Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. (AFWD) hosted a four-county virtual job fair on Wednesday, March 2, 2022. With the pandemic changing the way in-person events are allowed to be held, virtual platforms are becoming more popular. Forty-two employers from Lassen, Plumas, Modoc, and Sierra counties participated in the virtual event with over 200 job openings amongst them. It was the 101 registered job seekers from the four counties that made the event a success.

Virtual hiring event platforms use chat technology and video conferencing to stimulate the interaction between job seekers and employers. Job seekers were able to upload their resumes to their profiles and, with the click of a button, apply for the positions they were interested in. Businesses were able to chat directly with job seekers, schedule/conduct video interviews, view their resumes, and schedule follow-up meetings/interviews with them on the spot. In total 214 resumes were submitted at the event.

Tim Baase with Feather River College said, “I’ve talked to a ton of people and had really good engagement. I’m super impressed with the format here and it has been really fruitful.” Jennie Mathews with Seneca Healthcare District said, “Of the 30 or so people that visited our booth, I have about 5–6 contenders for potential jobs which is a win in my book!” Chris Bielecki, Forest Engineer for the Modoc National Forest remarked that the Virtual Job Fair experience was, “Definitely a good experience and worth our time to attend. We connected with a varied mix of people and work experience. We were also able to point job seekers to the USA JOBS website to apply for our open positions.” Overall businesses were happy with the virtual platform and the interaction they were able to have with job seekers.

The use of the virtual platform gives AFWD the ability to promote, manage, and effectively capture attendees and businesses from a multitude of areas regardless of their physical location. AFWD is always striving to help the employers, community, and their clients with opportunities for employment and growth.
New Town, New Opportunity

Katy had been working two part-time jobs in Reno, Nevada when she came into Alliance For Workforce Development (AFWD). She has been wanting to move to a smaller town to raise her children and was looking for stable full-time employment. She was working for Sierra Nevada Job Corps as a Community Dispatcher and was also an in-home Care Provider. A friend told her about AFWD so she came in to look for a full-time job that would include benefits. Katie expressed her interest in some capacity of Law enforcement. The Career Center Advisor (CCA) told her of a job opening with the Plumas County Sheriff’s office as a Dispatcher and she felt that would be a great start, working in the Public Safety Sector.

Katie applied for a full time 911 Dispatcher position with the Plumas County Sheriffs office. She had taken the required test to start the interview process and passed it. They then set up an interview with her and although they liked Katie and were interested in hiring her, they felt she needed extensive training due to her lack of hands on specific dispatching experience. The CCA asked the Business Service Representative (BSR) to reach out to the Sheriff’s Office to discuss the possibility of doing an On-The-Job (OJT) training. The Sheriff’s office felt it would be a good idea to do an OJT, as they thought Katie would be a good fit for their office, but were concerned with her lack of experience in this field. Katie was enrolled into the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Adult program and worked with both her CCA and the Sheriff’s Office to put together an employment plan that would provide Katie with the skills and knowledge required to become a successful 911 Dispatcher in the Public Safety Sector.

Katie completed her OJT and was able to work in the Dispatch office completely on her own. She was a very swift and enthusiastic learner. Katie loves her job and fits in well with her co-workers. She is so thankful for the opportunity that the OJT through AFWD and WIOA, has given her. She and her family have moved her and she loves living in the small-town atmosphere. Katie feels that she has been given an excellent chance to work in a position she loves, while helping to keep the public safe. Katies supervisor says Katie is a reliable and good employee, and very grateful to have her on their team.
Seneca Healthcare District

With the success of the Alliance for Workforce Development’s (AFWD) Virtual Job Fair, we are pleased to share some great news about one of our major employers here in Plumas County. AFWD has been partners with Seneca Healthcare District for many years and with the ongoing labor shortage, it was no surprise they chose to participate in the Job Fair that was held on March 2nd. They had a great response with about 30 job seekers and from those visitors, they received 6 candidates that are great contenders for their open positions.

To add to the success, Seneca Healthcare District has just launched their new Certified Nursing Assistant Training Program which will welcome a new pool of job seekers that may not have all the necessary skills but want to learn. Here in Plumas County, we are excited to have Seneca Healthcare District offering this program to our community members.

**CNA TRAINING PROGRAM**

**LOOKING FOR A REWARDING CAREER IN THE HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY?**

Apply now for our Certified Nursing Assistant training program!

Potential job placement at SHD upon passing CA Certification Exam after completing training.

