



Energy Pathways Program (EPP) Quarterly Bulletin

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South Bay Center for Community Development

Partner Spotlight: Farewell to Tanis Nelson & Steve Steach

Special points of interest:

- *Partner Spotlight*
- *“Forum For Success”*
- *Staff Spotlight*
- *“Test Preparation Proven to be Successful”*
- *EPP Participant Spotlight*

SBCC and the Energy Pathways Program would like to recognize Tanis Nelson and Steve Steach as they embark on their new career opportunities.



TANIS NELSON was the Human Resources Manager at Valero has been instrumental in helping to put together the Energy Pathways Program and

she has also been the point person in what is a great relationship between the collaborative and Valero. Tanis has left Valero to pursue an opportunity with NuStar; a Pipelines and Terminals company with a regional office in the Sacramento Area.

STEVE STEACH, Operations Manager of the Carson Plant at the ConocoPhillips Los Angeles Refinery, has been a valuable proponent of the Energy Pathways Program and has been instrumental in adopting the first Process Technician Internship Program for the Energy Pathways Program at ConocoPhillips. Steve is leaving to become the ConocoPhillips Bill-



ings Refinery Manager in Billings, Montana.

Congratulations to both Tanis and Steve. We wish you continued success and appreciate all that you have done for the program and the many community residents who have been presented with career opportunities because of your efforts!

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“YOU ARE NOT HERE MERELY TO MAKE A LIVING. YOU ARE HERE IN ORDER TO ENABLE THE WORLD TO LIVE MORE AMPLY, WITH GREATER VISION, WITH A FINER SPIRIT OF HOPE AND ACHIEVEMENT. YOU ARE HERE TO ENRICH THE WORLD, AND YOU IMPOVERISH YOURSELF IF YOU FORGET THE ERRAND. ”

WOODROW WILSON, 28TH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

PPT Class Moving Forward

The Process Technician Cohort kicked off its bridge portion of the program on April 14, 2008. This year's diverse class is rounded out with individuals that have wide ranges of experience in mechanics highlighted

by those with experience in refinery contract work, tanker man work for the U.S. Coast Guard. With the addition of a Saturday course based on Refinery Safety, the current class had the opportunity to suit up and visit

one of the main units of an actual Refinery. The current students will complete their coursework of the Bridge program in July and begin the core classes focused on Process Technology.



Team building activity hosted by EPP staff on Friday, June 27th.



Class presentations held during Geneva (Cookie) Look's Safety Class on Saturday, June 28th.

Individualized Academic Assistance

Our Learning Support Specialists provide academic services to both the Energy Pathway Program (EPP) and the Urban Teacher Fellowship (UTF). Our main goal is to ensure that all of our students are succeeding academically. Some of our services include group and 1-on-1 tutoring sessions, test preparation and study guides, as well as academic resources and educational information about the school and programs. If we cannot personally tutor each individual, then we would refer him/her to other resources at Harbor College, such as the Learning Resource Center.

With the start of both programs in April, there has been a high demand for 1-on-1 and group tutoring services, predominantly in math and English. From the Energy Pathways Program, 14 participants from the Process Plant Technology have received services,

"ALTHOUGH EACH STUDENT LEARNS AT THEIR OWN INDIVIDUAL PACE, EACH TUTORING SESSION IS CATERED TO FIT THE STUDENT'S LEARNING STYLE."

mainly in math. For math, the students seek help in various topics such as unit conversions from the standard system to the metrics system and vice versa, complex percentage problems, and practical applications of decimal fractions. Other EPP participants that receive help in English are trying to improve their skills in essay structure.

For the UTF, there are currently 27 students seeking our services, 14 participants from the morning cohort and 13 from the evening cohort. During the math sessions, a wide range of

topics are covered including solving systems of equations through methods of substitution, addition, and graphing. Other topics include complex algebraic expressions, perimeter and volume, and order of operations. During the English sessions, some common topics we cover include sentence structure, identifying nouns and verbs, and complex sentences.

