

Community Coordinator

Report

Plumas County

OCTOBER-DECEMBER
2013

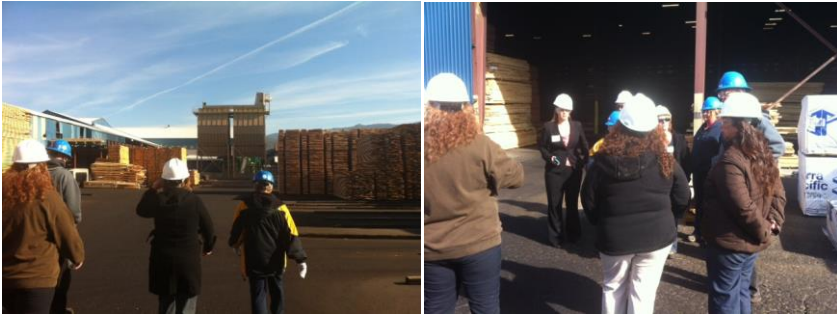
Rapid Response

On Sunday December 15th, 2013 there was a tragic downtown fire that destroyed four historic buildings and four businesses in Quincy. First thing Monday morning staff at Business & Career Network was contacting the businesses affected to offer services to the affected employees. Two Rapid Response informational meeting were set up on December 18th & 20th for those who had lost their jobs due to the fire. They were presented with resources and services available to them during this difficult time. Several employees were enrolled in the WIA program to help them on the path to reemployment; other employees were informed that we are here to help when needed.



AFWD Gets Tour of Sierra Pacific Industries!

On Wednesday morning, October 16th 2013, Plumas AFWD Business Service Representative, Joelle Breazier and Career Center Advisors, Angela Earle and Kate Estacio, took a walking tour through the historical Sierra Pacific Industry Lumber Mill. Plumas Co. Probation and other local Plumas County Resource Center staff toured along with them.



Required to all wear hard hats and safety glasses, staff began the 9 a.m. tour. Sierra Pacific Supervisor Randy Marble and Human Resource Manager Angie Wilcox led the tour through both the large and smaller mills.

As history has it, Sierra Pacific Mill started as a family-held corporation in the late 1920's, and continues to successfully remain in the labor market.

AFWD staff and other tourists were safely shown the many saws and conveyers that were used on a daily basis, and also discussed the step by step process of how logs turn into construction lumber, and then sold on to suppliers. SPI even supplies wood for pencils!

After the tour, we were treated to lunch and spoke with the HR staff regarding SPI specific hiring needs. It was an opportunity for AFWD to understand the requirements Sierra Pacific Industry is looking for to hire potential new workers to gain employment at their facility!



**A BIG
Thumbs Up
For SPI!**



AFWD One-Stop Statistics

Plumas Visitors

1427

AFWD

Business Services

Business Served 1281

Services Provided 5394

Positions Filled 1679

On-the-Job Training 211

Program Services

Adult 307

Dislocated Worker 227

Youth 121

Employed 428

Unemployment Rate

Butte 9.3% Plumas 11%

Lassen 10.1% Sierra 10.4%

Modoc 10.3%

Milestone Technology



Way to Go Mr. Barnes!

Rick Barnes came to us on February 22, 2013 to inquire about job seeker services. He was laid off from Snowline Aerospace where he worked for 15 years in customer services and sales. The Business and Career Network assisted Rick with resume writing, mock interviews, and job search activities. Rick was seeking employment locally and out of the area. Rick applied with many employers in the Plumas County area with no success.

A company based out of Fremont, Milestone Technologies, was expanding their business to the Chico area and contacted the Business and Career Network to ask for assistance in filling the positions. A partnership was built, and on September 28, 2013, the Business and Career Network was involved in a large job fair that was held at Chico State University.

When the Career Center Advisor heard of the opportunity, she contacted Rick regarding the job fair. The Career Center Advisor assisted Rick with updating his resume to prepare him for the event and helped him register online for an interview.

Since Rick had been laid off and collecting unemployment compensation as of February 11, 2013, he qualified for an NEG/OJT. Milestone agreed to contract for NEG/OJT services. Rick was hired by Milestone on November 1, 2013 and began working on November 11, 2013. Rick relocated to the Chico area, and the Business and Career Network assisted him with supportive services to help with moving expenses so he could relocate for his new employment.

Congratulations Rick!

Reaching a Milestone!



Randi Ricks came to the Business and Career Network in Quincy in September 2013. Randi had been laid off from her usual profession in 2011 due to an injury and circumstances prevented her from returning to the same kind of work. Although she was at odd ends as to what to do and what to work toward, she had an optimistic and energetic attitude. At the BCN she worked with her Career Center Advisor, Kate Estacio. Kate and Randi refined her resume and application, worked on interview skills and defined some goals and direction. Kate remembers: "What was so apparent upon meeting Randi, was that her attitude was happy and she made everyone in the room feel it. She is a very energetic and gregarious person."

After applying to a few positions, a wonderful possibility presented itself: Milestone. Randi was not sure about moving to the Chico area, but after discussions with her Career Center Advisor and her family, she decided to try.

After the Milestone Job Fair on September 28th, Randi felt that her interviews had gone so well, she needed to research housing in the area. In mid-October, Milestone added Randi to their ranks. Randi has completed the move to Chico and her latest e-mail to Kate sums up the experience: "It's so awesome. I'm living the life right now!...I love, love, love it!...Words cannot express how grateful I am for all your help. I would not be here had it not been for you. Thank you for helping me believe in myself. I would have never even applied if it wasn't for you. Even if I had known about it. I will be forever grateful."

Congratulations Randi! It was a pleasure to help you.

This Quarter's Success Stories

Success at Last!

Karen Rich found herself unemployed when the bank where she had worked for 10 years decided to outsource her department. Karen had envisioned herself retiring without ever needing to change jobs again. Thrust suddenly into a very uncomfortable situation, and not knowing how employment applications, resumes and requirements for employment had changed, Karen did not know where to turn for help. Fortunately for Karen, the Business and Career Network in Quincy, CA, involved her, and her co-workers, in a Rapid Response. The Bank, out of concern for its long term employees worked with the BCN to meet the needs of these people who found themselves suddenly unemployed through no fault of their own. The Business Services Representative and the Career Center Advisors soon had Karen on the road to re-employment. Evaluation of her skills as a Senior Statement Specialist revealed transferrable skills that covered a wide range of employment opportunities. Karen worked closely with the small office, honing her skills while her Career Center Advisor refined her resume and application. When the time came, Karen met with her Career Center Advisor, Kate Estacio for a very in-depth mock interview, tips on how to dress for success and how to remain calm appearing even when very nervous. Kate and Karen met before each interview for an informal "pep" talk and confidence building session.

In early September, Business and Career Network's BSR Joelle Breazier was contacted by Maximus Health Care who arranged to hold a small job fair at the BCN office. Joelle met with Kate and Angela to discuss the requirements of the position and what Clients had the skills to be competitive. Several Clients were referred, but from the start Karen used all she had learned to present herself as the confident and capable person she is.

With the help of the caring individuals at the business and Career Network, Karen was immediately selected as an exceptional candidate.



Today, Karen is enjoying the challenge and she enjoys seeing the people she met at BCN, especially since she now works in our same building!

