SBWIB 26th Annual Awards Ceremony
Welcome Message

On behalf of the Board of Directors and entire staff of the South Bay Workforce Investment Board, I am most honored to welcome and thank you for helping us celebrate the 26th Annual Awards Ceremony to honor the outstanding achievements of individuals who have overcome barriers to employment by completing training and gaining access to career pathway jobs. We also recognize our awesome training partners and steadfast employers.

It is only fitting that we present our highest honor, the Esther Williams Award of Excellence, to Mr. Stan Kroenke, at this magnificent venue called SoFi Stadium, which he and his organization - Kroenke Sports & Entertainment - have built as just the first phase of a world class sports and entertainment complex in our host City of Inglewood.

For more than 39 years the SBWIB has provided no-cost services to the residents and businesses, large and small, in our 11 city service area that includes Carson, El Segundo, Gardena, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach, Inglewood, Lawndale, Lomita, Manhattan Beach, Redondo Beach and Torrance through our four One-Stop Centers. Despite the restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 protocols, we were able to provide uninterrupted services to more than 85,000 customers which included dislocated workers, youth and first–time job seekers, as well as business owners and corporations of all sizes.

We continue to be thankful for our partners in government, business organizations and educational institutions for the support, vision and resources they share. This enables us to sustain and fund our many innovative programs that support employment and economic development opportunities throughout the South Bay region for adults and youth.

Thank you all again for your loyal support.

Jan Vogel
Chief Executive Officer
South Bay Workforce Investment Board, Inc.

Program of Events

Reception Entertainment
S.P. Entertainment, L.L.C

Welcome
Jan Vogel, Chief Executive Officer
South Bay Workforce Investment Board, Inc.

Inspirational Message
Rabbi Yossi Mintz, Founder & Director
Friendship Foundation

Pledge of Allegiance
God Bless America
Donald Perry
SBWIB, Inc. Staff Member

Acknowledgment of Guests & Sponsors
Jan Vogel

Keynote Speaker
The Honorable James T. Butts, Jr
Mayor of Inglewood

Outstanding Alumni Award Recipients
Jan Vogel

Outstanding Business Award Recipients
Chris Cagle, SBWIB Inc. Staff Member

Presentation of Esther Williams Award of Excellence
Jan Vogel
Stan Kroenke – Recipient
Owner, Kroenke Sports & Entertainment
Los Angeles Rams

Outstanding Training Provider Recipients
Laura Bischoff, SBWIB, Inc. Staff Member

Door Prizes & Closing Remarks
Jan Vogel
James T. Butts, Jr. was sworn in as Inglewood’s 12th mayor on February 1, 2011. He has more than 45 years of public safety and municipal government experience, including 32 years as a general manager or assistant general manager of four large and complex municipal organizations. He served 19 years in the Inglewood Police Department, rising to the rank of Deputy Chief, 15 years as the Santa Monica Chief of Police, and five years as an assistant general manager for Los Angeles World Airports where he took LAX to a #1 ranking nationwide by the TSA in 2009.

Mayor Butts holds a BS Degree in Business Administration from California State University and a MA in Business Administration from California Polytechnic University.

In his first year as Mayor, he negotiated with Madison Square Garden to renovate the Forum, which became the #1 concert venue in California in 2016. He secured the reinstatement of the federally defunded Residential Sound Insulation Program, leading Inglewood to operate the #1 Residential Sound Insulation Program in the Country.

On November 4, 2014, James T. Butts Jr. was re-elected Mayor of Inglewood with over 83% of the votes cast—the highest margin of victory in Inglewood electoral history. In 2015 & 2016 he was named one of LA County’s 500 most influential leaders by the Los Angeles Business Journal. His business expertise prevented bankruptcy by reducing a structural deficit and various unfunded liabilities. He was re-elected to his third term as Mayor in 2018.

Mayor Butts negotiated the return of the NFL to Southern California. Now both the Rams and Chargers play home games at the magnificent SoFi Stadium, which is considered by many as the crown jewel of the NFL. In June 2017, he led the City to open negotiations with the Los Angeles Clippers regarding relocating to Inglewood.

