THANK YOU!

Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. would like to extend a huge THANK YOU to our businesses, organizations, and community partners for the support this past year. Our programs and partnerships provide employment opportunities for residents and educational training programs towards career pathways. This supports our local economy, improves lives, and helps the business community thrive.
Butte County COVID Call Center: How May We Assist You?

Jennifer Hochstrat came to Alliance for Workforce Development (AFWD) in January 2021 after her spouse received help securing permanent employment. Jennifer was long term unemployed and felt hopeless. The Butte County Stay at Home order made it near impossible in obtaining full-time, economically self-sufficient employment for anyone. Jennifer’s previous experience consisted of customer service and retail store management; not an imperative line of work at the time when businesses were doing mass lay offs and shutting their doors. Jennifer was enrolled into our Dislocated Worker program under the COVID NDWG grant and selected for a temporary job placement (TJC) with Butte County Public Health Department’s COVID Call Center.

Jennifer was hired as a Call Center Clerk to help manage phone calls from Butte County residents that were contacting Butte County Public Health with COVID-19 related questions and concerns. Being placed with one of our partner agencies in Butte County not only provided Jennifer a temporary job to help fill her gap in employment, but also allowed her to earn an income while continuing to seek for regular self-sufficient employment. This unique and professional experience in the Public Sector significantly added to Jennifer’s professional work experience and skill set. This was an excellent opportunity for someone who suffered from the COVID-19 Pandemic to instead work under it and inform others experiencing similar struggles.

Jennifer was so successful in her placement with Butte County Public Health that her contract has been extended in order to provide further assistance with questions regarding the distribution of vaccines, which allows more time to apply for a full-time, permanent position with Butte County as she was encouraged to do so by her immediate supervisor at the Call Center.
Jumping Back in!

Brittany Ramsey came to AFWD as a recently laid off Pediatrics Licensed Vocational Nurse from Chico Pediatrics in February of 2020. She was going into her last year of the Registered Nurse Program at Butte Community College when she found herself in the tough position of being unemployed. That’s when a good friend in the program shared with her the services provided by Alliance For Workforce Development (AFWD). AFWD had the privilege of stepping in to ease the burden of costs for Brittany’s classroom training program. Together with staff at AFWD, Brittany developed a plan to cover the costs. AFWD was able to help with the cost of the software program, materials costs, exam fees and provided professional guidance along the way.

In other great news, Brittany was able to reach out to her previous employer at Chico Pediatrics and join the team once again but this time as a Registered Nurse! She loves her new position and is fitting right in as though she was never gone. Brittany was able to graduate with her degree in Nursing, obtain her registered nurse license and obtain a new career all during the obstacles of 2020. She stated that she was very thankful for the assistance of AFWD because it allowed her to focus on studying hard throughout the program and for her state exam. We are so happy for Brittany and wish her all of the success in her new career! Great job, Brittany!

Hand to Hand, Program to Program

Grace came to Alliance for Workforce Development during her job search in June 2020. Grace was long term unemployed, and as such qualified for the National Dislocated Worker Grant (NDWG) for COVID. Under this grant, Grace was placed in a Work Experience (WEX) position with the Chico Area Recreation District to provide much needed cleaning and sanitation of the Chico Area Parks, due to COVID. Not only did Grace learn transferable skills, she also earned a wage. She also got to spend some time in some beautiful parks in Chico, another plus!

Grace was such an excellent worker, and had gained great transferable skills. When her WEX position ended in December 2020, Grace was then immediately placed into an On the Job Training (OJT) program with 3rd Generation Cleaners. During this OJT opportunity, Grace continues to grow and learn and add to her skills set. She is working full time and earning more than minimum wage.

