

On Site

Playa Vista Job Opportunities and Business Services

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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Ernest Roberts
Executive Director, PVJOBS

Last month, my father celebrated his 98th birthday. As an African American born in 1910, he has witnessed some of the most amazing scientific advances. From the Model T to aerial flight to landing on the moon. From books and chalk boards to computers and high speed internet. And from early radio with a few stations to HD color satellite TV with hundreds of stations.

My father also witnessed social and cultural advances. He can recant his experiences as a youth in Los Angeles working in the service industry at a "white only" golf course. He remembers - as if it were yesterday - how segregation separated communities. Many clubs, restaurants and other businesses in Los Angeles did not allow African Americans entrance. While some will argue that racial equality has not yet been fully realized, I think all can agree that significant progress has been made.

But I also believe that there is another bastion of segregation that is often overlooked. It is not racial in nature. It uses legislation to suppress. It legitimizes exclusion from many sectors of our workforce, and it suspends many rights - even voter rights. Still, many of us don't realize that we've bought into this segregationist attitude.

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PVJOBS HELPS LOCAL RESIDENTS LAND JOBS WITH LACCD EXPANSION PROJECT

To recycle community dollars while giving back to local residents, the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) has partnered with PVJOBS to provide construction job opportunities with the District's \$2.2 billion bond development project. The LACCD Jobs Program helps local and at-risk residents land construction jobs with the District's voter-approved development project to improve and expand all nine of its college campuses.



LACCD Jobs Program Manager Michael Flores is pictured in his office.

Since launching the LACCD Jobs Program five years ago, 32% of the project's workforce are local residents, including 9% of workers who are considered at-risk. These are impressive numbers, especially given the fact that the development project requires skilled tradesmen. Thanks to the District's Project Labor Agreement that requires a 30% local and 6% at-risk hiring goal, coupled with PVJOBS' success-

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PVJOBS Employment Update

Whether or not you call it a recession, few would argue that we are facing challenging economic times. Despite the dismal outlook, there are construction careers that you can prepare for today that will translate into great opportunities for tomorrow.

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PVJOBS At Work

CYNTHIA ADAM: Never Too Late

Forty-nine-year-old laborer Cynthia Adam can't imagine working behind a desk. "I'm not wired that way," she says. "I enjoy physical labor. And it keeps me fit."

Adam helps guide construction traffic at West Los Angeles Community College's redevelopment site. She's considered one of the hardest working laborers on her team, a recognition that reinforces her resolve that she's in the right job. "I made bad choices in the beginning of my life," she says. "But I changed. So life is good."



Cynthia Adam

Adam was raised by her grandparents in Downey since her own mother was struggling to make ends meet. A high school drop out, she became emancipated at 16 to strike out on her own. She got married and pregnant the following year, but the union didn't last. To support her young son, she took a series of odd jobs in the construction industry. The experience made her realize how much she enjoyed working outdoors, which inspired her to launch a landscaping business a decade later.

As a business owner, Adam's life seemed to be on the right track. But everything changed when she got involved in drugs. "It (drugs) destroyed my life," she says. Arrested for drug possession, Adam was ordered to serve a two-year jail sentence. While behind bars, she learned that she was about to become a first-time grandmother. "That's when I realized I needed to straighten up my act," she remembers.

After her release, Adam moved into a recovery center to help rebuild her life. When PVJOBS staffers visited the center to promote the job program, she knew that reentering the construction industry was a perfect opportunity. "I jumped at it," says Adam. "I knew that's what I wanted to do."

She soon enrolled in a boot camp class through the laborers union's apprenticeship program. The day after successfully completing the class, she was hired by Sinanian Development, a construction contractor with the Los Angeles Community College District.

As she considers turning 50 next year, Adam is already developing a five-year plan. She'd like to one day work for the laborers union as a teacher, a job that isn't as physically demanding as her current one. But for now, she's happy just where she is. "When I changed, I did it late in life," she says. "But it's never too late."

PVJOBS Partners With LACCD

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Flores is joined by staffers Kaisha Jones (center) and Brandon Spicer (right).

ful outreach and screening services, the LACCD Jobs Program has put hundreds of local and at-risk residents to work.

