



QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

COMMUNITY COORDINATOR REPORT - Q1 (2025-2026)



SUMMER CAREER EXPO INSPIRES LOCAL YOUTH

This summer, the Job Training Center, in partnership with UC Davis, hosted its second annual Career Expo, giving 12 local youth—ages 18 to 21—the chance to explore careers close to home.

Each Monday, participants joined the Tehama County Department of Education for hands-on exploration. They practiced healthcare skills, trades like welding and electrical, operated forklift simulators, and explored agriculture and robotics.

Chico State's Center for Entrepreneurship led workshops on entrepreneurship, budgeting, and turning ideas into reality, with special thanks to Supervisor Greg Jones, for supporting the students throughout the program.

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SUMMER CAREER EXPO INSPIRES LOCAL YOUTH (CONT.)

Local employers—including Sierra Pacific Millworks, Outback Construction, Crain Walnut, Rolling Hills Casino, and the Tehama County Resource Conservation District —hosted tours, showing real-world operations from advanced machinery to walnut production. Visits to Glenn Adult Ed, Local Union 228 Training Center, and Simpson University broadened participants' view of higher education and training.

The goal was simple: show opportunities in Tehama County, try new skills, meet employers, and inspire the next generation.

JTC ADVANCES SERVICES USING AI

Since ChatGPT launched, the Job Training Center (JTC) has been exploring AI across the organization. Over the past six months, staff have trained to use AI tools effectively, learning how the technology can expand work, improve services, and help local job seekers and businesses.

Partnering with local experts, JTC developed AI-powered chatbots to assist with resumes, mock interviews, and career services. While two chatbots are still in progress, the resume chatbot has already boosted productivity by 78%, offering faster, more personalized support. Job seekers are also learning to use AI themselves, seeing firsthand how it can help with career development.



This project shows how workforce organizations can combine tech and expertise to improve services. By integrating AI into daily work, JTC is creating a smarter, faster, and future-ready workforce system—helping both staff and job seekers thrive in a changing job market.

YOUTH PROGRAM SUCCESS: NEREYDA’S JOURNEY IN HEALTHCARE

At just 20, Nereyda, a participant in the Job Training Center’s youth program, is already building a bright future in healthcare. As a first-generation student with English as her second language, she dreamed of working in the medical field but wasn’t sure where to start.

With support from JTC, she enrolled in the Medical Assistant Program through Glenn County CTE, maintaining a 96% average and excelling during her hands-on externship.

After earning her certificate, Nereyda secured a job at a local clinic in Cottonwood, where she takes pride in caring for her patients. She is now preparing for her state certification—and deeply grateful for the support and encouragement Job Training Center provided in her success.

NEW ADULT EDUCATION LAUNCHES IN CORNING

This Fall, Corning Adult School will offer new flexible classes for English Language Learners, including a brand-new forklift certification and basic construction course. Classes are low-cost (\$25) and scheduled around work and family commitments.

The Job Training Center has partnered with Corning Adult School to connect students with grant funds (REALM), employer networks, and workforce resources, creating clear pathways to training, and careers.

This marks an important milestone for bringing much-needed training opportunities in Tehama County residents.

SECOND CHANCE SUCCESS

The Job Training Center’s second-chance programs continue to make strong strides, with 20 participants actively engaged, including 10 internships. Participants have gained employment, earned Flagler certifications, enrolled in NoRTEC digital literacy courses (with Chromebooks provided), and registered at Shasta College, with more enrollments underway.

Supportive services have been key to participant success, offering transportation, essential documentation assistance, counseling, tattoo removal, work attire, and support for meeting personal goals.

A strategic partnership with the Tehama County Resource Conservation District (RCD) has provided five interns with hands-on experience, skill-building, and a pathway to employment.

These achievements are made possible through grants from SMART Workforce Center, the Tehama County Department of Education, and NoRTEC, demonstrating the power of collaboration in preparing participants for meaningful careers.

6-YEAR PARTNERSHIP MARKS A SUCCESS

In May 2025, 17 individuals, including five from Tehama County, graduated from the Construction Pre-Apprenticeship Training Program, concluding a six-year partnership with the Northeastern Building Trades Council that has trained over 120 students. Supported by the Job Training Center, SMART Center, and High Roads Careers in Construction grant, participants earned certifications including CPR/First Aid, Forklift Operation, OSHA-10, and MC3.

Three Tehama County graduates secured full-time employment, with two entering union apprenticeships—one with Local Union 228 Plumbers and Pipefitters and another with Laborers Union Local 185.

A standout graduate, an 18-year-old first-generation high school graduate, credited the program and support services, including transportation and union dues assistance, for helping him launch a career in the trades. He now works with Laborers Union Local 185, earning \$22.95/hour with advancement opportunities.

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6-YEAR PARTNERSHIP MARKS A SUCCESS (CONT.)

This program highlights how union partnerships, hands-on training, and supportive services create strong pathways into high-quality trades careers in the North State

FROM TRAINING TO WORKFORCE

Seven participants recently graduated from Main Street Productions, the Job Training Center's hands-on job readiness program designed to help individuals reenter the workforce and gain practical skills.

The program combines daily coaching on workplace skills, rotating tasks in retail and woodworking, and real-world experiences like resume updates, mock interviews, and creating seasonal décor. Participants leave with confidence, work habits, and professional experience that prepare them for long-term employment.



One graduate this quarter landed a position at From the Hearth, putting the skills learned in the program directly into practice. The other six graduates are poised to continue building their careers with the support and guidance of JTC's wraparound services.

Main Street Productions continues to demonstrate how hands-on training, personalized coaching, and real-world experience can transform lives and help individuals successfully reenter the workforce.

REALM UPSKILLING SUCCESS

A recent REALM client took part in the Butte Training Place short-term skill program to build confidence and strengthen hands-on skills —training designed to help food manufacturing employees grow within their industry.

With JTC’s hands-on support, including bilingual guidance and on-site encouragement, the participant was able to fully engage in training and quickly apply new skills on the job. The result: a full-time position at Bell Carter, one of Tehama County’s leading employers.

The participant also completed JTC’s basic computer course, gaining digital literacy skills like setting up email and creating documents—tools that will support continued career growth.

This success highlights how REALM connects training and support to help bilingual workers and local employers thrive together.



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**Address:
718 Main St. Red Bluff, CA 96080**

**Phone Number:
(530) 529-7000**

**Hours:
Monday – Thursday (9:00AM – 4:30PM)**