Although each student learns at their own individual pace, each tutoring session is catered to fit the student's learning style. In both programs, there has been steady progress with the students that have consistently received academic services. As the program continues, we will continue to provide the students the tips they need to be successful in his or her program.

IT Class Nearing the Finish Line

The participants of the Instrument Technician Cohort began their internships with program partner refineries, Valero, BP, and ExxonMobil. Each

of the individuals are paired with a mentor to orient them into the field work of instrumentation. The current cohort is set to graduate in September

from the Energy Pathway Program which will cap off a year's length of training.

Participant Spotlight: Theodore Panelli

THEODORE PANELLI is a 19-year old who was referred to the Energy Pathways Program through the Community College Foundation. Theo was an emancipated foster youth who had just come back from Arizona. He was looking for employment and an opportunity to have steady income. He started the 8-week Safety Attendant cohort in Sept. 2007. His TABE results were 12.9 in reading and 9.2 in math., well exceeding the program criteria. He finished the cohort and began working a turn-around season at Chevron.

After working a couple of weeks he was laid off which discouraged him. Theo called the dispatch company to see if they had any more work for him. They sent him out to Tesoro;



they were so impressed with his work that he has become a part of their maintenance team that will be on site for at least two years. Theo is grateful for the second chance.

We gave all of the foster youth who

completed the Safety Attendant cohort the opportunity to upgrade and become a part of another cohort. Theo took and passed the math welding bridge in record time. He has since begun the welding class and is learning welding skills and plans to become a welder, specifically focusing on earning is 3-G and 4-G certificates.

He has taken the opportunities given to him, learned from his experiences and has developed a strong work ethic. Theo has also taken advantage of mechanical helper upgrade training while working on his welding certifications. Since his involvement in the program, he purchased a car and is in the process of getting transitional housing.

Forum for Success

The foster youth have been busy working hard to prepare for their careers in the refinery industry these last few months. They are gearing up for summer jobs and had the opportunity to attend the 4th Annual Youth Opportunities Fair, Thursday May 29,

2008 at The Long Beach Convention Center. The students were excited to see employers from Valero, Home Depot, LA County Sherriff's Department and a host of others. Our students were dressed to impress and confident in their approach with em-

ployers for jobs.

Mock interviews were given before we set out to the job fair where the students practiced handshakes, answering questions, eye contact and asking questions. Students learned techniques to leave a great lasting impression on prospective employers. The Energy Pathway Program's staff assisted with resume writing and filling out applications. The youth gained valuable experience and were able to greet employment market industry leaders. It was a hands on way to build confidence and leadership skills. The students had a great time.



Education and Experience for the Welding cohort

The second Welding cohort, Welding II, began on Feb. 4, '08 and currently has a cohort of twenty-two (22) participants. The class has experienced great success with regards to learning the 2-G (horizontal). Approximately 75% of our participants have already tested and received certifications for it. With the leadership and instruction of Edward Hinojosa, students are also learning 3-G (vertical up), 4-G (overhead), 6-G (all positions), pipe, and TIG (gas tungsten arc).

The class attend a field trip to the WESTEC Convention on Wednesday, April 2nd at the Los Angeles Convention Center. Several of the students

saw exhibits dealing with break-through technology regarding welding, soldering, and machining. Students also had the opportunity to visit the Career Center and Fair.

The cohort had visits from several different presenters. On April 11th, George Rolla, Southern Section Coordinator of the American Welding Society (AWS,) visited the class and gave a hands-on pipe welding demo. Charles Alcock, Certified Welding Inspector for the Department of Water & Power (DWP) visited the class on May 23rd and Jesse Hood, Outreach Coordinator for the Ironworkers Local Union 416, will visit the class on Wednesday,

June 18th.

On Wednesday, April 16th, Mr. Hinojosa took the students on a field trip to Robinson Helicopter in Torrance. The students were given a full tour, introduced to the welders and given information about their different departments. Several students will be applying to them for employment upon completion of the program!

The graduation is scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 23, and will be hosted by the Los Angeles Harbor Occupational Center and South Bay Center for Counseling.



