



Alliance For
Workforce Development, Inc.
Providing pathways to success

Community Coordinator

Report

Nevada County

JAN - MAR

AFWD Shares On-The-Air

2022

Since the beginning of the pandemic in Spring 2020, the Nevada County economy has weathered significant challenges and AFWD has had a front-row seat. While we have done our part to mitigate impacts over the last two years, AFWD has had its own challenges to overcome including maintaining a strong presence in the community and keeping our resources & services in the minds of job seekers & businesses alike, so that community members know to collaborate with us throughout economic fluctuations.

AFWD strives to be a “first respondent” for employers and job seekers. We aim to let businesses know we are available to them when they are in need of recruiting assistance, offering a website to post opportunities at no cost, personal job development with referrals, and our On-the-Job Training (OJT) program. An OJT can provide much-needed relief to small businesses, who are trying to grow and expand by reimbursing them to hire and train new employees who may lack a few of the necessary transferable skills. In January, AFWD collaborated with the Economic Resource Council (ERC) to share our services on the air at KNCO AM Radio. We were afforded the opportunity to discuss what we have to offer with Tom Fitzsimmons, the host of “Insight: Nevada County Action” on their “All Things Economic” segment. During our 60 minutes on the air, we shared our mission in the community, highlighting our business services and job seeker services in our Resource Room, providing information on, not only how we can help, but why we consider our presence to be an essential component to the economic health of the Nevada County community.

AFWD looks forward to our next visit with KNCO where we will be touching on other engaging topics including recruitment competencies for working with justice-involved job seekers, and new ways businesses can re-tool themselves for success in engaging with a new labor force of which now Millennials and Generation-Z are the majority.



Practically Meant to Be

Chan Family Optometry is a busy optometry practice, offering full-service vision care to members of the community. As a business that has been serving Nevada County residents since 1978, the foundation of what has solidified them as a leader in optometric care is their patient-centered business approach, patients know they can expect an experience of personal attention and professional care from beginning to end.

In January, they contacted AFDW in search of an Optometric Technician and because their business is founded on the patient experience, they were looking for an individual who could express warmth and kindness while also maintaining professionalism, as this role is primarily focused on both direct patient care and interfacing with doctors. After posting the opportunity to North State Jobs, the Business Service Representative (BSR) for Nevada County, Phelan Burns, referred Catherine Balan from our Applicant Pool with a resume that was drafted in our Resource Room. After interviewing Catherine, who had previously been successful in administrative support roles, but never worked in the medical field, they offered her the position and we were able to enroll her as a Dislocated Worker (DW).

Chan Family Optometry is now looking ahead with a robust and proficient staff that complements their mission to provide effective care to the Nevada County community, and AFDW is thrilled to be a part of their success!



A New Direction



Sean is a resident of Nevada County who was at a point in his life where he was ready for change and decided it was time to chase his dreams and goals. That is exactly what he did when he self-initiated a career for himself as an RN. Sean being a father to two young children wanted to show and prove to them, that no dream is out of reach. When Sean was in high school, he had been a part of a training program that gave him experience working in the medical field. It was always a passion of Sean's to become an RN, it just never seemed to be in reach. As time went on and Sean became a father, he knew that becoming an RN

was something that he needed to do in order to support his family better. Also, he wanted to fulfill his desire to help others.

Sean took the first steps and applied to the RN training program through Butte College, where he was accepted into the program in January of 2020. He passed his TEAS exam and completed all his prerequisites. Due to the intensity of the program, Sean has been unable to work since starting his program in January 2020, and has been supporting his family off savings and his wife's income. Before his final semester Sean was referred to Alliance for Workforce Development to gain some assistance. Sean was enrolled into the Adult program for WIOA, where he was able to gain some assistance from AFWD with his books, Kaplan, and his RN Licensure. Sean completed his 4th semester in December of 2021 and is studying for his state exam. Sean is thankful for the ongoing support that was and is being provided by AFWD. It has allowed him to focus on his studies, and be that role model to his children. He has shown them that nothing is out of reach when you put your mind to it. With the assistance of AFWD, Sean is well on his way to obtaining full-time, self-sufficient employment in the Health Care Sector upon receipt of his licensure.

Never Losing Hope

In May of 2021, Paula visited Alliance for Workforce Development in Grass Valley, seeking our services for Unemployment Insurance and Job Search Assistance. She had been a private caregiver for the past ten years, but due to the current situation locally revolving around the Covid-19 Pandemic, was no longer able to provide her services. Paula was dedicated to her work search, and finding employment that will be fulfilling and rewarding. She knew she needed to be her own advocate to be successful.

