

Cal-Liope

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 The Professional
 Association
 For Workforce
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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Page 2

State Award Nominations

Page 2

Membership Corner

Page 3

Legislative Update

Page 3

Don't Fall For
Scary Scamming

Page 4

Inventing Your Life

Page 4

Veterans Corner

Page 5-7

Around the State:
District & Chapter News

Page 8

Membership Form

MESSAGE FROM THE CALIFORNIA WORKFORCE CONNECTION **PRESIDENT**

By James Thomas, President

Our next Annual Educational Conference will be on May 3, 2024. Everyone can start making plans to attend this spectacular event. We have already started obtaining motivational speakers, outstanding networking opportunities, leadership skill building, and an outstanding awards program. CWC continues to provide an educational program that will benefit everyone in attendance.

Our new Executive Board, Chapters, and District Directors are planning new and exciting events. We want our members to have the best educational advantage to succeed in obtaining their goal(s). We provide each member the chance to invest in yourself. We provide our members with the chance to share their expertise, knowledge, and skills with others.

CWC organizational goals encompass; skill enhancement, sharing knowledge, and self-investment. We are interested in developing future leaders and promoting educational development programs. Investing in yourself allows individuals to always be prepared for upward mobility, increasing leadership skills, and improving self-awareness. We are continually seeking forward thinkers, creative minds, innovative personalities, and unlimited visionaries. We believe in you!

CWC membership should take advantage of the Karl E. Bybee Educational Grant. The grant has eligibility criteria for interested members. If you have been a CWC member in good standing for one year, and recently completed training from an accredited training facility within a fiscal year; you can apply for reimbursement for some of the costs or all your costs up to \$750 in a fiscal year.



PRESIDENT JAMES THOMAS

We hope our members read and enjoy the *Cal-Liope* Newsletter for activities and events from the Executive Board, District Directors, Chapter Presidents, and members. Some of the information provided is the President's Message, CWC Website, Retirement Message, Legislative Update, Personal Message, and Activities throughout the state. The website gives current information on upcoming events, Zoom presentations, new program developments, Chapter calendars, and District events. Visiting the website will keep you informed of events throughout the state.

CWC Executive Office Manager Found

*By Raymond Cabrera
District 4 Director
Inland Empire member*

In an email to the State CWC Board, State President Dr. James Thomas announced that Violeta (Violet) Velazquez was offered the position of Executive Office Manager/*Cal-Liope* Editor, and she has accepted.

Violeta is an Employment Program Manager II currently working in the Workforce Services Branch (WSB) as the San Bernardino Alternate

Cluster Manager. She is a graduate of the University of San Diego with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology, in addition to a Certificate in Human Resources Management from Cal-State Fullerton. She is skilled in day-to-day operations, project management, coaching, mentoring, organizing, planning, and setting priorities utilizing her time management skills in meeting deadlines.

Violeta is a 22-year member of CWC and has previously



VIOLETA (VIOLET) VELAZQUEZ

served in various capacities such as the Communications

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

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**Our association
is dedicated to
bringing education,
opportunity, and
innovation to all
individuals with a
common interest
in workforce
development**

California Workforce Connection State Award Nominations

It Is Not Too Early to Submit a Nomination

*By Arlene Bautista
State 2nd Vice President
East Bay Chapter President*

It is not too early to submit nominations for The California Workforce Connection (CWC) State Chapter Annual Awards Program. Even though the Awards are not presented until the CWC State Conference in May 2024, nominations can be submitted now. This ensures the staff are recognized for accomplishments done throughout the administrative year and are not forgotten. There will also be ample time for the Awards Committee to review the nominations and request clarifications if necessary.

If you need help writing an award nomination, look at awards on the CWC website. For those award categories where a non-member could

win, the nomination must be written by a member. For those awards that are only given to CA Chapter Members, CA Chapter membership

is required in both the year during which the activity occurred (2023) and the year in which the nomination was submitted (2024).

**Coming on
May 3, 2024
CWC Annual
Education
Conference**

*Mark your
calendar*

**You're
Invited!**



**Look for conference updates on our
website: www.californiaworkforceconnection.org**

OFFICE MANAGER FOUND FROM PAGE 2

and Management Liaison chair for the Inland Empire local chapter. She has a passion for coaching, training, and mentoring, and is a strong proponent of continuous learning and professional development. She has experience utilizing Adobe, MS Office, Canva, and Photoshop software.

