

News Release

Blake Konczal Executive Director

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Training Multi-County Workers through Community Projects

Developing skilled workers for current and planned projects

FRESNO, CA – Nineteen **(19)** participants enrolled in a multi-craft construction/trades preapprenticeship training program are geared up to give back to the community. Monday, March 16th they will put in the work at the Animal Rescue of Fresno with a number of projects utilizing the skills they've learned in the program. They will repair and conduct general maintenance, landscaping and build kennels.

When: Monday, March 16, 2020

Time: 8:30am to 12:30pm

Where: Animal Rescue of Fresno

4545 E. Dakota Avenue

Fresno, CA

These 18 men and one (1) woman in the job-training program, sponsored by the Fresno Regional Workforce Development Board (FRWDB) and the Fresno, Madera, Kings, & Tulare Building Trades Council (BTC), have received training designed to prepare them for a sustainable career in the constructions/trades industry.

"Giving back to our community is something that we in the building & construction unions value enormously. It is important to instill that in our members as early as possible," said BTC Secretary-Treasurer Chuck Riojas.

Job-training programs are particularly important in the San Joaquin Valley, where highly skilled workers are in great demand due to a wave of projects. "This training will equip these 19 job seekers with the skills required to compete for jobs created by planned and current projects ranging from highway construction to high speed rail," said FRWDB Executive Director Blake Konczal.

All of these individuals will participate in a graduation ceremony on Friday, March 20, 2020 at UA Local 246 Meeting Hall located at 1303 N. Rabe Avenue in Fresno at 11:30am. Upon their graduation they will receive certifications for OSHA-10, CPR & First Aide and Forklift Training as well as certificates of completion from the following seven (7) unions – plumbers, electricians, iron workers, sheet metal, cement masons, teamsters and painters.