News for the Week of October 9, 2017

LAP3 AMBASSADOR DESTINY NGUYEN VISITS STATE CAPITOL

P3 Ambassador Destiny Nguyen recently traveled to Governor Jerry Brown’s office in Sacramento in support of updates to provisions of Assembly Bill No. 1567 that will include additional help for foster care youth. At the state capitol, Destiny shared her story of how she entered the foster care system and where she is in her life’s journey now. Destiny is a Youth Ambassador for the Los Angeles Performance Partnership Pilot (P3) program, an integrated service model that helps students by placing LAUSD pupil service counselors and social services at the City’s Youth Source Centers, creating a one stop shop for youth to find resources to finish high school and successfully transition to college or employment. In an email summarizing her trip, Destiny thanked staff from the City of Los Angeles Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) and EWDD partner Para Los Niños (PLN), which oversees the Northeast LA YouthSource Center. “Thank you once again for the push to success and also allowing me to share my journey as an advocate and as a youth ambassador,” she said. Destiny also thanked the PLN team and the City for “Most importantly standing beside me as a team and family helping reach my goals of success. My story wouldn’t complete without the help of Para Los Niños.” Destiny said she hopes updates to the bill will be passed by the Governor’s office in January 2018.
CRCD ILLUSTRATES SUCCESS OF EWDD PROGRAMS FOR DENVER VISITORS

A delegation from Denver, Colorado visited the Vernon-Central WorkSource Center at Los Angeles Trade Technical College (LATTC) on Thursday, October 5 to learn best practices from the City of Los Angeles Workforce Development System on how to provide opportunities to residents that will lead to economic mobility. “You’ve really found what the ecosystem of what workforce development is,” said Albus Brooks, Denver City Council President, who said he was impressed that various LA workforce groups worked together rather than in silos. EWDD General Manager Jan Perry provided an overview of the City’s WorkSource, YouthSource and BusinessSource centers and how these programs have successfully helped Angelenos find work. Representatives from EWDD partner Coalition for Responsible Community Development (CRCD) shared how the Vernon-Central WorkSource Center provides guidance to re-entry workers, veterans and other populations through EWDD’s programs and other resources. The discussion also included representatives from EWDD partners Homeboy Industries, Anti-Recidivism Coalition and Grid Alternatives, along with other organizations. The seven-member Denver delegation included representatives from Denver-area workforce groups including the Urban League, Impact Empower Group, Inc. and Kids Above Everything.

HARBOR HOSTS GRAND OPENING OF YOUTHSOURCE/WORKSOURCE CENTER

A crowd of approximately 50 people attended the October 10, 2017 grand opening of the Harbor Gateway YouthSource and WorkSource Center, now located at 222 W. 6th Street, Suite 410 in San Pedro, CA. EWDD partner Pacific Gateway runs the day-to-day operations of the Harbor YSC and WSC. “It’s a great space,” said Harbor Gateway Executive Director Nick Schultz. “It’s very close to the Port (of Los Angeles) which is a huge economic engine. We’re right in the nexus of the employer base in the community.” In addition to increased American Disability Act (ADA) access, the new center is located in the same building as the Harbor Association of Industry and Commerce, which includes the transportation, engineering and logistics companies that operate at POLA. “We’re excited to be right in Downtown San Pedro,” he said.
HARBOR BUSINESS SOURCE CENTER HELPS NIKY’S SPORTS EXPAND

The Harbor BusinessSource Center helped the owner of a chain of athletic apparel stores refinance several loans and is assisting with the expansion of its downtown Los Angeles store. Nicholas Orellana is the owner of Niky’s Sports, Inc., located at 1536 West 7th Street. Niky’s Sports has seven locations, including five in the Los Angeles area. The 7th Street location was financed with two 7 percent interest loans and Nicholas wanted to refinance these loans at a lower rate. After receiving a referral from a previous client, Nicholas met with a consultant at the Harbor BusinessSource Center. The consultant was preparing a loan package and searching for a lender to approve the refinancing when Nicholas discovered an opportunity to expand the 7th Street location and triple the store’s size.