Thanks to his vision and leadership, the following milestone events will happen in Inglewood starting in 2022: the LA Philharmonic Youth Orchestra Program (YOLA), the 2022 Superbowl, the 2023 NCAA Championship Bowl game, the opening of a state-of-the-art NBA arena by 2024, and the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the Olympic Games in 2028.

Missouri native Stan Kroenke is counted amongst the world’s most powerful sports and real estate entrepreneurs. He established Kroenke Sports & Entertainment (KSE) in 1999, which owns five sports franchises and a major stake in a sixth one, three stadiums, four television channels, four radio stations, one internet TV channel, 19 magazines, a franchised video game team and several websites.

The sports franchises include the Colorado Avalanche of the National Hockey League (NHL), Colorado Rapids of Major League Soccer (MLS), Colorado Mammoth of the National Lacrosse League (NLL), Los Angeles Rams of the National Football League (NFL), and Denver Nuggets of the National Basketball Association (NBA). He is also the largest shareholder of English Premier League’s football club Arsenal.

With the arrival of the Rams franchise in Inglewood, Stan Kroenke set in motion an economic juggernaut that is resulting in thousands of career pathway job opportunities for the greater Los Angeles region. His vision of a world class sports venue and entertainment complex combined with residential and commercial uses is becoming a reality.

The philanthropic arm of KSE is embodied in the LA Rams commitment to provide support to nonprofit organizations, youth sports & fitness programs and many other community benefit projects in Southern California.

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.
EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES AND PROMISE OF TOMORROW.

We're a proud partner of the South Bay Workforce Investment Board. Congratulations on training and impacting the lives of people in our community for over 25 years.

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Inglewood resident Ryan Benson enrolled in the INVEST program through the South Bay One-Stop Center for specialized employment services for adult probationers.

Ryan completed the Core Competencies Construction Course through the Chabot Las Positas Community College and Career Expansion program in September 2020 to meet the required industry standards within the electrical trades.

He received assistance in purchasing essential work tools and secured employment with Barlow Respiratory Hospital as an electrician with an hourly wage of $37.

“We must not allow other people’s expectations to define who we are because of what we’ve done, or think that we must do what we can only with what we have. Inglewood One Stop has helped me to reach and exceed my goals.”

Inglewood resident Tiona Sykes, 25, received her first employment opportunity as a summer intern through the South Bay One-Stop Center during her sophomore year in high school.

Tiona became close friends with her mentor Veldafern McElroy, who helped Tiona focus on higher education and overcome life challenges.

Tiona went on to earn her BA in Psychology at CSU Channel Islands, her MA in Clinical Psychology at Pepperdine University, and is in a doctorate program at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology to become a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist.

“I would tell others that asking for help is one of the most important things we can do for our well-being. If you don’t share your struggles with someone else, then you suffer in silence.”

Inglewood resident Monica Martinez, a 19-year-old Inglewood resident, was planning for college by taking college prep classes but became overwhelmed by her various responsibilities and could not move forward.

While attending SBWIB’s YouthBuild program, Monica gained access to counselors who helped her develop work and study habits to stay on track with homework and assignment deadlines. These habits helped her become the first one in her family to graduate from high school and attend college. She plans to work and start a career.

“South Bay WIB’s YouthBuild is a program of opportunity, and all you need to do is take it. Don’t be afraid to achieve your goals. Do it for yourself. Prove to yourself that you can grow. You won’t regret it. This is me giving you that push. Take it and become better.”

Inglewood resident Marcelle Harris, 24, a father of a one-year-old, wanted a career pathway rather than moving between low-paying jobs. He found out about the SBWIB’s Construction Pre-Apprenticeship program and visited the South Bay One-Stop Center.

Marcelle received education and training to transition into a career in the construction industry, while receiving stipends to supplement his income and support from his case manager to stay motivated and optimistic.

