

For Immediate Release
January 3, 2006

Contact: Terri Owens
towens@sbwib.org
(310) 970-7700

**South Bay Workforce Investment Board Awarded Grant
for Rapid Response Special Project**

The South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) was pleased to be awarded \$200,000 to assist local businesses. Hawthorne Mayor, Larry Guidi stated that the SBWIB's Business Resource Network is entering its second year of successfully providing resources and assisting area firms with meeting many of their business challenges. Under the funding criteria, adopted by the California Workforce Investment Board, the Network will continue to conduct business outreach workshops and business education seminars. The Network will broker meetings with economic development and business assistance representatives to identify at-risk firms. Once identified, their business assistance needs will be assessed prior to providing them with valuable Network and Rapid Response information. Knowledgeable and professional Business Service Representatives will continue to visit area firms to establish and build relationships while connecting them to professional Network resources. The South Bay Workforce Investment Board Executive Director, Jan Vogel stated that the Network will continue to fulfill its mission of promoting and supporting the economy by helping businesses reduce their costs, increase productivity, and increase their potential for profitability. Mr. Vogel also stated that Network services are customized, according to the needs of the customer, and are available at no-cost, cost and on a discounted fee-basis. For automated information about the South Bay Business Resource Network, call (310) 970-7799 or visit www.southbayresource.net. Employers seeking job candidates and job seekers requiring employment assistance, please call the South Bay Business and Career One-Stop Center at (310) 970-3700.

###