



**Alliance For
Workforce Development, Inc.**
Providing pathways to success

Sierra County
Business and Career Network
305 South Lincoln Street
Sierraville, CA 96126
Main: (530) 994-3349
Fax: (530) 994-3368

Discussion Paper:

Briefing on the Alliance for Workforce Development, Inc. operations in Sierra County

1. Purpose: It is with pleasure that I take this opportunity to update you on the activities at the Sierra County Employment Centers, your local America's Job Centers of California (AJCC). Our mission is to serve as a common point of access for job seekers, employers and community members for the purpose of education, training, employment, referral and other supportive services. AFWD delivers federal and state Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) programs for Adults, Dislocated Workers and Youth of Sierra County.

2. Discussion: AFWD is one of four service providers for the Northern Rural Training and Employment Consortium (NoRTEC) providing various workforce development programs in six of NoRTEC's 11 counties, Butte, Lassen, Modoc, Nevada, Plumas and Sierra counties. Supervisor Roen represents Sierra County on the NoRTEC Governing Board. AFWD's purpose is to create an atmosphere for both the job seeker and the employer – A place where they can succeed in all endeavors by using the services available to them. We continue to put an emphasis on our "business first" philosophy, as embraced by NoRTEC and also by the new legislation, which increases the focus on business outreach and requiring that businesses be in the forefront of our service delivery models.

In July 2019 NoRTEC launched NoRTEC Jobs which a valuable search engine for jobs in our local communities. This site provides easy access to employer's job positions in a user friendly program. Staff continue to work with job seekers and local businesses to ensure that employers find the most qualified individuals for the job and our job seeking customers obtain sustainable work. Successful AJCC's recognize the value of partnerships with other service agencies, job seekers, employers, and the community they serve. All efforts are tied to enhancing the workforce development, economic vitality, and a *stable and prosperous business community* throughout Sierra County.

- Sierra County's unemployment rate for December of 2018 stood at 5.4%. This is almost a percent lower than this time last year, when Plumas County's unemployment rate stood at 6.2%. Note that due to the Employment Development Departments 2018 Benchmarking process, the January 2019 estimates will not be released until March 8, 2019.
- Customers July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018: A total of 145 individuals utilized the many services available through the Sierra Business and Career Network.

- Businesses Services: AFWD has been able to assist the Sierra County employer community with an array of business services, such as providing human resource information, employee training and assistance with job recruitments. We've also been able to provide assistance to businesses who happen to be laying off an employee, by providing the affected workers with the necessary information to obtain Unemployment benefits.

3. Program Highlights:

Training-Classroom, Internships and On-the-Job: AFWD staff through various assessments, employer recruitments and client career explorations customize classroom, internships and on-the job trainings. For reporting period of July 1, 2019-December 31, 2018, \$7,227.00 has been expended in Sierra County.

Sierra County Social Services: AFWD staff continues to provide weekly onsite one-on-one job development appointments within the Sierra County Social Services offices in Loyalton and Downieville. Participants are provided with information on local resources available to assist with education, training, job search, etc.

Conclusion: AFWD is pleased to continue offering Workforce Development services in Sierra County and providing valuable services to both businesses and job seekers. All of our efforts are geared towards creating a solid workforce, economic vitality and a stable and prosperous business community throughout Sierra County. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (530) 283-1606.

For more information about AFWD activities, please visit our website, www.afwd.org and click on CC Reports. Here you will find quarterly reports for each of AFWD's county operations.

Thank you for your time.

Valerie Bourque
Business Services Supervisor