

# SBWIB 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Ceremony 2023

Torrance Marriott Hotel • November 9, 2023



A WORKFORCE  
DEVELOPMENT BOARD



America's **JobCenter**  
of California™

## WELCOME MESSAGE



**Jan Vogel**

Chief Executive Officer  
South Bay Workforce  
Investment Board, Inc.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and entire staff of the South Bay Workforce Investment Board I am pleased to welcome you to our 28th Annual Awards Ceremony as we come together to celebrate some of the remarkable accomplishments of individuals who have triumphed over formidable employment challenges, as well as to acknowledge the constant commitment of our valued employers and community partners, who together form the dynamic force that sustains our workforce network.

With mixed emotions we are paying tribute to our past Chairman of the Board, Wayne Spencer, who passed away earlier this year, by presenting the first Wayne Spencer Community Service Award to the Beach Cities Health District. We are also bestowing the prestigious Esther Williams Award of Excellence upon our longtime corporate partner and sponsor, Northrop Grumman.

For over four decades, our mission has been unwavering—to provide invaluable services for residents seeking employment and employers needing to fill vacant positions through our four One-Stop Business & Career Centers. In no small part we are truly grateful to our elected officials at the local, state and federal level who help us with grants and legislative support for our workforce initiatives.

The proceeds from tonight's event play a pivotal role in sustaining and funding essential youth-focused initiatives, including the Inglewood and Hawthorne Teen Centers and the Blueprint for Workplace Success Program.

Your presence here tonight and your year-round support are deeply appreciated. Thank you for being part of this evening's celebration and for standing by our side in our ongoing mission.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jan Vogel".

## PROGRAM OF EVENTS

### **Welcome**

Mayor George K. Chen, City of Torrance  
Jan Vogel - Chief Executive Officer

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

### **God Bless America**

Donald Perry  
Manager, Gardena One-Stop Business and Career Center

### **Acknowledgment of Guests & Sponsors**

Jan Vogel

### **Dinner & Entertainment**

El Camino College Jazz Trio

### **Presentation of Esther Williams Award of Excellence**

Mayor James T. Butts Jr., City of Inglewood

### **Presentation of Wayne Spencer Community Service Award**

Jan Vogel

### **Outstanding Partner Awards**

Jan Vogel  
Robert Chavez, Operations Manager

### **Outstanding Business Award Recipients**

Maria Camacho, Board Vice Chair  
Chris Cagle, Regional Affairs Manager

### **Outstanding Alumni Awards**

Jan Vogel  
Glenn Mitchell, Board Chair

### **Outstanding Training Provider Recipients**

Laura Bischoff, Quality Assurance & Compliance Manager

### **Closing Remarks**

Jan Vogel

## ESTHER WILLIAMS AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

**NORTHROP  
GRUMMAN**

The esteemed Esther Williams Award, our highest accolade, finds a deserving recipient in Northrop Grumman Corporation. This leading manufacturer specializes in defense and commercial aerospace, electronics, and information-technology products and services, as well as crafting cutting-edge aircraft, next-generation spacecraft, peerless cybersecurity systems, and all-seeing radars that define technological frontiers.

Beyond its groundbreaking innovations, Northrop Grumman's unwavering commitment to community and workforce development sets them apart. Serving as a cornerstone employer, Northrop has been on the SBWIB board since its inception and has served as chair of the board in the past. Northrop Grumman consistently engage with initiatives, lending unwavering support and infusing innovation into every endeavor. Their collaboration with the South Bay Workforce Investment Board is emblematic of their dedication, providing vital workforce development services, job placement, and apprenticeship support. Northrop Grumman's participation in virtual hiring events and career pathway pipelines, in collaboration with El Camino College and West Los Angeles College, underscores their investment in the future.

Remarkably, their efforts have led to the training and employment of numerous pre-apprentices finding opportunities as apprentices through their initiatives. Furthermore, Northrop Grumman's visionary approach is evident in the expansion of apprenticeship programs to diverse departments, showcasing their adaptability and foresight. Their ongoing commitment to excellence and community engagement undeniably merits the prestigious Esther Williams Award, an acknowledgment of their profound impact on both industry and society.

Esther Williams was one of the pioneer members of the SBWIB and the first chairperson in 1982. Esther was well known for her commitment and leadership in making sure the Board fulfilled its purpose of providing the highest quality job training and job placement services for adults and youth in the South Bay.

The Esther Williams Award of Excellence is presented to those individuals who epitomize her record of service and commitment to the lofty ideals and purpose of the South Bay Workforce Investment Board, and who strive to improve the quality of life in our communities through their professionalism and lasting contributions.



