

Meeting at-a-Glance

The following is a brief summary of key items on the upcoming Verdugo Workforce Development Board (VWDB) agenda:

BOARD ACTION ITEMS

Any board member may pull an item from the agenda for discussion prior to a vote. Please review all board items before the meeting.

Categories of action items to be approved:

- Board Member Appointment: 1
- Contract Award and Amendment: 2

Total number of action items to be approved: 3

KEY INFORMATION BEING PRESENTED

- Chair Nick Hacopian will provide an overview of the agenda and highlight main points of the Executive Committee meetings.
- Executive Director Judith Velasco will provide key updates; board members can pull any informational reports for discussion.

AGENDA
Wednesday, April 22, 2026
9:30 am – 10:30 am

Meeting Location:
Glendale Community College
1500 N. Verdugo Rd.
Glendale, CA 91208
Room: AD 232G
Located in the Administration Building,
2nd Floor in the Learning Center

VWDB meetings are open to the public. Any member of the public who wishes to make public comment must contact Diana Montecino at least 48 hours before the meeting.

The meeting will begin promptly at 9:30 A.M.

RSVP to: Diana Montecino @ (818) 937-8081, dmontecino@glendaleca.gov

I. Introductions

Approval of Minutes: February 11, 2026 **4**

II. Action Items

a) Approval of the recommendation for Stephanie O'Keefe to be appointed to the Verdugo Workforce Development Board, in compliance with State and Federal requirements under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 **6**

b) Approval to extend the Foundation for California Community Colleges contract from June 30, 2026 to June 30, 2027 to support paid Work Based Learning Opportunities for workforce programs **9**

c) Approval of the allocation of \$145,500 to City of Burbank's Job Connect to provide services in Burbank as the Verdugo Jobs Center Affiliate Site for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 **11**

III. Director's Report and Presentation

a) Federal Updates **12**

b) Verdugo Jobs Center Program Report **16**

c) Youth Provider Report **18**

d) 2025-2026 Financial Report **20**

e) Labor Market Information Report **23**

f) Grants Matrix **23**



V. Other Business and Announcements

- a) List of current WDB board of directors/contact information **24**
- b) 2026 Full Board Meeting Calendar **25**

Public comments

Adjourn

Next Full Board Meeting: June 24, 2026 at Providence Saint Joseph

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The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act is an Equal Opportunity Program.
TTY (818) 548-3857. Auxiliary aids and services available upon request.

**VERDUGO WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
FULL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

2/11/2026

9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ara Aslanian, Sonya Kay Blake, Vicki Brannock, Alexis Carter, Nick Hacopian, Debbie Kukta, Iskra Martinez, Kathy McIntyre, Nicole Miller, Michael Ritterbrown, Veronica Romero, Terry Walker

MEMBERS ABSENT: Luiza Balyan, Jose Barba, Onnig Bulanikian, Marisol Espinoza, Steve Kaplan, Caroline Lett, Mary Hamzoian, Jamie Keyser, Pamela Marcello, Soua Vang

**COMMUNITY &
OTHER AGENCY
REPRESENTATIVES:** Karine Grigoryan, Jesse Maldonado

STAFF PRESENT: Diana Montecino, Judith Velasco, Melissa Younesian

CALL TO ORDER: 9:32 am by Chair Nick Hacopian

I. Introductions

A. Chair Nick Hacopian welcomed the attendees.

II. Minutes of September 24, 2025

A. Minutes presented and reviewed.

MOTION: Debbie Kukta 2nd: Alexis Carter
Abstain: Ara Aslanian

Action: APPROVED

III. Action Items

- A. Approval of the sole source authorization for consultant services for David K. Shinder for BioPharma III Grant for the period of December 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 with the option of an extension through November 30, 2028
- B. Approval to enter into contract with David K. Shinder for the period of December 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026 in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 to provide consultant services for BioPharma III Grant
- C. Approval to enter into contract with Biocom Institute California in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 in Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act funds to provide career exploration and professional fellowships to eligible participants interested in Life Science careers for the period of January 1, 2026 to June 30, 2026
- D. Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Verdugo Workforce Development Board and Local Partners
- E. Approval to use Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funds for rental payments as specified in the lease amendment between the City of Glendale and the property owner, Babak B. Golbahar for the Verdugo Jobs Center facility located at 1255 South Central Avenue, Glendale, CA 91204 for an 18-month period, April 1, 2026 to September 30, 2027