EPP Staff Update

The Energy Pathways Program (EPP) continues to grow and evolve as new and exciting challenges and projects emerge. In addition to the implementation of the Urban Teacher Fellowship (UTF) Program managed by former EPP Family Support Specialist Angie Piceno, EPP has found an urgency to employ new staff and promote existing staff to better meet the needs of the program's steady development.

Dalia Rosales, graduate of Cal State Northridge, with a B.S. in Family & Consumer Sciences, has joined the EPP team as the new Family Support Specialist (FSS), directly engaging with the 2008 PPT cohort.

Priscilla Fuentes, graduate of Washington State, with a B.S. in Psychology, has joined the UTF staff as the new Learning Support Specialist (LSS), sharing her time and services across both the UTF and EPP programs under the direction of fellow LSS, Meo Kittiwaniich.

As the needs of the program have necessitated adding staff to the program, other staff have been promoted to increase their responsibilities and focus their energies on specific key areas essential to the continuing expansion and preservation of the program.

Marco Martinez has been given the new title of Program Director of Workforce & Economic Develop-

ment, overseeing both of the career pathways, and the development of future pathways to come.

Meredith Curry is now the Program Manager for Pathway Sustainability, and is assigned with monitoring and evaluation coordination for all pathways, fundraising assistance, and research.

Renetta Thorn has been promoted to Program Manager for the Energy Pathways Program, overseeing staff and program administration, working in collaboration with UTF and the Program Director to implement Best Practices and capacity building for all pathways.

Welcome and Congratulations to all!



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OUR MISSION

South Bay Center for Community Development, in partnership with area refineries, United Steel Works, Los Angeles Harbor College, Los Angeles Harbor Occupational Center, and WelltechSafety is creating education and training pathways to train area residents as refinery

workers.

South Bay refineries including BP, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, Exxon Mobil, Shell, and Valero employ approximately 5,000 workers. Most are in high paying jobs with wages over \$75,000 and excellent benefits and retirement packages. In addition, area and national contractors, such as WelltechSafety employ up to 1,500 additional contract employees to assist in refinery operations.

According to both local and national surveys, as much as 25-50% of the refinery workforce will retire within the next five years, creating a new need for trained workers. To fill this gap, refineries are seeking to create a younger, more diverse and better educated workforce. Refineries are also increasingly seeking to fill new jobs from the local communities where they conduct much of their operations. Expected industry need over the next five years is 100-150 workers per year.

To respond to the need for educated, qualified individuals to be enlisted as employees in the energy industries, South Bay Center for Counseling's Energy Pathways Program has resolved to proactively outreach to SPA 8 communities and residents of the City of Los Angeles Housing Authority to recruit and train men and women in an effort to provide the energy industries with a young, dynamic and thriving workforce.

Current EPP Program Statistics

PPT Overall

- 100 trained PPT graduates
- 100 placed PPT graduates
- 27% female, 73% male
- 70% under the age of 35
- 14% Caucasian, 49% African American, 32% Hispanic, 5% Pacific Islander
- 78% living in SPA 8, 60% living in communities surrounding local refineries

Safety Attendant Overall

- 22% female, 78% male
- 56% under the age of 35
- 93% African American, 7% Hispanic
- 56% living in SPA 8, 30% living in communities surrounding local refineries

Welding Overall

- 5% female, 95% male
- 91% under the age of 35
- 18% Caucasian, 18% African American, 55% Hispanic, 9% Pacific Islander
- 73% living in SPA 8, 59% living in communities surrounding local refineries

IT Overall

- 100% male
- 29% under the age of 35
- 27% Caucasian, 20% African American, 13% Asian, 33% Hispanic
- 86% living in SPA 8, 43% living in communities surrounding local refineries

"ACTIONS ARE THE SEED OF FATE DEEDS GROW INTO DESTINY."

HARRY S. TRUMAN, 33RD PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

Overall EPP

- 13.5% female, 86.5% male
- 15% Caucasian, 45% African American, 3% Asian, 33% Hispanic, 4% Pacific Islander
- 73% living in SPA 8, 48% living in communities surrounding local refineries

