



Oakland Exceeds State Performance Goals in Workforce Development

Service Providers Achieve More than 100% of State Goals for Job Placement, Job Retention and Wages

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Oakland, CA, February 2, 2017 – The State of California recently released the 2015-2016 performance report for the state’s federally funded local workforce development areas, including Oakland. This report compares actual performance for job placements, job retention, and average wages to state-mandated goals set at the beginning of each program year.

These particular statistics are of vital importance for our local job seekers. The state’s report shows that the network of employment training providers for the City of Oakland performed well beyond state-mandated goals with both its youth and adult programs.

The adult service provider network includes the Oakland Private Industry Council, the Unity Council, and ASSETS Senior Services. This performance report reflects the dedicated work of staff at these three organizations in providing job training and workforce services to adult job seekers in Oakland, including recently laid off workers.



For unemployed adults, who often have significant barriers to successful employment, the City of Oakland achieved more than 100% of the state-mandated goals for job placement, job retention, and average wage.

The report reflects that the rate of successful placement of long term unemployed job seekers was 67%, (110% of the state’s expected placement rate of 60.5%). Such job seekers had a starting average wage of \$13 an hour and 82% of those job seekers placed in jobs retained that employment for more than six months, again well in excess of the state’s goal.

The employment placement rate for laid off workers was even higher at 76% with a starting average wage of \$19 an hour. Over 85% of laid off workers retained employment for more than six months. All of these results were significantly higher than the goals set by the state.

Similarly, for the youth providers of Oakland, the 2015-2016 performance report highlights a very successful program year with the achievement of more than 100% of state-mandated goals in two out of the three performance standards.

In particular, job placement for youth reported a success rate of 75%, which was 136 percent of the state mandated goal. Oakland's youth service providers include Youth Employment Partnership; Lao Family Community Development; Civicorps; Youth Radio; and Youth Uprising.

"In a challenging environment for job seekers, these results are a testament to the hard work of staff and the great partnerships with local employers," said Gay Plair Cobb, CEO of Oakland PIC.



"We serve those that are most in need, having faced challenges such as lack of job training, incarceration, lack of housing and education, and computer literacy. It is our duty as workforce service providers to open doors of opportunity for our customers and help them achieve employment sustainability," Cobb said.



Chris Iglesias, CEO of The Unity Council, said, "This is a testament to the strengths of Oakland's workforce provider network. We are proud to see our clients reaching employment success, many of whom face numerous barriers to employment including lack of formal education and limited English proficiency."

"The Oakland workforce network has come together to make sure that everyone has the opportunity to find their career path and reach self-sufficiency," he said.

ABOUT

The Oakland Private Industry Council (PIC) provides accessible, high-quality training and employment services to local residents and employers. Oakland PIC operates three career centers that offer regular job readiness workshops, computer classes and customized on-the-job training. For more information, visit www.oaklandpic.org.

The Unity Council is a nonprofit organization devoted to improving the quality of life, economic and educational opportunity, and health and safety of low-income communities. For more information, visit www.unitycouncil.org.

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