



PRESS RELEASE

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South Bay Workforce Investment Board
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Second Group of Parolees Graduate from South Bay Workforce Investment Board's Career Pathways 180 Job Preparation Academy

HAWTHORNE – Thirty-six formerly incarcerated adults were recognized October 20th during ceremonies marking their graduation from the South Bay Workforce Investment Board's (SBWIB) week-long Career Pathways 180 Job Preparation Academy in cooperation with the Los Angeles Central Parole District. The program helps men and women to make a successful reintegration into the community and the workforce by providing assistance and training needed to prepare for job interviews and gainful employment.

The job preparation academy consisted of intensive pre-employment instruction utilizing the SBWIB's Blueprint for Workplace Success curriculum with an emphasis on overcoming barriers in preparing for employment. The Academy consisted of job readiness workshops, motivational speakers, and job search and career pathway strategies. Each individual also received business attire in preparation for meeting with employers for interviews on the final day; which concluded with the graduation ceremony and a job fair.

The graduates received a motivational address by screen and television actor Danny Trejo who is an advocate for parolee reentry programs. Inglewood City Councilman Alex Padilla extended a welcome on behalf of the city, and Heather Hutt, Deputy Director of Southern California for U.S. Senator Kamala Harris, and Chief Deputy Administrator Enrique Gonzalez, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, also addressed the group. SBWIB Board Chairman Wayne Spencer presented graduation certificates to each participant. Reflecting on the program graduate Kiyon Hodges commented, "They showed me different ways to apply myself and they gave me hope and confidence"

Among the employers interviewing graduates at the job fair were Aerotek, People Ready, Jiffy Lube, Foster Farms, Boston Market, The Sandwich Shoppe, Elwood Staffing, Southland Construction, Training Providers, CUPP Program, Dolphin Trucking School, A Technical College and D & A Home Innovations.

This event marks the second Job Preparation Academy in partnership with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation this year and highlights ongoing efforts for continued programs and services for those transitioning into the community and the workforce. The SBWIB operates four One Stop Business & Careers Centers within the South Bay area providing adult, youth and business services, plus two Teen Centers in Inglewood and Hawthorne. For more information please call (310) 970-7700 or visit SBWIB.org.

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www.sbwib.org

SOUTH BAY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD
SBWIB



Photo Caption: Thirty-six formerly incarcerated adults were proudly recognized on October 20th at the Inglewood One-Stop Business & Career Center for being the second group of parolees to graduate from the South Bay Workforce Investment Board's (SBWIB) week-long Career Pathways 180 Job Preparation Academy in cooperation with the Los Angeles Central Parole District