VERDUGO WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
FULL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
2/11/2026
9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

- F. Approval of the recommendation for John Acosta to be appointed to the Verdugo Workforce Development Board, in compliance with State and Federal requirements under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014

MOTION FOR CONSENT ITEMS A – F

Motion: Ara Aslanian **2nd:** Terry Walker
Abstain for Item C : Vicki Brannock

IV. Director’s Report

- A. Executive Director Judith Velasco announced that the Healthcare Job Fair was a great success with over 300 attendees and 20 participating employers.
1. A key takeaway is that people enjoy job fairs if employers have open positions and are hiring.
 2. Board members provided positive feedback from attendees they had referred and suggested ideas for future events.
- B. Ms. Velasco reported that next year’s workforce formula funds are predicted to be at level funding and that there are no proposed legislation changes to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).
1. Some states are moving to consolidate into a single board, which ultimately appears to be a revenue-driven decision by the state.
 2. Apprenticeships continue to be a priority, but employers appear to prefer internships.
- C. Ms. Velasco thanked the board members for their attendance at the November retreat.
1. The board members expressed that the retreat was well executed and that the discussions had resulted in various ideas that the board can implement.
- D. The following requests were made of the board members:
1. Recommendations for a labor member nomination.
 2. Participation in implementing key takeaways from the board retreat.
 3. Information on how federal funds are impacting their respective industries.

V. Other Business and Announcements

- A. The next VWDB will be held on Wednesday, April 22 at 9:30 am at Glendale Community College.

VI. Public Comments: None

VII. Adjournment: 10:22 am



VWDB Executive Meeting Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2026

VWDB Meeting Date: Wednesday, April 22, 2026

RECOMMENDED MOTION

It is recommended that the Verdugo Workforce Development Board take the following action:

Approval of the recommendation for Stephanie O’Keefe to be appointed to the Verdugo Workforce Development Board, in compliance with State and Federal requirements under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014

Type of Motion: Board Member Appointment

OVERVIEW:

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (WIOA) and policy established by the State of California Workforce Development Board (CWDB) require that local workforce development boards (local boards) under WIOA meet certain membership requirements as specified in the law. These requirements include representatives from the business, labor, and education as well as other community leaders.

In order to comply with state and federal requirements for local board membership, the Verdugo Workforce Development Board (VWDB) must ensure it meets all membership criteria. As board seats are vacated due to retirement, change in employment or position, or other changes, the VWDB will recruit potential candidates to fill those vacancies.

Ms. Stephanie O’Keefe did not seek reelection as President of the American Federation of Musicians (AFM), Local 47. As such, she vacated a labor seat with the VWDB, a position she held from 2021 – 2026. However, in January 2026, Ms. O’Keefe accepted the position of Chief Operating Officer of Grand Songbook Media, a firm that produces live musical events, recordings, commercials, and films. Ms. O’Keefe has expressed interest in remaining on the board, as a business representative. Her nomination ensures that the VWDB continues to maintain a 51% business majority on the VWDB as required by WIOA.

Given her 5 years of experience and engagement on the VWDB, it is recommended that Ms. O’Keefe continue being on the VWDB in this new category. She was the first female elected president to AFM. She is an accomplished professional French hornist and a strong advocate for musicians and the overall entertainment industry. During her 5 years of service to Local 47, Ms. O’Keefe, as chief negotiator, negotiated well over 100 collective bargaining agreements. She was elected a vice president of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, served as a trustee on both the American Federation of Musicians Pension Fund, and a co-chair of the Local 47 Musicians Health and Welfare Fund

If the VWDB approves the recommendation for Ms. O’Keefe’s appointment, the nomination will be submitted to an approved body, consisting of city council members from the three Verdugo Consortium represented cities: Burbank, Glendale and La Cañada Flintridge, for ratification.



FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with the appointment of Ms. O'Keefe to the VWDB.

Stephanie O’Keefe
Chief Operating Officer, Grand Songbook Media
Biography

Originally from Chicago, and educated at the University of Illinois, Stephanie O’Keefe has over four decades of experience as a professional musician, music educator, and music business professional.

Ms. O’Keefe began her career in Las Vegas, where, as a French hornist, she performed in every major showroom for artists such as Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, Sammy Davis Jr., Dolly Parton, Bernadette Peters, Olivia Newton-John, Luciano Pavarotti, and The Carpenters. A highlight was a concert of Aaron Copland’s music, conducted by Copland, himself.

Since 1987, Ms. O’Keefe has made Los Angeles her home. She has performed and recorded with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Johnny Mathis, Neil Diamond, Lady Gaga, Avenged Sevenfold, Snow Patrol, Barry Manilow, James Taylor, Tony Bennett, Justin Timberlake, Blake Shelton, Glen Frey, the Grammy nominated Kim Richmond Concert Jazz Orchestra, and the video games, World of Warcraft and Legends of Zelda. Ms. O’Keefe has also recorded the scores for numerous commercials, films, and television shows.

From 2011 to 2021, Ms. O’Keefe joined the faculty at Occidental College, where she served as the instructor of horn and chamber music. During her tenure at Occidental, in addition to instructing her private horn students, she created and led OxyNewMusic, an ensemble that workshopped and premiered over fifty works by student composers, performed by Occidental students.

In the late 1990’s, Ms. O’Keefe’s strong interest in business led her to become involved in administration and she began hiring musicians for all types of musical services, including recordings, commercials, television shows, films, and live performances.

In December 2020, Ms. O’Keefe was elected the President of the American Federation of Musicians Local 47, the first woman in the Local’s 124-year history to be elected to that position. Ms. O’Keefe served two terms, leaving office in January 2026, at which time she was bestowed the title of President Emeritus.

During her 5 years of service to Local 47, Ms. O’Keefe, as chief negotiator, negotiated well over 100 collective bargaining agreements. She was elected a vice president of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, served as a trustee on both the American Federation of Musicians Pension Fund, and a co-chair of the Local 47 Musicians Health and Welfare Fund. Ms. O’Keefe served on the Western Council of the Entertainment Community Fund, the Advisory Board for the Verdugo Workforce Development Board, and represented the American Federation of Musicians on the board of the Entertainment Union Coalition.

In January 2026, Ms. O’Keefe accepted the position of Chief Operating Officer of Grand Songbook Media, a Beverly Hills based firm that produces live musical events, recordings, commercials, and films.



Executive Committee Meeting Date: Wednesday, April 22, 2026

VWDB Meeting Date: Wednesday, April 22, 2026

RECOMMENDED MOTION

It is recommended that the Verdugo Workforce Development Board take the following action:

Approval to extend the Foundation for California Community Colleges contract from June 30, 2026 to June 30, 2027 to support paid Work Based Learning Opportunities for workforce programs

Type of Motion: Extend Contract with Existing Vendor

OVERVIEW:

In prior fiscal years, the Verdugo Workforce Development Board (VWDB) approved entering into a contract with the Foundation for California Community Colleges (FCCC) to administer the payroll associated with paid work-based learning activities for the board's Additional Assistance, National Dislocated Worker, California Adult Education Program (CAEP), and Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) grants. The FCCC provides the payroll service that processes the participants' timesheets, and generates the electronic payments to them.

The WIOA grant programs have included a paid work-based learning component for adult participants called Transitional Jobs (TJ). Transitional jobs are time-limited, wage-paid work experiences that are subsidized up to 100 percent and provide an opportunity to develop important workplace skills in a work setting.

Due to the diverse barriers to employment that participants face, the need has increased to provide more paid work-based learning opportunities for participants to gain hands-on experience to successfully transition into permanent employment opportunities.