She is presently the second Vice President and communications chair for the CWC Inland Empire local chapter as well as editor of the "Inland Empire Insider" newsletter.

When she was informed that she was the selected candidate for the position, Violeta said, "I am very excited about what lies ahead, and know this upcoming term will be a transformative experience

Change Ahead

*By Yvette Quevedo, Executive Office
Manager, Sacramento Chapter*

When I took on the role of Executive Office Manager in 2021, I was filling the shoes of two amazing women who had come before me – Pat Thornton and Mary Navarro-Aldana. I was able to navigate the complexities of the role and create a guide for those who may follow. I feel that at this point in my career I am ready to hand over the reins to someone who can grow and learn from this leadership role as much as I have. This will take place in the next few months. I will stay on board to mentor and train my replacement, but I will still be an active member of CWC. I look forward to seeing what the future has in store for this organization.



YVETTE QUEVEDO

Violeta will undergo a six-month probationary period and will be mentored by the current and outgoing office manager, Yvette

her Master's Degree in Public Administration, emphasis in Nonprofit Management. We wish them both the very best in their new endeavors.

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

THE IMPORTANCE OF MEMBERSHIP

By Annette Wiley, Membership Chair, East Bay Chapter

Our membership is a crucial component for the California Workforce Connection (CWC) continued educational training programs. It is also a key component of our financial sustainability. The members, through commitment and dedication, ensure our mission and goals are successful. They bring an array of perspectives, diverse skillsets, and knowledge. As the new Membership Chair, I will focus on understanding our membership, new recruitment strategies, and a positive retention program. I look forward to working together on the growth of CWC moving forward.

Are you retiring? LET CWC KNOW!

Send that information to CWC to provide you with the retiree rate for CWC

CONTACT US

Did you just get a promotion to management? LET CWC KNOW!

Send your information to CWC to provide you with the manager rate for CWC

CONTACT US

Did you just recruit a new member to CWC from the almost 4,000 new hires in Unemployment Insurance? LET CWC KNOW!

Get that membership application mailed in and help your new friend get their Members Only Login on the CWC website

CONTACT US



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

*By Jane Van Loon
East Bay Chapter*

The California Employment Development Department (EDD) granted more than \$11 million to Employment Social Enterprise (ESE) organizations to help support unemployed job seekers. The grants will fund and will focus on providing technical assistance, design and implementation of projects, a supported employment setting, building work experience, and improving career skills. About \$9.9 million in ESE grant funds were awarded directly to

organizations and \$1.4 million to The Roberts Enterprise Development Fund (REDF) for technical assistance of the projects.

According to the EDD's press release, "The selected ESE organizations will serve people who have faced long-standing barriers to employment, including justice-involved individuals, disconnected young adults, people with disabilities, long-term unemployed, older individuals, English language learners, and veterans. The grants' funding will focus on

building the capacity of ESEs to provide support services to participants to increase retention and success in the program. Successful projects will expand the scale and reach of the ESEs to serve nearly 1,600 workers currently confronting economic and employment barriers and develop career pathways for these special populations."

The EDD is committed to serving and supporting the underserved and vulnerable populations within the State of California. It hopes to alleviate the tension of individuals who are experiencing homelessness, the unemployment, disabilities, and language barriers by providing the skills, training, and resources that they deserve.

Don't Fall for Scary Scamming

*By BJ Sims, Marketing Chair/
Website Administrator*

Do you get scary text messages, phone calls, and emails from utility companies, banks, government agencies, and private companies telling you to respond immediately or something dire may happen? If you do not you will lose some opportunity, be arrested, have service cut off, or, worse, not have a package delivered.

Well, you should be scared, someone has your email and/or phone number. These are tactics used by scammers to get you to respond by clicking on a link or get more information. Once they get you to click, they will try to get more information about you, and they will use that information to steal your money, your identity, and your privacy.

These scammers want you to answer, once they get you to respond they will keep emailing, texting, or

calling. The best defense is to stay calm, do not respond immediately but rather look at the email/text for spelling errors or unfamiliar email addresses for someone you may know. Some will use a family, friend, or acquaintance name with a different email to get you to respond. Instead, go to the official website and check the official email address that is posted, or use the email you do know for that contact. If it is different, use the official address to respond. This way you can verify that this is a real or a non-real contact.

