

SOUTH BAY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD
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Full Report Accessible: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/1p6pzu6ffv8iaju/SBWIB%20SBCCOG%20Report%20-%20February%202023.pdf?dl=0>

Quarterly Summary of the
January 19, 2023, South Bay Workforce Investment Board of Directors
Meeting
South Bay Cities Council of Government

This report summarizes the January 19, 2023, South Bay Workforce Investment Board's (SBWIB) meeting activities and program accomplishments during the 2nd Quarter of Program Year 2022-2023. As you are aware, the South Bay WIB is comprised of representatives from the eleven participating Cities of Hermosa Beach, Lawndale, El Segundo, Inglewood, Hawthorne, Redondo Beach, Carson, Manhattan Beach, Torrance, Lomita and Gardena for the delivery of employment and training services through its One-Stop Business and Career Centers.

*The South Bay Workforce Investment Board will be hosting a Virtual Community and Stakeholder Forum on February 7, 2023, 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. for input on modifications to the Program Year (PY) 2021 – 24 Local Plan being that the goals, strategies, and objectives of the Area may have changed post COVID-19. The South Bay WIB is requesting that the community and system stakeholders join the Forum and share ideas on how the workforce system can best support job seekers, businesses, and other customers as the economy continues to adjust to the endemic phase of COVID-19. Please registered to attend the Forum using the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEvde6uqjguGtB5HpU92kQgtuy6ZN5kCRdb>

*To date, the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) has trained and placed twenty-seven (27) Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) clients into the Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) iCARE support program. Earlier in the Program Year, the SBWIB secured a contract valued at \$1.1 million through the State of California Department of Rehabilitation to train and place up to 100 individuals with disabilities at the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) for paid work experience assignments. The SBWIB provides eligible individuals with Blueprint for Workplace Success work readiness training prior to placing them at LAX for their paid work experience as a member of the iCARE (Informative, Courteous,

Approachable, Responsive, and Efficient) crew. The iCARE crew provides vital guest assistance to visitors and travelers trying to navigate around ongoing construction projects at LAX and supplement LAX staff during emergencies and irregular operations by assisting with crowd control and informational needs. The DOR clients receive 400 hours of paid work experience at a payrate of \$20 an hour. Upon completion of their work experience hours the clients will have the opportunity to apply for permanent employment at LAX and receive letters of commendation from LAWA management.

*The City of Lomita contracted with the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) to assist with the City's American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) initiatives including the façade improvement and job creation programs. The SBWIB has reached out to over 1,000 businesses in Lomita and prepared a report with the cumulative results from the survey of 50 Lomita based employers. Enhanced Business Services were then strategically planned with the results of the survey as a baseline to provide appropriate interventions if needed. SBWIB has continued to provide directed enhanced business services including hiring support, recruitment services, lay-off aversion assistance, new hire reimbursement programs, apprenticeship development, development of business plans and referral to appropriate business assistance programs including referrals to the City of Lomita and the Lomita Chamber of Commerce.

*Lomita Business Success Story related to the above contract:

During this period of economic recovery for the Region, the SBWIB is committed to supporting the business community and the needs of the local economy by helping businesses create and sustain jobs. Utilizing layoff aversion programs, SBWIB coordinated industry recognized trainings for craft coffee house Azucanela, which has locations in the Cities of Hawthorne and Lomita. Obtaining professional grade Barista certifications is critical during this time of economic recovery for a small business like Azucanela in order to remain competitive with coffee giants like Starbucks. These certifications provided their staff with a structured training and certifications in the art and science of the modern coffee craft that includes specialty coffee industry standards and protocols for coffee treatment and preparations. Additionally obtaining industry recognized certifications will eliminate current outsourcing of roasting, maximize operational costs, and ultimately avert layoffs. Barista Certification training was fully funded by SBWIB, conducted in a training lab, and was led by a SCA (Specialty Coffee Association) certified instructors. As a result of the partnership

between the SBWIB/South Bay One-Stops Business & Career Centers and Azucanela, the youth Barista Training program, which is the first of its kind in the South Bay region, was developed. The Barista Training program is designed to provide South Bay youth with foundational workplace skills, management skills, and exposure to the entrepreneurial spirit in their communities. With locations in Hawthorne and Lomita, youth are exposed to skill building activities in areas of retail operations and general product knowledge in the specialty coffee industry. Eligible youth are also able to participate in industry trainings and certifications alongside expert baristas, culinary experts, and marketing professionals. Since opening their Lomita location in late September, 3 youth have been enrolled in the Youth Barista Training program.

