

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act & WIA

Yuma Private Industry Council

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CABLE INSTALLER

Jose A. has turned his life around during the last 10 years. Jose grew up in San Diego in the California Youth Authority (Juvenile Justice System). In fact, he earned his high school diploma while in the system. After his release Jose married and now has four children, ages 5 to 13 years old and he and his wife are expecting their fifth child. Jose said he decided to improve his life when he had kids. "I want more for my kids than what I had. I don't want them to have the problems I had."

In January 2009 Jose lost his job as a detailer at a car dealership. "It is hard to get a job when you have minimal skills and a criminal record. I wasn't able to find anything and that's when I came to the Yuma Private Industry Council. While discussing my goals I mentioned that I would like to work as an electrician, but would need to go to school. My case worker told me YPIC could help me go to school and since I was receiving unem-



Jose A. with Lorena Z, his YPIC career guidance specialist. Jose is proudly displaying his Electrical Certificate.

ployment and there aren't many available jobs, now would be a good time for school. "

"My case manager gave me step-by-step instructions on the enrollment process and I just followed the process. It was easy and before I knew it, I was in my first class. It has been very exciting. I took HVAC, welding, circuits and motors and intro to electricity. I think I now have 22 college credits and a certificate in Electrical."

While I was earning my certification, I also completed additional studies to obtain my National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) certificate. This will benefit me when applying for jobs because it is a nationally recognized certification.

"And now I will have two jobs. I start a temporary job with Enterprise Rent-A-Car on June 30, 2010 as a driver; driving cars to and from Tucson and Phoenix. On July 16, I will begin a permanent full-time job at Time Warner Cable as a cable installer. I'm really excited about this. I will be more than a job, it will be a career."

"This is not the end, it's just the beginning. I'm excited about school and want to continue. I can work and go to school part-time; I want to earn my electrical degree. I want to graduate from college and invite my family and friends to see what I've accomplished and what they can do also."

NEW SERVICE DELIVERY MODEL

At the Yuma Private Industry Council, we always attempt to meet our customers needs. To this end, we have made a few changes recently in response to the numbers of clients we are serving.

Mass program orientation is now offered to new clients, versus one-on-one orientation. During the mass orientations, appointments are made

with career guidance specialists, resume writers, a budget counselor, and for testing. This reduces the time it was taking to begin job search or training activities with clients.

In addition to mass orientation, we are also offering job club two days a week and it will probably increase to three days a week in the near future.

Numbers

ARRA funds spent to date:

96%

Adult: Received \$965,357
Spent \$965,357

Dislocated Workers:
Received \$1,193,971
Spent \$1,115,787

Rapid Response
Received \$143,277
Spent \$69,603

Youth: Received 2,233,610
Spent \$2,222,335

17 ARRA participants found permanent employment in June 2010

183 private resume and 18 federal resumes were completed by YPIC resume writers in June 2010

WIA YEAR ROUND YOUTH PROGRAM

At the Yuma Private Industry Council, a part of the Year Round Youth Program is to provide summer employment opportunities to youth currently enrolled in the Workforce Investment Act programs. This year the program is working with 173 youth spread across the county; from Wellton, to Yuma, to San Luis, AZ. The youth are participating in numerous work experiences, work based projects and academies.

The youth participating in work experiences are working directly with supervisors in the public and private sector, for non-profit and for profit businesses. YPIC is also providing work based projects; designing and building a green garden at an elementary school, designing and welding a gazebo, preparing and serving meals to a summer baseball league, painting a mural at the Civic Center and a ceramic arts/entrepreneurial project in

conjunction with Arizona Western College (AWC) and Northern Arizona University. The youth participating in the welding and green garden projects are also earning college credits for the projects.

YPIC, in conjunction with AWC, also offered numerous academies this summer. The academies included EMT/Public Safety, Health/Wellness, Graphic Design/Photography and AWC Campus Life. The academies were each one week in length and the youth spent the week living in the dorms and learning about campus life and educational/occupational courses available at AWC.

Here are just a few pictures of some of the projects:



The Business Services Officer received & posted 29 job announcements from Yuma County employers in June 2010

The Career Resource Center, Yuma Private Industry Council's One Stop had 2903 customers in June 2010, up from the 2400 customers in May 2010.

375 indicated they were dislocated workers

151 indicated they were Veterans

86 indicated they were Migrant workers

237 indicated they were in-school youth

363 indicated they were out-of-school youth

Yuma Private Industry Council

3834 W. 16th Street
Yuma, AZ 85364

Phone: 928-329-0990 x 141
Fax: 928-783-0886
Email: promant@ypic.com

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Newsletter Created and Written by
Nina Bone

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 was signed into law by President Obama on February 17, 2009. The Recovery Act is intended to preserve and create jobs, promote the nation's economic recovery and assist those most impacted by the recession. Yuma County was awarded \$4.5 million for activities authorized under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) which will be administered by the Yuma Private Industry Council (YPIC). The Yuma Private Industry Council is a private non-profit organization whose purpose is to provide job seeker and employer services in the Yuma County labor market. Incorporated in 1988, YPIC serves as the Private Sector partner in the Public/Private Workforce Development Partnership with the Yuma County Board of Supervisors. With the advent of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), the Yuma County Board of Supervisors designated YPIC as the official operator or the "One-Stop" delivery system for workforce development services in Yuma County. The Yuma County Board of Supervisors also appoints the Workforce Investment Board which is housed in the organizational framework of YPIC. The Board draws membership from the community and is made up of representatives from all areas of the public, private, and non-profit sectors.