

South Bay Workforce Investment Board

Update Report for May 2025

The South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) continued to advance its mission in May by deepening partnerships with employers, educators, and municipalities to expand workforce opportunities, lowering barriers to entry and expanding career pathways across the region.

On Wednesday, April 30th, over 1,400 high school and college-age students gathered at El Camino College (ECC) for the 25th Annual Blueprint for Workplace Success Youth & Young Adult Job Fair, presented by the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) in partnership with ECC. The event saw participation from students representing more than 20 local high schools in the South Bay region, as well as several hundred students from El Camino College. In total, over 100 businesses were registered, offering a wide range of employment opportunities to local youth. The job fair provided students with the chance to connect directly with employers, resulting in more than 150 students being offered employment on the spot and over 3,000 job leads provided to attendees. Many of these students were also scheduled for second interviews, significantly increasing their chances of securing meaningful, long-term employment.

Following this initiative, through SBWIB's flagship Aero-Flex Pre-Apprenticeship Program, several new cohorts were launched in partnership with educational and industry leaders. Da Vinci Schools in El Segundo also began pre-apprenticeship training for 20 students, further enhancing youth access to careers in aerospace and advanced manufacturing. Students will travel to Sling Pilot Academy in Torrance to work on airplanes, fly a drone, talk to air traffic controllers, and take an introductory flight and to experience what it would be like to become a commercial pilot. Meanwhile, Northrop Grumman in Redondo Beach launched a new pre-apprenticeship cohort in partnership with El Camino College, bringing 12 students into its aerospace career pathway.

SBWIB continues to lead regional apprenticeship expansion through its Southern California Apprenticeship Network (SCAN). SBWIB holds SCAN networking mixers monthly, the most recent one taking place in Hawthorne. During the May SCAN meeting, SBWIB staff supported Jail Guitar Doors USA, a nonprofit providing arts-based reentry programming, in registering new apprentices, demonstrating the board's commitment to inclusive and nontraditional apprenticeship pathways.

The SBWIB also delivered two high-impact job fairs this month through its One-Stop

Business & Career Centers, collectively serving over 1,500 adult and youth job seekers. On May 22, the City of Gardena partnered with SBWIB to host a job fair at the Nakaoka Community Center, featuring 37 public and private employers. The event resulted in 153 on the spot job offers and 60 candidates advancing to second interviews.

One week later, SBWIB hosted the 5th Annual Connect to the Future Hiring Event in collaboration with the City of Bell Gardens, LA County Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), GAIN, and the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE). This is done to cater to residents across LA County. Held at Veterans Park, the event brought together more than 900 job seekers and 75 major employers. As a result, 55 individuals were hired on the spot, with 74 beginning the hiring process and 69 invited for follow-up interviews. This signature event rotates annually among host cities throughout the region, promoting equitable access to job opportunities.

SBWIB also celebrated the 13th anniversary of the Inglewood Teen Center with an “Aloha” themed community event attended by Inglewood Mayor James T. Butts, Jr., civic leaders, youth, and their families. During the celebration, SBWIB announced that the Teen Center will be temporarily relocated to Morningside High School for two years due to civic improvements planned for the Inglewood Public Library and surrounding facilities.

These efforts reflect SBWIB’s unwavering dedication to preparing youth and adults for high-demand careers, strengthening employer engagement, and ensuring workforce solutions that are inclusive, accessible, and community driven.



NEWS

South Bay Workforce Investment Board

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 1, 2025

South Bay Workforce Investment Board
11539 Hawthorne Blvd., Suite 500
Hawthorne, CA 90250
Contact: Jan Vogel 310-970-7700

Over 1,400 Students and 100+ Employers Participate in the 25th Annual Job Fair Presented by the South Bay Workforce Investment Board at El Camino College

HAWTHORNE, CA – On Wednesday, April 30th, over 1,400 high school and college-age students gathered at El Camino College (ECC) for the 25th Annual Blueprint for Workplace Success Youth & Young Adult Job Fair, presented by the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) in partnership with ECC. The event saw participation from students representing more than 20 local high schools in the South Bay region, as well as several hundred students from El Camino College. In total, over 100 businesses were registered, offering a wide range of employment opportunities to local youth.

The job fair provided students with the chance to connect directly with employers, resulting in more than 150 students being offered employment on the spot and over 3,000 job leads provided to attendees. Many of these students were also scheduled for second interviews, significantly increasing their chances of securing meaningful, long-term employment.

