

On Site

Playa Vista Job Opportunities and Business Services

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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Ernest Roberts
Executive Director, PVJOBS

This season has been a busy time for non-profits, but I want to begin my holiday message by conveying my heartfelt "thank you" to all of our collaborators and supporters for their ongoing support of our efforts. PVJOBS is not a lone entity. We depend on your input as we work to increase job placement opportunities for the at-risk populations that we serve.

Our holiday season was preceded by our recent awards dinner that was very well

received. Our award recipients were deservedly honored in a comfortable and elegant setting in which labor, private enterprise, elected officials and community-based organizations broke bread together. Attorney General Bill Lockyer and actor Danny Trejo gave exceptional and inspirational remarks. Please read the cover article to learn more about this very special awards event.

Once again, thanks to all who continue to support our efforts. As we embark on pursuing our vision for 2003, we at PVJOBS wish you the happiest of holiday seasons as well as a successful, productive and happy New Year.

PVJOBS Employment Update

Construction activities continue to move forward at the Playa Vista development site. Typically during the holiday season, local construction activities slightly decline, and this year is no exception. The decrease in construction activity means that there will be a few less job opportunities. However, many referrals to employment are still being made. Look for increased job placement activities after the new year.

Our job development team is experiencing some success at placing many of our candidates in construction-related positions at development sites beyond Playa Vista. These referrals to employment are made from utilizing our database and our

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Attorney General Bill Lockyer Recognizes PVJOBS Workers at Recent Awards Event

As part of a collective effort to support job programs that provide career-track employment opportunities to the at-risk population, California Attorney General Bill Lockyer recently joined labor, business and community groups at a special awards event held to pay tribute to local at-risk residents who are rebuilding their lives through the PVJOBS program. The awards event took place at the new Water's Edge complex, the first commercial building completed at Playa Vista.

"Successful

California employers understand that they do well when they do good. Providing employment opportunities for the at-risk population makes good business sense and the whole community will reap the rewards," says Attorney General Lockyer. "I'm pleased to pay tribute to the hardworking families who have participated in these job programs, and also to PVJOBS for helping more Californians join the workforce."

During the event, Employer of the Year Awards were presented to two PVJOBS workers - laborers Ralph Garcia and Tequita Leggett - who each earned two of the highest job performance scores from Playa Vista's on site construction managers. Also, PVJOBS worker Richard Villa received the Career Champion Award for making the successful transition of working as a laborer at the Playa Vista construction site as well as at other local development projects.

"PVJOBS is a model program that changes lives by creating solid



Left to right: PVJOBS Executive Director Ernest Roberts; PVJOBS awardees Ralph Garcia and Tequita Leggett; and Allen Rubinstein, legislative deputy for the Office of Senator Deborah Bowen.

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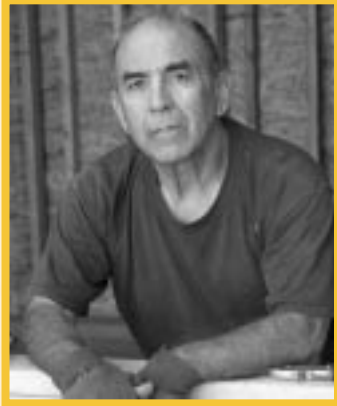
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PVJOBS At Work

Wilfred Perez: Leader of the Pack

The younger Playa Vista laborers can learn a thing or two from 63-year-old electrical construction worker Wilfred Perez. His challenging job often requires him to scale walls of tall buildings or work deep underneath ground level while inserting electrical wiring - all in a day's work. "I'm doing work that many young people can't do," Perez says proudly. "It's a very demanding job, but I love it because I'm always learning and growing in my trade."



Wilfred Perez

At his age with his obvious skill level, it would be reasonable to assume that Perez possesses a long resume that demonstrates an illustrious career in the construction industry. Not so. Married for 42 years with seven children and 32 grandchildren, Perez has spent much of his life struggling to stay employed in his field.

Raised in a household of 12 siblings in Bakersfield, Perez grew up watching his parents work hard at providing for their family. At age 19, Perez married his childhood sweetheart, despite the fact that he was unable to find work. Desperate for money, he and a friend robbed a nearby warehouse, leading to a 27-month prison sentence. After his release, he vowed to never again resort to robbery, focusing instead on working in a trade to earn an honest living.

With the support of Volunteers of America, Perez was soon offered a job as a spot welder, sparking his interest in pursuing a construction career. Over the next 25 years, he worked in a variety of construction jobs, with one position lasting eight years. But things seemed to all change overnight after he was laid off from that job. "I thought I'd work in that job for the rest of my life," he remembers. "But one day, it was all over. I lost everything."