Marcelle successfully completed his OSHA certifications, MC3 Certifications and other required credentials to enter the trades. He is now on track to enter the painters union and is grateful for “the opportunity to establish a career”. He describes the experience as being “just amazing.”

“Believe in what this agency says and communicate with them often.”
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Ana Yepez was experiencing difficulties gaining employment as an adult with disabilities and limited work history, especially during the pandemic, and turned to the South Bay One-Stop Center.

After completing orientation sessions, she developed an individual employment plan with her career counselor and determined that a retail job would help her acquire new skills to reach her full potential. Ms. Yepez was referred to the State of California Department of Rehabilitation for additional services and worked with a Job Developer to identify employment opportunities with local retailers.

Ms. Yepez gained employment with VONS in Gardena as Courtesy Clerk and enjoys all the rewards of employment, including confidence and financial stability.

Andrew Aguirre was referred to the South Bay One-Stop Center after serving a nearly 22-year state prison sentence. As a parolee, he faced many challenges, including working a variety of low-paying day-laborer jobs.

Through the Prison to Employment program, his career counselor helped him focus on a career in the construction industry and acquire construction tools.

A construction superintendent at one of his assignments noticed his hard work ethic and diligence and offered him a position as a Level II Construction Worker at a wage of $59.18/hr. Today Andrew is proud to help construct 73 affordable housing units at the Las Flores housing project.

“My program and the support I got gave me a real and legit second chance. I have a good job, a family, and I am no longer on parole. Thank you!!”

Hawthorne resident Ana Yepez was experiencing difficulties gaining employment as an adult with disabilities and limited work history, especially during the pandemic, and turned to the South Bay One-Stop Center.

After completing orientation sessions, she developed an individual employment plan with her career counselor and determined that a retail job would help her acquire new skills to reach her full potential. Ms. Yepez was referred to the State of California Department of Rehabilitation for additional services and worked with a Job Developer to identify employment opportunities with local retailers.

Ms. Yepez gained employment with VONS in Gardena as Courtesy Clerk and enjoys all the rewards of employment, including confidence and financial stability.

Successful employment programs are at the heart of helping individuals like Ms. Yepez thrive and live fulfilling and independent lives.
Felissa Preciado, 18, turned to the South Bay One-Stop Center during her senior year for help gaining job readiness skills and preparing for employment after graduation.

She completed the Blueprint for Workplace Success training and a paid work experience position at the Hawthorne Party City that increased her confidence and comfort level with navigating the workplace.

Felissa sought guidance with balancing work and school as she transitioned into a permanent position as a Sales Associate while starting at Cal State University Long Beach as a double major in Communications and Journalism.

“*I became more cordial and empathetic to others because I was given the opportunity to see how it’s like to work during a pandemic. I seek out opportunities that come along and step out of your comfort zone to network with people and learn.*”

In 2010, Jason Caraveo was a 20-year-old college student financially struggling to continue his education in a single parent household with three siblings. He turned to the South Bay One-Stop Center and got a paid internship in the City of Hawthorne Planning Department.

As he gained experience, Jason gained other paid internships while he continued his education. Upon graduation in 2014, Jason accepted his first full-time position as a City of Rancho Palos Verdes City Planner. Within five years he became a City of Beverly Hills Assistant City Planner.

Jason has been back in his hometown of Hawthorne since 2018 as a Planning Commissioner with a 7-month-old son.

“All my accomplishments started with that paid internship through South Bay One-Stop. I tell everyone about how much the SBWIB helped me become the man I am today.”

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26th Annual Awards Ceremony

Felissa Preciado
Youth Program

Jason Caraveo
Adult Program
Intuit Dome

CONGRATULATES

The South Bay Workforce Investment Board and it’s Honorees on the 26th Annual Awards Ceremony

Hawthorne resident Nayyar Gill was referred to the South Bay One-Stop Center in 2020 through the Transitional Subsidized Employment (TSE) program. As a single parent on public assistance, she faced many challenges associated with long-term unemployment. Nayyar completed employment preparation workshops in the Blueprint for Workplace Success program and entered a paid work experience assignment with Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA).