A good way to reduce scam calls is to let calls from numbers you do not recognize go to voice messages. I check my voice messaging if they are not in my contact list. Amazingly, I do not have messages from scammers but only people who want me to call for legitimate reasons (such as medical appointments, sale pitches,

friends, and family) will leave me a message. The trick is to use your devices as tools for your benefit and not let them make you vulnerable.

If you are getting scary scamming messages, take the extra step to verify, go to the official website of the organization, and report it. Many companies, organizations, and government agencies have resources that will help you find out if there is an issue and how to resolve it.

If you get a call from a grandchild, make sure it is your grandchild. I recently got a call from a scam grandson using a number I did not recognize, stating he was in trouble. Most grandparents are very willing to help but, in this case, I called him by a name that was not any of my grandsons. The individual responded with the bogus name, he asked for money, and I hung up. Of course, just to be

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

"Unconditional Giving"

By Rob Claudio, Orange Empire

I had this discussion with a good friend of mine several weeks ago about the life lessons we have learned and how we remember the instances when we were taught something deep and meaningful. We spoke about unconditional giving and how difficult it can be to do this, especially when we begin to look for excuses about why we cannot. Take for instance the person on the street who may ask for money, and we typically make a quick judgment about whether they need it, what they will use it for, or we even go a step further and wonder why they seem able-bodied and could be working for a wage. All these things may cross our minds all at once or in increments.

The bottom line is what will we do at the conclusion? In addition, I thought about the holidays and when that comes around, we tend to have a softer spot for people in need and it is the spirit of the season that can spur us to be more generous as a result. Then more recently, you have a natural disaster like the one that occurred on the island of Maui and your heart goes out to the many affected folks, and then you may look for opportunities to contribute that may help.

All of these are opportunities for us to choose a way to potentially make a difference in the life of someone afflicted by something that has caused them to be in a vulnerable situation. Even more poignantly, the people affected must humble themselves enough to ask for help, in whichever form that may be.

This could be a very apprehensive time for someone who may not be used to asking for assistance. All of us are constantly presented with choices to help others, the issue that persists is: are we listening to our inner voice that points us to help or are we ignoring it? I wrote a long time ago about my own grandmother and how she taught me this lesson, as she would always carry lots of change in her purse, and when someone asked her for money, she never hesitated and gave it without thinking twice.

Once, she asked me to give money to a woman outside of a restaurant who was asking for money, I initially refused, and she promptly admonished me and told me to do as I was told. I reluctantly gave the woman

the money and came back into the restaurant and when I sat down with my grandmother again, I gave numerous reasons for how this person was going to use the money to do bad things. My grandmother let me speak my mind and when I finally stopped, she looked at me and told me that it was her money, and she could do what she wanted with it. She also proceeded to tell me about how she struggled coming to this country and if it were not for the kindness of many strangers, she would not be where she was then. I never spoke about that after this, and it wasn't until she was gone that I realized the lesson she had taught me through her example and testimony.

I am sure many of you have been taught lots of different wonderful things by a close relative, friend, peer, or even a stranger. My hope is that you are willing to open your heart and mind to the possibility of what can occur if you follow your positive instinct in the process. I highly encourage you to look for the opportunity that may present itself to you and choose to give without expecting anything in return. There are many ways to give, other than just through monetary means, so you get many opportunities to select from. You will be amazed at what that transformative experience can do for your life and how your sense of self changes in the process.

It is indeed better to give than to receive, you just need to make it a habit and do so without making a big spectacle in the process. The right eyes will be watching and more importantly, by the time you go to bed at night, think about the smile you will have on your face before falling asleep when you realize how much joy this has brought you.

I hope you continue to look for instances of being of service to others and that you get to experience the true happiness and joy that comes when you give and let go.

"Help others without any reason and give without the expectation of receiving anything in return."

– Roy T. Bennett

Remember to follow the blog at:
inventingyourlife.blogspot.com



ROB CLAUDIO

COMPTON 20TH ANNUAL VETERANS STAND DOWN

By Dinah White, Los Angeles Chapter

The Compton Veteran Stand Down event began September 23. According to Dr. Lesteacan M. Johnson, Mistress of Ceremony and President of the Compton Chamber of Commerce, "The Veteran Stand is a means of meeting the needs of our veterans and their families. The Veteran Stand Down carries the philosophy A Hand Up; not a Handout!" The purpose of this activity, Stand Down, is to identify and address the issues faced by veterans.

