



## News Release

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**For Immediate Release**

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### **NEARLY \$1 MILLION IN FUNDING SECURED BY THE FRESNO REGIONAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD TO ASSIST CENTRAL VALLEY JOB SEEKERS – INCLUDING VETERANS!**

Fresno, CA- July 2, 2015

The Fresno Regional Workforce Investment Board (FRWIB) is the fiscal agent on a series of grants in 2015 of nearly \$1M to serve job seekers throughout the Central Valley. A consortium of the eight (8) WIBs from Stockton through Bakersfield will use these grants to provide services to veterans, individuals with disabilities, at-risk youth, as well as individuals who are unemployed and/or underemployed.

The FRWIB will lead four (4) grants totaling \$953,410 to prepare individuals for employment opportunities in high-growth sectors within our community.

- **\$192,300 – Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Program** will provide training to 73 unemployed and underemployed individuals in the Solid Waste Management, Wastewater Treatment, and Integrated Pest Management sectors.
- **\$166,666 – California Disability Employment Accelerator Program** will provide training for at least 45 persons with disabilities in the following sectors – Business and Professional Services, Education, and Government.
- **\$444,444 – Veterans Employment-Related Assistance Program (VEAP)** will provide ongoing training and services for at least 110 veterans in the building trades to prepare them for apprenticeship. The FRWIB has already placed 94 veterans through a similar program.
- **\$150,000 – Proposition 39 Program** will expand multi-craft, pre-apprentice trainings to allow us to serve a minimum of 60 individuals in three additional counties: Stanislaus, San Joaquin, and Kern counties. Five counties are already receiving multi-craft training through the original \$550,000 investment including: Merced/Stanislaus (completed), Madera (in progress), Fresno, Tulare, and Kings.

“The resources provided by these grants will allow Valley residents with the greatest need to gain access to jobs that can make a difference in both their individual lives and the overall economic health of our Valley communities,” said Blake Konczal, Executive Director of the Fresno Regional Workforce Investment Board.

*A proud partner of America's Job Center of California<sup>SM</sup> network*

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