In August 2021, Nayyer was offered a full-time position with LAWA as a wheelchair agent. She has made a successful transition to employment and continues to gain valuable workplace skills.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity. The TSE program has been life changing and I want to encourage others not to give up - opportunities are out there when you find the right support!

Destini Taylor, a 21-year-old single mother-to-be, visited the South Bay One-Stop Center for job search and training assistance to enter the healthcare field.

Her career counselor helped her to apply for a Nurse Assistant License certification offered at Pathways College.

Despite balancing the demands of coursework and her pregnancy, she completed the program and became a Certified Nurse Assistant. She initially found employment with Cambrian Homecare after giving birth, but the position required her to work evenings and weekends, which made it difficult to care for her child. Destini moved to another position with Avalon Villa Health Care Center earning $19.00 per hour where she can better care for her child.

“If I wasn’t for the Carson One-Stop Center I would not be the successful CNA I am today”
Carson resident Yvonne Alvarez, a 39-year-old single parent of three children, was laid off in 2015 after working 11 years at Tatung USA and experienced periods of homelessness and unemployment over the next five years.

In 2020 Yvonne turned to the South Bay One-Stop Center and enrolled in the Blueprint for Workplace Success curriculum to develop her job search skills and restore her self-confidence. Through the Transitional Subsidized Employment program, she worked in a clerical position with the Carson One-Stop Center.

Yvonne was hired by U.S. Vets in Long Beach as a Veteran Service worker.

“The One-Stop staff helped me focus on my goals and build my self-confidence, which helped me and my family financially and emotionally, and enabled me to start a new career.”

Edwin Gamez, a 50-year-old Marina del Rey resident, attended classes at West Los Angeles College to earn his Aircraft & Powerplant Mechanic Certification. Upon his March 2020 graduation, he was referred by the college to the SBWIB’s Aero-Flex Pre-Apprenticeship and Apprenticeship Program.

During the Pre-Apprenticeship program, he completed Blueprint for Workplace Success training, industry specific technical skills training, and a work experience at the Airplane Factory based at the Torrance Airport. Upon completing the program, The Airplane Factory hired Edwin and enrolled him in an Aircraft Structures Mechanic Assembler Apprenticeship training program.

“The Aero-Flex program enabled me to get into this field which I really love,” Edwin said. I encourage everyone who is interested in a career in aircraft maintenance to take advantage of this training program.”
Emily Beltran, 61, a Torrance resident, wanted financial assistance to obtain her National Healthcare Association (NHA) certification and advance in her career. This included financial assistance for a Phlebotomy course, NHA exam fee and state license application fee.

The South Bay One-Stop Center provided the assistance she needed, including an assessment, continuous updates on job openings, support for her job search and words of encouragement when she felt discouraged.

As a result of the services she received, Emily was able to enroll and finish her phlebotomy course, despite delays due to the pandemic. She also obtained her license and is currently employed at the Hunter Cancer Center of Torrance Memorial Physician Network in Torrance.

“Put Faith and Perseverance together and you’ll find Success.”

In 2020 Gesenia Grajeda went to the One-Stop Center in Inglewood for help re-starting her career in advanced manufacturing after being sidelined by COVID. With limited employment history in the aerospace industry, Gesenia and her career counselor developed an employment plan that included wage-based learning activities to help her gain career mobility in advanced manufacturing.

She was accepted into a paid on-the-job training opportunity with Northrop Grumman in Redondo Beach as a CNC Machine Technician. She completed the 12-week training in February 2021, reached all desired benchmarks, and was retained as a full time CNC Machinist with an hourly wage of $28.09.

Gesenia is grateful for the support services received that helped her start a new career and meet her goals of having mobility and wage advancement opportunities.

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ACC provides career guidance and assistance but cannot guarantee employment.
El Segundo resident Jamie Thibault visited the South Bay One-Stop Center in 2019 after her layoff from the apparel industry. Despite her impressive background in product development and production, Jamie suffered the impacts of the US apparel industry’s trade and economic transitions.