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with the South Bay Workforce  
Investment Board at the Intuit Dome!**

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# WAYNE SPENCER AWARD



Beach Cities Health District (BCHD), formerly known as the South Bay Hospital District, is commemorating 25 years of Preventive Health Success, highlighting the numerous successes and accomplishments the health district has achieved on behalf of South Bay residents.

In 1998, BCHD switched its focus from curative health to preventive health, focusing on wellness, not sickness, so it could encourage people to make wiser healthcare decisions and have healthy options available, like free fitness classes, nutrition education for kids, Blue Zones Project approved restaurants and more bike lanes and walkways.

Earlier this year BCHD became a partner with allcove, a program that develops an innovative network of integrated youth mental health centers across the state of California. Funded by the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission, the \$2 million, 4-year grant has enabled the "allcove Beach Cities" center to be open at Beach Cities Health District in Redondo Beach.

The allcove Beach Cities will be a permanent feature in BCHD's Healthy Living Campus project, which includes a re-design of its current campus. It will offer mental and physical health services, education and employment assistance, peer and family support and substance use prevention programs for young people ages 12-25 in the greater South Bay area.

Wayne Spencer, our Chairman of the Board for over two decades, infused our organization with his contagious passion for life. His unwavering enthusiasm transformed every meeting and special event, motivating everyone to excel. Beyond leading Spencer4Hire Security successfully for 40 years, he generously devoted his time and skills to various causes. He served on the Inglewood Airport Area Chamber of Commerce Board, where he was a former chairman, and contributed to the Rotary Club of Inglewood as a director and past president.

The Wayne Spencer Community Service Award honors those, like Wayne, who collaborate with the South Bay Workforce Board and selflessly enhance their communities through volunteerism, leadership, and quiet advocacy for organizations striving to elevate our shared quality of life.



# CARSON

## Elizabeth Nguyen

### *Dislocated Worker Program*

Elizabeth Nguyen, a 52-year-old resident of Carson, was laid off from her machine operator job due to COVID-19 downsizings. After two years of unemployment, she sought assistance from the South Bay One-Stop Center in Carson and enrolled in the dislocated worker program.

Despite limited English skills, Elizabeth expressed interest in becoming a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) and was referred to Pathways College LLC Nursing and Health Care Careers. She also received English as a Second Language (ESL) support.

Elizabeth completed the Nurse Assistant program and passed her state license exam on the first try. She was subsequently offered a nursing assistant position at Villa del Sol Post Acute in Bellflower, earning a 65% increase from her previous job.



## Jameah Palmer

### *Youth Program*

Jameah Palmer, a 23-year-old former foster youth, was referred to the South Bay One-Stop Center in Carson by Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services for employment services under the Bridge to Work program. After assessing her needs, it was determined that she would benefit from the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act.

Jameah was seeking services as she was homeless and lacked stable transportation, relying solely on public transit. As a freelance artist, she struggled to find gainful employment due to a lack of traditional employment history. Jameah was assigned to a paid work experience position at Better Youth, Inc., where she could utilize her skills as an animator.

She demonstrated her commitment through diligence and hard work, taking two buses and two trains to get to work daily. Upon completion of her paid work experience, Jameah received an apprenticeship position with Better Youth Inc.

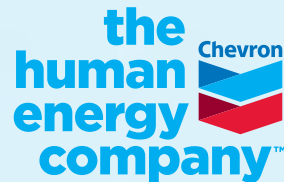


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South Bay Workforce Investment Board and we applaud  
its efforts in promoting the development of workers & employers.



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## CARSON

### Shamyia Roberts

Adult Program

Shamyia Roberts, a single parent of two, sought assistance at the South Bay One-Stop Center in Carson to achieve her goal of becoming a Certified Nursing Aide while working as an underemployed Home Health Aide.

Her case manager referred her to Pathway College Nursing School, where she received training and a Certificate of Completion. However, past indiscretions while homeless led to incarceration, which halted her career advancement.

With the assistance of the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles, her expungement petition was granted, and she resumed receiving career counseling from her job developer. Shamyia achieved her dream and became a certified nurse assistant, securing a position at Ocean Park Healthcare in Santa Monica with a starting wage of \$25 an hour.



*"Believing in oneself and striving for something better is a powerful force that can propel individuals to achieve anything they set their mind to. With determination and hard work, anyone can overcome adversity and accomplish their goals."*

## GARDENA

### Eduardo Santiago

Adult Program

Eduardo Santiago's journey is a testament to the effectiveness of workforce development programs. He approached the South Bay One-Stop Center in Gardena with an interest in becoming a construction technician at SoCalGas.

