

Community Coordinator

Report

Plumas County

OCTOBER—DECEMBER

2020



“NEW YEAR, NEW CAREER” Virtual Job Fair 2021

As we enter 2021, it brings with it hope, new beginnings and perhaps that new dream job. The landscape of job search and finding candidates has shifted into the digital world and Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. (AFWD) is meeting the challenge of bringing job seekers and employers together through a Virtual Job Fair – “New Year, New Career”.

January 20th AFWD is hosting the virtual hiring event – **“New Year, New Career”** from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Job seekers will be able to connect with multiple employers (81 at current count) from six Northern California counties. The opportunity to explore career options, consider relocation opportunities and interact with recruiters via chat and video (optional) all while maintaining a safe distance.

Job seekers can upload their resume instantly so participating employers can view their resume and chat with them directly. This is a unique opportunity for job seekers to meet with a variety of employers in and around the north state. Employers and job seekers alike, will get the rare opportunity to interact with each other, exchange job descriptions and resumes and can even conduct on the spot virtual interviews from wherever they are on any device.

AFWD is here to assist with preparing job seekers for the event, resume development and providing a series of virtual job fair readiness workshops. Job seekers can register for the Virtual Job Fair Readiness Workshops by following the links below to register for a workshop.

Direct Link to register for Jan. 7th workshop, 2:00pm PST:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_0Gcl-ra1S1mB5S9GXDtVdw

Direct Link to register for Jan. 12th workshop, 2:00pm PST:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_uQZMmPCxRTiYXn1mWQZgVg

Job Seekers can register for the Virtual Job Fair at:

<https://portal.premiervirtual.com/event/register-jobseeker/3450-year-career-afwd-virtual-fair>

From Part-Time to Full-Time, in a Job He Loves!



John came into the Plumas office of Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. (AFWD) for assistance in finding full-time, self-sufficient employment. He had recently been laid off from two seasonal part-time jobs. One was working for a Guest Ranch in a maintenance position and the other, a Ranch Hand at a local ranch in town. Two part-time, seasonal jobs that he could not depend on year-round was getting difficult. John has a family to support and these jobs were just not enough to maintain his household at a level of self-sufficiency. After meeting with a Career Center Advisor (CCA) at AFWD, he was determined eligible for the Adult Program as a job seeker under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).

With help from his CCA, John had worked on his resume, to bring it up-to-date, and did some extensive job searching. He applied for several positions in the Quincy area but was not called in for an interview until he applied for a maintenance job with AWI Property Management Company (AWI). This company manages a local Senior Retirement Housing Complex called Mountain View Manor. In preparation for the interview, his CCA reviewed some common interview questions and the kind of answers that hiring managers are seeking. Armed with preparedness, he went to the interview feeling confident. This particular job was high on his list, as he was confident in his maintenance skills and history. AWI called and offered him the position. This is a full-time, year-round job with full benefits. John can not be more excited for this new chapter in his profession and the ability to provide confidently for his family.

John has been very grateful for the help that AFWD was able to give him. His manager has stated that the Retirement Complex has never looked better and that they look forward to a long relationship with John in their Maintenance Department.

safeTALK: Invaluable Resources in our Communities



Something that we are all too familiar with, in these trying times, can be assisting individuals who are in a state of crisis. In Plumas County, Plumas Rural Services has been heading up a movement to build up communities, dispel the stigma surrounding suicide, and teach people how to recognize signs of a person in distress. Because Career Center Advisors (CCA) at the OneStops throughout their 6 counties assist some individuals at difficult times in their lives, Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. decided to have CCAs attend this training.

Plumas Rural Services has partnered with LivingWorks, to provide education through the whole of Plumas County. Any person can attend parents, consumers, those working in human services. Anyone who wants to educate themselves on how to be alert to signs so that communities can become safer from suicide.

These programs provide knowledge and skills that really are aimed at saving lives. What better way to arm a community than to prepare them ahead of time? How urgent is it to take the stigma away from talking about these issues that affect so many?

It features learning experience from real-life people who experience the desire to commit suicide and their experiences getting assistance. It is interactive, practical, adaptable, and they have a program for anyone who is interested in helping others. *“LivingWorks T4T courses focus on a positive learning environment with respect, support, honesty, and open discussion. For more information, visit www.livingworks.net.”*



safeTALK

Coming Back Home to a New Career



Shannon recently moved back to her hometown of Quincy, CA. Shortly after returning, she found employment at a local restaurant. Not long after, and she received notice that she was being laid off. Shannon has a Master's Degree in Public Administration and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice, so she knew there must be positions better suited to her skills in Quincy. Shannon heard about and came into the Plumas office of Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. (AFWD), looking for help in finding a full-time job in her field. Although her past employment includes working as a server, barista, bartender, and Document Retention Officer for a title company, she had a long-term career path goal to work in some capacity of law enforcement. She discovered a great place to start would be working as a dispatcher in the Public Safety Sector.

Shannon applied for a full-time 911 Dispatcher position with the Plumas County Sheriff's 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 Shannon and were interested in hiring her, they felt she needed extensive training due to her lack of hands-on specific dispatching experience. The Career Center Advisor (CCA) asked the Business Services Representative (BSR) to reach out to the Sheriff's office to discuss the possibility of doing an On-The-Job Training (OJT). The sheriff's office felt it would be a good idea to do an OJT, as they thought Shannon would be a good fit for their office. Shannon was enrolled in 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 Shannon with the skills and knowledge required to become a successful Public Safety 911 Dispatcher.

She started her OJT and is so far doing a great job at learning the multitude of duties as a 911 Dispatch Operator and is very eager to learn new skills related to her job during her training. She loves her job and fits in well with her co-workers. She is so grateful for the opportunity that the OJT, through AFWD and WIOA, has afforded her. Shannon feels that she has been given an excellent chance to do work she loves while helping to keep the public safe.



Thanks for your hard work and dedication to becoming a 911 Dispatcher, Shannon!

Changing with the Times

Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. (AFWD) participated in training through UC San Diego at the beginning of October 2020. The training was Training Online Essentials, which with a pandemic still going on, it is important to be versed in multiple facets to help our clients.

Training Online Essentials was a week-long class that all departments within AFWD participated in. The training consisted of a total of 5 modules with each module having a set of overviews, readings, videos, and assignments. Even with the assigned work being tailored more for those who work with job seekers than employers, we were all able to take something away from the week.

Participants' were introduced to new tools that can help them assist clients through online outlets since the in-person activity is still very limited. A few of the tools introduced were Google Forms, Padlet, Google Class Room, and Kahoot, to name just a few. All of these platforms are free for people to use.

Having tools available and at no cost allows us to keep our clients engaged and participating in many workshops and/or training they are a part of. Being able to have new tools at hand allows AFWD to present material the best possible way for how the times have changed. Keeping material and our programs use relevant to all our clients is of the utmost importance. During this pandemic, we have relied on Microsoft Teams and Zoom a lot. With these new platforms introduced to us, we will continue to grow as a company and put our best foot forward with our clients.

Continuing education plays an important role in businesses. Times are consistently changing, being able to give clients current and accurate information is important. With the current pandemic, we have all had to rely on our computers and the internet more than ever. Having training that focuses on using online applications and programs was a great experience. This training could not have come at a better time. It is relevant and important for us to know as many outlets as possible that could benefit our clientele.

UC San Diego
EXTENSION



AFWD America's Job Center of California Statistics

PY 2020-2021 Q2



Plumas County

One-Stop Visitors:

1647

Business Served:

48

Business Services:

517

AFWD

Clients Enrolled:

298

Unemployment Rate

(As of: November 2020)

7.2%