By having these programs available to her through her local AJCC, Grace is able to maintain steady employment in a very uncertain time for many.
Lindsey Bratton had been working in the Healthcare field for the previous 7 years. Lindsey started out as a receptionist and began being trained as a Medical Assistant. After several years of patient care, Lindsey wanted to become certified in the medical field and do more to provide for herself and children. Lindsey was fortunate enough to work in a medical office that had a small phlebotomy laboratory. This is where Lindsey’s interest truly peaked. In speaking with the phlebotomists she worked with, Lindsey learned about possible programs in order to further her education and become a certified Phlebotomist in the Healthcare Sector. Lindsey went through the extensive application process through the Butte County Regional Occupational Program. Lindsey was accepted for the Phlebotomy Program beginning March 2021. Lindsey knew she couldn’t do it all on her own.

Lindsey reached out to Alliance for Workforce Development (AFWD) in January 2021 seeking possible assistance with her program. Once she realized the assistance she would receive under the Adult Program/Class Room Training, she knew with certainty that she would be able to complete the Phlebotomy program and finally be on the career pathway she was meant for. Lindsey is currently finishing her program and completing an internship with Oroville Hospital. Lindsey is also preparing to take her national exams to obtain her CA state licensure. Lindsey would like to work in a hospital setting. Lindsey has maintained an ‘A’ average, she will graduate with great victory and be able to obtain full time, self-sufficient employment upon receipt of her licensure.
This spring, seven participants from the AFWD P2E program completed a semester-long Industrial Technology course for Introduction to the Building Trades (ITEC 55). This course is designed to provide pre-employment training for industrial trades. The students learned basic safety skills, tool identification, basic rigging and material handling skills, all reinforced by hands-on application in several lab assignments. This course is National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) core curriculum qualified.

Butte County Probation, the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Tri County Treatment, and AFWD worked together, along with staff and the instructor at Butte Glenn Community College, to ensure a seamless semester for the students. Each agency provided resources to support the students, and the students worked hard to successfully finish the course. For many of them, it was their first college course, and they are all now eager to pursue further education or training, in addition to joining the workforce.

Congratulations to these students on a job well done!
For over ten years, the Alliance for Workforce Development and Butte County Department of Employment & Social Services has partnered up to successfully facilitate the AB74 Skills Training Employment Program (STEP). This program provides additional employment assistance to eligible participants. In addition, the program provides employers 100% wage reimbursement of the participant's wages for up to 6 months. The STEP program has been very effective in helping our local businesses and community partners find work ready candidates needing hands-on work experience. While the reimbursement of the trainee’s wages during the training period defrays the training expenses and helps maintain productivity.

Our team of experts is dedicated to helping facilitate a successful training period by keeping in contact with our employers and our STEP Participants. It is our goal to connect employers with a motivated long-term employee, offered at no cost to employers. In addition, our team will work with you to provide the following services:

- Recruitment and screening of qualified job candidates
- Quick response to hiring needs
- Ease of program use, e.g. very little paperwork
- Quick turn-around on reimbursement
- Individualized support for both the employer and the employee

We are open to working with any employer in Butte County! We are here to serve our local businesses and community partners, help boost our local economy and help our clients re-enter the workforce. While bringing on new employees can be expensive, our team is here to help!

“Our company has used the STEP program multiple times when looking for employees and have had very positive experiences with staff that were matched to our needs and who, in most cases, turned out to be with us for many years and advanced to licensed insurance professionals and valuable team members. We are thankful to be a part of this program and have only wonderful things to say! It is a great asset to our local business community” - Marie Bench, Office Manager C. Gary Ott Allstate Insurance Broker

“STEP has been a great partner since we opened our business in 2012. We have hired over two dozen employees through the STEP program over the years and the recruitment assistance and training subsidy have been instrumental in our business growth and success. Some STEP participants have gone on to be managers and even our new hire trainer came to us through the STEP program. We hope to continue this partnership in the future and encourage other local employers to participate as well.” - Chris Lightle, Owner, Souper Subs
New Employer, New Jobs

We have a new employer in town bringing exciting new job opportunities to Butte County. Driverge Vehicle Innovation is the country’s leading builder of commercial accessible vans, shuttles, transporters, work vans, and recreational vehicles. Wanting to add west coast manufacturing and distribution capabilities, Driverge Vehicle Innovations recently acquired NorCal Van Conversions located on Nord Avenue in Chico.