*America's Job Center of California (AJCC)/One-Stop Services – The SBWIB operates four One-Stop Business & Career Service Centers located in Inglewood, Torrance, Gardena and Carson. For the safety of the public and to reduce the number of people in close proximity, the One-Stop Centers continue to offer services virtually or in-person and highly recommend scheduling an appointment for services. Each South Bay One-Stop Business & Career Center continues to assist about 25-30 laid-off workers daily with applying for unemployment insurance benefits. Recruitments, workshops, orientation/info sessions, case management, and career pathway counseling are provided virtually or in-person. Clients are being assisted with crossing over in their short-term vocational training programs from the traditional seat-based instruction to distance learning platforms. The Job Development team conducts recruitment fairs in-person or virtually and will continue to screen and refer applicants to essential service employers that are in desperate need of employees.

*The South Bay Workforce Investment Board continues to conduct informational sessions, intake, employment preparation workshops, and job placement services for recently separating military personnel and incoming spouses and family members at the Los Angeles Air Force Base. Last quarter, SBWIB staff assisted thirty-seven (37) individuals.

*During the 2nd quarter, the SBWIB in partnership with Inglewood Unified School District (IUSD) provided IUSD students with 24 career readiness workshops, 3 industry guest speakers, 4 field trips to local businesses, and 43 internships. Last quarter, the SBWIB also assisted the District with completing three applications to secure additional funding for career related training programs.

*On November 16th, the South Bay Workforce Investment Board partnered with Inglewood Unified School District to present their first annual District-wide College and Career Fair for high school juniors and seniors. The event was held at the Beckmen Youth Orchestra Los Angeles (YOLA) Center and was attended by more than 1,000 students from Inglewood High School, Morningside High School, City Honors International Preparatory High School, and Inglewood Continuation High School. During the Fair, student met with college recruiters from UCLA, USC, Loyola Marymount, CSU, Long Beach, El Camino College, West LA College, Washington State University, the University of Alabama, and the National Association of Historically Black Colleges. SBWIB vocational training partners the Southern California Regional Occupational Center, American Aerospace Technical Academy, and Career Expansion were also present meeting with students and providing information on career and apprenticeship opportunities available in various industries including construction and non-destructive testing. Special breakout sessions were conducted allowing students an opportunity to learn about career pathway employment opportunities available at Northrop Grumman, SoFi Stadium, and AECOM Construction Management.

*The Torrance Business & Career Center has partnered with the City of Torrance and homeless services partners to assist residents of the new Temporary Housing Village with addressing the barriers that resulted in their homelessness. To ensure housing attainment and retention, the Torrance One-Stop will be providing the residents with work-based learning opportunities that include direct hiring, on-the-job training, paid work experience, short-term vocational training, and supportive services. Last quarter, Torrance One-Stop staff attended monthly meetings with the City of Torrance, partner agencies and 3290 Temporary Housing Village where updates were shared regarding referrals and services being provided by all partners.

*During the second quarter, the Carson One-Stop AJCC staff took part in the City of Carson's Economic Development Strategic Plan Summit. It was a three-part series that included reviewing industry growth/retraction trends in Carson and the immediate surrounding areas and comparing the local economy's recent and long-term performance to regional and national benchmarks.

*Under the Workforce Accelerator Fund Special Grant, the Carson Career Center successfully processed its fourth and final Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) cohort in preparation for the National Nursing Assistant Program. Five (5) additional individuals were enrolled during the second quarter and a total of ten (10) of the graduates have been successfully placed. The CNAs were trained on patient care, focused needs, how to provide emotional and psychological support, patient preparation, routine diagnostic checks, monitoring and recording, as well as medical emergency treatment.