The Veterans Stand Down is a collaborative event, organized by Compton Chamber of Commerce, For the Love of Veterans, and synchronized with the local VA Medical Centers and other government agencies (including the Employment Development Department (EDD) Workforce Services) and other governmental agencies, non-profit organizations, and community-based veteran services providers.

The event was held over three days: September 23-25, 2023 at the CareerLink in Compton CA. The Stand Down bring together health care organizations, Veterans Administration, EDD, Legal Aid, Red Cross, LA County VPAN, VFW, and a variety of volunteers and non-profit organizations and components to assist in creating a permanent path of stability to the Homeless, Veterans, and veterans' families.

Welcome and remarks were made by Emma Shariff, Honorable Mayor of Compton. She expressed her gratitude and thanks to all our veterans and noted that this year theme was "Honor" which is the very center of military service! "Honor reflects the value and tradition of answering the call to duty. And that; "Our nation is safer, stronger, and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

DISTRICT II

By Fred Ruibal, District II Director

Fall is here and the seasons are starting to change. You can feel it in the air. The mornings will become brisker as daylight gets shorter as it rolls towards winter cold and frost. As we “fall” into the new season, District II, like the ever-changing seasons, is on the move again. The 3rd quarter began with planning, participating in events, and being engaged with the members, which seemed to be the order of the day. The goal, of course, is to hopefully motivate our members to make strides that will assist them with getting the most out of what our organization has to offer.

During the past summer, our District had our installation of new officers. And we are happy to say that it has new faces on the boards who are willing to step up and assume these leadership roles. In addition, in honor of our new boards, the district will be having an event on Saturday, September 23 as of this writing. We will be having a speaker, as well as a luncheon, and we mingle and network with our fellow members in the district in welcoming our new officers. This is a chance for the membership to meet their new members. I will give a more detailed account of this meeting for it has not yet come to pass. Consider this a teaser!

In other District II news, the Silicon Valley chapter is awaiting their new CWC shirts courtesy of the Puerto Del Sol chapter! We cannot wait to get them!



FRED RUIBAL

President.

George works at the Employment Development Department (EDD) Unemployment Insurance (UI) Oakland office and had recently served as the CWC State Legislative Chair. Despite his busy schedule, he quickly accepted the position of First VP when asked.

Tanya also works at the UI Oakland office. Her high energy and serious commitment to being the Second VP is encouraging. She has been with CWC for a few years and is anxious to experience the CWC benefits.

The East Bay Chapter would like to recognize the many years of contribution of the prior First VP, Vickie Slack. Vickie has supported and assisted the East Bay Chapter and District II. She was there for our many presentations and training, and at work, she made sure staff was aware of CWC. We deeply appreciate Vickie for her support!

Members of CWC District II (which includes East Bay and Silicon Valley Chapters) will get to meet the new officers at a “Meet the New Officers” meeting on September 23, 2023.



INLAND EMPIRE CHAPTER

CULTURE EATS STRATEGY FOR BREAKFAST

By Violeta Velazquez, Inland Empire Chapter

The following article was inspired by WSB Deputy Director, Javier Romero.

In July I had the pleasure of attending a leadership retreat in San Diego. During Javier’s discourse he referenced the following succinct, yet resonant phrase, “Culture eats strategy for breakfast.” In addition to finding that phrase thought provoking, it has lingered in my head ever since.

The age-old adage “Culture eats strategy for breakfast” has

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6



VIOLETA VELAZQUEZ

EAST BAY CHAPTER

NEW LOCAL OFFICERS

By Arlene Bautista, State 2nd Vice President, East Bay Chapter President

The East Bay Local Chapter has two new executive officers! Joining the East Bay President, Arlene Bautista, is George Kawamata-First Vice President, and Tanya Shiloh, Second Vice

VETERANS CORNER

FROM PAGE 4

more resilient as a direct result of every admirable individual who served and sacrificed to protect our freedom.” Additionally, remarks were made by Councilpersons; Deidre Du-hart and Lillie Darden, of the City of Compton District 1 & 4 respectively. Both Councilpersons thanked the organizers of this event and pledged to continue their support of veterans and their family members in future Stand Downs.

