

Community Coordinator Report

Lassen County
JULY - SEPTEMBER

2021

Assisting at the Disaster Resource Center

Recently the Dixie fire destroyed nearly one million acres in Northern California. The fire started in the Feather River Canyon on July 30th and continued to rage through five different counties and has devastated thousands of families, homes, and businesses.

On September 14th through September 18th Alliance for Workforce Development (AFWD) partnered with numerous local, State and Federal agencies at the Disaster Resource Center (DRC) in Chester California and on September 23rd through September 25th in Janesville California. AFWD was there to provide support assistance to those who may have lost their jobs due to the Dixie Fire.

Staff working the event spent time talking to clients about our services. They introduced them to the resources we have to help them navigate Disaster Unemployment Assistance and options overcome challenges and develop a plan to get back to a self-sufficient new career.

DIXIE FIRE

Disaster Resource Center (DRC)



Lassen County, in coordination with FEMA and CalOES, is announcing the opening of a resource center in Janesville, CA for residents impacted by the Dixie Fire. A Disaster Resource Center (DRC) will be temporarily set up at the Janesville Fire District to help residents get resources and support for their recovery process.

MON. 9/20 –

SUN. 9/26

10:00 am to 6:00 pm

For more information call:
(530) 250-9009

WHERE: Janesville Fire District
463-390 Main St., Janesville, CA 96114

WHEN: September 20 – 26, 2021
10:00 am to 6:00 pm

*FEMA, Small Business Association (SBA), and CalOES Debris Task Force will be available each day. Local, State, and Non-Profit agencies will be available on September 23rd, 24th, & 25th.

Overview of Agencies:

- Lassen WORKs
- Lassen County Assessor
- Lassen County Planning & Building
- Lassen County Environmental Health
- Lassen County Grants & Loans Division
- Lassen County Behavioral Health
- Red Cross
- United Methodist Committee on Response
- Salvation Army
- Alliance for Workforce Development
- Legal Services of Northern California

- FEMA
- US Small Business Administration
- CA DMV
- CalOES Debris Task Force
- CA Employment Development Department
- CA Department of Insurance
- CA Franchise Tax Board
- CA Department of Public Health
- CA Contractors State Licensing Board
- CA Department of Social Services
- CA Veterans Affairs

Lassen Community College Spring 2021 CNA Cohort



Six students recently attended and completed the Certified Nursing Assistant training program at Lassen Community College. Alliance for Workforce Development staff offered assistance to all eligible participants. Three of the six students were enrolled in WIOA programs and were provided with financial assistance with required program costs of Live Scan background screenings, uniforms and equipment. They all performed exceptionally in the program and will be scheduling and receiving WIOA assistance in taking their certification exams soon. This cohort completed the clinical portion of their training at Lassen Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, and one has already received a job offer there and started working as a Nursing Assistant the week after her training was completed. Congratulations on your hard work and willingness to help others!

Truckin' On into the Future



Ron was referred to the P2E program by his probation officer. He was working as a landscaper in Reno at the time, but the commute was too costly for a job that paid just over minimum wage. It was also tough work and he wasn't sure how long he could keep up with the physical demands. After trying to find work closer to home, he decided to look into pursuing his dream job of truck driver. It was a job that he could physically do and one that would allow him to see the United States, which was something he longed to do.

He met with his Career Advisor and they discussed how they could turn that dream into a reality. After conferring and getting the approval from probation, they researched training facilities. Ron's daughter lived in Sacramento, so housing was available near Western Truck School, an approved training center. After a couple of months of saving money, Ron started his training with a little help from Alliance for Workforce Development for tuition.

He completed the training, passed the DMV test on the first try, and by that time had already received a job offer! He started working the very next day driving commercially. Ron is thrilled with his new career and excited to see what happens with his new future.

Welcome Cheyenne Ratkey



With the announcement of the closure of California Correctional Center (CCC), Alliance for Workforce Development (AFWD) was ready to deploy Rapid Response Services to those impacted by potential closures/layoffs. With the prison's in Lassen providing upwards of 45% of the available workforce in the area, support to retain local talent is crucial. In light of the increasing need and opportunity to assist the Lassen community and businesses, A Community Relations Coordinator position was developed to be in the forefront of workforce development activity, solutions and future endeavors.