SBWIB Executive Director Jan Vogel addressed the attendees, stressing the importance of making a strong first impression. "Look the interviewer in the eye, shake their hand, and take this opportunity to learn about the career pathways that could lead to future employment," Vogel said.

Dr. Brenda Thames, President of El Camino College, also welcomed participants, emphasizing the value of the event for young job seekers. "This job fair process continues to be successful in enabling young job seekers to gain first-time employment," Thames said. This year marked the third consecutive year that SBWIB brought the event to the ECC campus.

Torrance City Councilmember Sharon Kalani reminded students that while landing a job is a goal, the journey itself is just as important. "Today, you've already taken the first step by attending this job fair," Kalani remarked. "The skills you're developing and the connections you're making will serve you well as you move forward in your career."

Beyond meeting employers, students participated in interactive workshops led by major organizations like Disneyland and the FBI. These workshops allowed participants to explore career paths and learn firsthand about the skills and qualifications needed to succeed in these exciting industries.

The Youth Job Fair not only provides immediate employment opportunities but also serves as an important resource for students looking to build long-term career pathways. Many of the employers attending the event were seeking entry-level employees, offering young people a chance to develop essential skills and gain valuable work experience. For many teens, this job fair represents their first real-world job experience, a crucial steppingstone to future success.

This annual event is a cornerstone of SBWIB's commitment to helping young people in the South Bay region develop the skills and experience necessary for career success. By facilitating connections between students and employers, the Job Fair offers a valuable opportunity for youth to learn about different industries, explore career options, and secure their first job – all in one day.

About South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB)

The South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) is a regional workforce development organization that works with businesses, educational institutions, and community partners to help individuals find employment, develop skills, and build sustainable careers. SBWIB offers a variety of programs and services for youth, adults, and businesses, with a focus on providing local talent to meet the needs of the region's employers.

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Photo caption: Over 1,400 high school and college-age students gathered at El Camino College for the 25th Annual Blueprint for Workplace Success Youth & Young Adult Job Fair presented by the South Bay Workforce Investment Board on Wednesday, April 30th, 2025.







Lawndale High school students at South Bay Workforce Investment Board's 25th Annual Blueprint for Workplace Success Youth & Young Adult Job Fair at El Camino College.



Hawthorne High school students at South Bay Workforce Investment Board's 25th Annual Blueprint for Workplace Success Youth & Young Adult Job Fair at El Camino College.



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South Bay Workforce Investment Board
11539 Hawthorne Blvd., Suite 500
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Contact: Jan Vogel 310-970-7700

June 16, 2025

**South Bay Workforce Investment Board Partners
With City of Gardena to Present Annual
Hiring Event That Attracts More Than 630 Job Seekers**

HAWTHORNE – The South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) in partnership with the City of Gardena presented its annual Hiring Event May 22, 2025, at the Nakaoka Community Center that attracted more than 630 job seekers and hiring representatives from 37 prominent public and private employers throughout the region. On-the-spot job offers were extended to 153 individuals and 60 others were scheduled for second interviews.

Staff from the SBWIB's Gardena One-Stop Business and Career Center solicited businesses to participate and provided administrative support to process applicants at the check in. Gardena Parks & Recreation staff provided the logistics and set up.

Gardena Mayor Tasha Cerda extended greetings and thanked the employers for attending and providing opportunities for participants to gain employment and learn about ways to start new careers. The Mayor also acknowledged the tremendous support the SBWIB has given to Gardena over the years to improve its economic base while helping people gain sustainable employment.

"As we near the end of the fourth quarter of our program year, I want to acknowledge the partnerships we have with our elected officials in our region who make these job fairs possible and highly successful," noted Jan Vogel, SBWIB Executive Director. "We have enabled more than 500 individuals to gain employment this quarter because they took the time to participate in these hiring events that were organized by our outstanding One-Stop Center job developers and staff members," he concluded.

The SBWIB provides no cost services to adult and youth job seekers and businesses through its four One-Stop Business and Career Centers that serve 11 South Bay cities. It also operates two Teen Centers in Inglewood and Hawthorne. For further information visit www.sbwib.org.

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Photo caption: The South Bay Workforce Investment Board partnered with City of Gardena to present an annual hiring event at the Nakaoka Community Center that attracted more than 630 job seekers.







NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 27, 2025

South Bay Workforce Investment Board
11539 Hawthorne Blvd., Suite 500
Hawthorne, CA 90250
Contact: Jan Vogel 310-970-7700

SBWIB Celebrates 12th Anniversary of Inglewood Teen Center with Aloha-Themed Event and Announces Temporary Relocation

HAWTHORNE, CA – The South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) celebrated a milestone this month, marking the 12th anniversary of the Inglewood Teen Center with an Aloha-themed ceremony that brought together community leaders, youth, and families. The event also served to announce the center’s upcoming temporary relocation to Morningside High School, as the Inglewood Public Library—its current host—prepares for a two-year renovation.

More than 70 attendees joined in the celebration, including Inglewood Mayor James T. Butts, Jr., Field Representative Hayley Hutt on behalf of Assemblymember Tina McKinnor, Dr. James Morris of the Inglewood Unified School District, SBWIB Board Chair Glenn Mitchell, and Employment Development Department (EDD) representatives Giovanni Segura and Ernesto Ochoa. The celebration featured a performance by the Morningside High School Band Strings Ensemble, adding a special musical touch to the occasion and culminating into an annual ping pong tournament.

Mayor Butts reflected on the Teen Center’s profound impact, calling it “the first major youth-focused initiative undertaken by the City of Inglewood,” and praised the long-standing partnership with the SBWIB. Assemblymember McKinnor issued a Certificate of Recognition acknowledging the center’s “outstanding commitment and dedication to youth and their families,” presented by Ms. Hutt during the event.

The celebration also honored three exceptional student volunteers:

- Victor Sanchez – Best Attendance Award
- Skie Daniels – Rising Star Award
- Jaylin Woolfolk – Teen Center Ambassador Award

Each student received a Certificate of Recognition, a voucher for LA Galaxy tickets from SBWIB, and a special commendation from Assemblymember McKinnor.

SBWIB Executive Director Jan Vogel applauded the dedication of the Teen Center staff and assured families that services would continue uninterrupted during the relocation. “Thanks to the support of Dr. Morris and the Inglewood Unified School District, the Teen Center will continue to thrive and serve the community from its temporary home at Morningside High School,” said Vogel. “And when the library reopens, we’ll return to a bigger and more modern facility.”


About the Inglewood Teen Center

The Inglewood Teen Center provides free after-school programs and enrichment activities for local youth aged 13–17. Its programs focus on academic support, college readiness, leadership development, and recreational engagement.

Current Location (through Summer 2025):

101 W. Manchester Blvd.

Inglewood, CA 90301

 (310) 680–3701

Hours of Operation:

Monday–Thursday, 3:00–6:00 PM

(Some evening and weekend events scheduled)

Free Services Include:

- Tutoring and homework assistance
- College preparation workshops
- Leadership training
- Internet and computer access
- Arts & crafts, games, and field trips
- Community service projects

For more information or to enroll, visit www.SBWIB.org or contact the center directly.

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Photo caption: SBWIB celebrates 12th anniversary of Inglewood Teen Center with Aloha-themed event and announces temporary relocation.









NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 17, 2025

South Bay Workforce Investment Board
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Contact: Jan Vogel 310-970-7700

**South Bay Workforce Investment Board Presents
Highly Successful Hiring Event That Exposed
Hundreds of Job Seekers to Careers in the Hospitality Industry**

HAWTHORNE – The South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) staged a highly successful Hiring Event in partnership with Contemporary Services Corporation (CSC) June 3rd, that attracted more than 370 job seekers to the event that was held at the Watts Labor Community Action Committee Resource Center in Los Angeles.

Of the 291 candidates that received on-site conditional job offers and immediate job offers, 146 applicants completed the subsequent orientation and onboarded with CSC reported, Elisabeth Gutierrez, SBWIB GAIN Program Supervisor.

SBWIB Executive Director Jan Vogel reflected on the success the WIB has had in exposing job seekers to the many exciting opportunities that are available in the hospitality industry. “CSC supports very high – profile events like concerts, major professional and collegiate athletic events festivals, trade shows and conventions,” he said. He also praised the partnership that the SBWIB has received with the DPSS Region VI job development staff that results in highly organized and supportive environment that benefits candidates and employers alike.

