On July 31, 2018 Program Manager, Kristine Farrell and Business Service Representative, Malwina Grant attended the Beale Air Force Base Job Fair organized by the Airman and Family Readiness Center for DoD ID card holders – Veterans, Spouses and dependents of active duty members.

The event was very well organized and gathered 42 employers from both private and federal agencies. Included among those in attendance were the FBI, The State of California, Employment Development Department as well as many military contractors directly interested in the highly specialized and trained military members recently separated or soon to separate.

Business and Career Network staff attended the event to educate the attendees on services provided within its offices. Many contacts were made, from veterans or those soon separating from the military, to the military spouses. All job seekers were very glad to learn about the services that they were unaware existed, even more so when they learned that they are available nationwide through the American Job Center Network. More information about the nationwide network of offices can be found on https://www.careeronestop.org/Site/american-job-center.aspx

It is hard to provide pathways to success when the public doesn’t know what you do. This is why such an important part of what BCN’s mission is to develop and maintain partnerships, providing outreach to community organizations and marketing our services.
In the spring of 2018, Sierra College’s Nevada County campus added the Fire Academy to their available courses for the first time. Among this inaugural class were three students whose attendance was enabled by assistance from the Business and Career Network (BCN). Fire Academy students are required to purchase a wide variety of safety equipment and attire in order to attend school, a considerable expense which can pose a financial burden to many students. The BCN was able to assist the three enrolled students with these required purchases, making it possible for them to participate in the training program. The students all successfully graduated and started internships with regional fire departments. One student’s internship is with the Nevada County Fire Department. In July, a Nevada County strike team deployed to the Carr Fire in Redding, this months-long fire morphed into a fire tornado that created its own weather system and was able to cross the Sacramento River, a first in fire behavior. Working in 24 hour shifts, the strike team performed heavy structure defense and back burns to save homes, and worked to catch and safely move goats and other animals from a ranch. With wildfires in CA projected to grow, the importance of and demand for the service of fire fighters will only continue to grow in the golden state. The BCN will continue to support the training and education of these vital service providers.
Youth begins great adventure

Clayton first came to the Business and Career Network (BCN) through a partnership between our organization and adult education. He was referred to the program and began participating in February of 2018. Clayton was a 19 year old high school dropout who had some work experience but required assistance completing his diploma. He started working with his career center advisor to develop a plan and work on pre-employment skills training. Clayton has faced a history of adversity, which led to his inability to complete his diploma requirements.

While working with his career center advisor in June he faced a situation which provided another roadblock and found himself homeless. He again worked with his career center advisor to find creative solutions to find him stable housing in a difficult market. He decided that he would move out of town and live with family members. By doing so he not only solved his problem but he also removed himself from his social network which may potentially have inhibited him from achieving his goals. He still had not reached his requirements to graduate so BCN staff worked as a liaison between Clayton and adult education. In mid-July he accomplished his goal and received his high school diploma along with a cash incentive.

Staff also assisted him with virtual job search support. He was able to find work at ‘Wolf & Sparrow’ restaurant in Las Vegas. He says that it is a very progressive eatery and he is learning new techniques and making good money. After he graduated he decided that he wanted to further his education and has enrolled in a local private University. He says that he loves cooking and plans to stay in the field but also wants to have his own establishment some day and hopes to earn a business degree. Clayton is a shining example of a resilient youth who accomplished his goals with the support and guidance of BCN programs.
Marc Nocerino came to the Grass Valley Business and Career Network office with a background that included being an Employment Advisor. He understood that just knowing the process was not enough to move him forward in his job search that working in a team environment could only better his chances of finding gainful employment.

After having filed for Unemployment Insurance, he began his job search in the Resource Center, using the Job Board and computerized search. To add to his skill set, he received a Typing Certificate. He continued to visit the Grass Valley Business and Career Network Resource center to job search, to ask advice, and to work on his resume. He was hired as a Para educator at Nevada Union High School.

Mindy came in one afternoon and was excited she moved back home from being out of state for a while. She stated she would like to find a job as a Dental Assistant since she had been working as an Assistant in another state. With the help of the Grass Valley Business and Career Network Mindy, researched Dental Assistant positions in the local area.

Mindy found out that to apply for the jobs she wanted she needed to continue her education as a Registered Dental Assistant. She came in faithfully to complete the online classes she needed to finish her courses, all while picking up a part-time job as a waitress, through the help of the resource center. It took her a few months but she is now a Registered Dental Assistant in California!

Mindy came in to show her appreciation and happily announced that she found employment with a local Dentist as a Registered Dental Assistant.

Great job Mindy! We wish you all the best!
Working Again

Florence Cox came into the Truckee Business and Career Network (BCN) office looking for some solutions to her finances. She was in need of a job immediately but was not having any success. Florence was enrolled and we reviewed her resume and made some corrections. She was feeling very hopeless at the time and on the verge of also losing her home. Florence was feeling very age challenged as she is an older job candidate. She had spent many years maintaining a home for her family but had some part time experience in both clerical and customer service. The Human Resource representative from Welk Resorts came by the center with information regarding job openings, specifically Front Desk Guest Services. (Welk Resorts is a family run business started by Lawrence Welk), and Florence got to hear of the opening first hand. This position is not just checking guests in but also includes playing a concierge as well. Florence has lived in the Tahoe area for quite some time and knows the area well. She was an avid skier and has a great knowledge of the ski resorts for both summer and winter activities, as well as local hiking trails and fishing spots. With the help of the BCN Florence filled out an application, updated her Resume, and was able to obtain an interview with Welk Resorts for the Front Desk Guest Service position. After the interview, she was confident she secured a position with Welk Resorts. She even made light hearted joke that maybe she could get transferred to the resorts Hawaiian property.

Successful Training

Ron Perea recently completed his Advanced Security Officer training with SAFTA (Security Firearms and Training Academy). Ron had worked as an unarmed guard for several years and was looking for a job with a higher wage to better support his family. He had not been working for some time, had been unsuccessful in securing a job and his unemployment insurance was running out. He came to the Truckee Business and Career Network looking for help. He was not sure how he would be able to upgrade his skills, but the staff at the BCN did! Staff helped Ron to inquire with EDD about the California Training Benefits so he could continue to get his Unemployment and then researched with Ron to find SAFTA on the States ETPL (Eligible Training Program List). The BCN was able to help Ron get into the SAFTA training. After completing the course, Ron had three job leads within a week of graduating. SAFTA has a 90% job placement rate with their graduates, so it was great to see this happen for Ron. After negotiating two different job offers, both of which pay higher than his previous unarmed jobs, Ron has secured a full time job as an Armed Security Officer through a contractor and is stationed at Truckee Tahoe Forest Hospital! Congratulations Ron!
AFWD America’s Job Center of California

Statistics
PY 2018-2019

Nevada County
Total Visitors
2,455

Nevada County
Business Services

Business Served 62
Service Provided 206

AFWD
Total Clients Enrolled:
620

Unemployment Rate
(As of: August 2018)
Butte 4.7%  Nevada 3.4%
Lassen 4.4% Plumas 5.3%
Modoc 5.9% Sierra 5.1%