She worked with a career counselor to develop an individual employment plan and receive specialized services under the Trade and Economic Transition National Dislocated Worker Grant (TET).

Jamie completed a certificate in Interior Design through UCLA Extension in January 2021 and acquired new skills in computer aided design programs. She made a successful transition back into the workforce and has substantially increased her earning potential by starting her own consulting business where she continues to use her management and supply chain strategy expertise.

Lomita resident Madison Box, 18, found it challenging to get hired for her first job without any prior work experience. She learned about the South Bay One-Stop Center through her school.

Madison worked with her case manager to learn interview techniques and resume writing while building her confidence, skills and abilities to enter the workforce. Madison obtained work experience through internships and was hired at the Torrance Bakery.

“Take the opportunity! You will not find another program with individuals who care about your future as much as the South Bay One-Stop Center. I have met many caring and inspiring adults and mentors during this process, and I couldn’t be more grateful for my experiences. During the pandemic, I was still given the utmost support regardless of the circumstances.”

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El Segundo resident Jamie Thibault

Adult Program

"Thank you so much for the opportunity to do this program!"

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Greetings from The Desk of Mr. Jay King,

President & CEO of The California Black Chamber Of Commerce:

To Each Of You Who Have Completed The Various SBWIB Programs;
Your Commitment To Excellence & Perseverance Is An Inspiration To Many.
Congratulations On Your Incredible Success.

You Made It Possible.

Jay King

President/CEO

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Madison Box

Youth Program

"Take the opportunity! You will not find another program with individuals who care about your future as much as the South Bay One-Stop Center. I have met many caring and inspiring adults and mentors during this process, and I couldn’t be more grateful for my experiences. During the pandemic, I was still given the utmost support regardless of the circumstances.”
Twenty-two-year-old Dylan Rock of Redondo Beach went to the South Bay One-Stop Center for employment help.

Dylan worked with a career advisor to strengthen his resume, complete the Blueprint for Workplace Success training, and gain job experience at OSI Systems in Hawthorne.

Dylan’s worksite supervisor at OSI Systems noticed his potential and encouraged him to apply to one of the company’s contractors as a services technician. Dylan was hired full-time as a HVAC service technician with C&L Refrigeration for $25/hour with benefits.

“Anything is possible with hard work and determination but sometimes you do need additional help. Here is where the support provided by amazing organizations like the South Bay WIB and the wonderful people who run it came into play. Accept the help and always plan to give back in some way when you can!”

Manhattan Beach resident Raluca MacTavish was having difficulty gaining employment despite having 15 years of project management experience. After realizing that she needed to upgrade her project management skills, Raluca discovered that she could get financial assistance through the South Bay One-Stop Center to go back to school.

She completed the New Horizons online courses for a Six Sigma and PMP training program and her newly upgraded skills and certifications helped her get her dream job with L3 Communications.

“I would encourage others to explore and take advantage of the great opportunities that the One Stop has to offer. Whether it be finding a career path, finding a job, help with a resume, the One Stop has many tools at their disposal to help with a variety of different needs.”

CSUDH is proud to support the South Bay Workforce Investment Board. Together, we are transforming lives and tranforming our communities.
fueling success

Chevron is proud to support the South Bay Workforce Investment Board and we applaud its efforts in promoting the development of workers & employers.

Lizbeth Rios, a Process Engineer at Impresa Aerospace in Gardena, gained enough technical skills to enroll in the Aero-Flex Aerospace Engineering Apprenticeship. The SBWIB developed the Aero-Flex Apprenticeship as an employer-centric earn and learn model in partnership with local aerospace manufacturing companies and many other stakeholders in 2017. She completed the program in 17 months, making her the first female Aero-Flex Aerospace Engineer apprentice graduate. She had previously earned her Bachelor of Science Degree from UC San Diego and completed multiple hours of Tooling U-SME courses, which were credited toward her required Related Technical Instruction.

“Receiving the aerospace engineering certification is hard work, it does take a lot of hours and dedication. Luckily, I had some good support from my employer, and I do recommend it for anyone who wants to further their career in aerospace engineering.”

