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
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.
Sierra County

One-Stop Visitors: 8,875
Business Served: 59
Business Services: 321

AFWD Clients Enrolled: 631

Unemployment Rate
(As of: November 2020)
5.0%