

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

July 1, 2012 – September 30, 2012



Submitted By: Nicole K. Clift

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
(530) 538-7301**

Opening soon in Oroville.....

At PETCO the motto is, "Animals Always Come First. Our People Make It Happen!"

At the Alliance for Workforce Development, business needs and jobs come first and our people make it happen by providing pathways to success!

One Stop Community Employment Centers in Oroville and Chico referred over 400 qualified candidates to the new Oroville Petco during their recent recruitment. Staff assisted job seekers with the on-line application, resume development and interview skills to ensure that the District Manager of Petco would have a qualified workforce to interview and select from.

After a few short weeks, the Oroville One Stop conference rooms were bustling with job seekers nervously awaiting scheduled interviews, in hopes to being offered employment and scheduled for new staff orientations. The Petco general manager was extremely complimentary of the assistance AFWD provided and especially pleased with the applicants. He stated that his selections were tough to make. Petco now has 15 new personnel to ensure this location is a success for the corporation in the Oroville community.

Staff have begun stocking shelves and training with doors scheduled to open October 8, 2012. Petco is located on Myers Street in the Raleys complex, right next door to the new Oroville Marshalls Store.



REEMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT WORKSHOP

Each Friday morning at the Chico One Stop and Mondays at the Oroville One Stop groups of 65 to 80 dislocated workers attend the mandatory REA workshop. These are for individuals who are receiving Unemployment on the Tier 1 or Tier 2 federal unemployment extension benefits on or after March 23, 2012.

Workshop attendees are required to attend a meeting to watch a 34 minute video presentation that includes information on One Stop Career Center Services, Veteran's Services, Youth Services, Experience Unlimited (Experience Works in our area), California Training Benefits, Trade Adjustment, Fidelity Bonding, Work Opportunity Tax Credits, and Labor Market information. This presentation is available online and can be accessed on all resource computers to view before the presentation. Participants are encouraged to come in before their appointment to complete the majority of the requirements.

For those who miss their scheduled appointment,

consequences can be devastating. According to the EDD website, "**Failure to appear and complete required activities may affect eligibility to receive extension benefits. This may result in a delay of benefits and possible disqualification**". This is a situation all are trying to avoid. According to the EDD website, most extensions will be exhausted by December 31, 2012 or before.

The REA workshops fulfill the intended goal; inspiring unemployed workers to look at UIB as a Reemployment program. Job seekers who have been discouraged at the beginning of their job loss, are finding a new incentive to look for employment. And working with the One Stops, they are finding a partner in their job search. This enables AFWD to offer one on one contact, breaking a barrier that individuals sometimes hold in looking for assistance in job search tactics thus allowing us to encourage

customers to sign up to meet with a Career Center Advisor.



AFWD Youth Program at



Butte College



Kiera Pearson had a dream of going to college, but wasn't quite sure how she was going to make it happen. After entering Table Mountain School earlier this year, she focused on her education and with the help of staff, put together a plan for the fall semester at Butte Community College. Staff members at Table Mountain School contacted Marta Henry at the One Stop Employment Center, who began an application for AFWD youth program services to support Kiera through this chapter in her life. Together, AFWD and school staff set up a strategic plan to get Kiera started with a course schedule, textbooks, supplies, and connections to the services at Butte College that would help her have a successful start in her education. Four weeks into the semester, she is doing well in her classes and feels comfortable on campus. Kiera is now confident about achieving her educational goals and excited about the path she is on to become self-sufficient.



Clarissa came to the Oroville One Stop in February 2012 as a 17 year old without a high school diploma. Clarissa desperately needed help finding work as her boyfriend's parents had informed them to start helping with home expenses or they would have to move out. With no work experience,

Clarissa began workshops to develop work readiness skills and obtain some money. AFWD Youth Program staff persuaded her to remain in school thus receiving her diploma from Prospect High School. Shortly thereafter, staff were able to place her into a Paid Work Placement (WEX) with Grocery Outlet working twenty hours per week.