Cheyenne Ratkey was hired as the Community Relations Coordinator in September. Cheyenne came to us as potentially being impacted by the closure herself. Cheyenne held numerous positions excelling and promoting from Office Technician (OT) in the Northern Division Camp Administration Office, Central Operations OT, Chief Deputy Warden's Secretary, Secretary for the Incident Command Post for COVID-19, and the Wardens Executive Assistant within 5 years of being employed with CCC.

With the announcement of the closure, and uncertain future with the Department of Corrections, she was looking to pursue different career options and opportunities. The position with AFWD caught her attention as something that she could contribute her experience and have an active beneficial role in the community she calls home.

Cheyenne is 5th generation born and raised in rural Lassen County. Her experience in leadership rolls throughout 4-H, FFA, and countless volunteering in the area has provided her the opportunities to be involved in numerous local and state agencies such as the local Farm Bureau, Chamber of Commerce, Lassen County Board of Supervisors, City Council, State Legislature and more. Cheyenne is a graduate of Lassen High School and attended college at Lassen Community College, and Sonoma State University.

Cheyenne is excited, passionate, and eager to represent AFWD in coordinating with Local and State officials, local businesses, and the citizens of the area to keep her hometown thriving. Pursuing a solvent employment base for the residents of Lassen County to establish and ensure the pathways of success for the families not only impacted by the closure of CCC and the detrimental fires in and around the areas, but as a community as a whole.

A Model Client

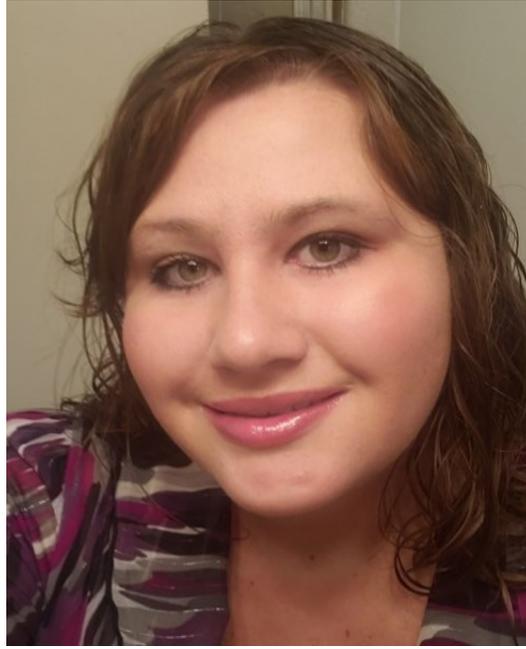


Logan came to the Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. (AFWD) in Susanville for assistance with the Lassen Community College Licensed Vocational Nursing (LVN) program. He had come to Susanville from Medford, Oregon to participate in the program, as programs in his area were impacted. He had also researched and found that Lassen Community College LVN's had a very high passing rate on the licensing exam, and had a wider variety of clinical site experience offered. Prior to being accepted into the program, Logan had worked as a Security Guard at a hospital for 5 years. He found that working with the medical staff at the hospital inspired him to want to become a nurse. Logan met with a Career Center Advisor (CCA) and completed assessments, which showed his interests were in line with LVN positions in the healthcare sector, making him an excellent candidate for the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Adult program. Logan completed the LVN program at Lassen Community College June of 2021, with the assistance of AFWD.

Logan was always very informative on his progress throughout the program, and willing to provide any information needed. He was a model client. Once he took and passed his LVN Licensing exam, he applied for work back in Medford, Oregon. He was hired quickly at a Nursing and Rehabilitation Center and started working on August 9th. He loves his new job as an LVN, and feels he has already been given a great deal of responsibility. Congratulations, Logan!



