

Community-Based Job Training Grants

San Mateo County Community College District

Grantee: San Mateo County Community College District

Industry Focus: Energy

Key Partners: Alameda County Workforce Investment Board (WIB); Laney College; San Mateo WIB; Strategic Energy Innovations; College of Marin; Skyline College; San Mateo Regional Occupation Program; Solar City; PG & E; Siemens and Controlco; Peninsula Works One Stop; Ella Baker Center; East Bay Economic Development Alliance; and Cypress Mandela Training Center.

Grant Amount: \$1,900,000

Leveraged Amount: \$2,076,955

Location of Grant Activities: San Francisco Bay Area, California

Challenge: Growth in renewable energy and energy efficiency is expected to occur due to the strength of existing state and local regulations and the momentum of clean energy economic development. An ongoing infusion of clean energy investment in the Bay Area will also continue to drive growth in coming years. Venture capital investments in California's Clean Tech industry are projected to seed 52,000-114,000 new jobs statewide through 2010. This growth will demand a well-trained and specialized workforce. Seventy-three percent of employers stated that there was a shortage of qualified workers, with energy workers among the most in demand. In addition, with the unemployment rate at 6.1 percent and impending layoffs from financial institutions, California faces the added challenge of training dislocated workers to fill "green" jobs.

Addressing the Challenge: The San Francisco Bay Area Energy Career Project (BayCEC) will create and provide training and career pathways in energy efficiency, environmental control technology, and solar energy technology. The BayCEC Project will provide: faculty training in clean energy careers; expand clean energy courses in high schools; articulate those courses with the community college; and implement a bridge course to provide basic skills necessary to enter clean energy careers. There will also be a focus on transitioning workers from the finance and retail industries to clean energy sales and customer service.

Projected Outcomes:

- 260 participants will receive training.
- 50 dislocated workers from finance and retail sales will be trained for energy industry sales and customer service positions.
- 75 graduates of Cypress Mandela's construction basics program will enter a pathway for careers in energy auditing and retrofitting.
- 50 veterans and dislocated workers will be trained with transferable skills in electronics or machinery in environmental control technology.
- 80 veterans, dislocated workers, working adults or youth will be placed in entry-level solar panel installation occupations.

