

RE: EastBay Workforce Boards and Community Colleges

Date: Monday, April 20, 2009 2-4 pm at Chabot-Las Positas CCD District Office

Attendees: Linda Chandler (Contra Costa WDB), Roy Bertucelli (Alameda WIB), MariAnn Fisher (Chabot-Las Positas CCD), Judi Watkins (WpLRC-Chabot-Las Positas), Luis Chavez (Career Ladders Project), Stephen Baiter (EastBay Works), Kim Schenk (Diablo Valley College), Gary Yee (Peralta CCD), Deborah Blue (Contra Costa CCD), Melbra Watts (Oakland Private Industry Council) and Julia Dozier (Chabot-Las Positas CCD).

Absent: Lorraine Giordano (College of Alameda), Kiran Kamath (Los Medanos College), Ruth Goodin (Los Medanos College), Dorothy Chen (Alameda WIB), Janice Noble (Las Positas), Amanda Feinstein (Walter- Elise Haas Fund), Josie Sette (Ohlone College), Bob Lanter (Contra Costa WDB) and Tina Dodson (Ohlone College)

Facilitator: Judi Watkins

Recap of Meeting:

Introductions

How we can address sector work together

- Key Issues
- Programs available through the Community Colleges
- Sector Work
- Immediate Needs

Next Steps

### Key Issues

The first item of discussion was the need to identify where the jobs are and where job growth will occur. Identified resources for data: LMI, EDA and the Centers for Excellence (COE).

Currently available through the COE are 2 industry scans, Careers in Allied Health (April 2009) and Energy Efficient Occupations (March 2009). The reports can be accessed at [www.coecc.net](http://www.coecc.net).

### Programs available through Community Colleges

Printed copies of the Bay Area Career Guide ([www.bacareerguide.org](http://www.bacareerguide.org)) were distributed to meeting participants. A discussion followed regarding new course adoption within colleges. New courses require curriculum review and approval prior to being adopted. In addition to the curriculum component, clear need and demand have to be demonstrated. Colleges need to consider the sustainability of a program prior to implementation. This process can be lengthy but there are some opportunities to test courses prior to full implementation.

Some questions came up regarding programs available through CSU (H2O programs at Sacramento State) and whether that program could be replicated at the community colleges. It was identified that programs and courses developed at CSU may not translate between the 2 systems. Programs within the community colleges system are better candidates for replication and adoption (such as Palomar College's H2O program). Additionally, it was suggested that replicating something that already exists regionally is not necessarily the best approach. Leveraging what exists is a better response, especially in consideration of the ARRA funds timeframe.

### Sector Work

In the March meeting, the group identified the sectors as: Water; Healthcare, Manufacturing; and Green/Energy. The sector priorities were revised to be more broad-based and to allow for flexibility in response.

## Sector Priorities:

1. Natural Resources
  - a. Water
  - b. Energy/Green Technology
2. Health and Human Services
  - a. Healthcare
3. Information Technology
4. Construction (optional sector)

## Responding to Sector Priorities

1. Natural Resources
  - a. Water
    - Need: Comprehensive analysis of job growth, demand and retirement issues in order to develop an appropriate response. Large employers (EBMUD and CC Central Sanitation) are indicating need but objective data required.
    - Possible resource: COE currently doing industry scan but data not ready until June 2009.
    - Current Opportunities: Environmental Tech programs at DVC/Solano/Peralta CCDs.
  - b. Energy/Green Technology
    - Need: Comprehensive analysis of job growth, demand and new technologies in order to develop an appropriate response.
    - Resource: COE has completed several scans related to Energy and Green Tech. Reports available at [www.coecc.net](http://www.coecc.net).
    - Current opportunities: Environmental Science (Peralta CCD), Engineering and Environmental (DVC), Weatherization Program (CDBG funds), Richmond Build, PG& E –weatherization program, Career Ladders (DVC, Peralta CCD).
2. Health and Human Services
  - a. Healthcare

Need: Job growth analysis. Programs need to less than 1 year (ARRA funds). There are concerns about whether pre-requisite courses would be funded. The issue is more about providing short-term training that leads to employment

Resource: Hospital Council

Current Opportunities: Medical Laboratory Technician A/S degree (DVC-contract program with John Muir Medical Center), Surgical Tech program (Las Positas), Nursing programs (Los Medanos, Contra Costa, Chabot, Merritt and Ohlone). Also SEIU-UHW submitted a concept paper to the Oakland PIC proposing a 6 mos training program, with 6-18 mos program career upgrade and a 2 year+ AA/AS degree for LVN, RN, and Rad. Tech. The colleges indicated that they already provide those programs and that SEIU has contract agreements in place with several of the colleges.
3. Information Technology

The consensus of the group was that IT is a critical component of any industry.

Need: Job growth and specialization analysis. Basic computer aptitude has become a basic and necessary skill

Current opportunities: Youth programs (Los Medanos and LA-Human Services After-School program). Short-term computer skills training delivered through contract education.

**Next Steps**

It was determined that it is essential that the WIBs assess their current population to identify training needs and establish targets (Alameda County WIB identified in Feb 2009 that 16% of their SMARTCARD participants had a bachelor's degree). As part of that process, assessing basic skills and addressing foundational skills as appropriate.

It was proposed (Kim Schenk) that a transcript analysis (conducted by trained Academic Counselors) of participants be a component of any anticipated training services. Such a strategy would support a career ladders approach to serving participants, identifying immediate training needs and long-term needs for career development. To support the analysis, work profiles, defined skill needs and salaries would help participants to make informed decisions about work and training.

Next Meeting May 27, 2009 from 2-4 pm at Chabot-Las Positas CCD District Offices.