

Community Coordinator

Report

Plumas County
JANUARY - MARCH
2016

Plumas Business & Career Network Has Relocated

As of January 18, 2016, job seekers and businesses will now find Plumas Business & Career Network (BCN) under the Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. (AFWD) centrally located in Quincy. Individuals looking for help in their path to employment or businesses looking for help when it comes to commercial operations will now find us at 7 Quincy Junction Road in Quincy, on the corner of Main St. and Quincy Junction Road.

The new Quincy office offers a large computer lab and a study/tutoring area that is available for businesses and clients to utilize. All of the great AFWD programs will be offered at our new location. The job boards are up and kept up to date with local available jobs in Quincy, Portola, Chester, and the Greenville areas. The Business and Career Network is dedicated to serving Plumas County, and we look forward to continued assistance for Job Seekers and Businesses in the Plumas County area.



UPCOMING EVENTS

AFWD 20th ANNUAL JOB FAIRS

Businesses:

Participating employers will benefit by building a workforce, creating an applicant pool, face to face prescreens and interviews, and preparing for seasonal hiring.

Job Seekers:

Participating job seekers will benefit from face to face interaction with multiple employers in one location with a wide range of available jobs to apply for.

DATES

Monday, April 4th, 2016

Graeagle Fire Department
7620 Highway 89
Graeagle, CA 96103

Tuesday, April 5th, 2016

Feather River College
570 Golden Eagle Way
Quincy, CA. 95971

BOTH FAIRS ARE FROM 2PM to 4PM

2016 Labor Law Workshop

On January 27, 2016, Traci Holt, PHR, Executive Director for Alliance For Workforce Development, Inc. (AFWD) facilitated Plumas Business and Career Networks (BCN) annual labor law update workshop. This workshop is aimed at assisting local businesses in becoming familiar with, understanding, and knowing how the new 2016 state labor laws affect them, their employees, and their businesses.

New Labor Law topics included:

- Fair Pay Act
- Minimum Wage Increase & Impact to Overtime
- Unemployment Insurance & Electronic Reporting
- Expanded Enforcement of the Labor Commissioner

Always popular topics discussed were:

- Paid Sick Leave
- Meal and Rest Periods
- Wage Orders

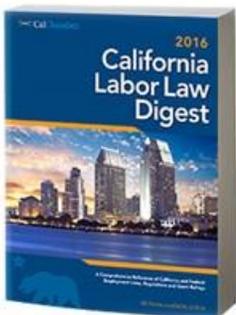
The workshop was very well received, with 20 local business representatives attending to learn more about the new laws, and the impact on their employees and businesses.

“Always put on well and in a very understandable manner. Appreciate the workshop,” states Cindy of Sierra Cascade Family Opportunities.

Sandy, from Feather Publishing stated. “Good information! Thank you!”

All businesses had the opportunity to order the 2016 Labor Law poster and required notices. Through workshops such as the Labor Law Update, AFWD continues to offer employer services that assist business owners with their success.

Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. provides workforce development and human resource services throughout Butte, Lassen, Modoc, Nevada, Plumas and Sierra Counties. Through a team approach, and in collaboration with other organizations, AFWD is committed to meeting employer’s workforce preparation needs.



Partnering with the Alternative Sentencing Program in Plumas County

Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. (AFWD) recently had the opportunity of providing job seeker services to Plumas County's Alternative Sentencing Program at their Daily Reporting Center.



With a common goal of assisting offenders in the journey of reentering the workforce, AFWD participated in providing vocational training including job readiness, interviewing, and job retention workshops. These workshops showed participants how to highlight their relevant skills on applications and create professional resumes. They were also given the opportunity to participate in interactive mock interviewing sessions where each individual interviewed and was given feedback by their peers. This was a great venue for the participants to learn how to answer tough interview questions.

AFWD is fortunate to have the opportunity of continuing to provide vocational training to the participants of the Alternative Sentencing Program and hope to help these individuals re-enter the workforce and become productive citizens in Plumas County.



Financial Literacy



ENVIRONMENTAL *alternatives*

On February 22, 2016 Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. (AFWD) partnered with the Independent Living Program in Quincy to discuss the importance of financial goal setting and budgeting. The students learned that to achieve life goals they needed to start with a good plan and that by setting tangible and realistic goals, following them, and tracking their progress they had a higher probability of achieving their those goals.

They created a “bucket list” and then separated the list into short-term, medium- term, and long term goals and were asked to complete research to determine how much their goals may cost them. Then they incorporated their goals into a budget by treating their savings as a “fixed” expense. They learned that budgeting means to “live within your means” but creating wealth and exceeding self-sufficiency is to live “below your means”.

Many questions were asked and a lively discussion ensued. The workshop offered valuable tips that the students could use in the future.



A Good Start

Being a good partner and a new neighbor, Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. (AFWD) partnered with Quincy High School’s Business and Finance class to review and critique the resumes that the high school seniors created.

On February 9, 2016, AFWD Youth Advisors reviewed the edits with the classes and students were able to get individual assistance and feedback. Students learned that a resume should be a personal reflection of the candidate, not a carbon copy of everyone else’s. They also learned to look carefully at the job description and identify skills the employer is looking for in order to stress similar skills that they possess. The differences between personal statements and objective statements were reviewed and samples of the two were given to the students. Neatness, proper tense, and appropriate size font were discussed. Students were assisted with finding employment online in the areas where they planned to attend college.

Additionally, Advisors presented the importance of internships in conjunction with academic studies and students were shown how to find them online. AFWD’s Youth Advisors were impressed with the students’ quality of work and were confident the group benefitted from the advice and suggestions.



This Quarter's Success Stories

Opportunity for Growth & Success

Indian Valley Community Service District (IVCSD) was one of four worksites that Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. (AFWD) was able to assist through the National Emergency Grant (NEG) funds to provide public and non-profit entities with assistance for temporary help to work on drought related projects.

Joy Geary had been unemployed since July 1, 2009 when she last worked as a sales representative, but also had experience in home health care, landscaping, and auto detailing. She met with AFWD staff on July 13, 2015 to seek assistance with finding employment. Her previous experience in landscaping made her a good candidate for the maintenance position with IVCSD for the drought program.

On August 26, 2015, Joy began working at Round Valley Lake in Greenville clearing vegetation around base of Round Valley Lake Dam for measurement of seepage and improved defensible space. Skills Joy has acquired during this training opportunity include operation of power and hand tools for reduction in fire fuels, learning the monitoring system for Round Valley Reservoir, and becoming knowledgeable on water system design, equipment, maintenance, and upgrades.

Joy has gained outstanding organizational skills as she continue to inventory and purge the districts water use archives. Data from these records assist the district with ensuring IVCSD continues their success with efficient and effective water system services. Joy is thrilled with her new skills and experience for future employment opportunities.

CONGRATULATIONS JOY!





AFWD America's Job Center of California Statistics

Plumas County Visitors
2,276

AFWD Business Services

Business Served	995
Service Provided	5,644
Positions Filled	1,240
Training Assistance	157

Program Services Total enrollments

Adult	154
Dislocated Worker	130
Youth	57
Employed	223

Unemployment Rate

Butte	7.2%	Nevada	5.0%
Lassen	8.4%	Plumas	13.7%
Modoc	10.1%	Sierra	10.0%