With the guidance of a job developer, he navigated the application process for SoCalGas while juggling multiple jobs. He devoted six months to SoCalGas test preparation workshops and passed the Mechanical Blue Battery Test with flying colors.

He secured employment as a construction technician at SoCalGas, starting with a wage of \$39.03 per hour. Eduardo's success story showcases the power of collaboration between workforce development programs, employers and motivated individuals, transforming career aspirations into reality.





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## GARDENA

### Jose Sanchez

#### *Veterans Program*

After leaving the Marine Corps in 2013, Mr. Sanchez, a 41-year-old Gardena resident, struggled to find career opportunities in security. Despite his military training and leadership skills, he lacked knowledge of civilian careers.

Seeking guidance, he turned to the South Bay One-Stop Center in Gardena and participated in a veteran orientation. With priority service, he received career counseling sessions with his VA Vocational rehabilitation counselor, which included occupational skills training in information technology.

He enrolled in a Microsoft Certified Solutions Expert program and successfully completed it. He then secured a position as an IT specialist with the VA, earning \$29.50 per hour. He is grateful for the support and proud to join the VA in providing service to veterans.



### Ronald Patterson

#### *Prison to Employment Program*

Gardena resident Ronald Patterson was referred to the South Bay One-Stop Center in Inglewood under the Prison to Employment program to access specialized employment services for adult parolees. After serving 25 years in prison, Ronald sought to reintegrate himself into society and secure employment while residing at a transitional home as part of his parole conditions.

With the support of his parole agent and career counselor, Ronald received rapid reemployment assistance and was placed on a contractual basis at the Westside Regional Center.

Following a successful couple of months, he was offered a permanent position with full benefits. Ronald is now employed as a scanner/administrative assistant and has experienced meaningful growth and career advancement.



*He is grateful for the opportunity provided by the South Bay One-Stop Centers staff.*



# Machinist Apprenticeship Program

The Machinist Apprenticeship Program is one of the top apprenticeship programs at NGC. Apprentice grads say the program completely changed their lives.



## HAWTHORNE

### Adela Morales

#### Adult Program

After 31 years as an Integrator/Developer and Tools SCM Integrator, Adela Morales found herself unemployed.

Despite an unsuccessful job search, her case manager at South Bay One-Stop Center in Inglewood suggested training for a new career. Adela agreed and selected the Systems Analysis Certification program at UCLA Extension.

With the program's supportive services, including a laptop, Adela completed the course, with an extension granted by her case manager. She secured a job at Raytheon Technologies as a program software configuration analyst with a starting wage of \$55.29 an hour.



### Lizbeth Gomez

#### Youth Program

Lizbeth Gomez received assistance from the South Bay One-Stop Center in Inglewood to secure employment while caring for her disabled mother.

After orientation, intake services, and assessments, she was placed in a paid internship at the Center, providing administrative support to case managers. The Center helped her enroll at El Camino College and secure her a full-time position at The Smile Studio Dental Office.

The internship equipped her with skills to pursue a receptionist role in the medical field. Despite her full-time employment and caregiving responsibilities, Lizbeth remains committed to her education.