Among the many positions the newly hired CSC employees could fill are Event Security, Access Control, Bike Patrol, Guest Services and Parking Attendants.

SBWIB is a regional workforce development organization that partners with businesses, educational institutions and community organizations to help individuals find employment, develop marketable skills and achieve sustainable careers. SBWIB’s no cost services are provided through its four AJCC One-Stop Business and Career Centers that service 11 South Bay cities. For further information visit www.sbwib.org



NEWS

South Bay Workforce Investment Board

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 10, 2025

South Bay Workforce Investment Board
11539 Hawthorne Blvd., Suite 500
Hawthorne, CA 90250
Contact: Jan Vogel 310-970-7700

Over 900 Job Seekers Attend 5th Annual “Connect to Your Future” Hiring Event

Bell Gardens, CA – More than 900 job seekers connected with over 75 top employers at the 5th Annual Connect to Your Future Hiring Event, hosted by the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) in partnership with the City of Bell Gardens, LA County Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) GAIN Regions, and the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE).

Held at the scenic Veterans Park – Ross Hall & Patio in Bell Gardens, the event offered a welcoming indoor-outdoor venue where job seekers engaged directly with recruiters from companies across a wide range of industries, including Sam’s Club, Starbucks, AltaMed, FedEx, Hyundai, USPS, LAUSD, and Visionworks.

The event produced immediate results: 55 attendees were hired on the spot, 74 began the hiring process, and 69 were invited for follow-up interviews, marking it as one of the most impactful workforce events in the region this year.

In his opening remarks, Bell Gardens Mayor Jorgel Chavez addressed the crowd, encouraging employers to connect attendees with meaningful opportunities: “Go ahead and get some folks to sign up—let’s get them ready with some good jobs and maybe transition to a different career,” he said.

Special emphasis was placed on connecting participants from the LA County DPSS GAIN Transitional Subsidized Employment (TSE) program with employers. SBWIB’s LA County DPSS GAIN Division was on-site to provide resources and guidance to support participants' pathways to sustainable employment. LACOE hosted a professional Resume & Application Lab, helping job seekers improve their resumes and strengthen online application skills.

Attendees also had access to key community resources including America’s Job Center of California (AJCC), Your Image 20/20, The Salvation Army, and the LA City Attorney’s HEART Program. The City of Bell Gardens also provided a complimentary continental breakfast, and

guests enjoyed lunch generously sponsored by Gloria's Express—courtesy of Owner Juan J. San Juan III.

The event was emceed by LA County Administrator and U.S. Army Sergeant 1st Class Prince James Reed Williams, who energized the crowd and ensured a smooth flow throughout the day.

Support from over 35 volunteers and the City of Bell Gardens Parks & Recreation team was instrumental in the event's success. Reflecting on the experience, Carolina Hernandez, a Career Development Specialist with The Salvation Army, shared on social media: "This is the most organized and well-executed fair that I have been a part of. Everyone was very pleasant and professional. Good job! Thanks for having us."

Sponsors included:

Gloria's Express Huntington Park, Rice Street, Sam's Club, Starbucks, Carnitas Don Cuco Pacoima, and Martinez Income Tax & Accounting.

This annual hiring event remains a cornerstone of SBWIB's efforts to connect job seekers—particularly those participating in the LA County DPSS GAIN Division TSE programs—with real employment opportunities and career support.

About the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB)

The South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) is a regional workforce development leader that connects businesses, educational institutions, and community organizations to empower individuals with skills, employment, and long-term career pathways. Through programs like Aero-Flex and Bio-Flex, SBWIB helps shape the future of work across the Greater Los Angeles Area.

For more information about SBWIB programs and upcoming events, visit: www.sbwib.org

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Photo caption: Over 900 Job Seekers Attend 5th Annual “Connect to Your Future” Hiring Event





South Bay One-Stop Business & Career Centers



No Cost Services

Be Our Next Success Story

Business Services

- Hiring Support
- Recruitment Services
- Customized Training
- Rapid Response
- Layoff Aversions
- Apprenticeships

Adult Services

- Job Placement
- On-the-Job Training
- Veteran Transition
- Apprenticeship
- Career Pathways 180
- Dislocated Worker

Youth Services

- Summer Jobs Program
- Teen Centers
- Pre-Apprenticeship
- College Preparation
- Blueprint for Workplace Success Training