"The PVJOBS staff has given a hundred percent of their effort to ensure that the District's contractors understand the importance of keeping the project's workforce locally," says LACCD Jobs Program Manager Michael Flores. "The District and its general contractors should also be commended for their work in making a difference."

In addition to the construction employment effort, the LACCD Jobs Program also runs an interns program to link the District's students with paid internships. The LACCD Interns Program enables students to enrich their academic education with a work experience that will assist them in career preparation. The District's interns program has proven to be equally successful as its job program, with more than 600 students placed in paid internships since its inception in 2004.

As the LACCD Jobs Program continues to open doors for local residents, PVJOBS' effective work has not gone unnoticed. "The \$2.2 billion bond program is increasing the demand for skilled labor in Los Angeles," says Larry Eisenberg, LACCD Executive Director of Facilities Planning and Development. "And PVJOBS is helping to bridge the gap while creating career opportunities for many local residents."

Message from the Executive Director

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Too often, ex-felons are ostracized from our society. That's because we don't take the time to try to discover the individual beyond the "ex-felon" label. Certainly, there are those ex-felons who have no interest in reforming their lives. But many make a sincere effort at rehabilitation. And these are the ones that can be successful.

Mayor Villaraigosa has asked local businesses to step up to the plate by considering hiring a few ex-felons. This is significant. It's a recognition that offering meaningful employment opportunities to those committed to changing their lives is a step in the right direction. It's a recognition that we can all help make our communities safer, lower incarceration expenditures, increase the tax base, and break generational cycles of incarceration. It's a recognition that rather than seeing a person as just an ex-felon, we must view that person for who he or she really is: an individual.

PVJOBS Employment Update

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The California Employment Development Department (EDD) maintains lists of top jobs in the Los Angeles area. These jobs are ranked based on a combination of current job openings listed on EDD's CalJOBS system as well as future job openings and good annual earnings.

PVJOBS Stats (as of 9/12/08)

Project	Goal	Current Attainment
Playa Vista	10% at-risk	12.9%
LACCD Proposition A&AA Bond	30% local	34%
LACCD Proposition A&AA Bond	6% at-risk	8%

PVJOBS Placements	
General Program	1,543
Build LACCD (construction)	601
Build LACCD (interns)	612

In the Los Angeles region, electricians rank near the top for high paying, in-demand jobs that require only two years of training or education. The median annual wage for electricians in Los Angeles County is more than \$46,000. Union electricians also can look forward to receiving an excellent family benefits package that includes medical, dental, vision, retirement and vacation pay. Several training options can prepare individuals for a career as an electrician. These training options include community college trade schools, private vocation training programs, and union apprenticeship programs.

For additional information on preparing for a career as an electrician or other rewarding construction occupations, please contact PVJOBS Union Liaison Jeffery Henderson at (310) 590-1217

LETTER TO THE EDITOR



Dear Ernest,

It has been a long time since you and I have met personally. However, I keep in touch with your publication, On Site.

I found the story on Dawone Hazzard (On Site Summer 2008) particularly moving. With the challenging economy as it is today, people like Dawone face an even more difficult job situation. Thanks to you and the PVJOBS Program, there is light at the end of the tunnel.

With Personal Best Wishes,

*Monsignor Royale M. Vadakin, P.A.
Pastor Emeritus
St. Anastasia Church*

PVJOBS At Work

FRANCIS MACIAS-AGUILAR: Earning Her Stripes

Money isn't everything. But it does matter when you have several mouths to feed at home. "When I got my first paycheck, I couldn't believe it," says laborer Francis Macias-Aguilar, a 35-year-old wife and mother of eight. "I thought, 'this is the type of job I've always needed.'"



Francis Macias-Aguilar

Macias-Aguilar is a recently hired construction worker who's making a name for herself in the laborers union. She performed at the top of her class in the apprenticeship program's boot camp, and she's been working steady since graduating over the summer. Her current assignment is at the LAPD Parker Center, a working location that she finds ironic, given her history with the law.