Wanda Jefferson turned to the South Bay One-Stop Center in June 2020 for career change assistance after her job loss as an in-home caregiver during the pandemic and faced with financial hardships from becoming homeless.

Wanda decided to explore a new career in construction with the hope that pursuing a nontraditional occupation for women would lead to stable employment and sustainable wages. She enrolled in the Core Competencies Construction Course at Chabot Las Positas Community College.

Wanda received a laptop and hotspot device to complete her coursework remotely through federal funding and specialized supportive services for individuals impacted by COVID job loss. She secured employment shortly after and was sponsored into the local Floor Covering Union 1247 – 433 via The MS Rouse as a 1st Tier Apprentice with an hourly wage of $24.14.
At **El Camino**, you’ll find a community that believes in you and your power to succeed. Learn more at [www.elcamino.edu/start](http://www.elcamino.edu/start).

Los Angeles resident **Yuritzi Ayala** wanted to earn a BS degree and work in dentistry or public healthcare after graduating high school but faced many financial hardships, including unstable housing and a limited support system as a **foster youth**.

The South Bay One-Stop Center helped her enroll in a paid work experience as a Dental Assistant at a Torrance-based dental office during the summer.

After completing the assignment, she enrolled at the University of California San Diego and secured stable campus housing. Yuritzi is earning a BS degree and pursuing a career in Public Health.

“Growing up I always struggled with worrying about medical insurance and not being able to get proper healthcare. I want to pursue a career where I can support patients who often struggle with finding good healthcare in their community.”

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**Gardena**

Yuritzi Ayala  
Youth Program
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After opening its primary roasting facility, commissary and bakery in Hawthorne, Urth Caffé was experiencing difficulty finding “qualified” applicants, especially during the pandemic. The South Bay One-Stop Business & Career Center - Inglewood connected with Urth Caffé to create a pipeline of qualified applicants for their open positions.

The Center utilized its social networking platforms and conducted several recruitments, including direct referral of sourced and screened applicants. The effort resulted in Urth Caffé making direct hires, including hard to fill positions with difficult skill sets.

“The South Bay One-Stop Business & Career Center - Inglewood’s recruiting and candidate screening was most helpful in our hiring efforts. We definitely got the results we needed.”

– Nora Perez, Urth Caffé
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- GARDEN GROVE (657) 208-1055
- LANCASTER (661) 296-6522

Burke Williams - a luxury day spa with twelve locations throughout California, filed a WARN notice in March 2020 that affected over 500 employees, including administrative, spa personnel, and warehouse operations at its Inglewood facilities.

The South Bay One-Stop Business & Career Center - Inglewood formed response teams to provide technical assistance by utilizing National Dislocated Worker Emergency grants to avert layoffs and provide access to employment and retraining opportunities to impacted individuals in Inglewood.

One-Stop teams and Burke Williams’ hiring managers realized the production and service procedures were changing and created immediate employment and retraining opportunities for a small group of personnel in Inglewood. Individuals were identified to participate in On-the-Job Training (OJT) activities that included the acquisition of new skills in warehouse operations, maintenance and distribution.

In later months, OJT programs were expanded to include the emergence of Virtual Spa Services and the training and development of new positions in safety.
Together we’re Defining Possible.

Northrop Grumman is proud to support the South Bay Workforce Investment Board and its mission to build a world-class workforce.

SoFi Stadium is an unprecedented and unparalleled sports and entertainment destination constructed in Inglewood by Los Angeles Rams Owner/Chairman E. Stanley Kroenke. The first NFL indoor-outdoor stadium to be constructed, SoFi Stadium is the home of the Los Angeles Chargers and Los Angeles Rams.

The state-of-the-art stadium reimagines the fan experience and will host a variety of events year-round, including Super Bowl LVI in 2022, the College Football Championship Game in 2023, and the Opening and Closing Ceremonies of the Olympic Games in 2028. Located on the site of the former Hollywood Park racetrack, the stadium is the centerpiece of a 298-acre mixed-use development featuring retail, commercial office space, a hotel, residential units, and outdoor park spaces.