**A WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

Inglewood One-Stop

110 S. La Brea Ave.
Inglewood, CA 90301
(310) 680-3700

Gardena One-Stop

16801 S. Western Ave.
Gardena, CA 90247
(310) 538-7070

Torrance One-Stop

1220 Engracia Ave.
Torrance, CA 90501
(310) 680-3830

Carson One-Stop

801 E. Carson St.
Carson, CA 90745
(310) 680-3870



**America's JobCenter
of California™**

This WIOA Title 1 financially assisted program or activity is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities by calling in advance to CRS 1-800-735-2922. Stevens Amendment Disclosure: SBWIB has programs funded via federal funds, please visit <https://StevensAmendmentDisclosure.short.gy/2025> to learn more.

AERO-FLEX & BIO-FLEX PRE-APPRENTICESHIPS

Learn about exciting careers in Aerospace or Bioscience
through our Pre-Apprenticeship Programs!



AERO-FLEX



SBWIB.ORG/AERO-FLEX



BIO FLEX



SBWIB.ORG/BIO-FLEX

Unlock exciting career pathways in two of the most innovative industries! Our pre-apprenticeship programs provide hands-on learning experiences, industry-recognized credentials, and direct connections to top employers in Aerospace and Bioscience.

- Connect with leading employers in your chosen industry
- Gain real-world experience and industry-recognized credentials
- Explore work-based learning and career advancement opportunities
- Continue to college, a registered apprenticeship, and/or employment

Requirements to enroll into SBWIB Pre-Apprenticeship Programs:

- Must be 17 or older
- Must live in Los Angeles County
- Other eligibility criteria may apply

Interested in enrolling or have questions?

CONTACT US



Info@sbwib.org



(310) 970-7700



America's **JobCenter**
of California™



A WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT BOARD

This program is provided by equal opportunity employers. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities by calling in advance to CRS 1-800-735-2922.
Stevens Amendment Disclosure: SBWIB has programs funded through federal funds. Please visit <https://StevensAmendmentDisclosure.short.gy/2025> for more information.

SPACE-FLEX

Pre-Apprenticeship & Registered Apprenticeship Equitable & Innovative Training Opportunities



To get started today, contact us:

South Bay Workforce Investment Board

www.sbwib.org/space-flex

Email: info@sbwib.org; Phone: (310) 970-7700



This project received \$5,820,000 (0.5% of its total cost) from a grant awarded under the Apprenticeship Building America grant, as implemented by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration.

This program is provided by equal opportunity employers. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities by calling in advance to CRS 1-800-735-2922



SCAN

Southern California
Apprenticeship Network
(Non-Traditional)

FOR EMPLOYERS, WORKFORCE BOARDS, EDUCATION PROVIDERS, COMMUNITY-BASED ORGS & OTHER INTERESTED PARTNERS.

Explore the benefits of apprenticeship as a strategic workforce recruiting, training and development model while networking and learning. Learn about the resources available to your organization!

SCAN is:

An employer and stakeholder consortium which brings together those interested in **growing and expanding apprenticeship across Southern California** and:

- creates employment opportunities** for job seekers,
- uplifts underrepresented communities** and those with employment barriers,
- provides employers with a quality pipeline of world-class local talent.**

SCAN's purpose:

We provide a forum for business, government, educators, workforce boards, community-based organizations, labor, and other interested parties to come together to share information, access resources and work together to grow apprenticeship programs across Southern California and the State—to support the State's apprenticeship enrollment and placement goals of 500,000 apprentices by 2029.

Attend monthly meetings:



Become an Active Member

Monthly virtual SCAN meetings occur the second Thursday of the month from 12:00-1:00pm PT on Teams. The meetings are an opportunity to learn about resources and connect with others across the region around apprenticeship.



Share Apprenticeship Needs

Please email scan@sbwib.org with any suggested topics for future SCAN meetings or areas where you need apprenticeship assistance. We can connect you to the appropriate resources.



Join a Subcommittee

Email scan@sbwib.org to let us know if you have interest in working on a subcommittee. The time commitment is minimal (joining monthly calls) and very critical to the effectiveness of the network.

GET IN TOUCH

contact: Alex Hussain
alex@new-way.solutions

scan@sbwib.org
www.sbwib.org/scan

11539 Hawthorne Blvd.
Hawthorne, CA 90250

