

# 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 (Maxine Hammond) (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 (Harris Lee) (213) 808-1700  
 Community Career Dev. Cntr Wilsh/Metro Worksource (Monica Pecot) (213) 365-9829  
 Compton Career Link Worksource California Center (Henry Smith) (310) 605-3050  
 Hollywood Worksource of California (Margo Scoble) (323) 960-1300 x225  
 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. (Sharon Anderson) (323) 752-2115  
 Urban League Adams Baldwin Hills Wrksrce Cntr (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) 563-5669

## YOUTH AND ADULT PROGRAMS

All 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 (Mo Brown) (213) 806-6300  
 Chrysalis Santa Monica (Adelai Whitman) (310) 392-4117  
 Coalition for Responsible Community Development (Mark A. Wilson) (213) 743-6193  
 Common Unity Reaching Everyone (C.U.R.E.) (Mark Calloway) (310) 324-2575  
 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 (Vilma Delgado) (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 Potential 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 (Hyepin 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  
 Mid-City/Exposition Light Rail Transit Project Local Jobs Program (Ted Booker) (323) 290-7605  
 NABSIO Nahaniel (Rashad Ali) (323) 755-6024  
 New Directions (Brigitte Slayton) (310) 914-4045  
 PATH (Jonathan Bennett) (323) 644-2272  
 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  
 Raeverly's Resource Center (Luis Pattarroyo) (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  
 SSG Central Mental Health (Maureen Williams) (213) 626-6712 x123  
 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 Moseley) (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 (Shontez 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 (Briant Leavitt) (213) 622-3540  
 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  
 Women's Care Center (Leslie Sanchez) (818) 753-0606  
 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 (Anthony Tejada) (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) 887-2500  
 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 Opportunities Unlimited Inc. (James L. Watson) (323) 789-4977

For more information, call PVJOBS at (323) 432-3955.



4112 S. Main Street  
 Los Angeles, CA 90045  
 (323) 432-3955 – phone  
 (323) 432-3995 – fax

# On Site

Playa Vista Job Opportunities and Business Services

Volume 11 Number 1 z Spring 2010

## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Ernest Roberts  
Executive Director, PVJOBS

*"It's easy to make a buck. It's a lot tougher to make a difference."*

– Tom Brokaw

It is not uncommon for contractors who are challenged to make an at-risk hiring goal to be understandably wary. Concerns over unknown employee performance and tight schedules lead to fears of reduced productivity. The bidding opportunities are fewer in this competitive market, and contractors are bidding to a much slimmer profit margin.

When contractors share these concerns with us, we remind them that we have a nearly 90% success rate with our clients and that over 90 organizations are fashioned into our comprehensive support network. We also remind them that there are financial benefits for hiring these individuals, like tax deductions and reimbursable wages that can positively affect their bottom line. But most importantly, we tell them that it is the right thing to do.

Social issues, while concentrated in certain communities, do not recognize regional boundaries. The clients we serve are hidden, not included in the published unemployment rates. Giving a hand up to our

*continued on page 3*

## PVJOBS Employment Update

Los Angeles County had a March unemployment rate of 12.3%, a decrease from the 13.1% high in January. These numbers are still high and reflect the lack of employment opportunities in the region. However, construction is still expected to produce modest job growth, about 6.3% through 2016, with a 13.2% increase expected in nonresidential (commercial and infrastructure) construction. Much of the advance in nonresidential

*continued on page 3*

## PVJOBS Celebrates Grand Opening With Mayor & Local Community

To celebrate the grand opening of PVJOBS' new headquarters in South Los Angeles, Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa joined hundreds of local community members at a special ribbon-cutting event held in January.



Gathered at the PVJOBS grand opening event are (from left): Council member Bernard Parks; founding PVJOBS board member Challis MacPherson; board member Jim Bickhart; board member Mary Richert; Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa; PVJOBS Executive Director Ernest Roberts; board member Sibyl Buchanan; board member Nora MacLellan; Los Angeles Community College District Board President Mona Field; Playa Vista Chairman Steve Soboroff; and board member Michael Dolphin.

"Maximizing job creation is goal number one over the next four years," said Mayor Villaraigosa, who served as the event's keynote speaker. "We have to rethink how the City of Los Angeles practices economic development and aggressively target emerging sectors of growth to attract new businesses to our city."

*continued on page 2*



Page 2  
PVJOBS At Work:  
Dayton Newton

Page 3  
PVJOBS At Work:  
Kimberly Sells

Page 4  
Community Partners

### DATON NEWTON: The Belief To Succeed

**J**ourneyman laborer Daton Newton says that being a member of the construction crew of the Exposition Light Rail project is more rewarding than he first expected. "I feel good about building something for the community," says Newton, who works for Flatiron Construction, a contractor for the light rail project.



*Daton Newton*

Since he entered the PVJOBS Program in 2006, Newton has worked on a series of construction projects while earning several certifications in the laborer union's apprenticeship program. Over the past year, he has been assigned to the new light rail, a project that he values for reasons beyond his steady paycheck. "It makes me feel proud of myself for doing something productive," says Newton, 37.