Four weeks into her placement, Clarissa was able to move out into more suitable living arrangements with newly found confidence. She also started the needed steps to begin Butte College enrollment including completing a FAFSA application, attending orientation, assessment and then starting classes.

Upon completion of her WEX in August, Grocery Outlet was pleased with Clarissa's progress and hired her on to continue working with them while she attended college. She is now employed and taking 13.5 units at Butte College and is thankful for a good start on her new future. Grocery Outlet continues to work with AFWD by providing training placements for youth and adults.

Butte College CNA Training Update.....



Employed!

AFWD clients Sonya, Christina, Brett, Roberto, and Melody were hired at the following facilities; Twin Oaks Nursing & Rehab, California Park & Rehab, and Gridley Healthcare & Wellness after completing the CNA program at Butte College and passing their State CNA exam on June 16, 2012.

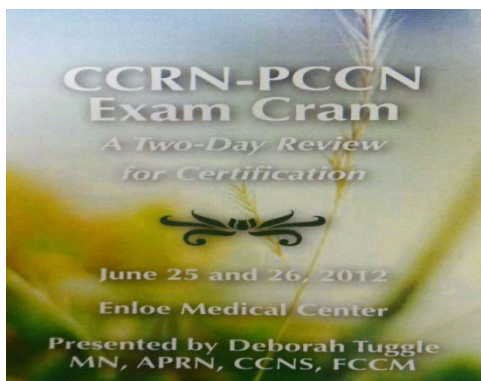
In the Spring of 2012 Alliance for Workforce Development partnered with DESS to sponsor a group of clients in the

Butte College Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA) program. Students completed their 9 week course, graduating on May 23, 2012 and following up with a career fair put on by Butte College, where they were able to meet with prospective employers. Prior to the Career Fair, AFWD invited all the CNA students to use our computer lab to update their resumes with their newly acquired skills and print them out with the assistance of our Resource Specialists. After the Career Fair, phone calls from clients started streaming in with news of employment offers. Of the nine AWFD enrolled clients, I am happy to report that eight are currently employed as CNA's.

Health Workforce Initiative



Enloe Medical Center Continuing Education, working in partnership with AFWD, and The Health Workforce Initiative, sponsored a 2 day Exam Cram for candidates looking



to increase their knowledge of Critical Care procedures for Adult and Pediatric Patients. Clients participated in an intensive two day session designed to prepare them for the CCRN/PCCN exam. Upon earning a passing score, clients can be eligible for a wage increase, a one-time stipend, or preferential hours depending on the employers' specific policies regarding completion of continuing education. Forty candidates in all, took advantage of AFWD's sponsorship to cover the cost of the exam.

Skills Training Employment Program - S.T.E.P.

Butte AFWD has partnered with the Department of Social Services to administer the Skills Training Employment Program, commonly known as S.T.E.P. The Business Services team assists local businesses through this program by offering subsidized employment. Employers have the opportunity to train and provide job skills to an individual(s) while receiving a 50% wage reimbursement for up to 6 months.

This program was created to assist CalWORKs recipients by bridging employment barriers and developing job skills allowing S.T.E.P participants to reach self-sufficiency. Many of the S.T.E.P participants face employment barriers such as lack of transportation, inadequate childcare, and limited job skills. The Business Services Representatives have understood these barriers and through encouragement and motivation, a number of participants have been successfully placed into regular and/or temporary positions. There they have gained skills and job knowledge needed to succeed in the future.

Since July of 2011, BSRs have successfully placed over 100 participants throughout Butte County. Habitat for Humanity, Build.com, and Chico Area Recreation District are just a few employers participating in S.T.E.P. The retention and creation of jobs through S.T.E.P has generated \$177,655.00 towards revitalizing our community.

S.T.E.P., has blossomed hope amongst CalWORKs recipients by opening doors to success and inspiring positive change to struggling families. When participants are willing to better themselves and the right business are willing to give second chances, S.T.E.P has served as a life changing program.



Providing pathways to success