New to town and in need of hiring, Royce Martin, HR Coordinator & Talent Acquisition Specialist reached out to Alliance for Workforce Development (AFWD) for help. A Business Services Representative (BSR) initiated a detailed conversation with Royce to find out a little more about the company, what positions they needed to fill, and what services AFWD could offer that would best serve them.

Located in Kansas City, Kansas, Royce was a bit unfamiliar with the labor market here in Butte County. AFWD provided Driverge with local labor market information including the wage range for the types of positions they were looking to fill. Although the wages in California were a bit higher than expected, Royce appreciated the information and knew they would need to be competitive to attract the talented candidates they were looking for.

After gathering all the information, AFWD went to work recruiting. The Driverge positions were immediately posted to North State Jobs, CalJobs, local job boards, and AFWD social media pages. The BSR also searched through the AFWD applicant pool to see if we had any candidates with the transferable skills Driverge was looking for and begin sending them resumes. As a result, two of the candidates were hired through AFWD’s On-the-Job Training program. “Thank you, Lori!!! Nicolas and Brian are super sharp! Please keep them coming.” Royce Martin, Driverge Vehicle Innovations.
Jacob Hollingsworth is a lifelong resident of Paradise, Ca. He came to the AFWD Recovery Center looking for assistance with immediate employment. Jacob was assessed and it was determined that he was a great fit for the TJC program. When the worksite requested additional safety training regarding Chainsaw operations and Flagging, AFWD ensured it was provided. From the start Jacob excelled and eventually earned a position as a Lead Crew member. Jacob was an asset to the Town of Paradise Crew during his time there and it enabled him to earn an income, add to his skillset and complete safety certification trainings while assisting his community with recovery efforts.

Jacob’s long term goal was to have a career as an Arborist and when a training became available through our partner, Butte Training Place, Jacob received assistance from his Case Manager to enroll. He attended the Utility Line Clearance Arborist Training and successfully completed the 6-week 196-hour course. Jacob received assistance with updating his resume to include the training and certification in preparation for applying to many of the companies introduced during his class. Jacob’s Career Center Advisor (CCA) knew the potential in her client and had no doubt he would be hired by one of the companies he applied to.

It was of no surprise when Jacob contacted his CCA and informed her that he was offered a position as a Consulting Utility Forester for one of the main contractors of the Camp Fire Tree Removal program. With the determination and new skills, he obtained through AFWD, Jacob has an amazing start to his new career with a stable company and the opportunity to help make his community safer by participating in the removal of hazardous trees, while he continues to assist with the Camp Fire clean up.
Zachary Snyder came to Alliance for Workforce Development (AFWD) in August 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Zach had been laid off at the onset of COVID 19, from a local Butte County scrap metal business where he worked as a Heavy Equipment Mechanic. Zach had just earned his Heavy Equipment Operator (HEO) certificate from Butte College but hadn’t been given the opportunity to utilize it. Unfortunately, COVID continued to stop those most motivated to be successful in their tracks.

Zach was presented with an opportunity to participate in an On the Job training (OJT) with Magneson Tractor Service, INC. as a Heavy Equipment Operator. This opportunity would allow him to utilize his newly earned certificate in Heavy Equipment Operation as well as obtain the professional experience required to earn fulltime, permanent employment with one company. He would also be able to apply the transferrable skills he did possess such as the general understanding of regular maintenance of heavy equipment and mechanics.

Zach was monitored monthly to see the growth he was making and the skills he was attaining. Upon completion of his OJT, Zach had a permanent, full-time position with Magneson Tractor Services, INC. as a Heavy Equipment Operator with a significant wage increase and future opportunity in upward career mobility and development. Zach is appreciative for the support from Alliance for Workforce Development and is proud of his accomplishment and continued growth and success. Can you Dig it?

