

Executive Director's Note

Hello to Everyone,

Our work at FWDB continues despite the numerous bits and pieces of information we continue to hear about federal budget cuts. I can say that this is somewhat of a distraction for us. However, we continue to move forward with creating opportunities for both business and jobseekers to receive assistance from trained and seasoned workforce development professionals who believe in what they do and the outcomes. Next week, I will attend the Building Workforce Partnerships Conference put on by the California Labor Federation. Then the following week I will attend the National Association of Workforce Boards Conference in Washington DC. Our next FWDB meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 6, 2017. Therefore, this will be the last update until after that meeting. Again thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,



Dianne Russell-Carter
FWDB Interim Executive Director

FWDB Monrovia Jobs/Apprentices Resource Fair

On March 16, the City of Monrovia and the FWDB hosted a Job Employment and Resource Fair at the City of Monrovia Community Resource Center. There were 12 exhibitors accepting applications for employment, offering apprenticeship opportunities, providing special services to veterans and vocational training through Monrovia Adult School. Monrovia Adult School is a FWDB AJCC affiliate. Over 40 people attended and received good information and made multiple contacts that may lead to employment or other workforce services. The Resource Fair was spearheaded by Councilmember Larry Spicer, FETC Policy Board Member. FWDB would like to thank Councilmember Spicer, City of Monrovia, and all the exhibitors for participating in offering local job seekers and businesses an opportunity to connect. In addition, FWDB would like to thank Kristi Lopez, District Representative for Senator Anthony J. Portantino for her attendance as well

FWDB One Stop Operator RFPs

The WIOA signed into law in 2014, requires that each workforce development Board procure a One Stop Operator to assist in the administration of the service delivery system. The One Stop Operator provision must be procured through a competitive process at least once every four years (WIOA Section 121[d] [2][A]). As a part of the competitive process, Local Boards are required to clearly articulate the expected role(s) and responsibilities of the One Stop Operator (Title 20 CFR Section 678.620([a])). FWDB is finishing up its One Stop Operator Request for Proposals. The City of Pasadena Purchasing Department has provided a great deal of technical assistance to increase the odds of FWDB releasing a good RFP and securing multiple bids. FWDB has completed a cost analysis and has set aside a maximum of \$40,000 for this RFP. The RFP should be released next week. Once proposals are received, FWDB staff will look to the Board to create a review committee to select a vendor.

FWDB WIOA Phase II MOU Session

Regarding Phase II of the WIOA MOU process, WIOA Law requires Local Boards to develop MOUs with all AJCC required partners present in their Local Workforce Development Area (Local Area). The expectation is that these MOUs serve as a functional tool as well as a visionary plan for how the Local Board and AJCC partners will work together to create a unified service delivery system that best meets the needs of our shared customers. The state chose to separate the MOU process. Phase I addressed service coordination and collaboration amongst the partners. Phase II will address how to sustain the unified system described in Phase I through the use of resource sharing and joint infrastructure cost funding. All AJCC partners who completed and signed Phase I MOUs must also complete and sign a Phase II MOU with the FWDB by September 1, 2017.

To begin the process, FWDB will hold a partnership meeting to discuss the Phase II process. We have already received some inquiries from our partners regarding the process. FWDB thinks it would be effective to begin the discussion in a group so the fundamentals can be laid out, thus, leading to more informed individual meetings. The WIOA Phase II MOU Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 5, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. and ending at 4:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Foothill Employment and Training Connection AJCC, 1207 East Green St., Pasadena, CA.

Entrepreneur Program Graduation

The FWDB completed its first Entrepreneurial Training Program for eighteen Pasadena residents. The ten week program was funded by a special Community Development Block Grant from the City of Pasadena's Housing Department. The class participants are Pasadena residents with low to moderate income levels. The class met every Saturday morning. Eighteen individuals completed the program and were awarded certificates of completion on March 17, 2017 at a recognition celebration at the FWDB office. The curriculum was taught by professionals from Sahar Consulting, LLC.

Topics included developing a business plan, branding, finances, small business laws and regulations, social media, marketing, accounting, and how to do business in Pasadena. The goal of the program was to help the students to start a business in Pasadena or renew their Pasadena business license. A second class is scheduled to begin in May.



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