As the provider of payroll services, FCCC is the employer of record for participants and assumes liability including workers' compensation, performs all necessary human resource functions, and ensures participants are compensated for their work at the employer sites while they complete their assigned hours. They are also responsible for generating paychecks directly to the participants during the transitional jobs period. These jobs can be in the public, private, or nonprofit sectors and are only available for individuals with barriers to employment including but not limited to those who are chronically unemployed or who have an inconsistent work history.

Under the Code of Federal Regulations, General Procurement Standards (2 CFR §200.318(e)), procurement arrangements using strategic sourcing is permitted to ensure efficiency and foster greater cost savings of a procurement process. This regulation allows a workforce board to use a vendor that has already been competitively procured by another workforce board. In previous years, the California Workforce Association (CWA) procured and approved FCCC as a qualifying vendor, which allowed the VWDB to enter into contract with FCCC. Currently, several workforce boards have successfully procured FCCC payroll services. As such, the VWDB is able to adopt the



procurement process of one of these boards to enter into contract with FCCC, as allowed under federal regulation.

On September 24, 2025, the board approved awarding FCCC a new contract for fiscal year 2025-2026 in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 using the existing procurement by another workforce board.

Staff is working on enrolling a new cohort of early childhood education (ECE) students who will start their transitional job training in May and will finish by December 31, 2026. In order to continue serving the clients and not have a stop in service, it is recommended for the board to approve extending the current contract with FCCC from June 30, 2026 to June 30, 2027. The contract amount remains unchanged.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The allocation for FCCC for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 is \$50,000 for various workforce programs such as WIOA Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Helping Justice-Involved Reenter Employment Initiative (HIRED), as well as any other grant funded program where the need is identified for paid workforce-based learning activities.

Approval of the motion will extend the current contract from June 30, 2026 to June 30, 2027. This will allow for the completion of all grant programs and TJ hours.



Executive Committee Meeting Date: Wednesday, April 22, 2026
VWDB Meeting Date: Wednesday, April 22, 2026

RECOMMENDED MOTION

It is recommended that the Verdugo Workforce Development Board take the following action:

Approval of the allocation of \$145,500 to City of Burbank’s Job Connect to provide services in Burbank as the Verdugo Jobs Center Affiliate Site for Fiscal Year 2026-2027

Type of Motion: Award of Grant Funds

OVERVIEW:

Job Connect at the City of Burbank’s Public Library currently serves as the affiliate site in Burbank to the Verdugo Jobs Center (VJC) under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Job Connect provides employment self-services from all Burbank Public Library locations with a primary location at the Burbank Central Library located at 110 N. Glenoaks Blvd, Burbank, 91502. For more intensive or training services, Job Connect staff refers individuals to the VJC for assistance. Job Connect also assists Burbank based businesses that are closing and/or facing significant layoffs, as well as providing recruitment services. The staff from Job Connect attend Burbank specific outreach events, such as chamber events, to ensure the community is aware of our workforce services in the community. The funding to support Job Connect services is subsidized annually from the Verdugo Workforce Development Board (VWDB).

The VWDB works closely with Job Connect staff to implement workforce programs as well as program changes as needed to ensure compliance with WIOA and to make services available to the residents of Burbank.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The VWDB is requesting approval to allocate an amount not to exceed \$145,500 to the City of Burbank’s Job Connect, utilizing WIOA funds from the Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Rapid Response categories.

The allocation for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 will be at the following levels:

WIOA Adult for \$80,000; WIOA Dislocated Worker for \$50,000; and WIOA Rapid Response for \$15,500.

Job Connect allows the board to have a presence in one of our three cities that comprise the Verdugo Consortium and provides valuable workforce services to the residents of Burbank. All their workforce services are listed on their website: <https://burbanklibrary.org/jobconnect>.

Program Report for PY 25-26

Reporting Period: 7/1/2025 – 3/31/2026

Services

The Verdugo Jobs Center (VJC) offers a range of public employment services in furtherance of its mission of transforming lives, businesses, and our community through innovative workforce solutions. Services are classified according to the participant’s need for staff assistance.

