

# Community Coordinator

## Report

Sierra County

JANUARY-MARCH

2014

### Plumas/Sierra County 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Job Fair!



The Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. (AFWD) took part in the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Job Fair at the Graeagle Fire Hall March 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Job seekers flowed through the doors with Business and Career Network assisted resumes in hand for employers in the local community. The Loyaltan Business and Career Network had many people come to the office prior to the job fair. They participated in the resume writing and interview workshops to better prepare themselves for the upcoming event. Staff from the job fair spoke with local employers that attended and were pleased with the turnout and variety of qualified job seekers.

## YOUTH OUTREACH & RECRUITMENT

Staff members at the Sierra County Business and Career Network have been reaching out to the local high school in an effort to assist educators in teaching students career and life skills. In January, staff gave an initial presentation to the senior class and were kindly welcomed by school staff members, students and the principal. In early February, staff members from the Business and Career network in Loyalton assisted with mock interviews at Loyalton High School. The senior class was endearing, happy and excited about the future. The staff came prepared with frequently asked interview questions and grading criteria, enabling them to give thorough personalized feedback to each student. The event was enriching and will definitely help the students become more successful in preparing for the working world. The staff held a parent meeting on February 12<sup>th</sup> and afterward met with youth individually. One of the goals of the program is to assist students in meeting graduating requirements with one-on-one assistance. Career Center Advisors can help give the youth the tools they need to overcome their individual barriers and succeed at entering college or the workforce upon graduation. We're off to a good start.



## AFWD One-Stop Statistics

### Sierra Visitors

**846**  
AFWD Business  
Services

Business Served	1,693
Service Provided	8,778
Positions Filled	2,407

Training Assistance 370

### Program Services

Total enrollments P/Y 2013-2014

Adult	392
Dislocated Worker	374
Youth	178
Employed	643

### Unemployment Rate

Butte 10.0%	Plumas 14.3%
Lassen 12.5%	Sierra 13.6%
Modoc 13.2%	

# 2014 Labor Law Update Workshop

The Plumas and Sierra Business and Career Network held its 2014 Labor Law Update Workshop at The Community United Methodist Church in Quincy on January 16th. Thirty-three people attended this informative workshop presented by Mark A. Vegh. Mark shared his 25 years of expertise and knowledge as an employment and labor law lawyer in California covering current labor laws with local businesses to assist them with their business and HR needs. AFWD holds the annual Labor Law Update Workshop to keep local businesses “in the know” of recent changes that may affect their company and employees.

## **Topics this year included:**

- Wage and Hour
- Discrimination and Retaliation Protections
- Immigrant Protections
- Leaves and Benefits
- Background Checks
- Workers Compensation
- What laws apply to your business?
- And Much More!

## **Some common questions asked included:**

- What should be included on a timecard to show breaks were taken?
- What is the minimum rest period for an employee?

## **Other items included:**

- Minimum Wage Increase
- IRS Mileage Rate Changes
- New Penalties for Misclassification of Independent Contractors

All mandatory posters and pamphlets were available for order at this workshop.



# This Quarter's Success Stories

## Scott Klein

Scott Klein owned and ran his own towing company for approximately 25 years until 2008 when he lost everything. He spent the next several years “drifting” following this event until he sold almost all of his assets and spent all of the money he collected over a lifetime. By 2013, he had become a regular at the Business and Career Network in Loyalton. Scott utilized the universal services offered at the office while deciding on what he wanted to do. Scott landed a job offer, and went to work in Incline Village. Three months later he was out of a job. Scott did not let this deter him and within a week he was back on the horse, job searching in the office every day. Seeing his determination, Scott was enrolled in the job seeker program to give him more one-on-one help. With renewed vigor, he began to attend workshops to sharpen his skills. He utilized the tools and advice staff gave him and applied them as looked for employment. We helped him specialize the resumes he turned in and practiced interview skills with him. Staff discussed aspects of social relationships, the use of body language, leaving personal problems at home, the importance of punctuality, the identification of different personality types, and successful communication with individuals from different cultures and backgrounds. Staff referred Scott to a job at Red Wolf Lodge in Squaw Valley and was offered a position with the company working full-time with full benefits.



**Congratulations Scott!**



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