

# Community Coordinator

## Report

Sierra County

OCTOBER - DECEMBER  
2013

### Welcome

#### New Front Line Receptionist

The Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. would like to welcome Catherine (Kayte) Puckett as the new Front Line Receptionist at the Sierra County Office in Loyalton.



Kayte was born and raised in Northern California, at the age of 17 her parents moved to Reno Nevada and opened a Wholesale Florist Business, where Kayte started her working career. She worked for her parents for 4 years learning the family trade. She became a Lead Florist Designer, she worked for MGM Grand Florist there she was head event specialist, setting up for shows such as Hello Hollywood and the Carol Channing Show.

#### Calendar of Events

##### Workshop Wednesdays

##### Job Search

January 15<sup>th</sup>  
9:30 – 11:00

##### Job Retention

January 29<sup>th</sup>  
9:30-11:00

##### Labor Law Update

##### Workshop 2014

Thursday January 16<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 -11:00  
Quincy office

She then went on to specialize in Major events and Wedding Coordination. She was in the floral/ event business for over 20 years. In 1991, she and her husband moved to the beautiful Sierra Valley/ Loyalton, built their home in Sierra Brooks.

At that time she decided for a career change, she enrolled in New Horizon and is certified in Microsoft Office and QuickBooks and became a computer tech for both hardware and software. In February 2002 she opened a Computer Repair business in downtown Loyalton in 2004 she added Video/Movie rentals. She then ventured into helping to open the Loyalton Day Spa. A large part of her career has been in promotions and marketing, she is fluent in computer publishing and graphics using Adobe, Corel and Microsoft Office. In 2009 Kayte and her husband were granted guardianship of their 3 granddaughters ages 3yrs. and 19 month old twin girls. Her life is full and busy. In winter, she enjoys the kids with all the fun wintery things they get to do. In the summer months her family enjoys hiking in the beautiful mountains that surround their home, swimming, and working on and around her home. They raise chickens, rabbits and pigs. Kayte is very involved in the community; she is one of the co-founders of the East Sierra Valley Chamber, a Rotarian and a CASA volunteer (Court Appointed Special Advocate). Kayte looks forward to assisting both the BSR (Joelle) and the CCA (Kari) in helping the people of Sierra County find employment and our businesses flourish.

Business and Career Network Computer Lab, Loyalton



# AFWD One-Stop Statistics

## Sierra Visitors

**482**

## AFWD

## Business Services

<b>Business Served</b>	<b>1281</b>
<b>Services Provided</b>	<b>5394</b>
<b>Positions Filled</b>	<b>1679</b>

## Training Assistance Program Services

<b>Adult</b>	<b>307</b>
<b>Dislocated Worker</b>	<b>227</b>
<b>Youth</b>	<b>121</b>
<b>Employed</b>	<b>428</b>

## Unemployment Rate

<b>Butte</b>	<b>9.3%</b>	<b>Plumas</b>	<b>11%</b>
<b>Lassen</b>	<b>10.1%</b>	<b>Sierra</b>	<b>10.4%</b>
<b>Modoc</b>	<b>10.3%</b>		

## Workshop Wednesdays

In September 2013 the AFWD Sierra County office began holding workshops at the Portola Resource Center on Commercial Street. The Portola Workshops are growing with participants every week. On November 27<sup>th</sup> we held our first Loyalton Workshop which was on Interviewing Skills, there were 3 attendees. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> The Loyalton workshop "Interpersonal Networking" was held on December 18<sup>th</sup>, and we had 5 attendees. We have been holding workshops every 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday in Portola and the Loyalton workshops are held every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays that's why we call them "Workshop Wednesdays". So far, the workshops have presented information on Resume Building, Interviewing Skills, Transferrable Skills, and Budgeting. We are hoping to incorporate more workshops, such as Job Search, Networking, and How to Keep a Job. We are also hoping to start a beginner's Computer Lab Workshop using the platform from our Lassen office. All our workshops are presented without charge to the general public. We have received good feedback and we hope to see continuing increase as the word gets out. Our next step will be to branch out to the youth in both Portola and Loyalton. We have made contact with the Loyalton High Career Counselor and looking forward to the meeting in late January 2014. It seems that our Loyalton office is getting busier and busier, our universal services, customers list, and potential enrollees are growing. We are looking forward to the New Year and all the possibilities.

## Loyalton Open House

Saturday, December 6, 2013 the AFWD Sierra County office hosted an open house in collaboration with the Loyalton Holiday festival and Christmas tree lighting. We decorated the office with holiday spirit, provided homemade bake goods, and personalized free ornaments for the children who came to visit. Joelle Breazier, the Sierra County Business Service Representative, asked the children as they came in what they wanted to be when they grew up and then painted their ornament with their character in that profession and asked them to come back to see us when they are ready to look for a job.



This was an opportunity to build relationships and participate in Sierra County community activities.



Future Sierra County Job Seekers!

# This Quarter's Success Stories

## She's Trucking Now!

In July 2013, Ms. Chris Norman came in to the office in despair, due to recent challenges in her life. The Career Center Advisor met with the Chris to discuss her goals. After discussing possibilities of employment, Chris decided she wanted to enroll with Desert Truck Driving School. The training would allow her to utilize the semi-truck that she owns. Desert Truck Driving School was not on the approved Training provider list. So the process to get them on the approved list was started.

Anxious to start her new career, Chris moved forward with the required physical and drug screening required by the school. She also took and passed one of the first five tests she would need, and she was already preparing for the next one.

In August, Chris brought in a copy of her DMV permit. She invested countless hours into the program and without our support she was afraid she wouldn't be able to complete the training.



Her Career Center Advisor, advised her that since she had the permit and a truck, all she needed was a licensed driver to teach her and then she could take the CDL driver's test in Sacramento, however, she could not take the test in her truck because her truck was too long. Since Desert Truck School was not approved as a training provider yet, her Career Center Advisor gave her information on other trucking schools that were on the training list.

By September, Chris had completed required training, except for the driver's test. She requested assistance to be able to complete her testing, and the Business and Career Network provided supportive services for the portion of the schooling that wasn't paid yet. Chris immediately took the test and passed three out of five sections. She made an appointment to return and re-take the other two sections. By October, Chris had passed all of her tests and was heading out on the road the following day as a big-rig truck driver for Spider Transport.

We are all very excited about her new future!



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