

Job fair at Carousel Mall draws over 1,000

Approximately 1,200 eager job seekers attended the East End Job Fair at the Carousel Mall in San Bernardino on November 13.

The event, sponsored and organized by the County of San Bernardino Workforce Investment Board, featured 50 employers seeking full-time and part-time hires in professional, managerial, technical, clerical, transportation, shipping and logistics, manufacturing, medical, retail, service and sales positions.

Participating companies included US Foods, County of San Bernardino Pre-School Services Department, States Logistics, Synergy Companies and Ashley Furniture.

"With so many people out of work in our area, it would appear that those of us who work in Human Resources would have plenty of opportunities to find the people we need to fill current job openings," said Elizabeth Wellman, Account Recruiting Manager for Aerotek, a staffing service company. "The goal for Human Resources professionals is to hire the right fit employee the first time - as the cost of a mismatched hire can be significantly underestimated."

With employers positioned in the large area around the mall's carousel, the process of reaching these job seekers was made easier.

"Job fairs are a great resource for businesses to increase efficiency in finding job seekers, improve effectiveness in screening their qualifications, and enhance their ability to place employees into jobs in which they have a good chance of long-term success," said Sandy Harmsen, Executive Director of the Workforce Investment Board of San Bernardino County.

The job fair's co-sponsors include the City of Colton, the Yucaipa Chamber of Commerce, the California State University San Bernardino Career Development Center and the San Bernardino Valley Enterprise Zone.

"Unlike an ad or job posting that generate resumes, job fairs deliver the job seekers themselves. The personal interaction at a job fair helps companies make a more accurate evaluation of candidates and their qualifications. As any human resource professional knows, getting resumes is easier than finding the perfect candidate. Job fairs can help streamline the process and reduce inefficiencies in finding the person for the job - saving local companies both time and money," said Wellman.

The Workforce Investment Board hosts regular job fairs, averaging 7 per year. At the recent West End Job Fair, more than 75 employers offering more than 1,400 job opportunities met more than 1,600 applicants.

"Coming here today and talking face to face about what I have accomplished is much better than submitting an application online," said job seeker Michael Greenway. Many job seekers found opportunities to connect with employers on site.

"We appreciate all the work that goes into these efforts as they are a valuable time saver for businesses that choose to take advantage of these services," said Wellman.

Aerotek is one of many companies that participate in job fairs coordinated by the County of San

Bernardino Workforce Investment Board on an ongoing basis, and reports consistent success in finding high-quality candidates.

"By bringing together the human resources of our community with businesses, job fairs improve the connections between employers

and job seekers and this helps both achieve success," said Josie Gonzales, Chair Board of Supervisors, County of San Bernardino.

Those who missed the job fair can visit one of the Workforce Investment Board's Employment Resource Centers for more job

opportunities. The Workforce Investment Board usually gathers more than 1,000 new job opportunities each month from employers in San Bernardino County. The Employment Resource Centers are located in Rancho Cucamonga, San Bernardino and Victorville.

Www.csb-win.org. Information about the job fair for employers and job seekers may be obtained at (800) 451-JOBS or visit www.csb-win.org/.



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An estimated 1,200 job seekers attended the East End Job Fair at the Carousel Mall in San Bernardino last month.



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 The Keith and Patricia Doakes Agency at Allstate Insurance Company in San Bernardino, has utilized the services of San Bernardino Job Corps Center since January 2011. The Doakes' Agency employed Crystal, one of Job Corps graduates skilled in Office Administration. In the last ten months, Crystal has not only enhanced her administrative skills but has also grown in her knowledge of insurance, which has made her a great asset to our agency.

 At Equity Residential, we know Job Corps is a great place to find great employees. Our partnership began in 2009, and we have been extremely pleased with the 30 Job Corps graduates we've hired since then. They display a strong work ethic, a positive attitude, and a desire to learn and grow in their careers - in short, every thing we look for in our employees. Job Corps is our go-to resource for motivated employees who are ready to succeed.

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