The South Bay One-Stop Business & Career Center - Inglewood established the Security Entertainment Retail Vocational Program (SERV) to supply SoFi Stadium with a pipeline of qualified employment candidates. The program provides support services and access to training and employment in the service industry, with a huge emphasis on the thousands of workers needed for Event and Game Days. Thousands of local residents have attended biweekly SERV Zoom sessions and were referred to apply with SoFi Stadium and its contractors. Hundreds of individuals have been hired.
Local 78 is a proud supporter of SBWIB and your workforce development system supporting economic growth throughout the South Bay region.

Congratulations from the Skanska LA Team!

Skanska would like to congratulate the participants of the SBWIB programs.

Carson-based Textured Tech is a premier beauty supply store that opened in early 2019 to fill the gap between Black women being the primary patrons of hair care products and being virtually absent in the ownership space. The store features beauty brands for kinky/curly hair and a wide array of products for both women and men.

COVID-19 Stay at Home orders began after its first year in operation. Prior to COVID, Textured Tech offered shipping on their website, although in April, they expanded delivery offerings to include local same day delivery and curbside pickup. Leveraging their website, while the physical store was closed to the public, allowed customers access to products other retailers, like Amazon, deemed non-essential.

Textured Tech turned to the South Bay One-Stop Center during the most pivotal time of the pandemic to establish training programs on website development and customer service for youth interns to develop a local talent pipeline. The most rewarding result of this effort for Textured Tech is that their customers now see staff and ownership who look like them. 100% of their staff is composed of community members hired through the South Bay One-Stop Center, making Textured Tech a reflection of the community they serve.

“Partnering with organizations like the South Bay One-Stop Center provides business owners the flexibility to grow their business and develop local talent.”

- Textured Tech
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LISI Aerospace is an international company specializing in the design and manufacture of high value-added assembly solutions and components in the aerospace, automotive and medical sectors.

Partners of the world’s largest players and forged by its long-term family values, LISI has been innovating and investing for over two centuries in its products and industrial facilities to meet the current and future needs of its customers, particularly in terms of quality, safety and performance.

LISI AEROSPACE partnered with the South Bay One-Stop Center to create work opportunities for youth in the South Bay. This program has been mutually beneficial for the company and participating youth in the community by providing valuable work experience in areas such as human resources, engineering, and quality assurance.

The South Bay One-Stop Center has provided LISI with youth workers to assist various departments with different projects and LISI AEROSPACE has provided employment opportunities for many South Bay youth.

“This partnership with the South Bay One-Stop Center has been quite successful and produced a continuous flow of youth workers placed at our organization to assist with business needs.”

- LISI AEROSPACE
Northrop Grumman Corporation, tracing its roots back to 1939 in Hawthorne, manufactures and specializes in defense and commercial aerospace, electronics, and information-technology products and services.

The South Bay One-Stop Centers provide their full menu of workforce development services to Northrop Grumman, including job placement for individuals seeking employment and apprenticeship development. Northrop Grumman supports and attends SBWIB virtual job fairs and hiring events, including job fairs for transitioning military personnel at Los Angeles Air Force Base.

Additionally, through a partnership that includes El Camino College, enrolled individuals are trained through machining or electromagnetic technician pre-apprenticeship programs. Thirteen individuals who have completed the program with industry recognized credentials have been hired through Northrop Grumman into an on-the-job training apprenticeship program.

The SBWIB utilizes Aero-Flex and WIOA funding to reimburse Northrop Grumman for 50% of the wages paid to apprentices for up to 12 weeks. Apprentices have included recently laid off workers during COVID-19, veterans, long-term unemployed and youth participants who are currently earning $27.00/hour with promotional opportunities at Northrop Grumman.
Gardena-based **Cilajet Aviation Grade** is a leading provider of a specialty sealant originally developed for the commercial aerospace industry to protect painted and metal surfaces on commercial aircraft, and now has expanded its market to commercial and private aircraft companies, luxury automobile dealerships, and commercial and luxury boats.