Perez spent the next 15 years working odd jobs. But nearly a year ago, Perez learned about PVJOBS through his employment search. Convinced that the job program could give him the break he badly needed, Perez visited the PVJOBS office almost daily in hopes of landing a construction position. His persistence paid off when one day a job development coordinator suddenly hired him for a coveted electrical position.

Because of Perez's exceptional job performance, JP Construction & Electric has offered him other job assignments beyond the Playa Vista construction project. Perez credits PVJOBS for not discriminating against his age and giving him an opportunity to work in a career he thrives in. "PVJOBS really came through for me," he says. "I don't know what I would have done without them."

Century Community Training Program Helps Keep South L.A. Residents Working

The Century Community Training Program has made it its mission to help keep South Los Angeles residents working. As one of the most dynamic organizations based along the city's Century Freeway corridor, the training program has served as a fundamental resource in the community since its opening more than two years ago. Literally thousands of low-income men and women have learned marketable skills and trades through the training program's efforts.



Century's Job Development Supervisor Mary Lou Clinkenbeard.

"We focus on training people who have experienced multiple barriers in today's workforce," says Mary Lou Clinkenbeard, the training program's job development supervisor. "To help these individuals become employable, our program introduces them to a wide variety of trades, particularly in the construction industry."

Program participants must complete an eight-week training course before being referred to full-time employment opportunities. The training course exposes enrollees to hands-on skills training, career guidance and employment opportunities. While the program clearly focuses on training individuals to learn marketable trades, instructors also emphasize the importance of embodying a positive work attitude - a key element for ensuring long-term employment success.

"One of the first things that employers request from our trainees is that they have a good work ethic," says Clinkenbeard. "We tell trainees that although having skills will get them a job, being reliable and a good team player will help them retain employment."

Shortly after opening its doors, the training program partnered with



Century's workers shown at training site.

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PVJOBS

Employment Update

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existing selection procedures. This process is expected to significantly increase the number of available job opportunities.

As of December, 454 PVJOBS candidates have gained employment, filling more than 683 positions. Approximately 132 candidates have completed a minimum of 500 hours, and six candidates have completed more than 3,000 hours. We expect to fill an additional 150 to 200 positions this quarter at Playa Vista and elsewhere. Bear in mind that many candidates listed in the table below are already working.

We specifically need candidates to fill positions as sheetmetal workers, operating engineers and electricians. Candidates for these specific trades must submit an application to the applicable union and pass the union test before becoming eligible for referral to work through PVJOBS. For more details, please call us at (310) 448-4684.

| CONSTRUCTION TRADE | ACTIVE IN DATABASE |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Carpenters | 681 |
| Flooring/Carpet Layers | 43 |
| Concrete Masons/Finishers | 111 |
| Electricians* | 36 |
| Iron Workers | 129 |
| Laborers | 1023 |
| Tile/Marble/Brick Masons | 228 |
| Operating Engineers* | 10 |
| Painters | 337 |
| Plasterers | 89 |
| Plumbers | 191 |
| Roofers | 138 |
| Sheet Metal Workers* | 15 |

**Trades Specifically Needed*

Century Community Training Program

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PVJOBS to expand its employment opportunities. The two-year partnership has been a strategic move for the training program, as nearly 40 program participants have been hired in construction positions through PVJOBS. These types of success numbers encourage the training program to continue their collaboration.

"Since partnering with PVJOBS, together we've helped many at-risk residents attain a higher quality of life," she says. "As a job developer, you're only as good as your team. Having PVJOBS on our team has been a great asset for us."

PVJOBS At Work

Tequita Leggett: Taking the Initiative

After a brief conversation with her, Playa Vista laborer Tequita Leggett doesn't necessarily strike you as someone who is "at-risk." The cheerful 28-year-old comes from a close family, was a high school honors student and formerly enjoyed working as a beautician's assistant. Yet, once you spend more time learning about her recent life struggles, you realize how PVJOBS would consider her for their job program.



Tequita Leggett

Raised the middle of three daughters in a single-parent household in South Central Los Angeles, Leggett earned average grades until she reached her senior year in high school and became an honor-roll student. Despite that she had the grades to go on to college, she instead opted to enroll in cosmetology school to become a beautician.

While working as a beautician's assistant in her mid 20s, Leggett was laid off - even though she was three months pregnant at the time. Then, only six months into her pregnancy, Leggett ran into physical complications that forced her to give birth prematurely. Her daughter, Cherish, was born at only 1 pound, 7 ounces. For two and a half months as her daughter fought for her life, Leggett drove from Los Angeles to Woodland Hills everyday to be with Cherish in the hospital. After her release, Cherish grew to a normal weight within a year.