Self-Service Activities

Individuals access self-service resources such as using the computers for job search, and attending orientations, employment readiness workshops, job fairs, and recruitments hosted by the VJC.

Staff-Assisted Activities

Individuals obtain services that are assisted by VJC staff and are enrolled in Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funded programs. Staff-assisted services include conducting skills assessments, development of personalized employment plans, and individual career and employment counseling services. Individuals can also obtain classroom training or On-The-Job Training (OJT) to update their skills.

	Plan	Actual
Total number of visitors – Verdugo Jobs Center	-	4,887
Total self-service participants	-	4,887
Total staff-assisted participants	1,300	401
Total participants receiving training services ~	80	127

~ Includes training services from WIOA Formula Grants (Adult and DW only).

Participants

The VJC serves a diverse population from the tri-city area. Participants are categorized as Adults and Dislocated Workers.

Adults: Individuals who are unemployed and have a barrier to gaining employment.

Dislocated Workers (DW): Workers have been recently laid off and are unlikely to return to the same industry due to various reasons.

WIOA funds are used to provide individuals who have barriers to obtaining employment with job placement assistance, employment training, and individual case counseling services. Examples of individuals with employment barriers include those with low income, English language learners, individuals with disabilities, those who have been laid off from a job, veterans, and those who are re-entering society.

Additionally, the VJC administers the following programs to support specific groups in their employment efforts:

Specialized WIOA Programs	Plan	Actual
Prison to Employment (P2E) Program that provides job search assistance and placement for justice involved individuals. Grant Dates: 4/4/2023 – 12/31/2026	13	22
Regional Equity & Recovery Partnerships (RERP) Program that provides stipend to students enrolled in BioTC training. Grant Dates: 4/20/2023 – 10/31/2025	43	50
Caltech Additional Assistance Program that provides training and job search assistance to Caltech dislocated employees. Grant Dates: 3/1/2024 – 3/31/2026	30	54
Helping Justice-Involved Reenter Employment (HIRE) Program increases employment opportunities and job mobility for formerly incarcerated and justice-involved individuals. Grant Dates: 4/1/2024 – 3/31/2027	15	19
Los Angeles County – Wildfires Assistance (LAWF) Program provides job search assistance, training and supportive services to those who have been laid off due to the LA Wildfires. Grant Date: 7/1/2025 – 6/30/2026	17	14

Performance for Program Year 2025-2026 (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026)

The State of California defines performance measures for the VJC to meet. In the chart below, the column “Goal” lists the planned percentages determined by the State that the VJC must meet during the program year. The “Actual” column lists the VJC’s performance, and the “% Achieved” compares the Planned versus Actual figures.

PY 2025-2026 Quarter 2 Adult Performance	Goal	Actual	% Achieved
Adult Employment 2nd Quarter After Exit	68%	63.20%	92.94%
Adult Employment 4th Quarter After Exit	67%	74.10%	110.60%
Adult School Credential Obtained	75%	92%	122.27%
Adult Median Earning 2nd Quarter After Exit	\$7,750	\$6,847	88.35%
Adult Measurable Skill Gains	75%	66.70%	88.93%

PY 2025-2026 Quarter 2 Dislocated Worker Performance	Goal	Actual	% Achieved
DW Employment 2nd Quarter After Exit	72%	45.80%	63.61%
DW Employment 4th Quarter After Exit	72%	75.00%	104.17%
DW School Credential Obtained	78%	90.00%	115.38%
DW Median Earning 2nd Quarter After Exit	\$9,500	\$28,875	303.95%
DW Measurable Skill Gains	79%	45.10%	57.09%

PY 2025-2026 Quarter 2 Youth Performance	Goal	Actual	% Achieved
Youth Employment 2nd Quarter After Exit	72%	60.00%	83.33%
Youth Employment 4th Quarter After Exit	75%	72%	96.00%
Youth School Credential Obtained	67%	44.40%	66.27%
Youth Median Earning 2nd Quarter After Exit	\$4,500	\$1,794	39.87%
Youth Measurable Skill Gains	68%	69.80%	102.65%