Despite the unprecedented challenges businesses faced during the COVID-19 pandemic, Cilajet was able to sustain its operations and provide employment opportunities to South Bay residents, including low income adults, youth and individuals with disabilities, thanks to the assistance of the South Bay One-Stop Business & Career Centers in Inglewood and Gardena.

Center staff screened and selected job candidates to fill immediate positions, resulting in employment opportunities in administrative and warehouse support for subsidized and justice-involved individuals. While some of their administrative and customer support positions required specific technical skills and experience, Cilajet created opportunities for individuals with limited work experience. These positions resulted in countless opportunities for youth and individuals with disabilities to gain valuable entry-level experience and chances to build crucial workplace skills and develop their career pathway.

**State Farm** is a mutual company with more than 55,000 employees and more than 19,000 independent contractor agents who service 83 million policies and accounts throughout the U.S.

Charline Espinoza, with State Farm - Hermosa Beach, has been with the agency since 2001 and has expanded its client base with the involvement of the Hermosa Beach Community.

During the pandemic, like many other small businesses, Charline faced challenges finding employees and decided to reach out to the South Bay One-Stop Business & Career Center - Torrance for assistance. With their help, Charline was able to hire candidates who are working for their license in Property & Casualty and Life Insurance.

State Farm – Hermosa Beach has been a long-time business partner with the Torrance One-Stop and has had great success hiring employees, including one who was recruited for them almost ten years ago and is still employed.

“I really appreciate the help the One-Stop has provided me. I currently have one employee who has been doing a really good job. They are learning, reliable and enjoy helping our policyholders.”

- Charline Espinoza.
South Bay One-Stop Business & Career Centers

No Cost Services

Business Services
- Hiring Support
- Recruitment Services
- Customized Training
- Rapid Response
- Layoff Aversions
- Apprenticeships

Adult Services
- Job Placement
- On-the-Job Training
- Veteran Transition
- Apprenticeship
- Career Pathways 180
- Dislocated Worker

Youth Services
- Summer Jobs Program
- Teen Centers
- Pre-Apprenticeship
- College Preparation
- Blueprint for Workplace Success Training

Be Our Next Success Story

Training Providers Achieving 90%-100%

Job Placement Rate

ABC Adult School
- Accounting Clerk

American College of Healthcare and Technology
- Medical Assistant

Bentley-Forbes Security Training Academy, Inc.
- Guard Card 8

Electrical Training Institute
- Electrical Pre-Apprenticeship Preparation

Training Providers Achieving 80%-89%

Job Placement Rate

ABC0 Technology
- A+ Certification

American Dental Academy
- Dental Assisting Program

Chabot/Las Positas Community College District
- Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) with Home Health Aide

Citrus College
- Introduction to Electric Bus Manufacturing Technology

College of Instrument Technology
- HED110: Heavy Equipment Operator Truck Driver Level I

Heartland Coalition
- Heartland Coalition Carpenter Construction Pre-Apprenticeship

Inglewood One-Stop
110 S. La Brea Ave.
Inglewood, CA 90301
(310) 680-3700

Torrance One-Stop
1220 Engracia Ave.
Torrance, CA 90501
(310) 680-3830

Gardena One-Stop
16801 S. Western Ave.
Gardena, CA 90247
(310) 538-7070

Carson One-Stop
801 E. Carson St.
Carson, CA 90745
(310) 680-3870

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SOUTH BAY WORKFORCE AWARDS CEREMONY 2021 | 45
Thank you to all of our partners, local, state, national, academic and funding partners, the business community and other friends of the South Bay Workforce Investment Board.

Thank you for your continued support and help to make a difference in the lives of so many; and a special thank you to all of the SBWIB staff for their help and support throughout the year.

Our Valued Local City Partners

City of Inglewood
City of Hawthorne
City of Lomita
City of Torrance
City of Gardena
City of Lawndale

City of Carson
City of Redondo Beach
City of Hermosa Beach
City of Manhattan Beach
City of El Segundo