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For Immediate Release

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

6th Annual Blueprint for Workplace Success Youth Fair

The South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) and the South Bay One-Stop Business and Career Centers sponsored the 6th annual Blueprint for Workplace Success Youth Job Fair on April 6, 2006. The Hawthorne Memorial Center was the host site for approximately 50 local employers including but not limited to Sears, Department of Rehabilitation (Lawndale and Compton branches), Universal Studios, Comcast, Macy's, Fed Ex, HMS Host, and the LAX Marriott Hotel. Chartered buses transported an estimated 600 students, from area high schools in Hawthorne, Inglewood, Gardena, Lawndale and Redondo Beach, to the Memorial Center. Supporting the success of the job fair were over 40 volunteers from the California Department of Rehabilitation, Behavioral Health Services, Los Angeles County Probation Department, Southwest College, and El Camino College. Enthusiastic and motivating opening remarks were offered by Jan Vogel, Executive Director of the SBWIB. Mr. Vogel stated "he is pleased with the business community's continued participation, many of who make their summer hiring decisions as a direct result of this job fair." This youth-oriented job fair is a unique service in the community, with local businesses accepting applications and conducting on-site interviews. Several companies extended employment offers including Pacific Theaters, Juice-It-Up, SCORE Education, and Larger Sizes. Macy's, Daniels Jewelers, and AMC Theaters were among the businesses that requested second interviews with several of the excited job seekers. The South Bay One-Stop Business and Career Centers will continue to work with many of the students to assist them in following up with the employers, to achieve a goal of hiring 100 youth, courtesy of this event. A first-time participating employer stated, "the student attendance was overwhelming and for this age group, they were well prepared, many with professional resumes." Another first-time employer remarked, "it has been a pleasure interviewing the students. I know that my time has been well spent and I definitely want to participate next year." Jan Vogel extended a special thanks to all participating employers and volunteers for their generous support and contributions to the job fair.