Born the youngest of 14 children, Macias-Aguilar was raised in a gang-infested community in Boyle Heights. Frightened by watching her mother struggle with Parkinson's disease, she sought refuge in a neighborhood gang. Although she became a mother at 17, she continued her gang involvement, leading to a cycle of jail terms over the next several years.

But at age 29, her life changed. She married Luis Aguilar, another gang member who wanted to turnaround his life. When she sought help from Homeboy Industries, a local job training program for former gang members, its founder, Father Greg Boyle, offered her an administrative job to help redirect her life. But she was hired on one condition: "No gang banging. No slanging. And no hanging," she recites.

After Homeboy Industries referred her husband to PVJOBS, he ultimately landed a laborers position, earning him more than \$90,000 during his first year on the job. But he later relapsed into the world of drugs, landing him back in prison. Despite this setback, Macias-Aguilar was determined to continue improving her family's welfare, prompting her to visit PVJOBS to pursue a construction career herself.

While she eagerly awaits her husband's impending release, Macias-Aguilar remains working hard in her job while surveying her future. She'd like to become a foreman one day, regardless that she's a woman in a male-dominated industry. "If you have the stripes to become a laborer, even if you're a woman, you should do it," she says. "Don't let any obstacles get in your way."

PVJOBS Community Partners

APPRENTICE PREPARATION PROGRAMS

Abram Friedman Occupational Center (Ray Wilcox)	(213) 765-2567
Century Community Training Program (Mary Lou Clinkenbeard)	(310) 673-3941
Los Angeles Technology Center (Latasha Hawthorne)	(323) 732-0153

WORKSOURCE CENTERS

Career Planning Center Marina Worksource (Nick Gonzalez)	(310) 309-6000
Career Transition Worksource Center (George Fernandez)	(562) 570-3700
Chinatown WorkSource Center Chinatown Service Center (Kerry Situ)	(213) 808-1700
Community Career Dev.Cntr Wlsh/Metro Worksource (Monica Picot)	(213) 365-9829
Compton Career Link Worksource California Center (Henry Smith)	(310) 605-3050
Hollywood Worksource of California (Marjorie Gardner)	(323) 960-1300
Metro North Worksource Center (Anna Zakarian)	(323) 223-1211
Northeast San Fernando Valley WorkSource Center (Sheila Wright)	(818) 890-9400
PACE/Westlake Worksource Center (Albert Sy)	(213) 353-1677
South LA WorkSource Center Community Centers Inc. (Aureliano Galvez)	(323) 752-2115
Urban League West Adams-Baldwin Hills Worksource Center (Myrna Anguiano)	(323) 525-3740
Urban League WorkSource Business and Career Center (Annita Wallace)	(323) 600-1106
WLCAC Southeast LA-Watts Worksource Center (Victor Archaga)	(323) 563-566

YOUTH AND ADULT PROGRAMS

Il People Christian Center (Saundra Bryant)	(213) 747-6357
Anchor of Hope (Sandra Lewis)	(310) 516-1433
Belmont Education and Career Center (Deborah R. Deveres)	(213) 689-2270
Canaan Housing Corporation (Brenda Evans)	(213) 748-0250
CCFP/ Meals on Wheels for Children (Sandra Moore)	(323) 638-0760
Chrysalis Los Angeles (Victor Bozeman)	(213) 806-6300
Chrysalis Santa Monica (Adelai Whitman)	(310) 392-4117
Coaliton for Responsible Community Development (Mark A. Wilson)	(213) 743-6193
Communities in Schools (Roy LaVoise)	(818) 891-9399
Community Build (Babatu Bektamba)	(323) 789-9950
Community Outreach and Opportunity Programs (CO-OP) (Sharma Henderson)	(310) 649-1016
CRTD Faithworks (David Richardson)	(310) 673-0287
DARE U TOCARE (Sabrina Parker)	(323) 756-3208
Dayle McIntosh Center (John Tostado)	(714) 658-4281
Downtown Women's Center (Monica Martinez)	(213) 680-0600
Ex-Offender Action Network (Monnie Anderson)	(323) 238-0445
FAME Renaissance Assistance Corporation (Dwayne Price)	(323) 730-8354
Gratitude Retreat Foundation (Steven Nelson)	(310) 618-9173
Homies Unidos, Inc. (Alex Sanchez)	(213) 383-7484
Housing Authority of LA (Judy Rasheed)	(213) 252-1800
Human Pontential Consultants,LLC (Deidre Norville)	(310) 756-1560
Jobs for the Future/Homeboy Industries (Ft. Greg Boyle SJ)	(323) 526-1254
Joint Efforts Inc. (Matt Davison)	(310) 831-2358
Korean Churches For Community Development (Hyejin Im)	(213) 984-4243
LA Family Housing Corporation (Abel Moreno)	(818) 982-4091
LA Works (Salvador R. Velasquez)	(626) 960-3964
LACOE (Nathan Auzenne)	(213) 744-3168

