

Pacific Gateway Workforce Development Board – Local Plan Modification

Community Forum on Local Workforce Services

Location: The WorkPlace

4811 Airport Plaza Drive

Long Beach, CA 90815

Date: December 5, 2018

Time: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Discussion Notes

What communities are in most need of Pacific Gateway services?

- Disability community - Under-served population, capable of employment in the community
- Hispanic/LatinX Community – Lowest earning community
- Cambodian Community – In need of translation services, language barriers
- Retired/Older Workers – Experience can be used for employment and shared with others
- Westside and North Long Beach - Low income population, challenges accessing services on that side of town, in need of satellite offices, issues with transportation (bus-lines) and gangs.
- African-American – Low income, underemployed
- Idle youth – high school students in between school and work, unemployed or underemployed
- Youth - Lacking soft skills and professionalism
- Central Long Beach – Single mothers who are the head of the household in need of services, childcare and soft skills. Need to be a focus.
- Encourage community based organizations (CBOs) to collaborate and work closely together
- Technical assistance to faith-based organizations (FBOs) and CBOs. Look to one another for assistance and resources.
- Training on cultural sensitivity that is reflective of the community
- Stronger collaboration between Pacific Gateway and CBOs. CBOs are trusted by residents.
- Need for satellite offices to alleviate transportation issues - Satellite sites in North, Central and West Long Beach - Empower organizations to partner to provide space to facilitate programs.

- Important to work with faith-based organizations. Spiritual connection to workforce services. More trust and comfort. Tap into employers through these organizations, within the congregations.
- Building access in the community where individuals feel a sense of comfort and trust.
- A need to go into the communities, a liaison to meet people where they live.

Are there workforce programs or best practices you would like to see in the Long Beach /Signal area?

- Need more services for Prisoner to Employment (P2E) population
 - Scale up existing services
 - Highlight those services available
- Stronger partnership and involvement with Probation Department
- Connect with individuals before they are released, additional resources needed to assist with the transition
- L.A.M.P – youth with median talent. More internships and leveraging of programs
- More programs with Juvenile population. Prevention programs, mentors while they are in the system.
- Revitalization of the youth center on the West side/Central area
- Re-entry programs for returning youth
- Training assessment tools to help prevent recidivism
 - Ohio Risk Assessment –
 - Moral Recognition Therapy (MRT)
 - Risk assessments
 - Personal Inventory and Vocational skills training
- Collaboration with trusted CBOs & FBO to develop supportive services and training needs
- Programs to teach young men to be fathers and stop the generational cycles of poverty “Role of Men”
- Need for Holistic approach, understanding what programs are out there, better promotion of programs, sharing of best practices

In what ways can Pacific Gateway support workforce programs in the local area?

- Strengthen relationships with CBOs to develop programs – Language access programs, translation services.
- CBOs have challenges with administrative functions. Need for technical assistance, streamlining processes.
- Educating the community on our services and programs and how to access.
- Work with CBOs to meet success metrics, Pay-for-Performance

- Collaborate administratively to offset funding restrictions and cumbersome processes.
- Pacific Gateway tap into foundations to provide funding to CBOs, FBOs – Serve as a funnel source
- Collaborate with CBOs and FBOS for funding opportunities.
- Job development and employment opportunities for seniors. Supplemental income for those on fixed income.
- Transportation and Food services (hot meals).