Traditional News... 
back in the day

Cable/Digital/Social Media
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Give ‘em a Chance!
Fair Chance Employer Summit Encourages Hiring Formerly Incarcerated

Contra Costa Employers Take Advantage of New Incentives

Video Attachment: John Krause, former inmate and owner of Big House Beans Owner; Nilton Serva, former inmate and college student; Barry Hathaway, The Stride Center, Exec. Dir

https://www.youtube.com/v/y9zTNqj2bE

Contra Costa County, Calif. (May 5, 2017) – The passage of Prop 57 has prison and jail populations in California shifting. Greater numbers of long-term prisoners are being released into a job market where they often struggle to find employment.

In West Contra Costa County, a staggering 78 percent of all people with prior convictions are unemployed. That’s why several formerly-incarcerated speakers will be telling their stories of struggle and success at the Fair Chance Employer Summit on May 24 at the Pleasant Hill Community Center (320 Civic Drive, Pleasant Hill) from 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon.

This overbooked event is geared toward helping employers strengthen hiring practices, minimize risk and maximize value by becoming a Fair Chance Employer.

“We’re seeing more interest in hiring formerly incarcerated people now that Federal incentives are available,” says Donna Van Wert, Interim Director of the Contra Costa County Workforce Development Board. “A lot of business leaders are looking to take advantage of new tax credits, fidelity bonding and wage reimbursements. Studies show that employing people who have been in jail can significantly reduce the high rate of recidivism in California.”

Among the speakers will be former gang member, Nilson Serva, who was incarcerated twice for burglary. After his release, he was on the verge of homelessness when he found out about Earn & Learn, East Bay.
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Criteria

► Compelling?
► Relevant?
(Why should the taxpayers care?)

$3.4 Million Early Childcare Grant Bittersweet for Contra Costa County

2,000 More Children Still Awaiting Early Childcare Subsidies

MARTINEZ, Calif. (March 27, 2017) — Some much needed funding has been awarded to Contra Costa County’s Community Services Bureau (CSB) to provide Early Head Start childcare for neediest children. CSB, which is part of the county’s Employment and Human Services Department (EHS&D), announced that it has been awarded a $3.4 million federal grant to subsidize childcare. The Early Head Start-Partnership grant will benefit children 0-3 years of age.

“We are thrilled to be able to serve more of the neediest families with the youngest children in our county while helping fill the need that is often a barrier to parents working or going to school,” says Camilla Rand, CSB Director. “Every dollar is one step closer to closing the gap and helping Contra Costa families succeed.”

Only 74 out of 600 nationwide applicants were selected for the highly sought after funding. But it’s a small victory for CSB which cites the growing disparity among families who can provide preschool and early childcare for their children. The grant provides funding for 190 children. However, 2,074 more kids are still on the county’s waiting list to receive Early Head Start childcare.

One of the most pressing needs for Contra Costa residents has been access to licensed childcare for infants and toddlers. “Those families who don’t receive subsidies end up making hard choices, sometimes resulting in substandard care,” explains Rand. In 2014, only 13 percent of low-income 0-2 year olds received subsidized care. Child outcome studies of children who do
Social Media

Captions on Video
Horizontal vs Vertical

Desk Level
No Lighting

Eye Level
Key Lighting