

CALPIA Hosts Sacramento and Los Angeles Employer Forums Encouraging Business Owners to Hire Former Offenders

Hundreds of employers learned about the benefits of hiring trained former offenders at two successful Employer Forums in August and September.

The Sacramento Employer Forum was held at the California Chamber of Commerce and was hosted by CALPIA, CDCR, Sacramento County Sheriff's Department, the California Workforce Investment Board and the Sacramento Employment and Training Agency (SETA).

The second Employer Forum was held in downtown Los Angeles at LA Trade-Technical College which also partnered with CALPIA, CDCR, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and the City of Los Angeles to bring attention to the issue of hiring from this skilled workforce.

"Hiring former offenders is a win-win for employers and the general public," said Charles Pattillo, General Manager of CALPIA. "Employers not only receive tax credits and insurance savings, but when businesses hire from this trained workforce they help taxpayers save money and keep communities safer."

Employers learned about accessing a pool of trained, skilled and certified workers. Business owners also discovered how to reduce their recruitment and training costs through work opportunity tax credits and fidelity bonding options.

The keynote speaker in Los Angeles was former U.S. Secretary of Labor, Hilda Solis, who encouraged business owners to provide those second chances.

"It is important to give and translate job skills while we have people detained, people need to know they have oppor-



Former U.S. Secretary of Labor, Hilda Solis.



Former Sacramento Sheriff, John McGinness.

tunities," said Secretary Solis. "If they are given opportunities, they will make better choices."

Former Sacramento Sheriff and KFBK Radio Talk Show Host John McGinness was the keynote speaker at the Sacramen-

to Employer Forum and explained how a job can transform a former offender's life.

Chrisfino 'Kenyatta' Leal encouraged employers to provide that second chance to an offender who has proven he/she is changing their life for the better.

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CALPIA Hosts Sacramento and Los Angeles Employer Forums Encouraging Business Owners to Hire Former Offenders (cont.)



Chrisfino 'Kenyatta' Leal speaks about his success at Rocket Space, Inc.



Employers are awarded for providing second chances to former offenders.

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"For employers who are considering hiring someone who is formerly incarcerated, I strongly encourage you to do so. It makes an impact on the individual, their families and our communities," said Leal.

Leal talked about how he walked out of San Quentin State Prison a free man in 2013 and how he worked from being a paid intern at Rocket Space, Inc. in the Bay Area to earning full time employment and becoming a Manager of Campus Services for the company.

"I went back to school and got my degree in prison and participated in many programs on the

inside that helped me understand my positive role in the community and I thought if I can do something that adds value on the inside, I can definitely do it on the outside," said Leal.

Throughout his incarceration Kenyatta spent his time preparing for his future academically, vocationally and spiritually. Kenyatta was part of the first graduating class of the Last Mile, a successful program that teaches business entrepreneurship using Bay Area professionals on a volunteer basis.

Leal concluded the forum by saying, "There are a lot of men and women who are incarcerated today and who are getting out. They have done the work while they have been on the inside and deserve a second chance to make it happen, how do we know this because I am one of them."



Former offender Sam Lewis talks about being a Project Coordinator for Friends Outside in L.A. County.



(Above) CALPIA General Manager Chuck Pattillo honors former Prison Industry Board Member and LATTC President Larry Frank.

(Left) Tom Kandris, CEO and Founder, Package One, Inc.



CALPIA Female Offenders Graduate with Job Certifications at Folsom Women's Facility

Fifty-five women received vocational certificates at a CALPIA graduation ceremony held at the Folsom Women's Facility in September.

The women earned certificates in Pre-Apprentice Carpentry, Pre-Apprentice Construction Labor, Computer-Aided Design, Facilities Maintenance, Customer Service Representative Training and Warehouse and Logistics Training.

Through a partnership with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), CALPIA provides thousands of inmates the opportunity to participate in life-changing rehabilitative programs, all of which are aimed at reducing recidivism while keeping prisons and communities safe.

Rosetta Turturici, who earned certificates in Pre-Apprentice Carpentry and Construction Labor, said she has no plans to come back to prison after she goes home in 2016.

"Now with this training, I know that I can automatically go into the union and be offered a construction job," she said, proudly holding her signature pink CALPIA construction hard hat. "I know that I won't be judged for what I was, but for who I am today."

FWF's A Yard was filled with not only graduates, but also family members, instructors, union representatives, employers and officials from CDCR and CALPIA.