*The South Bay WIB has been contracted by the Centinela Valley Union High School District (CVUHSD) to provide onsite work-based learning support and career pathways activities at four District high schools. Last quarter, the SBWIB provided students at Hawthorne, Lawndale, Leuzinger, and Lloyd High Schools with 548 one-on-one workforce and career services coaching sessions, 48 work readiness presentations attended by 846 students, and 21 student internships.

The SBWIB received a 30-month \$500,000 grant from the James Irvine Foundation to launch the Southern California Apprenticeship Network (SCAN). This forum will bring together businesses, educators, government, Workforce Development Boards, community-based organizations, and other interested parties to share information, access resources, grow apprenticeship programs across Southern California and the State, and increase access among underrepresented populations to apprenticeships. Last quarter, the SBWIB began holding monthly meetings with the consortium, forming subcommittees, developing an RFP (Request for Proposals) for a contracted Program Director position to lead the network, and planning an in-person kickoff event in March. The team also developed Memorandums of Understandings (MOUs) enabling organizations to become members of the network and have already received signed MOUs from several organizations.

*Last quarter, 4 additional individuals were enrolled under the Homeless Opportunity for Meaningful Employment (HOME) special grant. Under the HOME program, homeless individuals receive specialized services including comprehensive career counseling, housing referrals, referrals to behavioral health partners, and employment and training services.

*The Torrance One-Stop Business and Career Center staff continues to attend homeless court sessions and meet with prosecutors for the City of

Redondo Beach regularly. Under the SBWIB and City partnership, homeless individuals that comply with the court's orders for services like housing, mental health, and substance abuse counseling will be referred to the Torrance One-Stop for training and employment assistance.

*Last quarter, the SBWIB provided onsite and virtual services to El Camino College students including 35 one-on-one career counseling sessions, 3 career workshops, and 35 students were placed into employment or apprenticeship opportunities.

*Congresswoman Nanette Barragan's office held a Job Fair on October 14th for Carson residents. The Carson Career Center served on a Committee for the 2nd quarter Job Fair and secured 50 employers to participate. Carson One-Stop staff also assisted Congresswoman Barragan's office by conducting workshops, sharing general information with the public, and marketing.

*The South Bay WIB has over \$8 million in State and federal grants to support employers and organizations in developing and utilizing apprenticeships. The SBWIB regularly meets with employers across the State about developing apprenticeships, including the following Torrance-based employers: Celestron, Moog Aircraft Group, Morf3D, and Eravant.

*In December, forty-six (46) students from West Los Angeles College, Morningside High School, and two other high schools completed the Bio-Flex Pre-Apprenticeship Program through a grant from the office of Los Angeles County Board of Supervisor Holly Mitchell. Of the forty-six graduates, twenty-eight (28) were from Morningside High School. During the course of the Bio-Flex Pre-Apprenticeship Program, students had the opportunity to learn about the wide range of careers in life sciences and build their skills to prepare for them. This included completing the SBWIB's Blueprint for Workplace Success work readiness training, creating or updating their resumes, joining LinkedIn, practicing their interview skills, completing technical skills classes through Biotech Primer, learning about the South Bay Promise Program and life science opportunities at El Camino College, learning about career opportunities from a wide variety of employers, and participating in the hands-on Amgen Biotech Experience at Los Angeles Trade Tech College. Morningside High School held a graduation ceremony on December 12th and several leaders spoke including Supervisor Holly Mitchell, Inglewood Unified School District (IUSD) Interim County Administrator, Arturo Valdez, IUSD Board President

Margaret Evans, Morningside Principal. Dr. Kiwiana Cain, and SBWIB Executive Director, Jan Vogel. Graduates received certificates of completion and a \$300 stipend during the graduation. Interested graduates will now have the opportunity to be matched with a professional mentor and/or participate in a paid work experience.

*Last quarter, the South Bay WIB was awarded a \$250,000 grant to provide work readiness services to fifty (50) students with disabilities 16 – 22 years of age. The grant funding will be used to provide one hundred (100) additional paid work experience hours to students with disabilities in an effort to enhance their skills. Students will be interning with local non-profits, community-based organizations, and for-profit businesses.

