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## **Update on Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth Program Activities**

### **Adult and Dislocated Worker Program**

As the program year wraps up, Adult and Dislocated Worker staff remain focused on matching participants with employment opportunities that align with their skills, goals, and career interests. The team is also prioritizing the accurate and timely documentation of employment outcomes in CalJOBS to ensure that participant progress, placements, and performance outcomes are properly captured.

Equus' Adult and Dislocated Worker program continues to support active On-the-Job Training placements, finalize Class A training completions, and coordinate Transitional Job internship opportunities that provide participants with hands-on work experience and pathways to long-term employment. Staff are also closely tracking OJT completions as participants successfully reach the end of their training plans and transition into continued employment opportunities.

Looking ahead to July 1 and the first quarter of the new program year, the team is focused on improving support for new participants, planning outreach, strengthening the intake process, and increasing community engagement. Additional administrative support has been added to assist with outreach and intake coordination and overall program operations.

The program has also expanded service offerings through increased workshops at the Salinas Career Center and by offering workshops at Monterey Adult School to broaden access for participants and community members. These efforts support continued engagement, career readiness, and stronger connections to workforce services.

As part of the end-of-year reflection process, Equus is reviewing recent operational changes, identifying successful practices, and preparing for the upcoming program year with a continued focus on service delivery, participant outcomes, employer engagement, and program performance.

### **Youth Programs**

#### ***Hospitality Cadre (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act funding)***

The Hospitality Cadre cohort of 11 participants finished their in-house training at the end of May, gaining all the teamwork, communication and critical thinking skills and credentials (OSHA, NAEBL, AHLA – Guest Experience) to successfully enter hospitality-focused internships throughout Monterey County.

#### ***Green Cadre #3 (WIOA and CaliforniansForAll funding)***

The third Green Cadre cohort of 23 participants finished their in-house training in May and have been working in small groups on either food insecurity or climate change.

***Green Cadre #4 (CFA funding)***

Recruitment for the fourth Green Cadre cohort began in late May. This cohort is scheduled to start the orientation and interview process in early July with work experience beginning in early August.

***Tech Cadre – Joby Aviation (WIOA funding)***

Of the 30 applicants eligible for Monterey County Works, approximately 16 were recommended to Joby for interviews as viable candidates. Joby staff selected one candidate to host as a Cadre intern for this round of the experience.

***Tech-Social Media Cadre (WIOA funding)***

Of the 12 participants who received in-house training:

- Two participants are awaiting direct placement in jobs – one with their internship site.
- Six participants are preparing to complete their internship hours and/or start working with their caseworkers for direct placement in June.
- Two participants elected to discontinue their program.
- One participant is being placed in an alternate internship site to finish her internship hours in July.
- One participant is currently completing a Social Media internship with Extended Health, gaining hands-on experience in content creation, social media engagement, online communication, brand promotion, website development, and customer engagement. This participant is also supporting the development of a business website by uploading menu items to provide customers with online ordering options.

***Certified Nursing Assistant (WIOA-funded Occupational Skills Training)***

Three young adult participants, two of them co-enrolled with Equus and Turning Point, completed their Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program with Central Coast College in late May and are now in the process of scheduling their state licensure examinations.

- One participant co-enrolled with Equus and Turning Point is on track to start CNA training with Central Coast College on June 15.
- Three participants are scheduled at the beginning of July to start their eligibility process for enrollment in the August 10 CNA cohort.