

South Bay Workforce Investment Board

SBCOG Report May 2020

As we continue to serve our community during the COVID-19 Crisis, the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) has made many changes throughout the organization. Departments have divided into teams and are working on an alternative work schedule to ensure social distancing. Signage has been placed throughout our facilities, hand sanitizing systems have been installed and employees are required to wear masks/gloves when speaking to the public and fellow employees. We are ensuring clean rooms for case management, counseling, dissemination and collection of information and are in process of ordering Plexiglas for reception areas and resource rooms.

During this time, we are using Microsoft Teams to communicate throughout the day and use Zoom to facilitate team meetings and work on common projects. All monthly/quarterly Board Meetings, One-Stop Partner Meetings, and committee meetings have continued via Zoom.

Our One-Stops remain open on an appointment only basis. Orientation, Application, Assessment, Job Readiness Workshops, Job Placement & Job Fairs services are now being offered virtually.

To continue monitoring training providers for the I-TRAIN system, our Contracts Department developed a method to monitor virtually using Zoom. Additionally, the Transitional Subsidized Employment Program Monitors are conducting participant interviews and complaint investigations via telephone and electronically with Zoom if necessary.

The Rapid Response team has begun using Zoom and GoToWebinars to present Rapid Response Information to continue supporting companies that have had to close their doors due to COVID-19. These meetings are grouped together to ensure reaching as many individuals as possible. As information changes through EDD, we have been able to quickly update and deliver information to the companies that are affected.

The Transitional Subsidized (TSE) Job Development & Blueprint II Training staff have also pivoted to address challenges the TSE program has endured due to Safer at Home orders. Assistance provided to participants are two parts: 1) Job Developers provide assistance to participants with job readiness workshops and obtaining employment through face-to-face in office communication, e-mails and phone calls and 2) Blueprint II Trainers conduct 4 consecutive day workshop that focuses on employment retention by exploring work savvy techniques from conflict management to cultural diversity. Since the Safer at Home order, the implementation of virtual means to communicate and assist participants by both Job Developers and Blueprint II trainers have been applied to continue participant engagement and ensure program goals are minimally disrupted. Contact through e-mails, phone calls and text messaging have increased more than usual.

<u>“On-the-Job Learning” (OJL)</u>	<u>FaceTime/Calls/ Texts/E-mails</u>	<u>ZOOM</u>	<u>Employer Engagement</u>
<p>Monday-Friday, 1-hour ZOOM workshops aimed to assist participants with brushing up on work savvy techniques to improve employment retention. Participants unable to join by ZOOM, can call-in to the workshop.</p>	<p>Means of communication listed above have increased more than usual to aid with job readiness, send employment opportunities, inquiry with employment status and to obtain EVL.</p>	<p>Utilization of ZOOM to visually meet with participants and provide job readiness workshops/PowerPoint presentations.</p> <p>ZOOM along with Skype for business is also utilized as a platform to connect TSE team members by keeping all engaged, connected and share ideas which is crucial to program development.</p>	<p>Employer engagement via ZOOM/phone calls/texts and emails to determine employment climate, gauge industry trends, challenges and inquire on employment opportunities for participants.</p> <p>Continued outreach with employers for TSE On-the-Job Training and Paid Work Experience Partnership.</p>

Measurable Outcomes Highlights

- Virtual Interview Technique Workshop hosted on 05/05/20 received 15 referrals. 10 of the 15 attended.
- Virtual LinkedIn Workshop hosted on 05/07/20 received 21 referrals. 17 of the 21 attended.
- On the Job Learning Workshop “Fundamentals of the Workplace” hosted on 05/11/20 received 19 referrals.
- Participant employment captured between 04/01/2020-05/07/2020
 - Amazon: \$15/hr
 - All Point Home Health Care: \$15.25/hr
 - Tarzana Treatment Center: \$16.00/hr
 - Los Angeles Family Housing: \$19.24/hr

Most recently, we were awarded a \$995,500 Grant from the California Employment Development Department (EDD) to provide immediate job placement and training assistance for up to 180 COVID-19 related displaced and laid-off workers in the South Bay region over the next year.

