



Alaska Department of Labor
and Workforce Development

Alaska Workforce Investment Board
ESD Report
Employment Security Division

May 2012

Achievements

Youth Job Fair — More than 800 youth attended a Youth Job and Volunteer Fair on April 11 in Anchorage. Fifty-one vendors participated. Several of the employers conducted on-site interviews. Employer surveys reported that 33 youth were hired while attending the job fair.

Disability Employment Initiative — ESD held a Work Incentive Seminar Event (WISE) on April 10 at the Fairbanks Job Center to open an Employment Network service in Fairbanks. The event was attended by 15 people from supportive agencies and Social Security disability beneficiaries from around the Fairbanks area.

Apprenticeships — ESD has registered 10 new apprenticeships since February 2012. Occupations include: able seaman, office machine servicer, medical assistant, HVAC, electrician, residential carpenter and plumber.

Rapid Response — ESD's Rapid Response team quickly organized four worker meetings for the 157 employees who lost their jobs due to the sudden closure of Chili's Restaurants in Fairbanks, Anchorage and Wasilla. Press releases were issued to inform workers about the meetings, and job center staff called the workers to advise them of meeting locations and times. Worker turnout was high. Topics discussed were Wage and Hour claims, filing for Unemployment Insurance, Employment Services, employment counseling and Career Support and Training Services (CSTS) available through the job centers. All three job center locations in the affected communities experienced an increase in Chili's workers utilizing services after the meetings. During the past three months the Rapid Response team worked with 10 employers who laid off 250 workers.

Mining Training — ESD CSTS continued to foster relationships with area mine employers and worked closely with industry Human Resource contacts and the University of Alaska Southeast mining training program to fill positions. CSTS recruited 11 individuals to participate in a three-week new-miner underground training program held October 2011. Nine of the 11 participants secured employment as miners with Hecla/Greens Creek and Coeur/Kensington mines in Juneau.

In March, CSTS also offered incumbent worker training to Hecla/Greens Creek Mine. Three employees received haul truck simulator training. This is the only such mine training available in the United States.

In progress

Reemployment Services

Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) claimants with access to one of ESD's 21 job centers located throughout the state will be required to appear in-person at a job center for a reemployment assessment, receive an orientation of jobs available in their local area and learn about employment services available at job centers. During the in-person assessment, job center staff will notify claimants of upcoming job fairs and recruitment events.

Grant for serving female ex-offenders

ESD, Nine Star and the Department of Corrections are submitting a grant application targeting female ex-offenders. Nine Star will take the lead in developing and submitting the application. ESD and DOC will be listed as partners and will assist with developing the application.

Film and TV training

ESD and AWIB are partnering to offer training for film and TV occupations. The Alaska Legislature appropriated \$486,000 from the General Fund to AWIB to offer grants for such training. Of the \$486,000, \$227,000 was budgeted for individual film training plans to be administered through ESD CSTS. In order to receive individual funding for film and

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IN PROGRESS (continued) ...

TV training, individuals must choose from the following AWIB approved training providers:

- Talking Circle Media
- Alaska Crew Training
- IATSE Local 918
- Affinityfilms Inc.
- KPU Telecommunications
- University of Alaska Fairbanks, Film Program

In order to be eligible for film training, an individual must:

- be an Alaska resident, established by providing an Alaska identification; and
- have a legal right to work in the United States.

For each individual who successfully completes training, ESD will pay:

- cost of tuition up to a maximum of \$500.
- cost of transportation and lodging up to a maximum of \$1,000 if the individual resides in a location more than 70 road miles from the training location.

The ESD film training funding will be allocated to the training providers based on the projected training participants and payments will be made on a first come, first serve basis until all funds are obligated.

Job center employees win Governor's Denali Awards



ESD congratulates Eagle River Job Center employees **Pam Walton**, left, and **Sheila Baker** who were announced as the winners of the State Denali Award for Team Exceptional Performance. Baker and Walton developed Bridge to Success, a workforce re-entry program for inmates at the Hiland Mountain Correctional Center. The re-entry program offers intensive employment workshops for inmates who are within six months of release. It has resulted in successful employment for inmates and recidivism rates dramatically less than state rates.

What's next

Workkeys profiling

ESD's ACT licensed WorkKeys Job Profilers **Laurie Fuglvog** and **Susan Brenner** will profile the following occupations this spring:

- Work Services case manager job for ESD
- Mining and Petroleum Training Service's (MAPTS) well control instructor job
- MAPTS Well Control Class and customer service/tool repair clerk at Mat-Su Tool Repair in Wasilla

Employers look forward to using the results from these profiles to recruit employees with the right skills to train efficiently and to be successful.

ESD VISION

ESD is Alaska's premier leader in connecting employers with a skilled workforce, keeping workers in Alaska and sustaining communities through the delivery of unemployment insurance.



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We are an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.