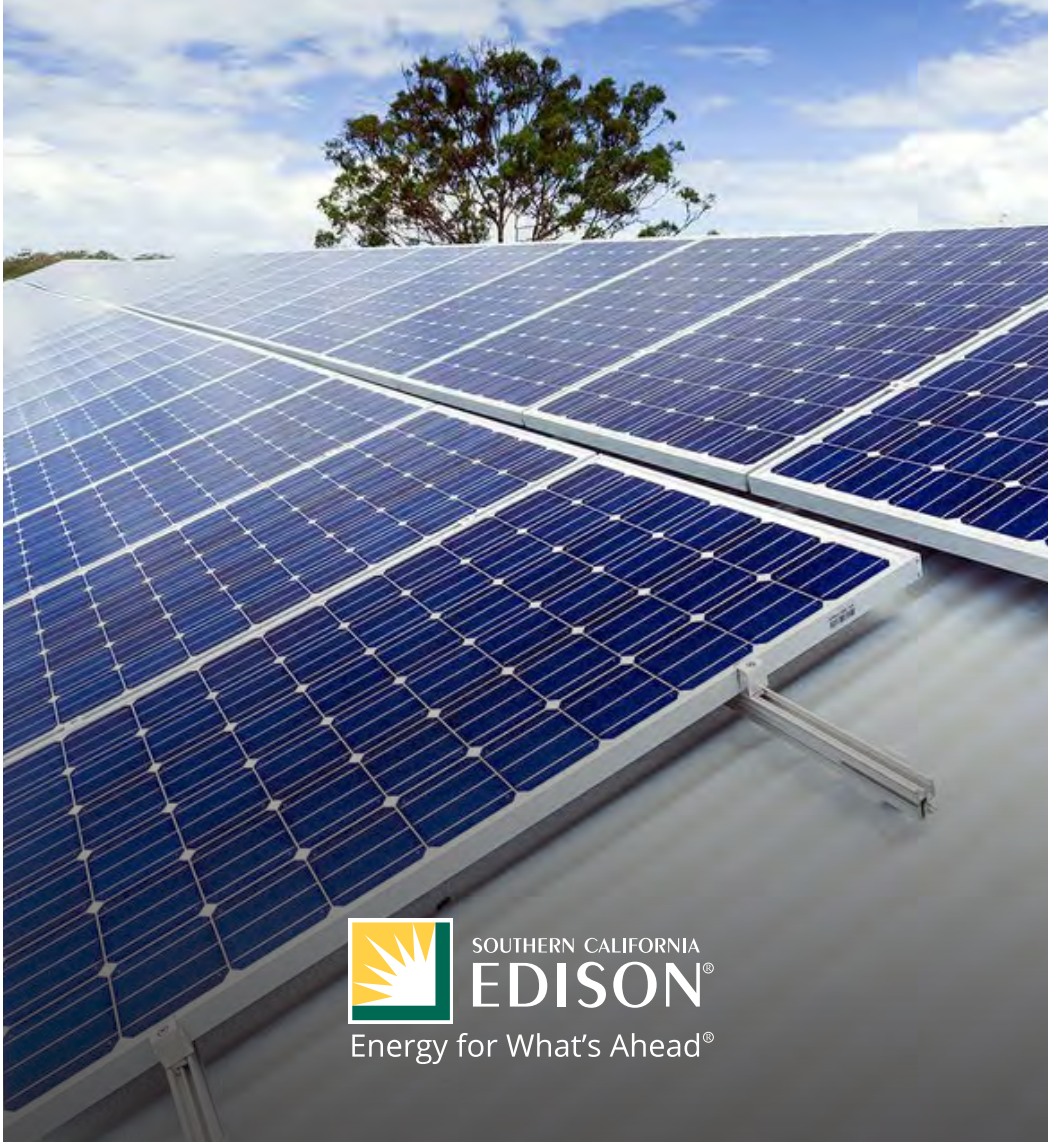


*"South Bay Workforce Investment Board's youth enrichment programs are absolutely amazing in that they prepare young adults with professional preparation, skills development, and training."*



# TOGETHER, WE HAVE THE POWER TO KEEP THE FUTURE BRIGHT

We are proud to sponsor the South Bay Workforce Investment Board 28th Annual Awards Ceremony



## HAWTHORNE

### LaShaundria Cox

GAIN Program

Having been unemployed for 10 months, LaShaundria Cox, a 36-year-old mother of three, was referred to the South Bay One-Stop Center in Gardena by her Los Angeles County Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) caseworker for job search skills and other services.

After her orientation, LaShaundria was assigned to the South Bay One-Stop Center in Inglewood to undergo the Blueprint for Workplace Success program where she received work readiness training, which included interview techniques and resume writing.

At the conclusion of the four-month training, LaShaundria impressed the South Bay One-Stop Center staff with her enthusiasm and determination to succeed, and she was hired as a full-time administrative assistant at the SBWIB Corporate Office in Hawthorne.



*"I would definitely recommend the services and support the One-Stop Centers provide. People who need help should always ask questions; if you don't ask, no one will know you need help."*

### Tonya McCoy

Adult Program

Tonya McCoy, a single mother of three children, one of whom is disabled, had been unemployed, primarily due to the pandemic. Tanya relied on government aid and decided she needed to get into a career that would support her family.

Tonya's GAIN worker told her about the Transitional Subsidized Employment (TSE) program and referred her to the South Bay One-Stop Center in Inglewood. After orientation, she was enrolled as a TSE worker in the City of Hawthorne's Homeless Services Department. Tonya learned valuable work experience that helped enhance her skills and give her a new outlook on life and goals.

After completing the 10-month TSE paid work experience, she was hired full-time by Los Angeles County Department of Public and Social Services as an eligibility worker with an annual salary starting at \$44,000.



