

# Community Coordinator Report

Sierra County

APRIL – JUNE  
2015

## Youth Customer Service Workshop

On June 17<sup>th</sup>, the Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. presented a customer service workshop for Plumas and Sierra County youth and youth service providers. This workshop was created and facilitated by Laurie Wann, CEO of Intentional Entrepreneurs, who for over twenty years worked in business, marketing, career guidance and training capacities with both youth and adults.

She created this workshop specifically for young adults with barriers. This workshop was not a lecture, but provided highly interactive activities where young participants walk away with a renewed positive attitude and a sense of ownership of their own behavior. The goal was for them to see themselves in a new way: having a home in the workplace and in our community. The workshop was well received with 19 participants.



## Employment Snapshot – May 2015

Sierra County  
Unemployment Rates  
(Unadjusted)

Sierra  
8.1%

Labor Force  
1,510

People Employed  
1,390

People Unemployed  
120

*\*Source California Employment  
Development Department*

*Labor Market Information Division*



## Sierra County Board of Supervisors

On May 19<sup>th</sup> the Sierra County Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. (AFWD) team accompanied Executive Director Traci Holt, to the Sierra County Board of Supervisors Meeting. The briefing gave an update on the activities at the Business and Career Network from July 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015. The presentation and update was delivered by Traci Holt on services provided by AFWD.

The board received information on how AFWD has helped local businesses facing closure, its involvement in community events, and how relationships with the County, City and educational offices are growing. Traci also gave the board a narrative on the Job Fairs for both Plumas County and Sierra County and how the event continues to grow with job seekers and employers looking to hire.

It has been a year since AFWD moved their operations to Sierraville, CA. We were happy to announce that it is going very well at the new location and that employees in the office have helped many job seekers in the area.

### Loyalton Human Services Hosts Workshop

There is a growing relationship between the Business and Career Network office in Sierra County and other Sierra County departments. Laurie Marsh, the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Coordinator from Sierra County Health and Human Services, and LeTina Vanetti, the Sierra County Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, invited the Business and Career Network staff to participate in the Mental Health First Aid Training held June 3, 2015. It was an eight hour training designed to help on how to identify if someone may be having a behavioral issue, how to aid them, and the proper procedures for getting help. Kayte Puckett, Career Center Advisor (CCA) attended the training and found it to be very educational and informative. There was a lot of good information and she felt this would be a beneficial training for other employees from various businesses. Having the opportunity to attend both trainings was very advantageous!



# AFWD America's Job Center of California Statistics

**Plumas County Visitors**  
**3,520**

### AFWD Business Services

Business Served	1,534
Service Provided	8,374
Positions Filled	2,265
Training Assistance	602

### Program Services

#### Total enrollments

Adult	274
Dislocated Worker	195
Youth	104
Employed	525

### Unemployment Rate

Butte	6.9%	Plumas	9.2%
Lassen	7%	Sierra	8.1%
Modoc	8.2%		

## Magnificent Youth



*Madison Snider*

Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. (AFWD) youth program serves youth 17 to 21 years old. After eligibility was determined and completed, Madison Snider was enrolled in the AFWD youth program. Madison attends Sierra Pass High School in Loyalton, CA. As part of the high school seniors' curriculum they must choose and complete their senior project. Madison decided on *Auto Body Restoration*, since she has an old 1968 Volkswagen (VW) bug that is in desperate need of a face lift.



Madison's Career Center Advisor made an appointment to tour an auto body business in Susanville, CA where she could review the business facility, and the many stages it takes to restore an old vehicle. On May 6, 2015 they took a trip to Susanville, met with Rene Wright, Office Manager at Gino's Auto Body Shop. She was very informative and allowed Madison to pick her brain. Madison's senior project was a hit with her teachers as well as her classmates, earning Madison a "B" on her senior project. She worked diligently on the study of Auto Body Repair.



Madison has also participated in employment and job training workshops. In addition to completing high school, for which she obtained her high school diploma, she received a \$200.00 scholarship which was presented to her at the Sierra Pass High School Graduation on June 4, 2015, by her Career Center Advisor, Kayte Puckett.

**Major Congratulations Madison!**

# This Quarter's Success Stories

## Jami Bennett



Jami Bennett came to visit the Business and Career Network Sierraville office in February 2015, when she had to close her local child day care business in Loyalton of over 8 years. Jami needed assistance in developing her resume, as well as aid in self-assessment for choosing a career path she would be successful in. After discussing her options, Jami was enrolled as a client of Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. (AFWD). She met regularly with her Career Center Advisor, which provided Jami with the support she needed. Together, they developed an employment plan and a new resume. Jami also received job search coaching.

Jami actively pursued job leads and at the same time enrolled in to the "Alison" online course work to update her computer skills. Her Career Center Advisor notified her of a couple of positions: one at URS out at Sierra Army Depot in Herlong, CA had a Material Handler position open and Sierra County had a position as an Eligibility Worker I open. Jami was excited and applied for both positions. Shortly after she received invitations to interview with both USR and Sierra County in the same week. At the interview with the County Jami was directed to input some language in her resume that was aimed more to this position. Jami came into the Business and Career Network office to receive assistance in updating her resume and within a week was offered both positions! After a pro and con session, she decided to accept the position within Sierra County, since it was closer to her home, children, and husband.

Jami's Career Center Advisor followed up with her supervisor and they shared how pleased they were that Jami accepted their offer of employment. She is an excellent fit for the position and hopes that Jami will stay with them for a very long time. Jami detailed how she is enjoying the work and loves the daily challenges that her new job offers.

**All of us at AFWD are thrilled for her new success and wish her all the best!**