AFWD Helps PatioPros Cover Labor

In May of 2021, Alliance for Workforce Development (AFWD) was contacted by PatioPros looking for assistance with hiring laborers and painters. As the COVID-19 Pandemic has begun winding down, local construction companies are beefing up staff in anticipation of a project-filled summer. AFWD was successful in providing a handful of resumes for the employer to peruse. From the initial group interviewed, one selection was made. The employee chosen was already enrolled with AFWD as a job seeker, so we were able to assist him with purchasing the work boots required to work at PatioPros. In addition, we were able to offer the employer a 50% wage reimbursement for six months through the AFWD On-the-Job Training (OJT) program.

With over 12 years of industry experience, PatioPros prides itself on quality craftsmanship and service. They combine quality and cost-effectiveness while delivering stunning professional results. PatioPros has established an outstanding reputation for providing wonderfully pleasing shape structures that meet client specifications and desires and keep them coming back for future projects. Services offered by PatioPros include pergolas, sun/life rooms, and patio cover options including, solid, lattice, and louvered selections. Their website at www.patiopros.com has a gallery of stunning examples of their completed projects, as well as pages of testimonials from satisfied customers.
Rawni Ross had reached a juncture in her life that made it a priority to make some changes. Rawni had been a stay-at-home single mom for ten years. She had overcome some health issues and knew that the time was ripe for her to get back out into the workforce. Her son would be 18, and she needed a career. Rawni obtained a temporary job with the US Census Bureau. When this job ended, she was left looking again and she got a part-time waitress job but knew it wasn’t going to be enough. Rawni was in the CalWorks program so she reached out to her Employment Case Manager (ECM) Noel Douglass for advice and support. As an America’s Job Center of California in Oroville: the Department of Social Services and Alliance for Workforce Development (AFWD) are co-located. Rawni’s ECM sits in a cubicle across from one of the AFWD Business Service Representatives (BSR.) After hearing one side of the conversation, which involved doing a STEP referral, the BSR asked Noel about Rawni’s skills. An interview was arranged that very day for a receptionist position at an insurance company. Rawni was a shoo-in for the position. She had the right attitude and maturity, she wanted to work in an office, and she was eager to learn more.

“The STEP program helped me by sending my resume to a job opening that turned into an interview. I was offered the job the same day and started the next week. After not being in the workforce for ten years, my job as a receptionist has helped with my computer skills, people skills, and my self-esteem, just to name a few. The opportunity the STEP program has given me has completely changed my life. I no longer rely on any government programs for help. I am completely self-reliant!” ~ Rawni Ross

“Rawni Ross has been employed with our company for about six months now and we are pleasantly happy with her training. She is an exceptional listener and takes very good notes. We are very pleased and thankful for the opportunity to find great employees through the STEP Program.” Sandra Galvan
CFO/Office Manager Mark Trumm
Insurance Agency
Daniel came to the Prison-to-Employment program after learning that AFWD could support him in his quest to learn the electrical trade. He was determined to work in the electrical field because of his personal interest and his knowledge of the potential earnings. Higher earnings would allow him to give back to his family, who had supported him through his toughest times. Daniel had spent the majority of his adult life incarcerated and had little work experience. Due to the landscape of the job market, there were numerous construction laborer positions open, but Daniel searched for an opportunity to be trained in electrical work. Soon, Pro Frame Construction reviewed his resume and set-up an interview. The employer found him to be a great fit for the construction laborer position and through negotiations between the Business Service Representative and the employer, Daniel was offered electrical training if he signed on to a 6-month contract. Daniel was ecstatic to hear that his persistence paid off. He is now working with Pro Frame Construction as a laborer but is also getting hands-on experience with running cords, wiring, and installing entertainment systems. Daniel is hopeful that these skills will be transferable to opportunities in the future, and he is grateful that he met Pro-Frame. He plans to enroll into the Shasta Builder Electrical Training in the fall, to increase his skills and future opportunities.

