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Executive Director's Note

Thank you for your patience in waiting for this issue of the FWDB Weekly Update. Since the last update, we have accomplished much and met many deadlines. We continue to keep our eyes and ears open regarding our Washington D.C. Administration for any workforce development funding updates. My feeling is that we are on the radar screen but will it be a positive or negative is yet to be decided. At this time, there are so many other items on the radar screen who knows what is next in Washington. In the meantime, FWDB will continue to meet its mission of providing an employment and training service delivery system that is responsive to the needs of employers and job seekers.

Personally, I have received many thanks for the continued updates and for meeting the organization's needs as the Interim Executive Director. I would like to thank everyone for their support and enthusiasm regarding the state of FWDB. Both staff and myself will continue to do our best as it takes a lot of commitment and hard work to be "high performing".

Sincerely,

Alund - Carter

Dianne Russell-Carter FWDB Interim Executive Director

FWDB Local Plan Ready for Public Comment

On February 7, 2017, Foothill Workforce Development Board released its Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) Local Plan for a 30-day public comment period. The public comment period ended on Wednesday March 7, 2017. The plan received a total of 3 comments. The good news is that the due date for final submission of the local plan to the State with the Chief Local Elected Official's signature has been changed from June 1, 2017, to August 1, 2017. This extension is greatly appreciated given all the other deadlines we are working to meet.

Foothill Workforce Development Board Application to Provide Adult and Dislocated Worker Career Services

On Monday, February 27, 2017, the FWDB submitted its application to be approved by the Governor to provide Adult and Dislocated Worker Career Services. The application required the local CEO and Local Board Chair's signature to certify that the application submission was reviewed and demonstrated that the Local Board or administrative entity would meet all the requirements as an Adult and Dislocated Worker Career Services Provider under WIOA law and regulations. FWDB Policy Board Chair Robert Joe, and FWDB Chair, Tony Tartaglia both signed the application for submission to the Governor.

FWDB State Monitoring

On Feb 27 through Mar 3, 2017, FWDB received a State of California EDD WIOA 85% PY 16-17 Program Monitoring Review. The purpose of this visit is to assess the current status of the Local Workforce Development Area's transition to WIOA Implementation and to review FWDB compliance with applicable federal and state laws, regulations and policies related to WIOA. The visit consisted of case reviews, policy and procedure reviews and participant interviews for Adults, Dislocated Workers and Youth, and Rapid Response Program operations.

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At the monitoring exit interview held on March 3rd, the State Monitor said he was pleased with our operation and that there were just a few items that needed revamping based upon our transition from WIA to WIOA. A draft monitoring report will be issued within 30 days to identify any findings and to recommend some best practices. FWDB will have the opportunity to rebut or resolve any findings before a final monitoring report is filed with the State.

Veterans Employment Related Assistance Program (VEAP) Grant

The Employment Development Department (EDD), in coordination with the California Workforce Development Board and the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency, announced the availability of up to \$5 million of Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funds in a Veterans' Employment-Related Assistance Program (VEAP) Solicitation for Proposals (SFP). The goal of this initiative is to promote the use of regional industry-sector strategies as the framework to help unemployed and underemployed veterans with significant barriers to employment transition from military careers to rewarding civilian employment. FWDB has applied and already received 3 VEAP grants over the last 3 years. FWDB has had great success in serving this population along with the resources from many of our partners. This years' proposal was mailed before the due date of Friday, March 3, 2017. FWDB applied for the maximum amount which is \$500,000 per grant applicant.

Legislative Action Required - California Workforce Association

The California Workforce Association is sending out weekly legislative updates and activities in hopes of keeping each and every board member engaged and on track regarding their legislative strategy. The goal is that together these activities can form the backbone of what needs to be done in order for CWA to advance our message and secure funding going forward. FWDB will keep you posted regarding areas where we can use your assistance

Interesting Workforce Development Reading

Interesting Washington updates.... http://bit.ly/2miSfrx

To remove your name from our mailing list, please <u>click here</u>. Questions or comments? Email <u>rmagno@foothilletc.org</u> or call 626-584-8395