



*Alliance For
Workforce Development, Inc.
Providing pathways to success*

SIERRA COUNTY

Community Coordinator Report

Q4 | APRIL, MAY, JUNE 2023

SIERRA COUNT - IMMEDIATE NEED TO RECRUIT FOR OPEN POSITIONS

On May 3rd I met with Judi Behlke, Personnel Director for Sierra County, in our Sierraville location to discuss how Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. (AFWD) can assist with filling positions within the community. We had an insightful discussion regarding the pressing issue of the lack of candidates in the area. It became apparent that Sierra County is facing a significant challenge in filling vacant positions, particularly within the county and emergency service departments. We delved into the statistics surrounding wages and employment retention and found that the current situation was exacerbating the problem. The wages offered are not competitive enough to attract and retain skilled professionals, resulting in a dearth of qualified candidates. Recognizing the urgency of the situation, we promptly devised a plan to address issues head-on.

Our plan revolves primarily around the idea of more aggressive advertising for positions and possibly recruitment campaigns. We understand that in order to attract a wider range of candidates, we need to increase our outreach efforts. By utilizing various platforms, including AFWD job boards and flyers, social media channels, and local community networks, we aim to broaden the visibility of available positions within Sierra County. Additionally, we explored the possibility of partnering with vocational training centers to develop programs that would nurture talent and provide a pipeline of skilled professionals specifically tailored to the county's needs. Through this proactive approach, we are optimistic the we can effectively combat the lack of candidates and ensure the successful filling of crucial positions, ultimately bolstering the county and emergency service departments.

BROADBAND FOR ALL

Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Regional Planning Workshop was held in Grass Valley May 12th. It was supported by Sierra Business Council, Gold Country Broadband Consortium, consisting of El Dorado County, Nevada County, Placer County, Sierra County, and the California Technology Fund Teams.

The workshop displayed the Broadband Map of California, most importantly the Northern Rural Counties that are desperately in need of the connectivity a dependable, faster Internet would provide. The workshop attendees, including Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. (AFWD), proceeded to problem solve in how to facilitate the required time frames for the expansion to meet its goals for the 6-billion-dollar project in the next 3 years.



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SIERRA COUNTY AFWD Q4 Statistics

Unemployment Information

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES AS OF 6/23:

CALIFORNIA: 4.5%

SIERRA COUNTY: 4.6%

TOP 3 AFFECTED INDUSTRY SECTORS:

- 1 CONSTRUCTION
- 2 EDUCATIONAL SERVICES
- 3 AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, FISHING & HUNTING



AFWD Statistics Through Q4

**TOTAL AFWD
BUSINESSES
SERVED:
688**

**TOTAL AFWD
CLIENTS
ENROLLED:
754**

SIERRAVILLE
305 South Lincoln St.
(530) 994-3349

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