State Senator Holly Mitchell, who represents the 26th Senate District and serves as chair of the Legislative Black Caucus and Select Committee on Women and Inequality, shared words of encouragement with the crowd as keynote speaker. She pointed out that women continue to struggle with job security and equality, and that women of color in particular have not seen improvement in their unemployment rate.

CALPIA General Manager Chuck Pattillo said FWF represents one of the highest percentages of inmates participating in CALPIA programs in a prison, and that



Senator Holly Mitchell congratulates graduates.

the women graduating are role models for their peers considering joining a program. He praised the women for their hard work and wished them success when they go home.

"We love seeing you, but I will be very honest, we really never want to see you again," Pattillo said, drawing laughter from the crowd.

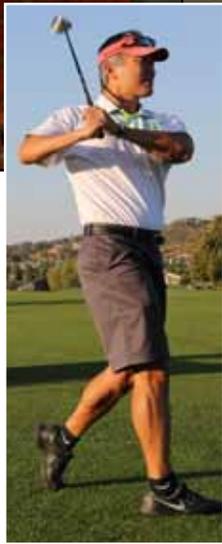
It's been proven time and again that rehabilitative programs result in fewer returns to prison. Pattillo pointed out that CALPIA Career Technical Education (CTE) programs have a cumulative recidivism rate of about 7 percent, significantly lower than the statewide average resulting in millions of dollars of taxpayer savings.



FWF offender Rosetta Turturici receives her Carpentry certificate.



CALPIA Golfers Tee Off for Charity



The annual CALPIA Golf Benefit to help worthwhile charitable organizations is growing in size and popularity.

114 golfers participated in the four person scramble event at the Empire Ranch Golf Club in Folsom on Friday, September 12. Golfers enjoyed a tri-tip luncheon along with a live auction.

Sponsors and golfers raised close to \$19,000 for 3 local charities including the Saint John's Program for Real Change, the Folsom Project for the Visually Impaired and the Moral Values Program of Sacramento.

Title sponsors included, OEI, Nightingale and the Keefe Group.

Golfers raise money for worthy causes.



Launch of "Our Promise" Giving Campaign



CALPIA is participating in Our Promise: California State Employees Giving at Work.

Under an outside tent at the end of September, CALPIA employees heard from various non-profit organizations about what they do to help meet the needs of our communities.

Employees can choose to participate in the Our Promise Giving Campaign through the convenience of payroll deduction to fund the nonprofit(s) they feel passionate about.

This past year, participating State employees pledged more than \$6.67 million statewide for charitable organizations.



Representatives from local non-profits share information about their organizations.

A New Home For Business Services Section



The California Prison Industry Authority (CALPIA) has introduced a new Modular Business Services Section (BSS) to their Central Office in Folsom. Both offenders and staff working for CALPIA's Modular Building Enterprise (MBE) contributed to this addition.

Site work for the new BSS Modular Building began in February. Sixty-four offenders worked on the project— 46 of offenders constructing the modular building and 18 offenders assisting with its installation.

The Modular Building options include ADA approved amenities such as restrooms, enclosed offices, pre-wiring for information technology, and suspended ceilings with efficiency lighting and interior finishes such as carpeting, vinyl tile and pre-colored wall surfaces. The BSS Modular Building includes office space for 12-15 employees (with a conference room and kitchen), and is distinct in that it encloses a break room for offenders and

a storage area for CALPIA's Management Information Systems (MIS) division.

MBE designs and manufactures modular buildings for sale to state and other government agencies. The modular buildings are constructed to the highest structural standards and are fully inspected and approved by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). They are also approved by the California State Fire Marshall (SFM), Americans with Disabilities Access Compliance (ADA) and the Division of the State Architect (DSA) as required.

The overall processing time for the building is 11-14 months, much less compared to the traditional construction process, which is approximately four to five years.

A huge crane moves sections of a new modular building for BSS in Folsom.



Ventura Youthful Offenders Graduate from CALPIA's CTE Construction Program

In conjunction with the Northern California Carpenters Regional Council, CALPIA has established a pre-apprenticeship program that teaches offenders construction skills they can use to obtain employment upon parole.

On May 28, 2014, ten juvenile offenders at the Ventura Youth Correctional Facility received certificates of completion from California Prison Industry Authority's (CALPIA) Career Technical Education (CTE) Pre-Apprentice Construction Labor program.

