WHAT HAPPENED IN JUNE 2020

Aerospace Dislocated Workers Launched

Pacific Gateway successfully launched the 2020 COVID-19 Additional Assistance grant in an effort to alleviate hundreds of recently laid-off aerospace workers within Long Beach. The grant will provide workers with access to services and training to improve their skills and make informed employment decisions.

With the necessary move to provide training and job search activities online, workers will benefit from the laptops, one-on-one virtual résumé development assistance, job search and job placement assistance that Pacific Gateway will provide. Nearly 150 dislocated aerospace workers attended Rapid Response sessions in June, and were provided insight to Pacific Gateway services. More sessions are planned throughout August.

Assistance for Dislocated Workers Impacted by COVID-19

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Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA) Virtual Training

Balancing parenthood while searching for work is tough and has become even tougher amid a worldwide pandemic. Through Pacific Gateway’s Strengthening Working Families Initiative (SWFI), parents who are looking for work, unemployed or underemployed can access training opportunities, job placement assistance and childcare.

In partnership with Healthcare Career College and New Generations, Pacific Gateway launched the first Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA) online training cohort in June in an effort to make the specialized opportunity available to parents seeking growth within the healthcare industry. The CNA participants are offered a direct pathway to employment with local long-term facilities.

Adhering to COVID-19 protocols and guidelines mandated by the State of California and Safer at Home Order, 21 participants successfully started training. Participants are currently engaging in virtual training from home or at the WorkPlace during the evening. A total of 19 parents are accessing childcare services while training onsite at the WorkPlace. Laptops and assistance with transportation to support training activities have been provided to applicable participants.

The ten-week training program is scheduled to conclude in October. Upon successful completion participants will be scheduled to take the state test.

COVID-19 Protocol: Waitlist App

Due to current COVID-19 social distancing guidelines set by the City of Long Beach and State of California, Pacific Gateway adopted Waitlist Me, a virtual queueing service designed to help customers avoid waiting physically in one location among other individuals.

Similar to restaurant queue systems, the application enables clients to check-in, leave their phone number and wait at a preferred location until they are alerted to return via text. The ability to wait in the safety and comfort of a car or home has been a relief to customers facing the need for workforce services but concerned about the present hazards of being in public spaces.

Providing customers the opportunity of a safe job search experience has also benefitted frontline staff. By preventing safety hazards and adhering to social distancing guidelines, the service has eased staff peace-of-mind by allowing them to work in a more conducive environment to effectively assist customers.

Success Story

Navigating the New Normal

Rivera was a recent college graduate who came to Pacific Gateway for job search assistance. Since Ms. Rivera and her mother were both impacted by layoffs due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, she was eager to obtain a new job and help support her family.

In June, Ms. Rivera completed her applicable eligibility/enrollment paperwork remotely and immediately began receiving services. She jumped at the opportunity to receive résumé and job search assistance, referrals to virtual workshops, recruitments and online resources. In less than three weeks, Ms. Rivera went from enrollment to employment when she was hired by an attorney’s office as a Legal Assistant.

Without ever visiting the center, Ms. Rivera found that navigating our new normal of virtual career coaching and online services can be efficient and well received.

In her words: “I want to thank you so much for your help and for sending me all these resources. I greatly appreciate it. You made me feel a lot more at ease with the job hunting.”

Did You Know?

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