- First cohort starting in May 2022
- Pay: $15.24/hr plus supplies and exam fees
- 50-day program

**QUALIFICATIONS:**
- CPR certification
- High School Diploma

**GET IN TOUCH**

Jennie Mathews - HR
(530) 258-2159
jmathews@senecahospital.org

**APPLY NOW**
Finding a New Career That He Loves Doing

Dustin came in to the Plumas office of Alliance For Workforce Development, Inc. (AFWD) looking for assistance in obtaining full time employment. Dustin’s most recent employment was as a cook/server for a local sandwich shop, where he was laid off due to the job being seasonal. Dustin was looking for stable, year around, full time self-sufficient employment when he came into AFWD. Dustin was interested in receiving individualized services assistance from a Career Center Advisor (CCA) at the Plumas Business and Career Network. Dustin had applied for several jobs, but he had not heard back from any of them. At this time, he learned there was an opening a Heat Transfer Systems as an assistant HVAC Installation Technician and he submitted his application.

Heat Transfer Systems interviewed him. They were very interested in hiring him and thought he would be a great fit for their company. However, they were concerned with his lack of hands on experience in this field and felt he would need training. The CCA spoke with the Business Services Representative (BSR) who reached out to Heat Transfer Systems to discuss the possibility of doing an On-The-Job Training (OJT). Heat Transfer Systems agreed to participate in an OJT with Dustin, as it would benefit their business as well as the new employee. Dustin was enrolled in the Dislocated worker program and it was determined that he was also eligible for the AA Dixie Fire Additional Assistance Grant so he was co-enrolled into that program. Dustin worked with both his CCA and Heat transfer systems to put together an employment plan that would provide him with the skills and knowledge required to become a successful Assistant HVAC Installation Technician.

Dustin has successfully completed his OJT. His trainer was very pleased with the outcome of the training. They are happy with his ambition to learn and how he strives to become better at his position. He is picking up the work quickly and he takes direction well. Dustin is very happy in this line of work, learning new things every day. He is even completing some jobs on his own without supervision. He loves the crew that he works with and looks forward to being in this occupation for many years to come. Dustin is very appreciative for the opportunity that the OJT through AFWD and Heat Transfer Systems has given him. Good job Dustin!!!
Say Hello to Brennan & Sons Roofing

Alliance for Workforce Development (AFWD) is proud to welcome Brennan & Sons Roofing to their list of distinguished businesses that they work with. Brennan & Sons Roofing has been in business in the Blairsden-Graeagle area since 1993. It is owned and operated by Dennis Brennan and managed by Thomas Brennan. They have about 5 employees and work all over Plumas and Sierra Counties. AFWD started working with them back in early February when they were able to place a Youth Participant into an On-the-Job wage reimbursement contract.

Their mission as a roofing contractor company is to develop a highly successful, all-around roofing business that provides quality services in our community and to become a standard for an ideal roofing company in Plumas and Sierra Counties.

The services they supply are installing ceramic/concrete tiles, slate/shingles, installing single-ply, built-up, metal, liquid & modified bitumen roofing systems, installing, repairing gutters & downpipes, installing sheet metal as well as many other critical services for a conscious homeowner.

AFWD is looking forward to having a long and beneficial relationship with Brennan & Sons Roofing.
The Oath of a Scout

Aidan was referred to Alliance for Workforce Development by predecessor Career Center Advisor, Leslie Scott. It was an honor to receive a referral from our very own organizational legacy after her retirement. She mentored Aidan through Boy Scouts and knew that Aidan had so much passion for the outdoors and wanted to help him utilize his potential. At first Aidan didn’t think he was capable of working in a career and focused on an entry level position at the local grocer. Aidan’s dream job is to work in Forestry because of his love of the outdoors.

After encouragement to pursue his dreams, he applied for a position at Collin’s Pines where he can gain experience working with raw natural materials. Aidan practiced interview skills and aced it when he put his skills to the test, landing the job. Aidan is now excelling at work and loving it. Speaking of aces, he is also working diligently on his High School Diploma through Feather River Adult Education. As of today, he only has 3 remaining classes to take before he is completely finished with his education. Aidan is doing a tremendous job balancing both his education and employment. Aidan’s goal is to complete his diploma before traditional school finishes and is on track to reach that goal. Aidan applies the scout oath to all aspects of his life doing his best, staying mentally awake and morally straight. Aidan also helps others learn the adventure of a scout by maintaining leadership within his local chapter.
Unemployment Information

AFWD Region County UI Claims

Weekly Initial Claims by Industry Sector

Top 3 Affected Industry Sectors - Plumas County
- Agriculture
- Construction
- Food and Accommodation

Plumas County - Through 3rd Quarter
One-Stop Visitors: 771
Businesses Served: 114
Business Services: 1,345
AFWD
Clients Enrolled: 902

Plumas Business & Career Network
7 Quincy Junction Rd. Quincy, CA
530-283-1606

Dixie Fire Recovery Office
328 Main St. Suite 3 Chester, CA
530-258-3866

AFWD - America’s Job Center of California
Statistics
Unemployment Rates
(As of: February 2022)
California 4.8%
Plumas 9.9%

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