

Community Coordinator

Report

Nevada County

OCTOBER - DECEMBER



“NEW YEAR, NEW CAREER” Virtual Job Fair 2021

As we enter 2021, it brings with it hope, new beginnings and perhaps that new dream job. The landscape of job search and finding candidates has shifted into the digital world and Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. (AFWD) is meeting the challenge of bringing job seekers and employers together through a Virtual Job Fair – “New Year, New Career”.

January 20th AFWD is hosting the virtual hiring event – **“New Year, New Career”** from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Job seekers will be able to connect with multiple employers (81 at current count) from six Northern California counties. The opportunity to explore career options, consider relocation opportunities and interact with recruiters via chat and video (optional) all while maintaining a safe distance.

Job seekers can upload their resume instantly so participating employers can view their resume and chat with them directly. This is a unique opportunity for job seekers to meet with a variety of employers in and around the north state. Employers and job seekers alike, will get the rare opportunity to interact with each other, exchange job descriptions and resumes and can even conduct on the spot virtual interviews from wherever they are on any device.

AFWD is here to assist with preparing job seekers for the event, resume development and providing a series of virtual job fair readiness workshops. Job seekers can register for the Virtual Job Fair Readiness Workshops by following the links below to register for a workshop.

Direct Link to register for Jan. 7th workshop, 2:00pm PST:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_0Gcl-ra1S1mB5S9GXDtVdw

Direct Link to register for Jan. 12th workshop, 2:00pm PST:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_uQZMmPCxRTiYXn1mWQZgVg

Job Seekers can register for the Virtual Job Fair at:

<https://portal.premiervirtual.com/event/register-jobseeker/3450-year-career-afwd-virtual-fair>



Changing with the Times

Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. (AFWD) participated in training through UC San Diego at the beginning of October 2020. The training was Training Online Essentials, which with a pandemic still going on, it is important to be versed in multiple facets to help our clients.

Training Online Essentials was a week-long class that all departments within AFWD participated in. The training consisted of a total of 5 modules with each module having a set of overviews, readings, videos, and assignments. Even with the assigned work being tailored more for those who work with job seekers than employers, we were all able to take something away from the week.

Participants' were introduced to new tools that can help them assist clients through online outlets since the in-person activity is still very limited. A few of the tools introduced were Google Forms, Padlet, Google Class Room, and Kahoot, to name just a few. All of these platforms are free for people to use.

Having tools available and at no cost allows us to keep our clients engaged and participating in many workshops and/or training they are a part of. Being able to have new tools at hand allows AFWD to present material the best possible way for how the times have changed. Keeping material and our programs use relevant to all our clients is of the utmost importance. During this pandemic, we have relied on Microsoft Teams and Zoom a lot. With these new platforms introduced to us, we will continue to grow as a company and put our best foot forward with our clients.

Continuing education plays an important role in businesses. Times are consistently changing, being able to give clients current and accurate information is important. With the current pandemic, we have all had to rely on our computers and the internet more than ever. Having training that focuses on using online applications and programs was a great experience. This training could not have come at a better time. It is relevant and important for us to know as many outlets as possible that could benefit our clientele.

UC San Diego
EXTENSION

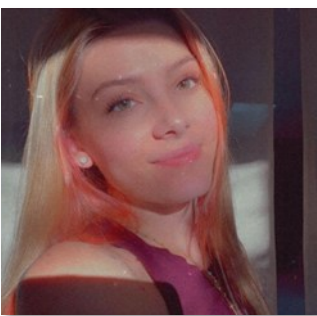
Making Conscious Choices

Casey Martinson was enrolled into the Statewide Rapid Response Additional Assistance COVID-19 grant due to a substantial layoff from Bio Technology Colander as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Governor's executive orders. After careful review of his skillset, Casey was chosen for a Work Experience (WEX) contract with Nevada County Facilities Department as a Temporary Facilities Worker. Here, he was responsible for maintenance, repair, and safety services in an effort to protect the public and utilized all county owned facilities. He expressed an interest in exploring this occupational sector where he would be able to assist his community during the COVID-19 Pandemic.



At the end of his WEX contract, Casey was exploring options to utilize his many transferrable skills and was made aware of the two Career Center Advisor positions open in our Grass Valley office. He was highly encouraged to apply as this position would be a great opportunity for him to continue to work with the community while enhancing his current skills, and open more doors in his future. Casey was extremely humbled when he was chosen to join the Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. (AFWD) team as a Career Center Advisor and he has already proven to be an incredible addition to the team!

Finding the Cloud with a Silver Lining



Justene was a "victim" of sorts, of the ongoing COVID -19 Pandemic. She lost her job in Nevada, and had to return home to Grass Valley to live with family. She reached out to Business Career Network for job search assistance, and was placed in a Work Experience program as a Shelter Advocate with Hospitality House. This is a community shelter for the homeless in Nevada County, founded in 2005.

The mission of Hospitality House is "to bring homeless people in Nevada County into a circle of community caring that offers shelter, sustenance, medical care, advocacy, opportunity, dignity and hope as we assist them in transitioning from homelessness to housing". Justene has found her calling. She loves helping and working with people, and by participating in helping others, she has been able to help herself.

What started out as a terrible shock, by losing her job and moving long distance, has turned into the proverbial "cloud with a silver lining"! Justene has not only found her calling, doing something she loves, she has been offered a permanent full-time position!



Finding Talent through Virtual Platforms



On October 15, 2020, members of the Nevada County Economic Resource Council (ERC) Talent Development Committee including Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. (AFWD) participated in the Virtual Technical Career Fair sponsored by California State University, Chico's, College of Engineering to represent Nevada County Tech Connection (NC Tech) - an ERC initiative, and Nevada County companies who have engineering, technology, and manufacturing needs. Kari D'Aloisio, Business Services Representative with AFWD was also in attendance for the Virtual Technical Career Fair.

Students seeking internships and employment were able to ask questions about available opportunities and the quality of life in Nevada County. The 40 students who visited the virtual Breakout Room were encouraged to highlight their skills on the NCTech website's Talent Directory. Employers are now able to view qualifications and the amazing talent coming from Chico State. The NCTech Connection will feature a different student every week in an article on the site's blog and will be shared to social media accounts.



AFWD's partnership with ERC's Talent Development Committee for this event has reinforced the pipeline from Chico State to Nevada County, in an effort to support the need of Manufacturing companies seeking talent for their opportunities.



AFWD-America's Job Center of California Statistics

PY 2020-2021 Q2



Nevada County

One-Stop Visitors:

1495

Businesses Served:

162

Business Services:

1017

AFWD

Clients Enrolled:

298

Unemployment Rate

(As of: November 2020)

5.6%



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