*"Never give up. It only takes one person who believes in you to make a difference, and that's what I received at the One-Stop Center."*



Congratulations  
to the SBWIB  
and all the Awardees!



Because all students  
deserve the opportunity to  
discover their passion and  
turn it into a career!

## INGLEWOOD

### Heather Sevier

*INVEST Program*

Heather Sevier, a resident of Inglewood, was referred to the South Bay One-Stop Center in Inglewood under the INVEST program to access specialized employment and training services for adult probationers. Heather had previously operated a successful business in the beauty industry but lost it due to poor choices that led to her incarceration.

Upon her release, Heather was unhoused and placed in a transitional home by her probation officer. With the help of Los Angeles County Probation and her career counselor, Heather enrolled in the peer support specialist training program and the substance use disorder program at Loyola Marymount University.

She was also placed as a client aide with Christ Centered Ministries, where she was later promoted to an outreach specialist. In a little over two months of employment, Heather more than doubled her wages, and now earns \$70,000 a year.



### Kennedy Funchess

*INVEST Program*

Kennedy Funchess was referred to the South Bay One-Stop Center in Inglewood under the INVEST program.

With the help of his career counselor and Los Angeles County Probation, Kennedy pursued industry-recognized certifications to achieve his desired employment objectives and career mobility within the construction industry. He completed the Core Competencies Construction Course through I-TRAIN partner Coastline Community College and Career Expansion and obtained various safety certifications.

After completing the training program, Kennedy received employment assistance and secured a job as a painter with Techno Coatings, where he continues to experience growth and career advancement with an hourly wage of \$30.16.





# Together we win

Challenges are no match for partnership and collaboration.

U.S. Bank is proud to support our South Bay Workforce Investment Board



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## INGLEWOOD

### Jessica Beamon

*GAIN Program*

Jessica Beamon, a single mother of two children, was referred to the South Bay One-Stop Center in Inglewood by her Los Angeles County Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) counselor. She had been unemployed and experienced being homeless for a year primarily due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During that time, she lost her mother and two other close relatives due to COVID-19.

After Jessica's orientation at the South Bay One-Stop Center, her case worker recommended the Transitional Subsidized Employment (TSE) program. She was accepted into a 10-month contract with the non-profit Keeping Connected where she worked in the Department of Children and Family Services drug testing unit.

At the conclusion of her contract, the Keeping Connected staff was impressed with her performance and brought her on full-time.



*"The One-Stop staff helped me overcome the challenges in finding and securing a job."*

### Luis Romero

*INVEST Program*

Luis Romero was referred to the South Bay One-Stop Center in Inglewood through the INVEST program to access specialized employment and training services for adult probationers.

With the support of Los Angeles County Probation and his career counselor, it was determined that obtaining his Class A commercial license would help him reach his desired employment objectives and provide career mobility within the transportation industry. After completing the Professional Driver, Class A program at Hi-Desert Truck Driving School, Luis received program incentives and employment assistance to transition into the workforce.

He secured employment as a commercial driver, earning \$31.25 an hour with Soto Ready Mix, and continues to experience meaningful growth and career advancement.







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LAWNDALE

Carina Noyola

Youth Program

Carina Noyola, a 24-year-old from Lawndale, struggled to provide for herself financially with limited work experience but wanted to work in a professional level position.

With a positive outlook, she turned to the South Bay One-Stop Center in Inglewood in August 2021. Following her orientation, she received assistance in resume writing and was offered an On-the-Job Training (OJT) assignment as a communications assistant at Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce.

Upon completion of her OJT assignment and armed with a stronger resume, Carina applied for a job with Musiker Discovery Program and was hired as a coordinator with a starting wage of \$25 an hour.



*"The SBWIB created a personalized plan for success that helped me to obtain my first job! Recently, I have finished my Master's Degree in Communications Management and the SBWIB still continues to help me grow in my professional journey."*



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AAA Institute is an eligible training provider for Workforce Innovative and opportunity Act (WIOA) Dislocated Worker and Employment Development Department (EDD) for the State Of California. AAA Institute counselors work closely with you to determine what training program is right for you based on individual's experience.

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## LOMITA



### Angelo Mendoza

*YouthBuild Program*

Angelo Mendoza, a seventeen-year-old from Lomita, was expelled from high school for non-compliance with school policies. Seeking to gain experience for his resume, he was referred to the SBWIB YouthBuild program by his mother.

Angelo recognized the opportunity to earn money while working towards his high school diploma and received job readiness training. He learned to create a professional resume, communicate effectively with employers, dress appropriately for the workplace, and observe a work schedule.