*During the last quarter, the SBWIB in partnership with the SELACO Workforce Development Board, and Health Impact successfully enrolled 11 individuals into the Specialty Nursing Apprenticeship Program. Under this Apprenticeship Program, incumbent workers including experienced registered nurses and recent nursing graduates have the opportunity to join a unique 12-month transition to practice program. Upon completion of the Program, the graduates will transition into an ambulatory care position.

*The South Bay Business and Career Center connected with the following Manhattan Beach employers during the 2nd quarter regarding SBWIB programs and services including the on-the-job training program, pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship opportunities, recruitment assistance, layoff aversion, and rapid response services: Playhybrid, LLC, Smarsh, Inc., Think Mobility, Slagle Development, Polyfab USA, NAX Group, Kosmont Group, and NKP Medical Marketing.

*The South Bay WIB is part of a two-year project with West LA College and 12 other community colleges to conduct sector-based work in allied health with a goal of increasing enrollments, completions and living wage attainments for community college students. The Los Angeles Regional Consortium for Allied Health has continued to meet on a monthly basis to discuss training on a regional level to meet the local workforce needs. The consortium will be hosting an Allied Health Summit and Job Fair on Wednesday, February 15th from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at West LA College for employers, academic faculty, and workforce professionals. The Summit will provide an opportunity for community colleges to meet employers and better understand their workforce needs, concerns, and suggestions for curriculum development. The summit will be followed by an allied health job fair that is open to the public.

*Carson Career Center staff serve on the City of Carson's Homeless Task Force Committee, which has a goal of agencies partnering to tackle the homeless issues in the South Bay region. Last quarter, the SBWIB formed a partnership with CSU, Dominguez Hills (CSUDH) and began providing services and resources to their unhoused and at-risk students. The SBWIB also attended CSUDH's Open-Air Basic Needs Resource Fair and offered services in-person.

*The first five apprentices at Northrop Grumman completed El Camino College's CNC Operator apprenticeship and Northrop Grumman's additional apprenticeship training. The apprentices had previously completed the SBWIB's Aero-Flex Pre-Apprenticeship Program before being hired by Northrop Grumman and enrolling in the four-year apprenticeship. Last quarter, Northrop held a small graduation ceremony to recognize the apprentices' accomplishments. During the ceremony each apprentice gave a presentation about their journey.

*Last quarter, the South Bay One-Stops was successfully able to enroll a total of 167 new South Bay residents in the WIOA (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act) adult and dislocated worker programs.

*Rapid Response services were provided to 9 South Bay companies that employ 534 individuals who were affected by layoffs/closures during the 2nd Quarter of Program Year 2022-2023. The employers included LAX Suites, Shift Technologies, Inc., Gardena Honda, Furniture Outlet, Ann Outlet, Brentwood Originals, Inc., Syncreon, Nordstrom, and Zekelman Industries dba Western Tube. The SBWIB's Rapid Response team reached out to the employers and offered to provide webinars to assist with the layoffs. The webinars covered services offered at the America's Job Centers of California, unemployment insurance, healthcare options, and financial services. The Rapid Response team will continue to provide webinars and virtual assistance to employers and dislocated workers.

*Last quarter, the SBWIB received a \$33,000 grant from the Howmet Aerospace Foundation to enroll 20 participants in an advanced manufacturing pre-apprenticeship. During the 2nd quarter, six (6) El Camino College students were recruited for Winter enrollment into the Aero-Flex Pre-Apprenticeship Program. As part of the three-track program, the students are completing the SBWIB's Blueprint for Workplace Success work readiness training, receiving resume assistance and interviewing

training, and completing technical skills training through Tooling U-SME. Under the final track of the program, students will be working onsite at Northrop Grumman to obtain work experience. Upon completion of their work experience hours students will be assist with preparing a presentation for Northrop Grumman summarizing their experience.

