April 1, 2012-June 30, 2012

Sierra Business
and
Career Network

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The Business and Career Network in Susanville was the location for the annual AFWD All Staff meeting. Every year, all staff members are given the opportunity to discuss new performance measures, past successes, and upcoming projects for the new 2012-2013 program year. On June 11, 2012, employees from Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Sierra and Butte counties attended the annual meeting.

Representatives from each of the counties were given information about policies and the implementation of new and current programs. One of the main highlights of the meeting came from Executive Director, Traci Holt. Traci gave performance goals for each county and discussed the facilitation of many upcoming local On-The-Job-Trainings (OJTs). OJTs benefit the local business communities by subsidizing the training of new employees while they are gaining the skills needed to be fully effective and efficient in their new occupation.

Many opportunities are on the horizon for members of the Alliance For Workforce Development, Inc. team. Come and set your sights high with us by coming to the Business and Career Network located at 306 First St, Loyalton, CA 96118. For more information regarding our programs and please call us at (530) 993-4295 or visit www.aworkforce.org.
On April 17, 2012, Jennifer Johnson, AFWD Resource Coordinator for Sierra County, gave the annual briefing to the Board of Supervisors on the operations of Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. throughout the county.

The briefing gave an update on the activities at Sierra Business and Career Network from July 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012. Topics included:

- **One Stop Customers July 1, 2011- March 31, 2012**: A total of 1044 visits were logged at the Sierra Business and Career Network. There were 56 enrolled clients, with an exit into employment percentage of 91%.

- **WIA Enrollments July 1, 2011-February 29, 2012**: A total of 56 individuals have been enrolled in our WIA program with over $20,044.00 being spent so far to assist these individuals in supportive services, training and job search.

- **Rapid Response Activities**: Since July 2011 through March 31, 2012, there have been 2 business closures or downsizings in Sierra County, which resulted in 11 individuals losing their jobs.

For more information on this report please contact Jennifer Johnson at 530-993-4295, jjohnson@ncen.org
CONGRATULATIONS TO CATHY WALTERS

Cathy was enrolled in January 2010 in the WIA program as a Dislocated Worker, after being laid off from the Sierra Plumas Unified School District where she worked as a substitute teacher. After several months of being unable to locate work, Cathy enrolled in CNA training, which Sierra Business and Career Network staff assisted her with supportive services to attain that certification. After the completion of the CNA training, Cathy decided she liked the medical field so much, she wanted to continue her training and become a RN. Cathy started her RN training through Truckee Meadows Community College in August, 2010. In June 2012, she successfully completed her RN training course!! Over the past two years, the Sierra BCN staff has assisted Cathy with several Supportive Services, which included help with purchasing books and mileage reimbursement to and from class as well as help other supportive services. Sierra BCN most recently helped Cathy with the fees associated with her taking her Board Certified Nursing Exam, which is scheduled for July 3rd. The Staff at Sierra wishes her the best of luck on her upcoming exam!!
Formally known as “The Gallows”, now under new ownership, the Two Rivers Café opened on April 21, 2012. Mr. Lodhi, who also owns the Downieville Grocery and Sierra Motors Gas and Convenience Store, took over ownership earlier in the year. His daughter, Sana and her fiancé, Garrett Arends manage and cook at the restaurant which serves delicious pizzas. Sierra Business and Career Network is in the process of helping Mr. Lodhi with staffing by helping him place a cook in an On-The-Job-Training position. Garrett who attended the Culinary Institute of America will be the trainer for the new On-The-Job-Training cook. Mr. Lodhi became aware of the various business services offered by Sierra Business and Career Network when he attended the Labor Law Workshop earlier this year. The Sierra Staff looks forward to continuing to work with Mr. Lodhi and his family and help their Downieville businesses thrive.
La cocina del Oro Taqueria. Feather Ortiz owns and operates the fine Mexican Restaurant in downtown Downieville, La Cocina del Oro Taqueria. She prides herself in serving authentic Mexican cuisine, using only the freshest ingredients. Feather also owns Feather’s Flowers and Nursery across the street from her restaurant. In her Nursery, Feather excels in providing the highest quality plants at reasonable prices. Feather is currently short staffed in both of her establishments and the Sierra Business and Career Network staff is working hard to find her additional staff. Currently, Sierra Business and Career Network is also working with her to determine which business would best benefit from having an On-The-Job-Training position. BCN already has several applicants in the applicant pool that could be a good fit at either place.
On April 5th, Sierra County held their annual job fair in conjunction with Plumas County at the Graeagle Fire Department Hall in Graeagle. Despite heavy snowfall, the turnout from employers and job seekers was great! Over 20 employers and over 130 job seekers came together. All three law enforcement agencies, Ca. Highway Patrol, Plumas Sheriff’s Dept and Sierra Sheriff’s Dept. were in attendance as well as the US Forest Service, along with the local healthcare provider and numerous business that deal with the tourism industry.

Businesses were pleased with the opportunity to participate in the well organize job fair and to have a wide variety of job seekers to choose from. The job seekers were happy to have the opportunity to meet with the various businesses in person to make the best impression!