



NEWS

South Bay Workforce Investment Board

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

South Bay Workforce Investment Board
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South Bay Workforce Investment Board Awarded Grant from EDD To Provide Career Development Opportunities for People with Disabilities

HAWTHORNE – The California Economic Development Department (EDD) has awarded a \$350,000 Disability Employment Accelerator grant to the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) to provide career development programs for people with disabilities. In partnership with El Camino and Harbor College, soon to graduate students with disabilities will receive 100 hours of paid work experience and assistance transitioning into employment. SBWIB will also partner with the Uniquely Abled Project to deliver CNC Machine Operator training for individuals with high-functioning autism and provide work-based learning opportunities. SBWIB thanks our employer partners committed to providing the work-based learning opportunities. These partners include Northrop Grumman Aerospace Systems, Haas Factory Outlet, Protech Knives, LLC, Advanced Theoretical Concepts, Inc., and Edelbrock, LLC.

The SBWIB will use its collaborative network of employers in high growth industries and training/education partners to develop “earn and learn” strategies that include paid on-the-job training, transitional jobs and work experience. The strategies will enable businesses to customize skills training for people with disabilities that can lead to employment, career advancement and economic independence. In order to provide all the support needed to ensure participant success, SBWIB has also partnered with the Department of Rehabilitation, the Employment Development Department/Wagner-Peyser, and The Arc-South Bay to ensure that both the participant and employers have all the resources they need to make the work-based learning opportunity a positive experience. All the partners will also be engaged through the ‘Mentored’ coaching and training digital platform to deliver “Blueprint for Workplace Success” training and provide support and case management on-demand for both the participant and employer.

“We are very grateful to the EDD and Governor Brown for providing the funds that will enable us to provide training and jobs for the disabled members of our South Bay communities who face barriers to getting into the workforce,” said SBWIB Executive Director Jan Vogel. The grant is provided through discretionary funds made available by Governor Brown in accordance with the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and was awarded in coordination with the California Workforce Development Board.

For more than 30 years, the SBWIB has been an innovator in developing programs for underserved communities and operates many educational, career development and business services at no cost to the public. Services are provided through the SBWIB’s four One-Stop Business & Career Centers serving 11 South Bay communities; plus two Teen Centers in Inglewood and Hawthorne. For more information, please call (310) 970-7700 or visit SBWIB.org.

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