

On Site

Playa Vista Job Opportunities and Business Services

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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Ernest Roberts
Executive Director, PVJOBS

A couple of years back, PVJOBS had a contractor who would hire our clients, only to lay them off weeks later. Their corporate headquarters instructed them to do so after their background checks revealed that our clients had criminal convictions. This company had a blanket policy of not hiring individuals with criminal records.

After learning this, I traveled to their Memphis headquarters to meet with the company executive who wrote this policy. This executive explained that, although he was a "Christian" and believed in philanthropic and humanitarian acts, making foolish decisions could lead to liability exposure, like employee theft. While I agreed that companies should not be foolish, the potential theft of a tool or two seemed a minimal risk compared to the overall good of providing life changing job opportunities to the at-risk community. I further explained that philanthropic and humanitarian acts sometime entail an element of risk, and some risks are necessary to address many of our societal issues. In the end, the executive agreed to make a policy exception for our clients.

Performing an act that entails risks may increase the value of that particular act. Further, taking such a risk could be one of the most beautiful experiences imaginable. Those who act at some cost may realize that it is they who have reaped the greatest benefits. And in order to make our communities better, I see no other way but for people to act now – even if that act may at first appear to be risky.

PVJOBS Grads Recognized At Concert Park Ceremony

A crisp, clear day at Playa Vista's Concert Park marked the setting of the recent PVJOBS graduation ceremony that was held to recognize clients who've completed more than 3,000 hours of work through the job program. More than a hundred graduates, family members and friends turned out for the celebration event, which drew media coverage from the Daily News and other local community newspapers.

A wide level of community support made the graduation event a special one, with Congresswoman Jane Harman and Councilman Bill



PVJOBS Graduate Alvin Carney (third, left) proudly accepts his congratulatory certificates from (left to right) Emily Linnemeier of Senator Debra Bowen's Office; Clarence Griffin of Assemblyman Jerome Horton's Office; Congresswoman Jane Harman; Councilman Bernard Parks; and Playa Vista President Steve Soboroff.

Rosenthal making appearances to personally congratulate the graduates. Councilman Bernard Parks served as the event's keynote speaker to encourage the graduates to continue their successful career journey. Each elected official, along with representatives from Senator Debra Bowen's and Assemblyman Jerome Horton's offices, surprised the graduates by presenting them with their own signed certificates.

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PVJOBS Employment Update

Important Notice – Electrician Application Assistance: In order to qualify for the Electricians Union Local 11, candidates must have a high school diploma or GED, driver's license, and transcripts verifying an algebra class completion. After the application submittal, candidates must pass tests in the subjects of reading comprehension as well as mechanical

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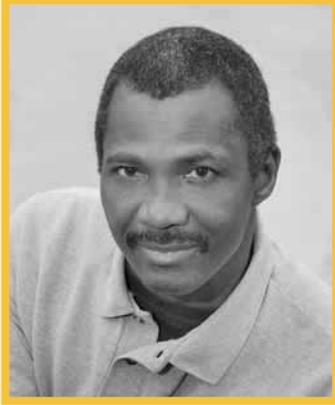
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PVJOBS At Work

MITCHELL CADE: A Greater Appreciation

At 51, laborer Mitchell Cade may have reached middle-age, but he often feels like he's just begun. Since PVJOBS hired him nearly three years ago, Cade is making a new way in life. "I've learned so much about construction that I may want to build my own house one day," says Cade, who works for Playa Vista contractor Warmington Homes. "When Warmington sees potential in a person, they bring out the best in him."



Mitchell Cade

While growing up in South Los Angeles, Cade rarely encountered someone who'd challenge him to be his best. Raised in a household of five brothers and sisters, Cade's childhood innocence was lost at age 12 when his mother suddenly died from a fatal illness. Since his stepfather didn't have a solid presence in their home, Cade was forced to raise himself, often hustling on the streets to keep money in his pockets. Although he finished high school, he eventually began selling drugs before getting hooked on heroine – a perilous odyssey that lasted for the next 25 years.

Cade's life took an even darker turn when at age 45 he was sentenced to prison for drug selling – only a year after his wife left him, taking their three children with her. During his sobering years in prison, Cade knew that he'd had his final wake-up call. "I didn't want my children to find me dead in the gutter somewhere," he says. "So I asked God to put my life in his hands."

Shortly after leaving prison, he managed to find odd jobs while staying at a transitional living home. It was a lonely but reflective time for Cade. "I had no place to go, except to go after my dreams." The transitional center referred Cade to PVJOBS, and he faithfully visited the job program for several months before landing a permanent position.

"Everyday, I tell young guys there are programs out there like PVJOBS that will hire and train them," says Cade. After pondering for a moment, he added, "They'll benefit and appreciate life more when they work for it."

PVJOBS Grads *continued from page 1*

To the resounding applause of their loved ones, each graduate walked onto the stage when their names were individually called by PVJOBS Executive Director Ernest Roberts, who congratulated them with a PVJOBS diploma. Milestone certificates were also presented to those who completed 1,500 hours of work through the job program.

