manufacturing, the Bio-Flex Pre-Apprenticeship program was developed to expose individuals to the skill sets and many career opportunities available in the growing bioscience industry.

“We developed this employer driven apprenticeship framework to meet the workforce development needs common to our industry partners,” said SBWIB Executive Director Jan Vogel. “Employers are able to tailor the curriculum to meet their individual training needs around a specific occupation or department,” he concluded.

In addition to the opportunity to work alongside professionals in the bioscience field, students completed three months of training including the SBWIB’s work readiness course called, Blueprint for Workplace Success, that includes skills training for job seeking about how to get a job, such as learning interviewing and resume writing techniques. Five high schools participated including Inglewood City Honors, Lawndale High School, North Torrance High School, STEM Academy of Hollywood and Verbum Dei High School. Students from Citrus College also participated.

Diana Santiago, a senior at Lawndale High School said, “I was able to learn a lot about what is important to have on a resume and I now know how to create a good resume.”

The Bio-Flex program provides a three-step curriculum that exposes students to the Bioscience industry. The training includes Track I-Work Readiness; Track II- Technical Skills utilizing online and employer designated coursework; Track III- Work Experience or a COVID adapted virtual experience that is interactive with employers and guest speakers working in the bioscience / biotechnology sectors.

Gildardo Limon, a Citrus College/Oak Crest Institute of Science participant, summarized the program by saying, “Being able to refamiliarize myself with various lab techniques was useful to reinforce those skills, which I can then use in other programs. Also, being exposed to people with careers in scientific research was useful in understanding if a path in lab research is a viable option for myself.”

Among the bioscience partners accepting apprentices onsite this cycle were Sakura Finetek and Pathways to STEM Cell Science both based in Torrance. Due to COVID restrictions, Oakcrest Institute of Science in Monrovia provided virtual career workshops featuring scientists and laboratory technicians. Funding for the program was provided in part by the LA County Board of Supervisors, 2nd district, and a foundation grant received from Howmet.

Bio-Flex graduate Alan Tran, a year junior attending UCLA said “I feel the BioTech Primer technical skills training [provided in Track II] was relevant to my school STEM curriculum and will contribute to my future workplace/career success. This experience [at Sakura Finetek] definitely taught me a lot about the nuances of bioscience manufacturing.”

Bio-Flex delivers an effective workforce development tool to the region, which is being used to attract new talent to the Bioscience industry. The program provides an important talent resource to employers and increases access for job seekers looking for well-paid careers in this exciting industry.

The SBWIB provides business and employment services for youth and adults at no cost to the public through its four One-Stop Business and Careers Centers serving 11 South Bay cities. It also manages countywide programs and operates two Teen Centers in Hawthorne and Inglewood and a Youthbuild program in Lennox.

For more information, please visit www.sbwib.org/bioflex or call (310) 970-7700.



**PRESS RELEASE**

June 25, 2021

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Youth and Young Adult Job Seekers Participate in the Second Annual Live Virtual Blueprint for Workplace Success Youth Resource & Job Fair

HAWTHORNE – The second annual live virtual Blueprint for Workplace Success Youth Resource & Job Fair was presented June 17th by the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) and was attended by youth and young adult job seekers throughout the region. Two Leuzinger High School students – Rocio Rivera and Ashley Rosales – served as the hosts and are members of the high school’s Multimedia Careers Academy.

Seventeen South Bay area employers participated in the job fair, which consisted of split sessions that featured a rotation of speakers every 20 minutes from in-demand employers who addressed career options, company culture and what it’s like to work in their field. The employers provided links to their websites so job seekers could submit applications and resumes.

Preregistered attendees also had an opportunity to submit a 30 second elevator speech video to showcase their skills directly to employers. Once the top videos are reviewed, those individuals will have an opportunity to win up to \$500 in gift cards.

“We have presented this very significant job fair for 21 years” noted SBWIB Executive Director Jan Vogel. “Our ability to adapt to the restrictions imposed by the pandemic over the past year and a half has resulted in yet another very successful event,” he said.

Among this year’s participating employers were Dignity Health Sports Park in Carson, City of Torrance Transit, Contemporary Services Corporation, Amazon, Armaplex Security, 7-11 Corporation, Ways Home Care, ANA Ready Mix, Starbucks, Sit N Sleep, City of Gardena Recreation Department, U.S. Army Recruiter, Foot Locker, Walmart and Darrow’s New Orleans Grill.

The SBWIB operates four One Stop Business & Career Centers within its South Bay service area plus two Teen Centers in Inglewood and Hawthorne providing no cost adult, youth, and business services. For further information, telephone 310-970-7700 or visit sbwib.org.

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PRESS RELEASE

May 18, 2021

South Bay Workforce Investment Board
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**California Workforce Development Board Awards \$500,000 Grant
To South Bay Workforce Investment Board
For Specialty Nursing Training and Apprenticeship Project**

HAWTHORNE – The South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) has been awarded a \$500,000 Accelerator Grant by the California Workforce Development Board to enroll participants into a registered apprenticeship that will help underrepresented and disadvantaged individuals gain access to specialized nursing training.

The SBWIB is the co-lead with the Southeast Los Angeles County Workforce Development Board (SELACO) on a Project Team that also includes: Health Impact, a nonprofit community-based organization dedicated to shaping healthcare through workforce strategy, stakeholder convening and policy advocacy; six healthcare employers and health care providers including Centinela Hospital, Cedars Sinai, USC Keck Medicine, Torrance Memorial Hospital, Little Company of Mary and Avanti Health Systems; and, the Hospital Association of Southern California, a regional trade association representing more than 180 hospital members and 40 health systems in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties.

SBWIB and SELACO will coordinate the targeted recruitment, enrollment and tracking of participants while monitoring job performance measurements and analyzing outcomes of team partners, and guide further project expansion and/or changes.

“We are very excited to be a part of this coalition to get underserved populations into healthcare training opportunities and well-paying careers,” noted SBWIB Executive Director Jan Vogel. “We will be able to provide no cost training and supportive services for up to 75 local residents,” he concluded.

Due to the pandemic, southland healthcare providers are reporting immediate and significant demand for trained individuals to fill open Certified Nursing Assistant, Phlebotomist and Clinical Laboratory Scientist positions.

The SBWIB operates four One Stop Business & Career Centers within the South Bay service area plus two Teen Centers in Inglewood and Hawthorne. All employment services provided are offered at no cost to the public, visit www.SBWIB.org or call (310) 970-7700 to learn more about available programs.

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