Paula was a great fit for AFWD services and was enrolled into the WIOA program. She was able to gain assistance to create a resume that focused on her skills to get her back into the workforce. Paula was also able to use the resource room and computers to practice her typing skills to assist her in her job search. Throughout the process of searching, applying, and interviewing for different opportunities, Paula never lost hope. She stayed determined and focused on the task at hand.

Late in 2021, Paula applied to a position to become an Office Assistant in the Probation Department the County of Nevada. She was quickly offered an interview, and even more quickly offered a second interview. With the assistance of her Career Center Advisor (CCA) and the support of the AFWD team, Paula crafted well thought out Thank You letters. The county was impressed with Paula and her skills that she had to offer and bring to the team. In less than a week after interviewing Paula was offered the position. While the process was lengthy Paula started her new position with the County of Nevada, and reports she is very happy in her new role. She is thankful for the never-ending support and assistance that she received from her CCA and the rest of the staff at AFWD. Well done Paula!



A Warm Welcome



December 2021 was a rough month for the town of Truckee. The community was hit with two separate storms and a total snowfall of 212 inches (17.67 feet) in December, breaking a 50-year-old record. The power outages were widespread, reaching a peak of almost 12,000 customers without power. Some residents lost power for up to 8 days.

During this time, the Truckee Library and it's Tech Center (in which we are co-located) were serving as a warming center for the community allowing residents power to charge their devices, use of workstations to communicate and work, as well as, a place to thaw out and warm up. One of the BCN workstations was even repurposed and set up for children to watch Netflix while family members conducted business in the center.

Although this is not the way we are accustomed to assisting our community, we are always happy to help, where we can, when a need arises. In the process, there are now a number of local residents who know where they can find our AJCC Business and Career Network, have a better understanding of the workforce services we are able to provide, and that we will be here to provide them a warm welcome.



From Unemployed to Supervisor in Four Days

Erinlee came to Alliance for Workforce Development requesting assistance in finding full-time self-sufficient employment so that she would be able to support her family of 5. Erinlee was fairly open on the type of jobs she had been looking for. Her one request was that she was specifically wanting something that was either not entry-level or had room for advancement within the first year. She obtained an interview at the local Best Western hotel for a Supervisory position. Erinlee nailed the interview and was offered the job on the spot and asked if she could start the next day. Without hesitation, she accepted the job only to realize later that she didn't have the appropriate uniform to begin working and didn't have the money to purchase new clothing. AFWD was able to rush a supportive service request to help purchase Erinlee clothing that met the required uniform for her new job. Erinlee was enrolled into the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act on Monday afternoon, interviewed Thursday and started her new job on Friday morning.





AFWD - America's Job Center of California Statistics

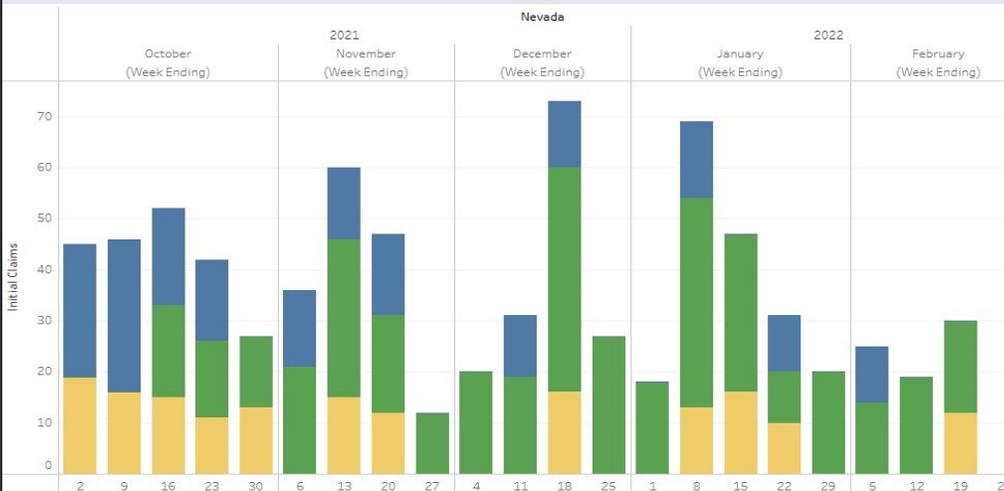
Unemployment Rates
(As of: Feb. 2022)
California 4.8%
Nevada 3.9%

Unemployment Information

AFWD Region County UI Claims



Weekly Initial Claims by Industry Sector



Top 3 Affected Industry Sectors Nevada County

- Food and Accommodation service
- Construction
- Healthcare and Social Assistance

Nevada County - 3rd Quarter

One-Stop Visitors: 2,438

Businesses Served: 85

Business Services: 536

AFWD

Clients Enrolled: 902



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(530) 265-7088

The Business and Career Network
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(530) 550-3015