



NEWS RELEASE

Workforce Development Board

CONTACT:

Reg Javier

Deputy Executive Officer

909-387-4460

Reg.Javier@wdd.sbcounty.gov

May 22, 2018

GenerationGo! Career Pathways Initiative



The San Bernardino County Workforce Development Board has established GenerationGo! Career Pathways, a countywide program providing work-based learning opportunities to high school students. A key component of its work is ensuring that the county's youth are ready to enter the workforce with the skills needed to compete today and for the future.

Piloted by Arrowhead Regional Medical Center (ARMC), 14 students from San Bernardino's Cajon High School completed 120 hours of clinical practice. The students were introduced to a variety of career opportunities in the medical field while further propelling them along a valuable career path for college or technical training.

"This is just the beginning, as we plan to expand this program across the county and across a number of industry sectors," said Tony Myrell, chairman, San Bernardino County Workforce Development Board. "Through Generation Go! And Career Pathways we are teaming education and business to proactively develop a workforce that is prepared for high-demand and high-opportunity careers."

The high school seniors from the ARMC pilot program will now be able to take a state test to gain medical assistant certificates that make them eligible for entry-level work in medical offices and hospitals.

"When people think of healthcare careers they often think of nurses and doctors, but this pilot program exposes high school students to the array of career options in medicine. These are good paying jobs with significant upward mobility," said Hospital Director William Gilbert. "It's rewarding for us to be part of this program to not only educate, but to also help to retain our county's best and brightest young people."

According to the 2017 Inland Empire Regional Collaborative - Health Industry Workforce Report, the healthcare industry represents over 135,000 currently employed workers in the Inland Empire. These positions are expected to grow by about 20 percent or 26,700 new positions in the next five years. Annually, there will be over 17,900 openings due to growth and replacement needs. A large portion of these job openings, 30 percent, will be for occupations requiring

postsecondary non-degree awards, such as certificates, followed by those requiring no formal education, 28 percent, and those that require bachelor's degree, 17 percent.

The San Bernardino County Workforce Development Board GenerationGo! initiative is a countywide effort to prepare the County's workforce for future careers as well as provide career pathways in high school that lead to college and vocational training. The County is currently seeking businesses that are willing to provide work-based learning experiences as part of a high school curriculum. Targeted industries include: utilities/energy, logistics/transportation, construction/engineering, automotive, manufacturing and culinary among others.

About ARMC

Arrowhead Regional Medical Center is a 456-bed university-affiliated teaching hospital licensed by the State of California Department of Public Health and operated by the County of San Bernardino. The hospital, located on a 70-acre campus in Colton, CA, operates a regional burn center, a primary stroke center, a level II trauma center, a behavioral health center located on the hospital campus, five primary care centers including four family health centers and provides more than 40 outpatient specialty care services.

About the San Bernardino County Workforce Development Board

The San Bernardino County Workforce Development Board (WDB) is comprised of private business representatives and public partners appointed by the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors. The WDB strives to strengthen the skills of the County's workforce through partnerships with business, education and community-based organizations. The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors is committed to providing county resources, which generate jobs and investment in line with the [Countywide Vision](#).

The Workforce Development Board, through the San Bernardino County Economic Development Agency and Workforce Development Department, offers a variety of programs designed to help youth and adults identify career pathways and get the appropriate training and skills. Programs funded through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) provide eligible youth, ages 16 to 24, access to a variety of career and educational services designed to help enhance job skills, develop leadership qualities, explore career options, participate in adult and peer mentoring opportunities, and take advantage of work experiences. In addition, the WDB operates San Bernardino County's three America's Job Centers of California (AJCC). The AJCCs provide individuals with job training, placement and the tools to strengthen their skills to achieve a higher quality of life. The AJCCs also support and provide services to the County's businesses, including employee recruitment and business retention programs.

Employers and job seekers who are interested in the Workforce Development Board programs may call: (800) 451-JOBS or visit www.sbcounty.gov/workforce. Also follow us on: Facebook www.facebook.com/SBCountyWDB; Twitter @InlandEmpireJob; LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/company/sanbernardinocountywdb>; and YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/SBCountyWIB>.