The Los Angeles Chapter of the California Workforce



CWC MEMBERS PARTICIPATING IN THE 2023 COMPTON HOMELESS VETERAN STAND DOWN: SADE WASHINGTON, STERLING AND TOVA BARBOUR, DINAH WHITE, AND PRINCEJAMES REED WILLIAMS.

Connection also supported this worthy event with a generous donation. Members also served on the planning committee and volunteered their time and services. They also solicited additional sponsorships to help provide meals for

the veterans, family members, and volunteers participating in the event. It was heartwarming to hear the expressions of gratitude from the veterans in attendance regarding the high level of services rendered to them.

SCAMMING

FROM PAGE 3

on the safe side I immediately called all my grandchildren, asked if they were in trouble, and was reassured that all were doing well, and had not called me for help.

Remember to stay calm, take note of scary contact information, and report it accordingly.

CHAPTER NEWS FROM PAGE 6

gained a new appreciation in the ever-evolving workforce. While strategic planning is crucial in guiding organizations to their objectives, it is the subtle yet powerful force of organizational culture that often proves to be the ultimate determining factor in achieving sustainable success. This article explores the reasons why culture surpasses strategy in shaping an organization's destiny, and how cultivating a positive culture can lead to extraordinary outcomes.

A well-nourished culture fosters a distinct connection among employees. When values and beliefs are shared, individuals naturally gravitate towards similar goals and actions. This inherent alignment leads to a workforce that is not only committed to the organization's mission but is also proactive in driving it forward. In contrast a strategy-driven approach might prompt employees to follow prescribed steps, but without a cultural foundation, their commitment could waiver when challenges arise.

Culture provides a flexible framework that empowers employees to navigate change and uncertainty. An organization with a strong culture can quickly adjust its strategies in response to unexpected shifts, while still remaining rooted in its core values. This resilience is especially vital in today's rapidly changing business landscape, where unforeseen disruptions are the norm rather than the exception.

A culture that prioritizes employee well-being and engagement can lead to reduced turnover and increased job satisfaction. When employees feel a sense of belonging and purpose, they are more likely to invest themselves in their roles, contributing to improved performance and innovation. In contrast, the strategy heavy approach might neglect the human element, leading to disengagement and attrition.

An organization's culture is outward facing, contributing significantly to its brand identity. Customers and clients are drawn to organizations with authentic cultures that align with their own values. Such cultures create a unique selling concept that goes beyond mere products or services. On the other hand, a strategy-focused organization might struggle to establish a genuine and relatable brand identity.

A culture-driven organization empowers employees at all levels to make decisions that align with the organization's values. This decentralization of decision making not only accelerates problem solving but also generates a sense of ownership and accountability. In contrast a strategy centric approach might enforce a top-down decision structure that stifles creativity and inhibits individual growth.

While strategies tend to have specific timelines, a strong culture feels a long-term vision. It encourages employees to think beyond immediate gains and consider the organization's enduring impact. This perspective is essential for building sustainable success that extends far beyond the confines of any single strategy.

Fostering a culture that truly eats strategy for breakfast requires deliberate efforts from leaders, employees, and stakeholders. It involves aligning values, promoting open

communication, recognizing behaviors that align with the culture, and making cultural integration an integral component of the hiring process.

Strategy undeniably provides a road map; however, it is culture that breathes life into an organization's journey. The power of culture lies in its ability to ignite enthusiasm, inspire innovation, and foster a sense of community. Recognizing that culture trump's strategy is more than a mere acknowledgement; it stands as a necessity for shaping an organization that is resilient, engaged, and thriving in today's dynamic and ever evolving world.

GREETINGS FROM INLAND EMPIRE

By John Szeibert, IE Chapter President

We are thrilled to announce that Matoya Terrell, from the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, has joined our board as the Educational Chair. In this role, Matoya will help us plan and organize training and other activities for our chapter. Matoya brings a wealth of experience and expertise to our team. Please join us in welcoming Matoya to the board.

In August, CWC volunteered at The Ronald McDonald House in Loma Linda. Nicole Palomino from UI-Center Carnegie and Peter Gallerani, the former IE Chapter President, organized this event. This organization supports families who have a child undergoing medical treatment far from their home by offering them a place to stay together or near their child. The families can enjoy the comfort of home, including home-made meals. We assisted in preparing and serving these meals.