Mar Vista Family Center (Pedro Valenciana)	(310) 390-9607
Marriott Foundation Bridges (Tad Asbury)	(213) 381-1220
Meaning and Purpose (Ted Moore)	(323) 296-2553
NABSIO Nahaniel (Rashad Ali)	(323) 755-6024
New Directions (Brigitte Slayton)	(310) 914-4045
PATH (Jonathan Bennett)	(323) 634-2272
PATH Achieve Glendale (Catherine Conerly)	(818) 409-3333
Pico Youth & Family Center (Michael Jackson)	(310) 396-7101
Public Allies of Los Angeles (Ernesto Saldaña)	(213) 741-2202
Raevery's Resource Center (Luis Patarroyo)	(323) 752-9987
Save Our Future (Ken Jordan)	(323) 234-0846
SCHARP (South Central Health & Rehabilitation Program) (Denise Shook)	(323) 751-3026
Skid Row Development Corporation (Lite Program) (Steven R. Senzo)	(213) 623-7130
St. Vincent's Cardinal Manning Center (Chuck Happold)	(213) 229-9963
Strategic Actions for a Just Economy (SAJE) (Samantha Quintero)	(213) 745-9961
Success in Challenges (Leon Mosely)	(562) 423-8111
The Midnight Mission (Ricardo Rosales)	(310) 677-9616
Transitions Network (Eimon M. Raouf)	(323) 751-1366
UJCC/ City of Refuge (Jean Franklin)	(323) 803-4066
Union Rescue Mission (Stephen Mitchell)	(213) 347-6300
Unity One (Bo Taylor)	(213) 963-5843
Unity T.H.R.E.E (Shonteze Williams Sr.)	(323) 732-0230
USVETS (Katherine Gibbs)	(310) 348-7600
US VETS (Long Beach) (Fernando Godinez)	(562) 388-8046
Venice 2000 (Melvin Hayward)	(310) 823-6100
VIP Mentors (Volunteers In Parole, Inc.) (Pal Roman)	(626) 450-6250
Volunteers of America (Mark Jackson)	(213) 689-2179
Walden House Inc. (Ralph Mendoza)	(310) 412-3702
Walden House.SASCA Region 111 (Sal Wilson)	(213) 741-3720
Weingart Center Association (Ronnie Price)	(213) 267-9000
Youngjobs.com (Billy Hadala)	(888) 717-5627 X104
Youth Rebuild (Victoria Foreman)	(310) 600-6201

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Archdiocesan Youth Employment Services (Robert Gutierrez)	(213) 736-5456
CCEO Youth Build (Joe Starks)	(310) 225-3060
Covenant House of California (Lori Koenig)	(323) 957-7455
Goals For Life (Reggie Berry)	(562) 864-6040
LaCausa Youth Build (Noemi G. Soto)	(323) 887-2501
Los Angeles Conservation Corps Youth Build (Gabriela Jimenez)	(213) 749-3601
LA Youth At Work (Sean Jernigan)	(213) 580-7505
Los Angeles Youth Opportunity Movement - Watts (Adrian Veliz)	(323) 971-7640
United Friends of the Children (Carla Palmer)	(213) 580-1850
Venice Community Housing Corporation Youth Build (Sandy Eiges)	(310) 399-4100
Youth Oppurtunities Unlimited Inc. (James L. Watson)	(323) 789-4977

For more information, call PVJOBS at (310) 590-1385.



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