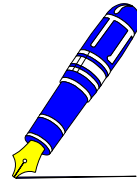


# DIRECTORS NOTES

05/22/03



## Local News

- WIA budget for California and Merced is reduced in all areas. The State of California WIA allocations have been reduced by 16.36%. The Central San Joaquin Valley and other rural Counties have been hit hardest. Sub-state allocation formulas have shifted funds to the Greater Bay area and Silicon Valley due to the spike in unemployment in those highly populated areas. Merced's reductions are as follows: Adult 25.44%, Dislocated Worker 31.07%, and Youth 28.13%. Total loss in allocation to Merced's \$2,141,783.
- The Department has initiated a call to action of the Central California WIA's, to work as a region with the State and Federal agencies and elected officials to mitigate the lack of resources to our region for Workforce Investment. The Counties and Workforce Investment areas that have indicated their participation are as follows: San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Mother Load Consortium, Kings, Tulare, Kern, San Benito, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Monterey.
- The Department has completed the State Fiscal and Procurement Monitoring for the WIA programs. A final report will be forwarded to the Department and shared with the WIB within 90 days.
- Central Valley WIA Directors have identified the Merced Director, Andrea T Baker, as their liaison to the Federal Interagency Task Force for the Economic Development of the Central San Joaquin Valley. This task force was established by Executive Order by President Bush in February 2002.
- The kickoff to the Workforce Academies was held May 16, 2003. Department staff, Elaine Craig and Julieanne Brantley, have been working on the steering committee in preparation for the Workforce Academies and subsequent Workforce Roundtables. WIB members Don Bergman, Scott Galbraith and John Fowler are key steering committee members representing the Chamber and Economic Development.

## State/Local News

- State Senator Jeff Denham is tentatively scheduled to visit the One-Stop May 30, 2003. Plans for his visit will commence once a firm date is set.

## State and National News

- The House of Representative have passed HR 1261, the bill would reauthorize the Workforce Investment Act. The Vote was 220 to 204, with Congressman Cardoza voting “no”. The Senate has no bill at this time but is expected to have one by August.