Additional Workforce Programs

While WIOA-funded programs make up the majority of the VJC’s funding, the VJC contracts with certain other organizations with the goal of assisting specific populations. The VJC operates Non-WIOA programs under contracts with the following agencies:

Non – WIOA Programs	PY 25-26 Number of Participants
California Adult Education Program (CAEP): Job placement services to connect English Language Learner clients to Adult Education. <i>Contract with Glendale Community College</i>	15
Employment Network: Pre-and post-employment services for up to 5 years for clients with disabilities. <i>Contract with Social Security Department</i>	27 (cumulative)

Business Engagement

The VJC is engaging businesses to support the development of the local economy. Business activities include partnering on recruitments to find qualified employees, providing resources to help businesses with their employment needs, and assisting with Rapid Response (RR) and Layoff Aversion.

Every year, the VJC organizes at least one large-scale job fairs: the Glendale Tech Job Fair. In addition to this event, staff conducts business outreach and coordinates ongoing recruitments, job fairs, resource fairs, and other events to help businesses find qualified candidates for their openings.

Business Services		
Job Fairs	Date	# Attended
Healthcare Job Fair	February 10, 2026	330
Tech Job Fair	September 4, 2025	385
Number of New Businesses Outreached: 65		

Rapid Response Data
07/01/25 - 06/30/26

The following report is a list of companies that have reported layoffs through Worker Adjustment and Retaining Notification (WARN)

WARN protects employees, their families, and communities by requiring employers to give a 60-day notice to the affected employees and both state and local representatives before a plant closing or mass layoff. Advance notice provides employees and their families time to transition and adjust to the potential loss of employment, time to seek alternative jobs and, if necessary, time to obtain skills training or retraining to successfully compete in the job market.

If worker dislocation is the result of foreign competition or foreign relocation, the dislocated worker may be eligible for Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Program, which can include: Employment and Case Management Services; Training Benefits; Trade Readjustment Allowances, Job Search Allowances, Relocation Allowances; Alternative or Reemployment Trade Adjustment Assistance.

BURBANK COMPANIES					
Business Name	WARN Received Date	Lay Off Date	Industry Type	# Laying Off	Types of Positions
Avelo Airlines	11/17/2025	11/15/2025	Airline	23	Flight Attendant; Aircraft Maintenance; Customer Service Reps
Science of Skincare	10/22/2025	12/30/2025	Cosmetics, Beauty Supplies	63	Assembly, Maintenance, Clerical, Production
Warner Bros.	7/31/2025	10/4/2025	Entertainment	52	Various
TOTAL				190	

GLENDALE COMPANIES					
Business Name	WARN Received Date	Lay Off Date	Industry Type	# Laying Off	Types of Positions
Son's Work Accurate Dial & Name Plate	1/30/2026	2/1/2026	Retail	20	Various
Adventist Health Systems/West	8/27/2025	10/6/2025	Healthcare	25	Various
Children's Hospital Los Angeles	8/27/2025	10/28/2025	Healthcare	439	Various
Adventist Health Systems/West	8/15/2025	10/6/2025	Healthcare	58	Various
TOTAL				542	

LA CANADA FLINTRIDGE COMPANIES					
Business Name	WARN Received Date	Lay Off Date	Industry Type	# Laying Off	Types of Positions
Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL)	10/14/2025			543	Various
TOTAL				543	

OVERVIEW

City	# of Businesses Laying Off	# of Affected Employees
Burbank	3	115
Glendale	4	542
La Cañada Flintridge	1	543
TOTAL	8	1200

Summary of Media Reported Layoffs

The following is a list of media reported layoffs which has not resulted in WARN yet. The VWDB board is keeping an eye on the company and industry.