We appreciate the generosity and support of everyone who contributed and participated. Our plans include more activities at The Ronald McDonald House, and we hope to meet you there.

We are grateful to Violeta Velazquez for creating our local chapter newsletter The Insider, where you can learn more about events in the area and articles from featured writers, such as Michelle Stevenson, Chief of Staff, WSB SWSD. Thank you, Michelle!



PUERTO DEL SOL CHAPTER

TIME TO HIKE: A HIKING ADVENTURE FOR THE PUERTO DEL SOL (PDS) CHAPTER

By Ken Underwood, Member, and Maritza Marroquin-Sanders, 1st Vice President, PDS Chapter

On July 15, 2023, it was a cool Saturday morning when members and guests of the Puerto Del Sol (PDS) Chapter embarked on an early 7 AM hike to embrace the sunshine, comradery, and nature's splendor at the Piedras Pintadas Trailhead in Rancho Bernardo, California.

Why a hike? There's a certain magic in gathering in the outdoors, soaking up the sun's warmth, and sharing stories. Here are some thoughts on why taking a hike resonated with PDS:

"I embarked on the hike through Piedras Pintadas, not just to tread the trails, but to tread deeper into the stories of both my co-workers and the Puerto del Sol Chapter. The journey was

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

CHAPTER NEWS FROM PAGE 6



TIME TO HIKE: A HIKING ADVENTURE FOR THE PUERTO DEL SOL CHAPTER (PICTURED FROM LEFT, FRONT ROW): ROSARIO FRANCO, CHRISTINE BARKS; (CENTER ROW): SOLOMON BARKS, LYNN LAM; AND (BACK ROW): MARITZA MARROQUIN-SANDERS, LUIS PEREZ, PHIL DWYER, KEN UNDERWOOD.

a symphony of discovery, weaving threads of connection and empowerment,” states Ken Underwood.

“It was fantastic to get the opportunity to see each other in person while completing a physical activity. For me, one of my favorite ways to visit and get to know others is while walking and talking,” stated Solomon Barks, PDS Chapter President.

The Puerto del Sol hike reminded me of a quote from John Muir, “In every walk with nature, one receives far more than he seeks,” says Phil Dwyer, Chapter Member and California Workforce Connection (CWC) Treasurer.

“Getting out for some sunshine, some open air in nature and some good conversation is why I attended this PDS event. It felt like a great way to build rapport with our Chapter members and our guests,” states Maritza Marroquin-Sanders.

The name Piedras Pintadas means painted rocks in Spanish and calls back to the remarkable polychrome pictographs created in this area by the Kumeyaay. We explored the flora and fauna using the Google Lens app and the iNaturalist app. By using the iNaturalist app, we had a chance to contribute to tracking local species. “Even the tiniest of trail residents came out to support Puerto Del Sol’s hiking endeavors. The Pincate Beetle or Stink Beetle is one of many insects that emit a malodorous scent to deter predators,” stated Luis Perez, PDS guest.

As with any good adventure, a slight obstacle presented itself along the way and we found we had to detour from our intended trail. Our former Chapter Treasurer, Rosario Franco, offered a resourceful solution and navigated a new route using the All Trails app.

Amidst closed trails at Piedras Pintadas, we found open paths through teamwork. Our hike wasn’t just about nature, but also about navigating challenges together, forging personal connections, and professionally discovering new routes to success.

For more information about all the trails in the San Dieguito River Park, visit www.sdrp.org.



SAN GABRIEL VALLEY CHAPTER

By Emmuel Eyo
San Gabriel Valley Chapter President



EMMUEL EYO

In June 2023, I was elected President of CWC San Gabriel Valley Chapter. I humbly submitted myself to serve because I believe in CWC’s mission, and I recognize the positive effects it has on recognizing staff. I want to help and be a part of CWC leadership to continue the good works of CWC. I will put in my best effort in serving our membership and spreading the mission of CWC.

I am a proud member of the CWC team and EDD Veteran Services team. I have over 20 years of work experience. I have worked as a US Army soldier, salesman, manager, director, administrator, and employment specialist. I managed the sales of medical devices after leaving the military in 2006. I was a Director and Business Administrator for nutrition and substance use disorder (SUD) clinics until joining the EDD.