Playa Vista President Steve Soboroff spoke at the event to praise the graduates on their persistence and hard work. To leave words of wisdom, Soboroff closed his remarks by sharing a story about a \$5,000 golfing challenge he wagered Ernest Roberts at a charity golf tournament. Roberts missed the golf shot, but pledged to take golfing lessons so he can prepare himself for another wager at the next annual tournament. Soboroff told the graduates that they should follow Roberts' example of getting the training needed to prepare for their next opportunity.

PVJOBS At Watts Parade



PVJOBS staff, board members and clients spread their holiday cheer to thousands of onlookers at the 40th Annual Watts/Willowbrook Christmas Parade held in December. Shown in the PVJOBS "reindeer" golf carts are (from left) PVJOBS Board Member Rowena Ake and PVJOBS HR Coordinator Brenda Sorice.

INSPIRATIONAL CORNER

Just because a Man lacks the use
of his eyes
Doesn't mean he lacks Vision.

~

Stevie Wonder

PVJOBS Employment Update

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reasoning and math, including algebra. PVJOBS is working with Southwest College and Local 11 to prepare our clients for this application process. Our clients will attend a five-week, three-hour daily algebra class at Southwest College. Local 11 has agreed to assist in the training by providing specific instruction to our clients. PVJOBS will also assist in this effort by providing training in winning test-taking instruction and techniques. Assistance for tuition and books is available to those who qualify. This is an excellent opportunity for those interested in a career as an electrician. For additional information, please immediately contact PVJOBS' union liaison, Jeffery Henderson, at (310) 448-8045. Classes begin in early January 2005.

Construction Trade	# of Clients Requesting This Trade
Carpenters	1395
Flooring/Carpet Layers*	81
Concrete Masons/Finishers	191
Electricians*	303
Iron Workers	198
Laborers	2952
Tile/Marble/Brick Masons	367
Operating Engineers*	97
Painters	775
Plasterers	197
Plumbers	557
Roofers	223
Sheet Metal Workers*	52

*Trades Specifically Needed

The overall rate of compliance at Playa Vista (1999 to present) remains at 13.7%, well above the 10% commitment level. Beyond Playa Vista, Trammel Crow's 2000 Avenue of the Stars activity is well underway. The Los Angeles Community College District's Proposition A and AA bond programs for construction on all nine campuses continue, and more than 160 clients have already been placed through the LACCD e7 Jobs Program. PVJOBS is currently negotiating employment opportunities at other major projects. These projects, together with our existing employment opportunities, will greatly increase our job placement potential.

As of December 2005, 1,107 PVJOBS candidates have gained employment, filling 2,110 positions. Also, 371 candidates have completed a minimum of 500 hours of work, while 64 candidates have completed more than 3,000 hours. Currently, there are 398 PVJOBS clients working. We expect to have an additional 150 to 200 positions to fill this quarter at various project sites. Many of these positions, however, will be filled from our out-of-work list, per our internal policies, reducing the number of new job placement opportunities.

Bear in mind that many candidates listed in the table above are already working. We specifically need candidates to fill positions as sheetmetal workers (with welding experience), electricians and operating engineers. Candidates for these specific trades need to submit an application to the applicable union and pass the union test before they are eligible for referral to work through PVJOBS. Please call us for more details at (310) 448-4684.

PVJOBS At Work

FERNANDO OROZCO: A Beautiful Place

Fernando Orozco is no ordinary painter. His painting skills have reached journeyman level status – an accomplishment he feels he can't take full credit for. "PVJOBS opened up doors by allowing me to meet new people and pursue my painting career," he says.



Fernando Orozco

An ex-gang member, Orozco was hired last summer to paint buildings for a number of PVJOBS partners – from the Weingart Stadium at East Los Angeles College to new residential structures for Playa Vista contractor Wilson & Hampton. While he's thrilled with his busy painting career, 34-year-old Orozco says he'll never forget how far he's come. "Most of the gang members I grew up with are either in prison or six feet under."

Born and raised in Santa Monica, Orozco and his three sisters found hard working role models in their parents – both maintenance workers who were loyal and dedicated to their employers. (His mother worked more than 15 years for comedian John Candy.) But by junior high, Orozco lost his focus in school when he began hanging out with the wrong crowd. He soon joined a neighborhood gang, and was later sent to a lock-down camp for assaulting a police officer. By age 26, he was sentenced to prison for drug selling. That's when he realized he had to change his life. "My parents were very ill at the time," he remembers, "and I promised them I would become a hard worker, pursue a career and get off the streets."

At the urging of his prison counselor, Orozco visited PVJOBS after his release. While waiting for a permanent job opening, he enrolled in a Dunn & Edwards apprenticeship painting program and painted homes for anyone who would hire him. Impressed by his drive to work, PVJOBS referred Orozco to a business partner that hired him for his first full-time job.

