The Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) is the world’s largest Human Resource (HR) professional society, representing 285,000 members in more than 165 countries. SHRM’s goal is to assist with the development of HR professionals, and advance and lead the HR profession. SHRM provides education, thought leadership, certification, and advocacy to enhance the practice of human resource management and the effectiveness of HR professionals in the organizations and communities they serve.

Every year SHRM hosts an annual conference and exposition providing the opportunity for HR professionals to discover ideas and make connections that assists with meeting the challenges of globalization, new laws and regulations and transforming workplaces. This year’s event was held in New Orleans on June 18-21.

Leadership staff from Alliance for Workforce Development Inc. were in attendance and were able to attend a variety of workshops addressing topics such as professional development, talent management and HR Compliance; all issues that affect our local businesses. Staff was left informed, inspired, and better equipped to utilize practical, ready-to-implement solutions to solve our local business’s challenges.
Collaboration from the Ground Floor

Sierra County and the City of Loyalton are welcoming a new biomass company, American Renewable Power, LLC. (ARP) who will be utilizing the previous Sierra Pacific Industries, (SPI) site in Loyalton. President and CEO, Steve Mueller has 25 years in the biomass plant business.

Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc., (AFWD) and American Renewable Power have been working together from the onset of this new endeavor, AFWD has provided information and professional references as ARP has navigated through the multiple layers of the State of California regulations, investigating all avenues of tax credit opportunities, and other green energy employer programs, etc.

AFWD assisted with the ARPs Employee Handbook and job descriptions and is currently recruiting for the 20+ positions this plant requires for the 24 hours a day, 7 days a week operation schedule. Positions range from Operator 1-4, Millwright, Electrician, Mechanic, and Weight Masters.
Staff Development

The Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc., is always supporting its staff with trainings to service our program participants better. On September 27, 2017, staff met for an annual meeting/training at the Oroville office. Staff engaged in interactive team-building activities covering information regarding target sectors and occupations and career paths, the effects on our participants who are coming from a poverty culture, engaging our audience with our presentations skills, and building a professional resume.

What made the meeting engaging and enjoyable was the wonderful presentations given by some of the staff members. Jill Ghirardelli, CCA and Lisa Scott, CCA did an insightful presentation titled, ‘Bridges Out of Poverty’, which focused on the poverty culture and helping those who have been a part of this culture transition their lives and work history. Mark Alvidrez, CCA, gave a presentation on ‘Presentation Tips’. With the implementation of the 21st Century curriculum, Mark’s presentation encouraged staff to think outside the box in preparing materials, engaging audiences, and staying open to the flow of information. Sandy Wangberg, CCA, provided a presentation on ‘Professional Resumes’. This presentation was a great way to offer something more to our clients who want to facilitate the use of technology in locating a job position and showcasing a resume.

The afternoon session of our agenda included guest speakers from the Employment Development Department, Labor Market Information Division. Ignacio Magana, EDD Wagner Peyser Employment Services, Michael McDonald, EDD Veteran Services, and Luis Alejo, EDD Labor Market Division helped to demystify contact information, the latest research information, and reviewed what EDD Veteran services can do for participants and job searcher.
Sierra County

Total Visitors
89

Sierra County Business Services

Business Served 21
Service Provided 23

AFWD
Total Clients
Enrolled
491

Unemployment Rate
(As of: August 2017)

Butte 6.3%   Nevada 4.7%
Lassen 5.9%   Plumas 6.7%
Modoc 6.6%   Sierra 5.8%