Although overjoyed with her daughter's health, Leggett found herself on welfare to take care of herself and her baby. She soon moved back home with her mother to make ends meet and raise her child more comfortably.

Several months later, her mother came home from work sharing a conversation she had with a co-worker about PVJOBS. Thinking that this could be her chance to get back on her feet, Leggett immediately enrolled in a training program to prepare herself for the job program. Weeks later, she was hired as a laborer to work at Playa Vista.

Since working at the Playa Vista construction site, Leggett has received one of the best reviews of any other PVJOBS worker. Due to her consistently strong work performance, Leggett was the only remaining worker from the original laborer team hired last year to work for her on site contractor. Her work performance earned her a PVJOBS Employee of the Year Award last November. Says Leggett about her newfound career, "I'm doing well because I wanted to work and I took the initiative to do so."

PVJOBS COMMUNITY PARTNERS

LAUSD APPRENTICE PREPARATION PROGRAMS *(open to all)*

African American Unity Center (Mr. Hammond) (323) 789-5656
Los Angeles Technology Center (Mr. Wilcox, x236) (323) 732-0153

ONE STOP CENTERS

(adults, geographical or other restrictions may apply)

Beach Cities One Stop (Mr. Addo, x3257) (310) 318-0645
Community Centers One Stop (Mr. Ruvalcaba) (323) 752-2115
Marina Del Rey One Stop (Ms. Waters, x212) (310)-309-6000
Urban League One Stop (Mr. Parham) (323) 732-7867
Wilshire-Koreatown One Stop (Mr. Richard) (213) 736-8567
WLCAC One Stop (Mr. Williams) (323) 732-7867

YOUTH AND ADULT PROGRAMS

(geographical or other restrictions may apply)

CCTP (Ms. Aguilar) (310) 673-3941
Community Build (Mr. Bektamba) (323) 789-9950
Chrysalis, Santa Monica (Ms. Zepeda) (310) 392-4117
Chrysalis/New Directions (Vets, Ms. Slayton) (310) 914-4045
Communities in Schools (Mr. Leija) (818) 891-9399
Jobs for a Future/Homeboy Inds. (Mr. Prieto) (323) 526-1254
Joint Efforts Inc. (Mr. Brookes, x116) (310) 831-2358
Housing Authority of L.A. (Mr. Smith) (213) 252-1810
IAM Cares, Compton (Disabled, Ms. Mitchell) (310) 631-9606
IAM Cares, L.A. (Disabled, Ms. Gray) (323) 584-9453
LA Vets (Vets only, Ms. Harris) (310) 348-7600

YOUTH AND ADULT PROGRAMS *(continued)*

Mar Vista Family Center (Ms. Diaz) (310) 390-9607
NO GUNS (Ex-gang affiliated, Mr. Marroquin) (310) 672-9348
Radio Sin Fronteras (Mr. Sarabia) (213) 250-3319
S.M. Barrios Unidos (Mr. Lares) (310) 453-9492
Save Our Future (Mr. & Mrs. Jordan) (323) 291-6623
SC PWII/SCRS (Ms. Ziegler) (310) 345-5713
Union Rescue Mission (Mr. Hopkins) (213) 347-6300
Unity One (Ex-gang affiliated, Mr. Taylor) (213) 963-5843
The WorkPlace (Parolees, Mr. Portillo) (213) 386-3055

YOUTH PROGRAMS *(restrictions may apply)*

Boyle Heights Y.O.M. (Mr. Burks) (323) 260-4796
CCEO YouthBuild (Mr. Delgado) (310) 225-3060
Covenant House of California (Mr. Aranda) (323) 957-7455
Goals for Life (Mr. Berry) (562) 698-1501
Kulick Youth Opportunities (Ms. Minor) (323) 789-2773
LA Youth at Work (Ms. Chaipen) (213) 847-1584
PACE/SIPA YouthBuild (Mr. Leonares) (213) 580-0020
Peacekeeper ARK (Ms. Adams) (310) 276-9046
United Friends of the Children (Mr. Ruge) (310) 410-2565
VCHC YouthBuild (Ms. Murphy, x117) (310) 399-4100
Walden House Inc. (Mr. Medina) (213) 763-6238
YES YouthBuild (Mr. Drew) (323) 567-0091

For more information, call PVJOBS at (310) 448-4684.



Playa Vista Job Opportunities and Business Services

12555 W. Jefferson Boulevard
Suite 300
Los Angeles, CA 90066

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