Orozco recently earned his state license and feels like his life is moving forward. "I've lost a lot of time on the streets," he says. "But since I've had the right guidance and people in my life, I'm in a beautiful place now."

PVJOBS Community Partners

APPRENTICE PREPARATION PROGRAMS

Century Community Training (Mary Lou Clinkenbeard)	310-673-3941
Los Angeles Technology Center (Ryan Whetstone)	323-732-0153

WORKSOURCE CENTERS

Career Planning Center-Marina Del Rey (Nick Gonzalez)	310-309-6000
Career Transition Worksource Center (George Fernandez)	562-570-3700
Community Career Dev Ctr Wilsh/Metro (Justina Munoz)	213-365-9829
Community Centers Development (Carlos Ruvalcaba)	323-752-2115
Compton Career Link (Henry Smith)	310-605-3050
Hollywood Worksource of California (Marjorie Gardner)	323-960-1300
Metro North Worksource Center (Anna Zakarian)	323-223-1211
PACE/Westlake Worksource Center (Albert Sy)	213-353-1677
Urban League Adams Baldwin Hills (Myrna Anguiano)	323-732-7867
WLCAC Southeast/Watts Worksource Center (Victor Archaga)	323-563-5669

YOUTH AND ADULT PROGRAMS

All People Christian Center (Saundra Bryant)	213-747-6357
Anchor of Hope (Jean Franklin)	310-515-6020
Calif Rehab Employment Program (David Glover)	213-251-1432
Canaan Housing Corporation (Brenda Evans)	213-748-0250
CCFP/Meals on Wheels for Children (Sandra Moore)	323-638-0760
Chinatown Service Center (Lawrence J. Lue)	213-808-1700
Chrysalis-New Directions (Brigitte Slayton)	310-914-4045
Chrysalis-Santa Monica (Adelai Whitman)	310-392-4117
Communities in Schools (Mia Arredondo)	818-891-9399
Community Build (Babatu Bektamba)	323-789-9950
CRTD Faithworks (David Richardson)	310-673-0287
DARE U TO CARE (Sabrina Parker)	323-756-3208
FAME Renaissance Assistance Corporation (Dwayne Price)	323-730-8354
Homies Unidos, Inc. (Silvia Beltran)	213-383-7484
Housing Authority of LA (Judy Rasheed)	213-252-1800
Human Potential Consultants, LLC (Deidre Norville)	310-756-1560
Jobs for the Future/Homeboy Industries (Ft. Greg Boyle SJ)	323-526-1254
Joint Efforts Inc. (Matt David)	310-831-2358
LA Family Housing Corporation (Vivian Ramirez)	818-982-4091
LA Works (Salvador R. Velasquez)	626-960-3964

LACOE (Nathan Auzenne)	213-744-3168
Mar Vista Family Center (Pedro Valencia)	310-390-9607
Marriott Foundation Bridges (Tad Asbury)	213-381-1220
Meaning And Purpose (Ted Moore)	323-296-2553
NABSIO (Nahaniel Rashad Ali)	323-755-6024
NO GUNS (Hector Marroquin)	323-751-7173
PATH (Nicole Gon)	323-644-2207
Public Allies of Los Angeles (Ernesto Saldaña)	213-741-2202
Rose Vista (Jane Bright)	310-915-1179
Save Our Future (Ken Jordan)	323-544-0039
SCHARP (Denise Shook)	323-751-3026
Success In Challenges (Leon Mosely)	562-423-8111
Union Rescue Mission (Julius Dowell)	213-347-6300
Unity One (Bo Taylor)	213-963-5843
Unity T.H.R.E.E (Shontez Williams Sr.)	323-732-0230
US VETS (Katherin Gibbs)	310-348-7600
Venice 2000 (Melvin Hayward)	310-823-6100
Volunteers In Parole, Inc. (Pal Roman)	626-450-6250
Volunteers of America (Mark Jackson)	213-689-2179
Walden House Inc. (Ralph Mendoza)	213-763-6238
Walden House SASCA Region 111 (Sal Wilson)	213-741-3720
Weingart Center Association (Ronnie Price)	213-627-9000

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Archdiocesan Youth Employment Services (Robert Gutierrez)	213-736-5456
CCEO Youth Build (Joe Starks)	310-225-3060
Covenant House of California (Lori Koenig)	323-957-7455
Goals For Life (Reggie Berry)	562-864-6040
La Causa Youth Build (Alejandro Covarrubia)	323-415-9680
LA Youth At Work (Sean Jernigan)	213-580-7505
Peacekeeper ARK (Carol Adams)	310-276-9046
United Friends of the Children (Mindy Raphael)	213-580-1850
Venice Community Housing Corporation Youth Build (Sal Galvin)	310-399-4100
Los Angeles Youth Opportunity Movement (Ryan Tyiska)	323-971-7640
Youth Opportunities Unlimited Inc. (James L. Watson)	323-789-4977

For more information, call PVJOBS at 310/448-4684.



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