

VITA Contra Costa County EHSD CaWORKS Pilot

Collaboration between United Way VITA/EKS and Contra Costa County Employment and Human Services Dept. to provide training and work experience opportunities for individuals participating in CaWORKS / Welfare-to-Work programs and services



Earn It!
Keep It!
Save It!



Model Program

San Bernardino County

Measuring WEX Success

TAX SEASON	# of WEX Hired for VITA by Dec	# Employed within 6 months of VITA Participation	% Employed within 6 months of VITA Participation
2012/2013	90	14	16%
2013/2014	115	53	46%
2014/2015	106	60	57%

**Counts taken 6 months after VITA Participation*

Why Is This Model Interesting?

- Helps improve County Work Participation Rates (WPR)
- Provides concrete marketable skills to participants
- VITA sites are able to expand hours and get extra help before, during and after the tax season

It's a WIN - WIN



Contra Costa County Employment & Human Services Bureau CCWORKS

- CCWORKS Interdepartmental WEX training program provides work experience within various county departments.
- State and Federal funds used to provide paid work experience opportunities.
- Also offer subsidized wage reimbursement to private/public businesses.

VITA / CCWORKS Model

- VITA site locations throughout Contra Costa County: *Monument Impact, Rubicon, Self-Help FCU, Spark Point*
- 6 months CCWorks/WEX subsidized employment at \$10.00 hour**
- Will receive customer service, tax law and preparation software certification

Participant Requirements

- Candidate **MUST** be Welfare-to-Work Eligible
- High School Diploma / GED +
- Proficient use of computers
- Attention to detail, work with diverse populations, maintain confidentiality
- Transportation to central location for Tax Preparation training
- No priors involving theft or fraud

Logistics

- Contra Costa County Host Agreement secured from VITA Host sites
- Employment Placement Counselor prescreen and send eligible candidates to VITA Host Site Coordinator for interview
- Upon selection Human Resource documents completed and submitted to County Human Resource Dept.

Things to Consider

- Government bureaucracy and process
- Having top down support
- Variation of individual VITA Host site needs
- Quality and quantity of candidates
- Site Host supervision, payroll and timecard responsibilities
- Have a point person
- Timelines
- Measurable Outcomes



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