

NEW LA:RISE PARTNER – GRID ALTERNATIVES



As LA:RISE enters its sixth programmatic year, we welcome our newest social enterprise partner, GRID Alternatives. Based in Oakland, California, GRID Alternatives is dedicated to making renewable energy technology and job training accessible to underserved communities on a national and international level. Since its 2007 launch, GRID Alternatives Greater Los Angeles (GLA) has installed more than 1,500 solar-electric systems for families with low-incomes, saving them money and improving the environment. GRID Alternatives GLA provides workers training to install solar electric systems for low-income families. Workers can then apply their hands on experience to help them find employment in the green-tech economy.

TALENT REWIRE – BUSINESS ACCELERATOR OPPORTUNITY

COVID-19, racial equity, and the rise of automation each have an outsized impact on frontline employees, creating a unique opportunity for LA-based employers. REDF, UNITE-LA, and Talent Rewire have organized virtual business accelerator training for these employers to learn how to rewire their talent practices to better support their most vulnerable workers. In these five, two-hour virtual sessions, employers will get the tools they need to navigate these new challenges in an interactive and supportive setting. Additionally, the training will create stronger partnerships with social enterprise partners and inform them about LA:RISE.

More information about the Rewire Accelerator can be found on the Talent Rewire website here: talentrewire.org.

LA:RISE Q3 VIRTUAL ACADEMY MEETING

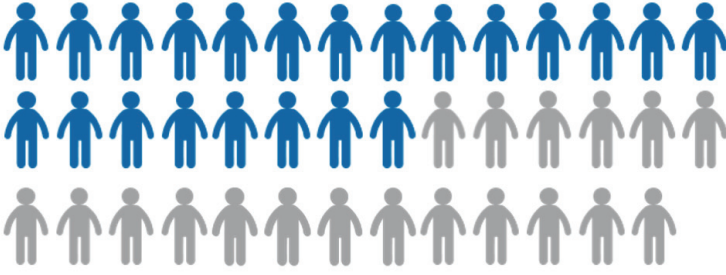
In August 2020, LA:RISE held its second virtual quarterly Academy Meeting via Zoom with a focus on technology. At the meeting, we debuted a technology resource guide on REDFworkshop with information on free Wi-Fi in LA County, how to obtain free and low-cost cellphones in California, and COVID-19 specific technological resources.

Eileen Harris, Senior Relationships Manager at human-I-T and Amy Haggarty, Director of Tech Grants and Consulting at Cornerstone OnDemand Foundation were featured as guest speakers.

Harris shared that the mission of human-I-T is to shrink the digital divide, one piece of technology at a time. The organization provides people with low-incomes and nonprofits with technology, internet, and digital training. Their program provides three core resources to their clients: computer hardware, low-cost internet programs, and digital literacy training. Harris also shared best practices for making technology trainings culturally sensitive and digitally inclusive.

Haggarty led a discussion about the resources Cornerstone Cares and NonprofitReady.org offer. Cornerstone Cares provides free online training for all in response to COVID-19, including interview skills, self-care and stress management, and tips for working remotely. NonprofitReady.org offers free online training for nonprofit professionals on topics including fundraising and development, board governance, and nonprofit accounting.

TOTAL CITY AND COUNTY PARTICIPANTS SERVED, PROGRAM YEARS 1.0 TO 6.0 (2015-2020)*



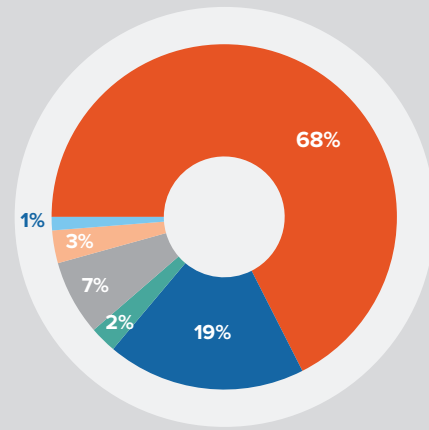
PY 1.0 - 4,100 individuals employed in transitional subsidized jobs

PY 6.0 2,233 placed into competitive unsubsidized jobs

Key: = 100 people employed

Source – CalJOBS data as of 9/29/2020 and SPR Evaluation Report

Housing Status at Program Enrollment



■ At-risk of homelessness ■ Currently homeless on street
■ Currently homeless in shelter ■ Formerly homeless
■ Not provided ■ Rapid Re-housing

Source: CalJOBS self-reported data from 2019-2020 program year participants.

PARTNER VOICE

“As one of the newest LA:RISE partners, GRID Alternatives Greater Los Angeles is grateful for the unique opportunity to join a strong collective of social enterprises, WorkSource centers, and employers that serve some of LA’s most at need individuals. We believe that access and opportunity make a world of difference and LA:RISE provides the tools and infrastructure for community based organizations like GRID Alternatives to meet people where they are at, get them trained and help them move into life changing career opportunities. Initiatives and collaborative partnerships such as LA:RISE create the environment necessary to build healthy and resilient communities in which we can all realize our full potential.”

—Adewale OgunBadejo, Workforce Development Manager, GRID Alternatives Greater Los Angeles

MEET SHAKIERA



Shakiera was raised by her grandmother to never give up and always dream big. At 18, after her grandmother passed away, Shakiera had to grow up quickly and support herself. Despite working several part-time jobs, she was unable to afford rent and experienced homelessness. She

briefly stayed with friends, but when they also lost their housing, Shakiera knew it was time for a change. She enrolled in the LA:RISE program at the LGBT Center and began a transitional job with the Center’s culinary social enterprise. In addition to on-the-job training, staff worked with her to explore possible career paths and she became excited and motivated by all the possibilities. Following graduation from the LA:RISE program, Shakiera secured a job at a local Souplantation where she works part-time while continuing her culinary education and applying to work in restaurant kitchens. As she sets out to realize her dreams, she hopes her story will motivate future LA:RISE participants to achieve their goals.

MEET HAKOP



Hakop holds a bachelor’s degree and a Doctorate in Chiropractic, and ran a successful business for seven years. But after being incarcerated, he still faced significant barriers to securing full-time employment and stable housing. A probation officer introduced him to the

social enterprise Center for Living and Learning (CLL). Over the next few months, CLL helped Hakop apply for Section 8 housing and become a paid In-Home Supportive Service provider for his father. Two years later, after his father passed away, Hakop once again needed full-time employment and CLL was there to help. He enrolled in the LA:RISE program and began his transitional employment at CLL, where he strengthened his communication and leadership skills, practiced job interviewing, and rebuilt his confidence. This fall, he is starting a permanent job at CLL. He is incredibly proud of his work helping others navigate legal obstacles, find employment, and rebuild their lives.

LA:RISE is managed by the City of Los Angeles Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD), Los Angeles County Workforce Development, Aging & Community Services (WDACS), and REDF (Roberts Enterprise Development Fund).



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