Driven and Focused

Rebecca was referred to Alliance for Workforce Development (AFWD) by Butte County Career Technical Education (CTE) in February. She was currently working at a law firm office but had a passion she wanted to peruse; to help people while working in the medical field. Rebecca applied and was accepted in the phlebotomy technician program. Needing assistance with the cost of tuition and scrubs, Rebecca met with a Career Advisor, who went over the Youth Program with her. The Youth Program encourages the perusal of short-term certifications and has the resources available to help client’s with necessary costs. She was immediately enrolled and her Career Advisor worked with Butte County CTE to ensure that she received the necessary tuition and the required scrubs.

Rebecca was determined and worked hard. She successfully completed the phlebotomy technician program in May and has a goal to work for Oroville Hospital. Her determination and success will drive her far in the field of phlebotomy.

“Dream with ambition... ...and we will applaud you every step of the way.” - Vice President Harris
Most graduation ceremonies are long, drawn out and let’s face it – boring, however the Respiratory Therapy graduation of 2021 at Butte College was far from boring. This virtual program was fun, exciting and engaging. While you couldn’t be there in person, it felt as if you were a part of all the happenings. The video showed the graduating RT’s throughout the 2-year training process in various academics, learning to use multiple pieces of respiratory equipment, engaging with patients and each other. The students were all smiles, all the time.

Claire started her journey into healthcare thinking that the Respiratory Therapy program at Butte College was where she wanted to continue her Healthcare career pathway. She had considered the Registered Nursing program as well. Upon graduation in May from the RT program this is what she had to say: “I absolutely loved this program, and am thanking God I didn’t go into nursing, and am thankful for the assistance Alliance for Workforce Development provided me. RT is where it is at!”. Besides the ITA assistance from AFWD, Claire had the wonderful support of her son.

**Power Steering Civil Engineering**

Sagun Bhattarai was a 4th semester Civil Engineering student, attending CSU LA when she was referred to Alliance for Workforce Development (AFWD) in late January 2021. Sagun was looking for a possible training opportunity that would give her the hands-on experience while she finished the program online. A Career Center Advisor (CCA) completed an eligibility intake and Sagun was enrolled into the Adult WIOA program. Sagun stated there were already a few jobs in the Butte County area that she has applied to; one was an Assistant Engineering position for the City of Chico.

This is when the City of Chico reached out to AFWD for possible assistance with an On-the-Job training (OJT) opportunity; as they have worked together many times before and been very successful. The City of Chico interviewed Sagun and felt she had great potential and would make a wonderful addition to the team in the Civil engineering Department. Sagun still had four months to go until she graduated and obtained her degree and had little experience in the field, other than a previous internship in Los Angeles as part of a class. Sagun was offered the position and moved to Butte County.

The City of Chico referred Sagun to AFWD where she was determined eligible for an OJT and began her position as Assistant Civil Engineer in February 2021. Sagun met all her training milestones and made a wonderful addition to the City of Chico. Sagun graduated in May 2021 with her Civil Engineering degree and completed her training successfully at the end of May 2021. Sagun loves her new position and looks forward to growing in her career as the Assistant Engineer and is appreciative to her CCA and AFWD for all their assistance.
Lending a Helping Hand

Alliance for Workforce Development (AFWD) is always happy to lend a helping hand to the City of Chico. The City’s Human Resource Department has its hands full when it comes to recruiting for all of the vital positions that keep the beautiful city running smoothly.

The current job market has been tough on employers. Attracting qualified candidates has been challenging to say the least. The City of Chico knows that getting your job openings out to as many job seekers as possible is a must. So, not only do they post their open positions on The City of Chico job boards but all of AFWD’s job boards as well. Recently we have been able to assist the City of Chico with several On-the-Job Training (OJT) opportunities in several different areas. A few of these include a Public Safety Dispatcher, two Firefighters, an Assistant Engineer, and a Management Analyst.