*Last quarter, the SBWIB enrolled 7 additional individuals in the statewide National Dislocated Worker Employment Recovery grant (NDWG) making the total number enrolled 253. Under this program, displaced workers are provided with job training and placement services. California Employment Development Department (EDD) awarded the South Bay WIB the NDWG Employment Recovery grant to assist workers displaced as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. So far, 153 out of 182 participants exited the program with employment.

*Applications are currently being accepted for enrollment into the SBWIB's YouthBuild high school diploma programs with an emphasis on construction. The program is open to at-risk out-of-school youth ages 16-24. The SBWIB's YouthBuild program provides a seamless progression from education to work-based training that includes classroom instruction leading to a high school diploma and occupational skills training in construction building trades at approved work sites. Please contact the SBWIB YouthBuild site at (310) 225-3060 for additional information.

*During the last quarter, the South Bay One-Stop's held numerous virtual and in-person recruitment fairs with hundreds of job seekers in attendance.

*The South Bay WIB's Construction and Utilities Pathways program (CUPP) is a construction pre-apprenticeship program that connects individuals with union representatives and job placement. CUPP orientations are held every other Friday at the Inglewood One-Stop or virtually to prepare individuals for upcoming construction projects. During the 2nd quarter, a total of 155 individuals were enrolled in an apprenticeship program and placed with various Intuit Dome construction companies including CSI Construction, SASCO Construction Service LLC, Schuff Steel, IBEW Local 11, Laborers Local 300, Iron Workers Local 433/416, and Cement Masons Local 600. 153 of the apprenticeship placements were minorities and 46 of the placements were Inglewood residents.

*37 additional South Bay area youth were enrolled in the WIOA year-round Youth Program during the second quarter; these individuals will receive

pre-employment Blueprint for Workplace Success training and access to free occupational training based on their career interest. Other services included paid work experience at worksites in and around the South Bay region.

*The SBWIB successfully exceeded the goal of enrolling 150 at-risk youth into the Board of State and Community Corrections Youth Reinvestment Program. During the second quarter of Program Year 2022 – 2023, fifteen (15) additional at-risk youth were enrolled into the Program making the overall enrollment total 207. 184 youth have been placed into an internship or paid work experience assignment thus far. The Program is implemented by the I-CARE (Inglewood Community and Regional Engagement Violence Intervention Prevention) Coalition which is comprised of representatives from the City of Inglewood, the Inglewood Police Department, Inglewood Unified School District, Centinela Youth Services, and the SBWIB. Under the Youth Reinvestment Program at-risk youth from the cities of Inglewood and Hawthorne will be provided with diversion and intervention services as well as employment opportunities over a three-year period.

*As part of the Youth at Work Jobs Program, a total of 163 youth and young adults were recruited and enrolled for an opportunity to receive paid pre-employment training and 120 hours of paid work experience. Youth have a chance to earn up to \$1,590.

*South Bay WIB staff continues to join virtual Chamber of Commerce meetings to market the business services available.

*Our second quarter totals reflect 51,101 visits to our South Bay One-Stop Business and Career Centers.

The SBWIB's first apprentice and the first apprentice from Bachem Americas in Torrance completed the Bio-Flex Bioproduction Technician apprenticeship. After a year of hard work, completing additional classes at West Los Angeles College, and learning on the job, Miguel completed his Bio-Flex apprenticeship in July and received a wage increase and a certificate of completion from the U.S. Department of Labor. Here is the link to a short video about his experience: [Miguel Rodriguez - Bachem America's first apprentice - YouTube](#).

*During the second quarter, the South Bay One-Stop Business & Career Centers outreached to hundreds of businesses. Staff will continue to

conduct monthly outreach to businesses throughout the South Bay to market SBWIB services available to meet their hiring and business needs.

*The second quarter totals reflect that the Inglewood and Hawthorne Teen Centers have experienced 362 youth visits thus far. The Centers provide educational and enrichment programming in-person including workshops in a safe socially distanced environment daily from 3:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.

A written summary, along with a report of Program Year 2022-2023 2nd quarter activities and accomplishments is being provided for your personal review.

Thank you,

Jan Vogel
SBWIB Executive Director