Welcome Angel Price



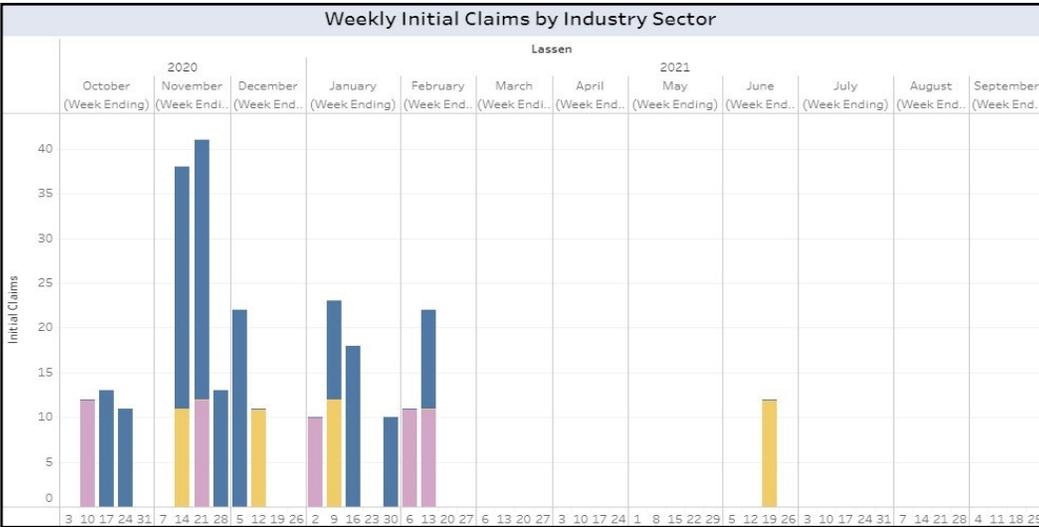
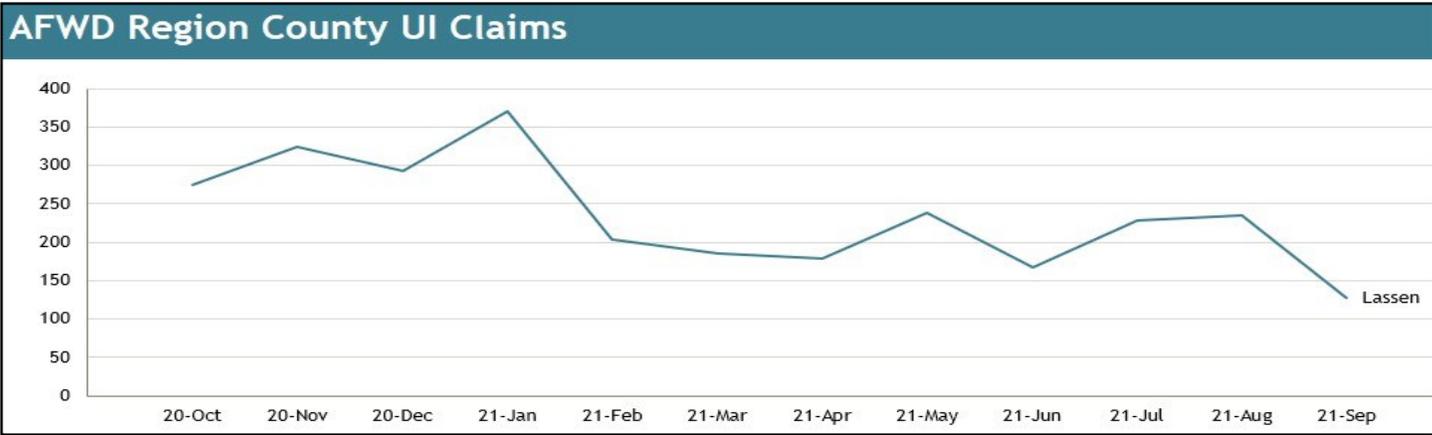
Angel Price joined the Alliance for Workforce Development team in July 2021. Angel is a Youth Career Center Advisor out of Susanville, Ca and works with Youth and Prison to Employment clients. She also enjoys working with community partners in Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, and Sierra counties. Having recently moved to Lassen County from Plumas County, Angel has personal knowledge of the devastation that the Dixie Fire wracked on our area and is eager to help the local people. Her outreach efforts have led to strengthening relationships with Feather River Adult Education and Plumas Rural Services who offer many services in mental health, transportation, domestic violence and child care, to name a few. Alliance for Workforce Development also collaborated with Plumas Rural Services' evacuation self-care bags which helped over 200 people. She is also working with other Youth staff to bring awareness to mental health and the effects it can have on obtaining goals. Alliance for Workforce Development is grateful to have her on the Youth Team.



AFWD-America's Job Center of California Statistics

Unemployment Rates
 (As of: Aug 2021)
California 7.5%
Lassen County 5.8%

Unemployment Information Oct. 2020 - Sept. 2021



Top 3 Affected Industry Sectors - Lassen County

- Food and Accommodation Service
- Healthcare and Social Assistance
- Retail Trade

Lassen County - 1st Quarter
One-Stop Visitors: 1,558
Businesses Served: 33
Business Services: 188
AFWD
Clients Enrolled: 578

A proud partner of
America's Job Center of California
 Lassen Business and Career Network
 1616 Chestnut St
 Susanville, CA 96130
 (530) 233-4161