“The City of Chico is thankful for the vital programs provided by Alliance for Workforce Development. Utilizing AFWD’s on-the-job training and retraining programs means that the City can confidently hire and train staff while remaining conscientious of the City’s financial outlook and community impact. The City has processed Firefighters, Dispatchers, Engineers, and several other positions through the OJT program, all with great success. Our Human Resources Department knows AFWD is one of the first stops to a great hire and we continue to look forward to working with the program in the future.” -Mark Orme, City Manager for the Beautiful City of Chico.
Brent Solis is a Paradise local who, like many in the community, was affected by the 2018 Camp Fire Disaster. Brent began seeking new employment in Butte County after the fire to provide for his parents and other family members also displaced by the fire. Brent ultimately found himself facing unemployment in a disaster affected area. Brent was connected to AFWD through Camp Fire Survivor resources and after receiving an orientation of our services, he became very interested in the Temporary Job Creation (TJC) placement opportunities with the Town of Paradise. He wanted to assist with the recovery efforts of his community and needed employment as soon as possible.

Brent was selected for a TJC placement with the Town of Paradise as a Crew Laborer; here he has helped repair roadways and clear fire damaged areas, helping him gain many new skills and experience while also feeling accomplished in helping his community recover and grow from the disaster. The gaining of these skills gave Brent the desire to seek employment in related labor fields. Brent worked with his CCA to update his resume and participate in mock interviews in preparation for the next steps in his career.

Brent connected with Waste Management after becoming interested in their temporary to full time hire program and was able to secure an interview opportunity for the program. Using the skills he learned both in his TJC and his mock interviews, Brent successfully interviewed with Waste Management and was offered an opportunity for their program. Upon completion of required training, Brent is now working full time, in a permanent, unsubsidized position for Waste Management as a Can Washer and Sanitizer. He is looking forward to long term employment with growth potential possibilities in this stable company.
Calvin Collins was enrolled into the WIOA Program on January 6, 2021. Calvin was referred to Alliance for Workforce Development (AFWD) after losing his position with a local HVAC business, which was Calvin’s first employment experience after having obtained a certification in HVAC and Refrigeration. Calvin was finding it difficult to obtain employment with growth opportunity or possible training opportunities. Calvin’s lack of experience and limited employment history created a prodigious barrier to his pursuit of full time, economically self-sufficient employment.

A business representative had reached out to Calvin after reviewing his resume from AFWD’s applicant pool which was obtained during the referral process when Calvin first contacted AFWD. Calvin was presented an opportunity to participate in learning a new trade in the occupation of textile Manufacturing Assembly, because of Calvin’s personal interests and limited skills in the area he applied and interviewed with AVL Looms, in Chico, CA. Calvin was offered the position and On-the-Job-Training opportunity at AVL Looms. While working for AVL, Calvin has received a two-week evaluation and monthly monitors to ensure he was learning the skills necessary to be successful and continue on in this highly specialized segment of manufacturing with high demand. These monitors are conducted based on job specific skills (JSS) individually curated to the occupation.

Calvin is currently half way through his OJT with AVL Looms. He is making great progress and is on track with the required skills and the learning curve for this type of hands on learning and on the job training. Calvin is truly enjoying his training experience and feels he has found something he enjoys that carries promise. Calvin looks forward in continuing with this company; learning and mastering this new trade of textile Manufacturing Assembly. Calvin is on his way to a new and exciting, LOOMinating career pathway in the textile manufacturing sector.
Expanding Knowledge = Expanding Community

Adrienne was referred to AFWD Camp Fire Recovery by a friend that was familiar with our services. Adrienne was previously working for Bee’s Family Ranch and was laid off in September of 2019 after the family decided to sell the ranch. Due to living in a disaster affected area, Adrienne found it difficult to secure full-time employment after leaving the ranch. Before Adrienne became a Ranch Hand, she had some experience working in an office setting and expressed that she would like to return to that realm. She was aware that technology and software had changed immensely since she had last worked in an office, but she was up for the challenge to learn and adapt to new systems. Adrienne’s transferrable skills and desire to learn something new made her the perfect candidate for the Work Experience (WEX) program with Butte County Disaster Removal as a Processing Clerk.

