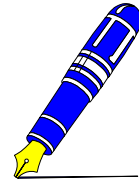


DIRECTORS NOTES

11/05/03



Local News

- The State Youth Council has selected Merced County Youth Council as an “All Youth-One System Architect of change. This award will be presented at the State Youth Council meeting on November 20th, 2003. Nellie McGarry will accept the award for Merced County.
- Worknet piloted their first “ soft skills academy” for the Job Seeker, November 5th and 12th, 2003. The attendance referrals came from both Partner agencies and walk-in customers. Twenty-seven (27) were enrolled on the first day. There is now a waiting list for this activity. A full report will be provided to the WIB once a full class as been completed and results of the classes are analyzed.
- State Senator Jeff Denham and staff came to the Worknet Employment Resource Center on October 30th, 2003. Staff and the Former WIB Chair, Rick Osorio greeted the Senator. During his visit was given a tour of the facilities, spoke with some customers, and discussed how he could help the WIB with their concerns.
- The Workforce 2020 Academy-Los Banos was held On October 9th, 2003. The Department of Labor representative did not attend as planned. As a part of this DOL contract, a Manufacturers Summit was held on October 29th, 2003 sponsored by the Greater Merced Chamber of Commerce and will be counted as a sector Roundtable. Both the State Manufacturers Association and local manufacturers spoke to elected officials regarding the issues that this important sector faces in sustaining their businesses.
- The Human Services Agency, Family Resource Council and Prop 10 Commission are working to hold a Children’s Summit on Friday, April 30th, 2004 at the Boys and Girls Club. WI’s Director and the Youth Contractor are both involved in the planning of this event. The Youth Council will be asked to participate in the sponsorship of this event.
- The Department’s scheduled monitoring by the State Employment Development Department for program compliance has been rescheduled for early December. This review will monitor the One Stop, WIA eligibility, and WIA program compliance for PY 2000 through 2003/04.

State News

- California Workforce Association will hold a WIB Chair/Vice Chair/Directors meeting on November 7th, 2003 in San Francisco. Mike Sullivan and Andrea Baker will attend.

National News

- The Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education appropriations bill has not been acted upon as of yet and most likely will now be a part of an Omnibus Budget bill to be acted upon before the Congressional recess. Conference committees have not been successful in passing nine of the appropriation bills that are in need of completion.
- The Senate HELP committee passed out WIA reauthorization unanimously and it is scheduled for a vote on the Senate floor this week. If acted on by the Senate a Conference committee will be established to negotiate the final bill. Once the Conference committee is named, advocacy will commence.