



# NEWS RELEASE

## Workforce Development Board

June 10, 2014

**CONTACT:**

Sandy Harmsen  
Executive Director  
909-387-9862

[sharmsen@wdd.sbcounty.gov](mailto:sharmsen@wdd.sbcounty.gov)

## County of San Bernardino Workforce Investment Board gains recognition as high performance board



*California Workforce Investment Board names local board as example of excellence*

**SAN BERNARDINO, Calif. (June 2, 2014)**—The County of San Bernardino Workforce Investment Board announced today it has been designated as a High-Performance Local Board by the California Workforce Investment Board. Of the 49 boards in California, the San Bernardino County Workforce Investment Board was one of only 16 chosen to receive the designation.

“Being named as a high-performing board reflects the hard work of our dedicated team” said Sandy Harmsen, Executive Director of the Workforce Investment Board. “Last year alone we visited more than 6,000 businesses to provide valuable information on employment trends, growth potential and workforce development. We held 130 customized recruitments for businesses and identified more than 11,000 job openings. Over 1,700 job seekers were provided vocational training in our county’s demand employment sectors. Countless other participants received no-cost intensive services to improve employment chances.”

Harmsen cites the commitment and involvement of Board members as a key factor in the organization’s success. Many members are private-sector business leaders who possess the knowledge required to develop programs that drive economic growth in the local economy.

Harmsen went on to say, “Receiving recognition for these outstanding achievements ensures we can continue to get the resources needed to help companies progress and local residents find stable careers.”

The Board was selected for the High Performing Board designation based on its continuous achievement, innovation, and future plans for San Bernardino County. Performance was measured in five areas: vision, economic and workforce analysis and strategic planning; business service plan, partnerships, and sector strategies; prioritized investment in adult training and career pathways; comprehensive youth development strategy; and engagement of the local board.

San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors Chair, Janice Rutherford said, “The County of San Bernardino Workforce Investment Board has been acknowledged many times for its outstanding performance and planning. We are closing the skills gap and helping local job seekers find long term careers by working with local companies and educators to design training programs for in-demand sectors. This Workforce Investment Board has been, and will continue to be, crucial to the economic renewal of our county.”