



## News for the Week of January 21, 2019

### EWDD & WSCS PROVIDE KEY SUPPORT TO FOURTH HOMELESS SERVICES JOB FAIR



A steady flow of approximately 730 job seekers streamed into the gymnasium at Southwest College Thursday January 17, 2019 for the fourth Homeless Services Job Fair. EWDD staff provided support with planning and logistics leading up to the job fair and five staff members were present the day of the fair to help coordinate set-up and assist Mayor Eric Garcetti's staff. Five of the City's WorkSource Centers were in attendance to represent

*Job seekers stop at the Southeast Los Angeles WSC booth run by EWDD partner Watts Labor Community Action Committee (WLCAC) at the Fourth Homeless Services Job Fair on Thursday January 17, 2019.*

the City's WorkSource system, with partners Coalition for Responsible Community Development (CRCD) providing lunch and the Asian American Drug Abuse Program, Inc. (AADAP) providing pastries for the 56 employers in attendance. LA:RISE partners were also present at the job fair. EWDD staff said that the job fair went smoothly and remained busy for

the duration of the event. They added that many vendors and job seekers said they expressed thanks at the end of the event for the opportunity.

### **LA:RISE – A social enterprise solution to help join the workforce**

*This week, EWDD Updates shares two LA:RISE success stories. EWDD is a leadership team partner of LA:RISE, an innovative, collaborative partnership that unites the City and County of Los Angeles' Workforce Development System (WDS) with non-profit social enterprises and for-profit employers to help men and women with high barriers to employment get good jobs and stay employed. The City's WorkSource Centers and LA:RISE prioritize individuals recently released from prison, the unsheltered or those at risk of homelessness and youth ages 18-24 who are neither in school or working. After working in a transitional job at a social enterprise and leveraging training and services from the WorkSource Center, LA:RISE participants are placed at jobs in the private sector, in public-sector jobs in the City of LA, or in vocational training programs.*

### **LA:RISE PARTICIPANT GAINS CONFIDENCE & SKILLS, SELLS HANDBAGS AT DWC**



The LA:RISE program, in partnership with the Downtown Women's Center (DWC), helped give participant Lavena the opportunity to build her confidence and marketing skills and provide a venue to sell her handcrafted leather bags. Prior to joining LA:RISE, Lavena struggled with housing and re-entering the workforce. Through LA:RISE, Lavena was able to join the transitional employment program at the DWC, where she was able to earn a steady paycheck. She said she appreciates the wrap around support services she receives from the DWC and LA:RISE, while also learning workplace soft skills to build her professionalism. Since joining LA:RISE, her handbag line has

expanded and her bags are now officially sold online and at the MADE by DWC brick and mortar stores in Downtown Los Angeles. Lavena's bags were also featured at a recent event at the Main Museum of Los Angeles in November 2018.

## LA:RISE PARTNER CRCD GIVES JOB SEEKER SUPPORT AND A SECOND CHANCE

After some family struggles and a history with homelessness, LA:RISE participant Joshua received the support and the second chance he needed to retain his job as part of Coalition for Responsible Community Development (CRCD) Enterprises' "Street Team." In less than a week on the job as part of Job Engagement Training (JET) at CRCD, Joshua impressed his supervisors with his positive attitude and outstanding work ethic. JET is a CRCD program that provides 32 hours of paid job training for young people who have never before held a job or had work experience. While completing his hours, Joshua received praise from the Central Avenue Business Improvement District Supervisor. Joshua was then hired by CRCD as part of the CRCD Enterprises "Street Team." After a few months of impressive work, Joshua encountered some family struggles. The results were repeated "no call, no show" attendance records. When a CRCD Enterprises Employee Support Coordinator contacted him about his absences, Joshua said that he had been arrested. After he was released, Joshua went back to CRCD Enterprises to see if he could possibly get his job back.

Unfortunately, his position was no longer available. Joshua was then referred to CRCD's YouthSource Center, where he learned about LA:RISE. Through the program, Joshua rejoined the CRCD Enterprise Street Team. With a second chance to prove himself, Joshua went to work every day and put his heart into his work. When he came close to completing his hours, Joshua was offered his previous position again. Thanks to the support he received from LA:RISE, Joshua made the most of his second chance and is thrilled to be employed with CRCD Enterprises.



*LA:RISE participant Joshua (above) hard at work as part of the CRCD Enterprises "Street Team."*

**BUSINESS METRICS:**

<b>LABSCs Reporting:</b> North Valley, West Valley, South Valley, South LA, East LA, Mid City, Central West, Hollywood and Harbor	
Microenterprise enrolled	24
Microenterprise assisted	59
Small businesses enrolled	9
Small businesses assisted	16
Number of BSC clients who attended workshops	90

**WORKFORCE METRICS:**

*(arrows indicate weekly trend)*

**CalJobs** *(online and mobile)*



713  
Registrations  
2% ↓

**WorkSource Centers**



647  
Enrollments  
74% ↓

"Updates" is the weekly report from the Interim EWDD General Manager to the Office of Mayor Eric Garcetti, and is produced by EWDD's communications section. If you have questions, comments or wish to have a contribution considered for an upcoming "Updates," please contact Jamie Francisco at (213) 744-9048 or [Jamie.Francisco@lacity.org](mailto:Jamie.Francisco@lacity.org)