Through the WIOA Youth Program, he secured a paid internship opportunity at the South Bay One-Stop Center in Inglewood. Angelo earned his NCCER, OSHA 10, First Aid, CPR & AE certifications, high school diploma, and job placement through the services provided by YouthBuild. He also developed the ability to face challenges with a calm, respectful, and open-minded approach.

*"YouthBuild is a place where teachers truly understand you, help you, and where you can connect with like-minded students. I would recommend YB for any student that is struggling in school, struggling to get money, and is not interested in attending a traditional high school."*

### Cheryl Alison

*Dislocated Worker Program*

Cheryl Alison found herself at a career crossroads when Sunrider Manufacturing, her employer of several years, decided to relocate to Texas. With retirement just a few years away and the prospect of being far from family, Cheryl made the decision to remain in the state and seek new employment opportunities.

After submitting multiple applications and exploring the possibility of returning to school, she was referred to the South Bay One-Stop Center in Torrance. Given her prior experience in human resources, she enrolled in CSUDH's Human Resources Management Training.

Upon completion, Cheryl secured an HR position at South Bay Home Care Inc., earning six dollars more than her previous salary. She is content in her new role, citing the organization's positive work culture and emphasis on employee wellbeing.



*"I can't thank the One-Stop Job Search Services enough! They were very supportive of me from day one until such time I was fully settled in my newfound job."*





# Go beyond a career, find what fascinates you.

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the South Bay Workforce  
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## REDONDO BEACH

### Phyllis Watkins

#### Aero-Flex Program

Phyllis Watkins, a former security officer at Northrop Grumman, sought a career change within the company. Upon learning about the Aero-Flex program, she enrolled in El Camino College's Machine Tool Technology program and was accepted into the SBWIB's Aero-Flex Pre-Apprenticeship.



Through this program, she gained knowledge about the manufacturing career pathways available at Northrop Grumman. Phyllis successfully completed various trainings, including soft and technical skills, and excelled in her on-the-job training internship at Northrop Grumman. She completed the Aero-Flex pre-apprenticeship and received completion certificates and a \$500 stipend.

Phyllis was subsequently hired by Northrop Grumman in her new role as a CNC Machinist Operator apprentice, sponsored by El Camino College. She is currently on track to obtain a certificate in Machine Tool Technology at El Camino College.

## TORRANCE

### Cristy Herzberg

#### Adult Program

After the closure of her real estate office due to the pandemic, Cristy Herzberg, a long-time resident of Torrance, made the decision to pursue a career change. Seeking employment training and placement services, she turned to the South Bay One-Stop Center in Torrance.



Following her orientation, Cristy collaborated with her job developer and expressed an interest in applying for tuition assistance to pursue her "dream job" as a dog obedience instructor. Upon approval of the funding, she enrolled in the Dog Obedience Instructor program at Animal Behavioral College, an I-TRAIN training provider.

*"I am working in my dream job and love my work every day."*

Cristy thoroughly enjoyed her classes and dedicated her time to volunteering at animal shelters to further refine the skills she acquired at school. After a year, she successfully graduated and secured employment as a dog trainer with Rover Kennels.

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**SOUTH BAY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD**  
On its Accomplishments and Celebrate the Honorees at the  
**28th Annual Awards Ceremony**



SoFi Stadium

LA RAMS

## TORRANCE

### Faaris Hazara

Youth Program

Upon completing high school, Faaris Hazara, an 18-year-old aspiring mechanical engineer, sought employment in his field of interest. He encountered difficulties navigating the workforce and turned to the South Bay One-Stop Center in Torrance for guidance.

He enrolled in the Aero-Flex Pre-Apprenticeship program through Youth at Work. Faaris completed Blueprint for Workplace Success, technical skills classes through Tooling U-SME, and gained valuable experience through a paid work opportunity at OSI Optoelectronics in Hawthorne.

Following the program, Faaris received interview and resume assistance through the One-Stop Center and completed another paid work experience at OSI Optoelectronics. His internships provided him with valuable knowledge of the manufacturing business and teamwork skills, leading to a full-time position as an assembler at OSI.



*"The results I received from participating in this program were more than I expected. I am much more prepared to be a part of the workforce and understand it better."*

### Nickolas Wilson

VEAP Program

Sergeant Nickolas Wilson was referred to the South Bay One-Stop Center in Inglewood in coordination with the Transition Assistance Program (TAP) for the United States Army European Command. Identified as a candidate for the Career Skills Program (CSP), Sergeant Wilson participated in occupational skills training programs and apprenticeships in high-growth sectors during his last 6 months of military service. He was enrolled in the Non-Destructive Testing (NDT) apprenticeship program with I-TRAIN partner American Aerospace Technical Academy. Upon completion, Sergeant Wilson secured a job offer as an NDT technician with MISTRAS Group before his separation from the military. Following his return to California, he received assistance under the Veterans Educational Assistance Program (VEAP), including housing assistance and supportive services, in preparation for his start date. Sergeant Wilson successfully transitioned to the civilian workforce as an NDT technician and remains employed.