We also partnered with the School of Manufacturing and Engineering at Hawthorne High School by supporting its project to produce surgical mask extenders called, “Ear Savers” for frontline healthcare workers throughout the Los Angeles/South Bay region. Ear Savers were developed in response to the injuries healthcare workers were sustaining due to irritation behind the ears caused by prolonged use of facemasks during their up to 12 hour shifts.



PRESS RELEASE

April 22, 2020

South Bay Workforce Investment Board
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Hawthorne, CA 90250
Contact: 310-970-7700

California Employment Development Department Awards \$995,500 Grant to South Bay Workforce Investment Board to Aid COVID-19 Displaced Workers with Services and Training

HAWTHORNE – The South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) was awarded a \$995,500 from the California Employment Development Department (EDD) to provide immediate job placement and training assistance for up to 180 COVID-19 related displaced workers and laid-off workers in the South Bay region over the next year.

The grant funds will enable the SBWIB to provide a variety of career services to advance dislocated workers, and eligible veterans (i.e., recently separated and post-9/11 veterans) to transition rapidly into employment programs and reenter the workforce. Focus will be made to connect retraining and skill upgrading to high growth high demand occupations and sector initiatives in the South Bay and greater Los Angeles region.

SBWIB Executive Director Jan Vogel noted that having previously implemented several emergency and sector initiative career pathway programs prior to the pandemic to assist dislocated workers was a factor in the EDD award. “Our career pathways in Construction, Utilities & Public Infrastructure, Manufacturing, including Biotech, Transportation & Logistics, Healthcare, Information & Communication Technologies (ICT) are aligned regionally and helping people transition into well paying jobs,” he said.

Other support the SBWIB can offer is on-the-job training, pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship programs using earn and learn models. Retraining and upskills training opportunities are proven methods for candidates to compete and return to the workplace.

SBWIB will observe safe and sanitary practices in the delivery of services to its clients at our South Bay Business and Career Centers serving South Bay communities while encouraging virtual workshops, conferencing and social distancing in partnership with EDD and onsite AJCC partners. For further information, telephone 310-970-7700 or visit www.sbwib.org and www.sbwib.org/covid-19-resources.

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PRESS RELEASE

May 7, 2020

South Bay Workforce Investment Board
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South Bay Workforce Investment Board Assists Hawthorne High School Students with COVID-19 Personal Protective Equipment Project for Healthcare Workers

HAWTHORNE – The School of Manufacturing & Engineering at Hawthorne High School turned to the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) in March for support in its project to produce surgical mask extenders called, “Ear Savers” for frontline healthcare workers throughout the Los Angeles/South Bay region. After exploring ways they could use their engineering labs and equipment to help cope with the COVID-19 crisis, the school learned about the injuries healthcare workers were sustaining due to irritation behind their ears caused by prolonged use of facemasks for up to 12 hours per shift.

The SBWIB introduced the school to the business and medical partners within the Bio-Flex Consortium that the SBWIB helped establish in 2018 and also channeled \$2,200 to the school from funds provided by Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas to provide much-needed materials to expand production of the mask extenders as well as face shields.

In keeping with Distance Learning, the students monitor the production and maintenance of materials remotely to optimize quality and quantity of their products. The extenders are 3D printed in a material called Onyx, a nylon material with carbon fiber. So far hundreds have been distributed to Kaiser Permanente in Harbor City, Long Beach Memorial and Centinela Hospital.

Bio-Flex is a bioscience initiative designed to build a workforce pipeline of bioscience and healthcare professionals in the Los Angeles region providing good paying jobs while supporting the industry. Partnerships include many stakeholders in education, school districts, employers, associations and workforce boards. Visit the Bio-Flex website at www.sbwib.org/bioflex

“We are supporting the high school with this project to encourage innovation and ensure that the youth have the support they need to remain inspired and motivated to stay on a solid career path,” said SBWIB Executive Director Jan Vogel.

Students continue to ramp up production and deliveries of the mask extenders, which have also gone to Torrance Memorial Hospital, Providence Little Company of Mary Hospital, the Hawthorne Police Department and Inglewood Police Department.

SBWIB observes safe and sanitary practices in the delivery of services to its clients at our South Bay Business and Career Centers serving South Bay communities while encouraging virtual workshops, conferencing and social distancing in partnership with EDD and onsite AJCC partners. For further information, telephone 310-970-7700 or visit www.sbwib.org and www.sbwib.org/covid-19-resources

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