Participating in AFWD Camp Fire Recovery’s Work Experience has enabled Adrienne to earn an income while also allowing her to add to her skill set in her career pathway of being an Office Clerk. By processing applications, providing guidance to customers, and managing hazard tree removal requests, she has grown in many areas while also being given the opportunity to help those in her community that were affected by the Camp Fire. Adrienne has received above average scores during her monthly performance evaluations, which helps to solidify her desire to be a driving force within the disaster affected community.

As the program nears its end, Adrienne has received multiple offers from community-focused organizations. She feels confident this experience has added sufficiently to her skillset and has set her up for success in her future.
All Smiles

Kalah came to AFWD shortly after the Camp Fire seeking assistance with fulfilling her life long dream of becoming a Registered Dental Assistant. Due to the Camp Fire, Kala had to put her dreams on hold until she was able to locate assistance with training.

That’s when AFWD stepped in and assisted with determining that the ROP, RDA program would be a great fit for her. Kalah was enrolled into the NDWG Mega Fire program and with the help of the Recovery office and Kalah’s determination, she recently accomplished her dream of becoming a Registered Dental Assistant.

Kalah lost her home and all of her belongings in the camp fire. She completed the program while living in a camp trailer on her property in Paradise. Her CCA was there to help guide and support her during the training right up to Kalah obtaining permanent full-time employment with a local dentist.

Kalah is very happy with her new career and the stability she has acquired will help her with the rebuilding of her home as well.

... Referral from a Friend...

Osvaldo was referred to Alliance for Workforce Development through a friend, he was hesitant about the program. Osvaldo had just been released from the Department of Juvenile Justice and did not want to commit to something else. After a few visits with his CCA, he changed his mind. Together they determined that working a job where he can do hands-on work and socialize with people was best fit for him. AFWD was able to place Osvaldo in an on-the-job training with Chico Scrap Metal. This turned out to be a perfect fit for him. Osvaldo completed his contract and remains employed full-time.
Dr. Mike Chavez is the Executive Director of the Inland Empire Labor Institute (IELI), the largest Labor Council in California: geographically with 27,269 square miles and 133 cities. Dr. Chavez has been pushing for the large-scale employers in his area to go green and has been politically active in protecting workers' unions and rights. The IELI has also been developing more apprenticeship programs to ensure the high school graduates are leaving with trade skills. With an apprenticeship, the paywall barrier is removed for these young candidates, making the participating labor markets more equitable.

Mariann Johnson is in charge of GenerationGo! Career Pathways. This program ensures enrollees get real-world work experience before graduating from high school. GenerationGo!’s goal is a future where students are offered opportunities that assist them on the journey through college. Alliance for Workforce Development (AFWD) has a program very similar to this. AFWD’s Youth program provides services for qualifying participants between the ages of 17 and 24. Whether they need help finding a job, finishing high school, or getting more training, a Career Advisor is ready to help.

The 2021 High Road Summit was an optimistic look at effective workforce development happening around California as we emerge from a pandemic that wreaked havoc on our economy. America’s Job Centers of California are out in the community ready to help everyone get back to work into gainful employment.
AFWD-America’s Job Center of California

Statistics

Unemployment Information
June 2020 - May 2021

Unemployment Rate
(As of: May 2021)
6.6%

AFWD Region County UI Claims

Weekly Initial Claims by Industry Sector

Top 3 Affected Industry Sectors Butte County

Food and Accommodation
Healthcare and Social Assistance
Retail Trade

Chico Community Employment Center
500 Cohasset Rd., Ste. 30
Chico CA 95926
(530) 961-5125

Camp Fire Recovery Team
1600 Mangrove Ave., Ste. 115
Chico CA 95926
(530) 616-1053

Oroville Community Employment Center
78 Table Mountain Blvd
Oroville, CA 95965
(530) 538-7301