*Sergeant Wilson is grateful for the support received from South Bay One Stop Business and Career Center Inglewood.*

## Congratulations to the South Bay Workforce Investment Board

LMU Extension is committed to increasing educational impact for adult learners and non-traditional students through education and workforce development programs at the community level.

Contact Us

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LMUEXTENSION

# BUSINESS SUCCESS STORY

## Carson



Carson-based Lead the Way LLC is dedicated to providing value-driven services to individuals with developmental disabilities, enhancing their lives through compassionate support.

As a newer company that was quickly growing, Lead the Way was in need of more candidates to fill open positions. Seeking assistance with recruitment and marketing, they partnered with the South Bay One-Stop Center in Carson. The job developer assigned to Lead the Way LLC was instrumental in their success, sending qualified and interested clients to interview for Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) opportunities.



Over three months and multiple recruiting and referral cycles, Lead the Way successfully hired 10 participants at a highly competitive pay rate of \$20 per hour for CNAs and Life Coaches.

Lead The Way LLC continues to work with the South Bay One-Stop in Carson and receives

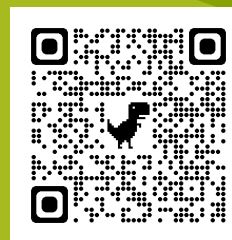
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**Carson One Stop**  
**Gardena One Stop**  
**South Bay One Stop**  
**Inglewood Teen Center**  
**Hawthorne Teen Center**



**SouthBayWIB**



**Hawthorne Teen Center**



**South Bay Workforce Investment Board**



**SBWIB YouthBuild**  
**South Bay Workforce Investment Board**  
**South Bay One Stop Business & Career Center**

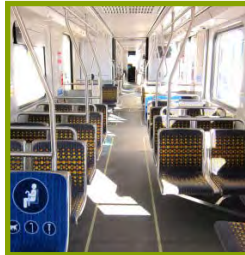


# BUSINESS SUCCESS STORY

El Segundo



Kinkisharyo (KI) is a manufacturer in the city of El Segundo specializing in the design, production, and upkeep of rolling stock for urban transit systems, including light rail vehicles and trams. KI is contracted by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) to supply state-of-the-art light rail vehicles for the Metro's expanding rail network. Their mandate encompassed the manufacturing and delivery of cutting-edge, low-floor light rail vehicles, with the overarching goal of enhancing public transportation throughout the Los Angeles region.



Having designed and manufactured over ten thousand railcars, KI is building upon its legacy of technological innovation and unwavering commitment to customer satisfaction, solidifying its unmatched standing within the rail industry. A distinguishing aspect of KI is its unique position as the first light rail vehicle manufacturer to maintain its own fleet.



KI's partnerships with the SBWIB has yielded significant benefits, particularly in the recruitment of entry level trainee rail car technicians. The SBWIB has facilitated access to a pool of qualified candidates through recruitment initiatives, job fairs, and direct referrals to hire 10 SBWIB participants. Furthermore, KI has taken advantage of On-The-Job Training (OJT) funding, helping to offset the expenses associated with

onboarding and training new personnel. KI is appreciative of the SBWIB's candidate screening process before submitting applications, ensuring that candidates align with job descriptions and streamlining the hiring process. KI acknowledges that its ongoing partnership with the SBWIB has not only saved valuable time but also conserved financial resources and manpower. The partnership remains a cornerstone of KI's commitment to operational excellence.



# BUSINESS SUCCESS STORY

Gardena



Rotex's mission is to be recognized as a premier remanufacturer of auto parts with the focus on flexibility, dependability, and innovation to ensure the financial stability of its customers, employees, and community. Rotex is proud to continue remanufacturing all products in the USA while embracing sound technological advances in its production process that protect the environment and eliminate waste.

The South Bay One-Stop Centers continue to partner with Rotex through its Gardena facility. The One-Stop Center provides its full menu of workforce development services to Rotex including job placement for individuals seeking employment. Rotex has attended several of the One-Stop Center's virtual job fairs and hiring events, including the job fairs for reentry individuals.