The consultant began to simultaneously put together a construction loan package for the expansion, and earlier this year, Niky’s Sports Inc. was approved for an $815,315 loan refinance at an annual rate of 4.5 percent. The Harbor BusinessSource consultant is currently working with the same lender for the $5,000,000 expansion project for the 7th Street location. Once approved, this expansion will create approximately 10 jobs.

OPINIONS WANTED FOR CITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (CEDS)

EWDD recently launched a series of seven public outreach meetings throughout the City of Los Angeles to gather feedback for the Citywide Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), a guiding document to drive the City’s economic development. Meetings have been held in Wilmington, Hollywood and South Los Angeles. Upcoming meetings will be in Sun Valley, Van Nuys, Pico Union and Boyle Heights. EWDD was tasked by the Mayor and City Council with developing the CEDS and its Five-year Implementation Plan. The Strategy will address a range of initiatives including, but not limited to: Specific actions and programs that the City can take to help drive the local economy forward; Initiatives that support expanded economic opportunity for the City’s residents; Key City investments required to accomplish these and other objectives; and Partnerships and collaboration to achieve desired outcomes. The Strategy is being prepared by a team led by HR&A Advisors, Inc., under a contract with the City. As part of the CEDS effort, EWDD has also posted a stakeholder survey to collect feedback from individuals and organizations Citywide about economic development challenges, opportunities and priorities. Survey responses will be accepted until November 1. To take the survey, click here.
HOLLYWOOD WORKSOURCE CENTER HOSTS DISABILITY JOB FAIR

The Hollywood WorkSource Center held its 2017 Annual Disability Job and Resource Fair on Thursday, October 5, 2017 in recognition of National Disability Employment Awareness Month. The effort sought to promote employment outcomes of persons with disabilities (PWD) by encouraging employers to recognize the value and talent PWDs bring to the workforce. Approximately 218 people attended the event, which was led by EWDD partner Managed Career Solutions (MCS). “Persons with disabilities are a part of the culture and we are doing our role [with this event] in making sure they are assimilated,” said Olabisi Oyewo of the California Employment Development Department (EDD), one of the event sponsors. “We know that PWDs are only limited by the restrictions we place on them. We are disabling ourselves if we do not welcome PWDs into our work culture.” The fair featured a dozen organizations including EDD, Disability Rights California, and City of LA BusinessSource, that help mitigate the medical, mental health, legal rights, employment, assistive and supportive service barriers that PWDs face. The fair also featured 20 employers from various industries including nonprofit organizations, security, veterans, aerospace, parks, childcare, staffing, maintenance, retail and other service companies. Christopher Caceres came to the job fair alone with uncertain hopes. In an unexpected turn, Christopher landed an on-the-spot hire as a security guard at VSS Security Services. He received his uniform that day, along with a blazer, tie, and three button-up shirts from the “Clothes the Deal” sponsored clothing rack.
**BUSINESS METRICS:**

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<th>LABSCs Reporting:</th>
<th>North Valley, West Valley, South Valley, South LA, East LA, Mid City, Central West, Hollywood and Harbor</th>
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<td>Pre-Startups Enrolled</td>
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<tr>
<td>Workshops: Number of Clients Attended</td>
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**WORKFORCE METRICS:**
*(arrows indicate weekly trend)*

**JobsLA  (online and mobile)**

- 85,201 Page Views
- 33.5% New Visitors
- 4,463 New Sessions
- 610 Registrations

**WorkSource Centers**

- 514 Enrollments
- 67%

“Updates” is produced by EWDD’s communications department. If you have questions, comments or wish to contribute to an upcoming “Updates,” please contact Jamie Francisco at (213) 744-9048 or Jamie.Francisco@lacity.org

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