Newton's promising construction career has made it possible for him to experience a lifestyle that at one time didn't seem likely. Reared by a single mother in the Crenshaw District of South Los Angeles, Newton barely knew his father, who died when he was three. Although he excelled in playing football in high school, he didn't apply himself in the classroom and instead spent most of his time hanging out with the wrong crowd. At 17, his dangerous associations nearly destroyed his life when he was sent to prison for a manslaughter case. Although he pleaded innocent ("I got caught in the wrong place at the wrong time," he says), Newton was sentenced to 25 years to life. In prison, he received his GED and spent years appealing the justice system. With the help of a public defender, he was able to prove his innocence, and his case was finally overturned nearly 15 years later.

Soon after his release, Newton enrolled in a life transition program that led him to seek employment opportunities through the Urban League's Worksource Center. It was there where he learned about PVJOBS, which helped Newton transform his life. PVJOBS enrolled him in the laborers union's boot camp program before referring him to his first construction employer.

Four years later, Newton has fully transformed his life. A new father of twins, he recently purchased his first home with his fiancée and plans to pursue certifications that will prepare him for a foreman's position. "I'm thankful for the PVJOBS family," says Newton. "They believed in me and kept me going."

The new headquarters also has a free resource center that provides residents with access to 15 internet-accessible computers, phones, faxes, resume preparation software, and job postings. Designed by RAW International and union-built by Swinerton Builders, the 12,500 square foot green-friendly facility has been renovated to receive a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification.

"Purchasing our own facilities has been part of our strategic plan since our community services began nearly 12 years ago," said PVJOBS Executive Director Ernest Roberts. "Now we can house more staff, rather than leasing space for them at three different sites. And the building is strategically located in an area that has a need for the services we offer."

As part of the celebration, the mayor – flanked by Councilmembers Jan Perry and Bernard Parks, Playa Vista President Steve Soboroff, and several PVJOBS board members and supporters – gathered in front of the building to officiate the ribbon-cutting ceremony. Following the event, a special public tour of the building was made available for local residents and collaborating agencies.



*The mayor presented PVJOBS with a special commendation at the grand opening event.*

## *Inspirational Corner*

**The difference between a helping hand and an outstretched palm is a twist of the wrist.**

**– Laurence Leamer, King of the Night**

# PVJOBS At Work

## KIMBERLY SELLS: Nowhere To Go But Up



Kimberly Sells

**K**imberly Sells is the only female laborer on her construction crew, but it's her job performance that makes her stand out. "It's a lot of hard work, but it's wonderful," says Sells about her job with Pacific State Environmental Contractors, which has given her high performance marks since hiring her last winter. Sells, 34, is excited about her first construction job at an elementary

school development site. She says that she's giving her all so her career starts off in the right direction. "I'm going to stick with this job for the long run – as long as my body can take it."

Her job represents more than the start of a new career. It signifies the beginning of a brand new life. Raised by an alcoholic mother in Long Beach, Sells says that her dysfunctional household caused her and her three sisters to rebel. At 12, Sells ran away from home and got hooked on drugs. She became pregnant the following year, and was the

mother of three by the time she was 20. Despite being a mother, she continued her drug use. Her reckless behavior finally changed two years ago, when her oldest daughter gave birth to twins. "I wanted to be around my grandkids, but my daughter wouldn't let me because I was on crack," she confides.



Kimberly is shown with her twin granddaughters.

Desperate to see her grandchildren, Sells visited an unemployment center to seek steady work that would help change her life. The center enrolled her in a construction training program at Harbor Occupational College. The program influenced her to end her battle with drugs. "When I learned how to work the equipment, I found something that interested me more than drugs," she says. "So I quit."

Impressed with her skills, the instructor encouraged her to visit PVJOBS to help her pursue a construction career. Weeks following the orientation, Sells participated in the laborers union's boot camp program. "That was the hardest week of my life," she remembers. "But I enjoyed every minute of it."

Today, Sells is enrolled in the union's apprenticeship training program and aspires to become a foreman one day. Although her past was filled with disappointments, she refuses to let it prevent her from pursuing her ambitions. "I feel like I'm now on the right track," she says. "I've been down so long, I can't do anything else but go up."

---

## PVJOBS Employment Update

*continued from page 1*

construction should occur as more American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) dollars reach local projects.

Currently, labor unions still have substantial numbers of members "on-the-bench" and waiting for dispatch. While this is restricting new entrance opportunities in apprenticeship programs, we are still getting a few in with the help of our local apprentice coordinators. Nevertheless, we have begun outreaching for opportunities beyond the construction crafts and have had some success. We'll soon be able to provide information on employment opportunities in other industries.

Our Construction Talent Transfer Program (CTTP) and Women in Apprenticeship and Non-Traditional Opportunities (WANTO) Program are still in effect, and we are looking for displaced residential construction workers and women for these programs.

A "Tech Math" class is being offered free of charge to PVJOBS clients. It will prepare students to take the electrician apprenticeship exam and will provide a certificate of completion that will be accepted in lieu of the requisite algebra. The eight-week Saturday class is

taught by a certified instructor from the Electrical Training Institute, which is the apprenticeship school for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. Screening is ongoing and classes are scheduled to begin soon.

For additional information about the "Tech Math" class or WANTO Program, please contact PVJOBS Union Liaison Jeffery Henderson. For information regarding the CTPP Program, please contact PVJOBS Program Manager Juan Alvarado. Both can be reached at (323) 432-3955.

---

## Message from the Executive Director

*continued from page 1*

clients supports the economic development in our region, helps individuals stay on the path of rehabilitation, and strengthens our collective community.

Change often begets fear, but the consequences of doing nothing constitute a much greater fear.