Additionally, Rotex consistently attends employer-related partner events such as Centinela Valley Union High School District's Employer Breakfast and El Camino's Advanced Manufacturing Employer Meetings. Rotex has hired over a dozen SBWIB participants (with many more pending), utilized the On-the-Job Training program, and directly hires SBWIB participants to staff their operation.





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Skanska continues to build iconic infrastructure and transportation projects that provide access to jobs, education, and services for South Bay residence and the broader Los Angeles community. Our investment in workforce development not only builds a skilled workforce on our projects but ultimately builds stronger infrastructure, stronger transit options, and a stronger community.



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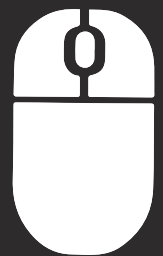
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# PARTNER SUCCESS STORY

## Inglewood



Christ Centered Ministries (CCM), a non-profit organization founded in 1996 by Pastor Troy Vaughn and his wife Darlene, has been making a significant impact on underserved communities in the Los Angeles/South Bay areas. Their mission is to assist those in need, particularly individuals facing challenges related to homelessness and incarceration. CCM operates 12 transitional homes that provide crucial support to clients on their journey toward self-sufficiency.

As an employer, CCM has partnered with the SBWIB to fill uniquely challenging positions that require candidates with firsthand experience in substance abuse and incarceration. These employees play a pivotal role in mentoring and guiding the clients they serve. The SBWIB has been an invaluable resource in identifying and placing qualified individuals into these roles.



CCM has effectively leveraged several SBWIB services, including paid work experience, Recruitment Assistance, and candidate vetting/pre-screening. The SBWIB's partnership has been instrumental in helping CCM fill critical positions while simultaneously providing essential support services to new hires, ensuring their ability to

maintain gainful employment. As a background-friendly employer, CCM has proudly offered employment opportunities to over 24 candidates this program year, thereby making a lasting difference in the community.



# PARTNER SUCCESS STORY

## Hawthorne



For more than 40 years, the City of Hawthorne and the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) have teamed up to develop programs that promote economic vitality and enhance the quality of life for all segments of the community.



Among the many corroborations is the SBWIB Hawthorne Teen Center that provides a safe after-school alternative to Hawthorne area youth ages 14 to 18. Mentoring, homework assistance, recreational activities, career counseling and other offerings are provided by SBWIB staff. The City of Hawthorne provides a no cost facility within the Hawthorne Memorial Center complex.



During the post-pandemic period, the City turned to the SBWIB to help market an eGift Card Program for merchants to sell to customers whose dollar value was matched by stimulus funds provided under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. Twenty-four businesses participated in the program. Additionally, the SBWIB is providing incumbent worker training, grant development assistance and financial management workshops for small businesses through funding by the city.

Other pilot programs the SBWIB has supported financially in recent years are the Park Ranger Patrols that helped make the City's park facilities a safer environment for families, and a Customer Service Online Course for city employees that work face-to-face with the public.



The SBWIB is also assisting the City with its support services for its unhoused population by providing training and job placement services for qualifying applicants funded in part by the city.





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To learn how to receive funding, contact your local Workforce Investment Board office or visit [csudh.edu/ccpe/wioa](http://csudh.edu/ccpe/wioa)



Contact: **Michelle Ortega-Bacalso**  
310-243-3609 | 310-243-3741  
[wioa@csudh.edu](mailto:wioa@csudh.edu)



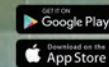
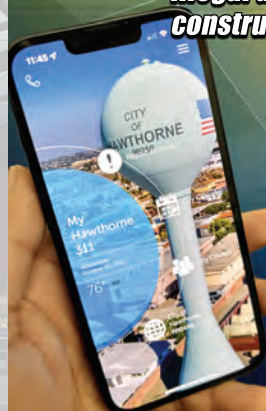
**Congratulations to all 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Honorees**

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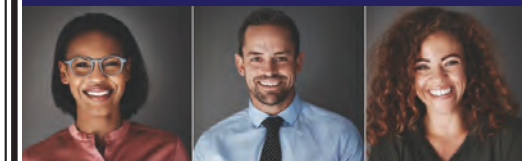


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**W**e extend our heartfelt gratitude to our valued partners, local, state, national, as well as our academic and funding partners. We also express our appreciation to the dedicated members of the business community and our dear friends of the South Bay Workforce Investment Board.

Your unwavering support is instrumental in creating a positive impact on the lives of countless individuals. We reserve a special expression of thanks for the outstanding SBWIB staff, whose tireless dedication and support have been invaluable throughout the year.

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