"These graduates are learning valuable skills setting the groundwork for success," said California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation's (CDCR) Secretary and Prison Industry Board Chairperson, Jeff Beard. "Rehabilitative programs that include education and job training are vital

for these young men as they head on a positive path and transition back to their communities."

The graduates completed the CTE Pre-Apprentice Construction Labor program which trains offenders in construction skills such as concrete, confined spaces and gravity flow piping. This certification of completion enables participants to be union pre-apprentices upon parole. CALPIA provides paroled graduates with a set of tools, a tool belt and union dues for a year.

With a recidivism rate of less than 7 percent, CALPIA's Pre-Apprentice Construction Labor CTE program is one of CDCR's most successful vocational training programs.

To increase the chance of employment, all CALPIA offender employees are

required to obtain a high school diploma, or complete a GED, within two-years of beginning the program.

"By choosing to participate in CALPIA's training, the CTE graduates successfully completed several projects around the facility, learned construction skills, and significantly reduced their chances of returning to prison," said Charles Pattillo, General Manager of CALPIA. "This program ensures that offenders are job-ready when they leave and the vast majority of CALPIA graduates will become law-abiding, taxpaying citizens."



CALPIA Receives the Patriot Award

CALPIA was honored with the Patriot Award in late May, by the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR).

This award is given to employers who take on the many challenges of hiring and supporting Reservists and National Guard Members. CALPIA has never hesitated to back their service members as they handle both their military duty and important CALPIA tasks.

Mr. Ferrell Chiles, a retired Army Warrant Officer with over 35 years of service, presented the Patriot's Award from the ESGR to CALPIA's Administrator of the Marine Technology Training Center at California Institution for Men, Josh Bayer.

CALPIA's MTTC program is one of the most successful rehabilitation programs in the U.S. It has a recidivism rate of less than 7 percent. Graduates are certified commercial divers, dive inspectors, and underwater welders.



CALPIA Honors Carl Wofford as "Warden of the Year"



At the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) quarterly Wardens Meeting on July 16, 2014, the California Prison Industry Authority (CALPIA) recognized Avenal State Prison (ASP) Warden, Carl Wofford, as CALPIA's "Warden of the Year".

This annual award honors a CDCR warden who exemplifies CALPIA's vision, mission and values and shows a true partnership in the management of CALPIA's correctional industry enterprises.

"Carl Wofford is an extraordinary advocate of

CALPIA's programs and supports what we strive for every day, providing job skills to offenders so that when they parole they never return to prison," said Charles Patisillo, General Manager of CALPIA. "He is truly deserving of this recognition due to his continual support and being a voice for CALPIA."

Wofford has shown true commitment to CDCR and CALPIA by ensuring that all correctional industry enterprises at Avenal State Prison are fully staffed and operational, offering offenders every opportunity of training and job skill building available to them.



2014 Employee Awards



Employee of the Year, Field- Desiree Monarrez, Office Assistant, California Institution for Men. Desiree keeps the day-to-day operations running smoothly so staff can concentrate on the intense training that the Marine Technology Training Center demands. She is always striving to improve operations, with an upbeat and professional demeanor.



Supervisor of the Year, Field- Paul Wittenmeier, P.I. Supt. II (Laundry). Paul maintains a high work standard and is a team player always striving to improve operations and reduce waste. Working at Pelican Bay State Prison, away from the mainstream of CALPIA's Central Office, Paul continues to increase participation with striving to reduce recidivism.



Correctional Officer of the Year, CALPIA Enterprises- Travis Townsy, Correctional Officer, Folsom State Prison. Travis has displayed a level of professionalism which sets a standard in his assignment of safety and security at Folsom. He keeps excellent rapport with CALPIA staff members and is well-respected by the offender population for his direct and fair treatment.

Congratulations



Employee of the Year, Central Office- Lisa Horrell, Contract Analyst, Business Services Section. Lisa is always professional, courteous, and knowledgeable. She demonstrates exemplary customer service to all seeking help. As a veteran contract analyst, Lisa trains newer contract staff and will always take the initiative to help her fellow co-workers.



Supervisor of the Year, Central Office- Gary Alarid, Chief, Budgets. Gary demonstrates dedication and hard work which compliments his calm and collected demeanor even while under pressure as he completes budget projects with strict deadlines. The combination of his high ethical standards and courteous manner enable him to be an excellent mentor to other employees.