In 2017, I was married with seven children. I went to the EDD (Crenshaw) office to file for unemployment where I learned about the EDD Veteran Program. I felt I could now focus on serving veterans, so I later applied for the Disabled Veteran Outreach Program Specialist (DVOPS) position. My application was successful and I joined the EDD on August 2, 2017. I enjoyed case management with individual veterans until I got promoted to the position of Local Veteran Employment Representative (LVER) in 2020. I so enjoyed my work as a DVOPS that I maintained the top performer position for 2017, 2018, and 2019. As an LVER, I cover multiple AJCC offices (including Inglewood, Culver City, Torrance, San Pedro, Carson, and Long Beach). I have peer-trained and mentored most (if not all) veteran program staff hired in ARU 014 and ARU 155 since 2020. I also continue to provide veteran program training to staff and partners for Veteran Service Navigation (VSN) processes.

I won the CWC Services to Veterans Awards for 2019 and 2020, and the CWC’s Workforce Services Employee Performance Award for 2021. In February 2023, I was part of the Veteran Team that received the District III award for the best veteran team in 2022. On March 7, 2023, I led the Torrance AJCC veteran team through a successful Department of Labor -JVSG Audit for 2023 with a perfect percent score of 100%.

CWC has helped me to perform my best efforts resulting in excellent work. It awakened me to maintain my work ethic. I want to see more people take advantage of all that CWC has to offer. I want CWC to awaken professional aspirations for people who have lost hope or the drive to thrive.

To members, cheers for being a part of this noble organization. To non-members, I would like to dialogue with you as to why you should join CWC. We can start the conversation through my email at sgvpresident@gmail.com. I hope that you will check us out at any of our open-sponsored events. CWC encourages professionals, promotes professionalism, and provides resources for growth. CWC celebrates excellence.

Membership Application

☐ New
 ☐ Update
 ☐ Renewal
 ☐ Cancellation

Date:

Mail application and payments to: **CWC Membership Coordinator**, P.O. Box 7858, Oxnard, CA 93031
 or email application to cwcworkforceconnection@gmail.com (mail payment, if applicable)

*Full Name:	First	Last		
*Local Chapter:	Select chapter you want to join	Telephone:		
*Personal email:				
*Address:				
*Employer:		*Location:		
*Job Title:		ARU#		*Bargaining Unit #:

*Type of Member	Annual Dues	*Payment Option
<input type="radio"/> Employment Development Department (EDD) Employee (Bargaining Unit 1 or 4)**	\$48.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Automatic Deduction (\$4.00) <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Check *SSN:
<input type="radio"/> EDD Supervisor/Exempt Employee**+	\$0.00	*SSN:
<input type="radio"/> Other State Employee (Non-EDD)** <i>Refer to your Bargaining Unit Contract for possible reimbursement</i>	\$98.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Automatic Deduction (\$8.17) <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Check *SSN:
<input type="radio"/> Partner (Non-EDD)	\$98.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Check
<input type="radio"/> EDD Student/Youth Assistant**	\$36.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Automatic Deduction (\$3.00) <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Check *SSN:
<input type="radio"/> Retiree	\$36.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Check

I recognize that the processing of this form/payment may take 1-3 months. If I have selected the **Automatic Deduction** option, I hereby authorize the State Controller's Office (SCO) to automatically deduct from my salary each month the amount listed above and transmit, as designated, an amount for membership dues to the CWC; I understand that processing may take 2-3 pay periods. If I have selected the **cash or check** option, I hereby agree to be sent annual dues renewal invoices (**make check payable to: CWC**). I agree to provide my full social security number, which will be kept confidential. I certify that I am now a member of the CWC and allow the organization to establish, change, and/or cancel my deduction, as applicable. I understand that this authorization will remain in effect until I submit a written request to the CWC Membership Coordinator to terminate my membership and cancel any deduction, as appropriate. I also understand that the CWC organization does not issue refunds for unused dues or the months taken for processing.

*Signature: _____ *Date: _____

Name of Recruiter (if applicable): _____

* Required

** If you do not wish to provide your Social Security Number (SSN), then you must pay the full membership dues for that type of member by cash or check.

+ For this membership type, if you do not wish to supply the SSN, then the amount due is \$98.00.