Company Name	# of Jobs	Industry	Notes
Pinterest	780	Data	Pivoting to AI
Amazon	14,000	Retail/E-commerce	Offering voluntary buyouts due to AI
YouTube	Unknown	Media	Due to AI
Target	Unknown	Retail	Corporate Positions
Kroger	1,000	Grocery Stores	All Corporate Employees are being laid off
Microsoft	17,874	Software	Gaming and Xbox division
Estimated Total	33,654		

VWDB's Youth Provider: Glendale Youth Alliance 2025-26 Contract Report (July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026)

The VWDB's provider for youth services is the Glendale Youth Alliance (GYA). They are a California 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization that provides comprehensive employment programs for youth ages 14-24. Listed below are the youth programs that GYA administers with VWDB funds:

LA County Youth@Work Program

Participants in this program receive up to 20 hours of Personal Enrichment training and 160 hours of paid work experience. The Brush Clearance Program provides the youth ages 14-16 a first-time job experience. On closely supervised teams, they spend six weeks removing overgrown brush on over 30 parcels of City of Glendale owned land, augmenting the City's Vegetation Management Program, and reducing the risk of fire on the City's hillside. Youth who already possess some basic job skills are placed in jobs within the community such as the local hospitals, nonprofit & for-profit organizations, libraries, schools, and public agencies.

Contract Amount	Enrollment Goal	Actual Enrollments	Outcomes - Completed 160 hrs. of WEX
\$326,618	84 Youth Participants	86 Youth Participants	50 Youth

WIOA – In School Youth Program (ISY)

The Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act ISY is designed for youth ages 14-21. Participants gain leadership experience and learn to meet workplace expectations to prepare for the real world. The grant pays for 180 hours of work experience and provides work readiness and financial literacy training. Youth are also provided scholarship opportunities as well as other resources based on individual need. The goal of this program is for youth to gain the skills and experience needed to obtain permanent employment and/or continue post-secondary education.

Contract Amount	Enrollment Goal	Actual Enrollments	Outcomes - Completed 180 hrs. of WEX
\$175,857	24 youth participants	27 youth participants	19 youth

WIOA- Out of School Youth Program (OSY)

The Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act OSY program serves older youth ages 18-24. Youth are placed primarily in private businesses to gain the skills and experience needed to climb the career ladder within a company. The program pays for the initial 200 hours of work experience hours as an incentive for the employer to hire the youth on their payroll as permanent employees. Youth also partake in pre-employment training provided by GYA and a certificated Hospitality Training Program through Los Angeles City College.

Contract Amount	Enrollment Goal	Actual Enrollments	Outcomes - Completed 200 hrs. of WEX
\$ 527,571	60 Youth Participants	65 Youth Participants	37 youth

Student Training & Employment Program (STEP)

The STEP Program provides job preparation training and paid work experience to students with disabilities ages 16-21. Youth are placed at worksites based on their individual interests and aptitudes to work up to 120 hours. Students receive 20 hours of training provided by the Professional Development Center of Glendale Community College and participate in a field trip to Glendale Community College to get exposure to a college campus. The purpose of the program is to support students with disabilities transition from secondary education to employment.

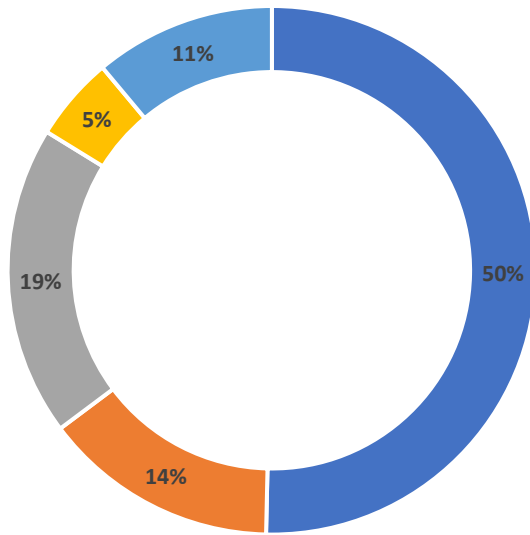
Contract Amount	Enrollment Goal	Actual Enrollments	Outcomes - Completed 120 hrs. of WEX
<u>2024-25</u> \$211,073	80 Youth Participants	80 youth participants	52 youth
<u>2025-26</u> \$212,000	80 Youth Participants	79 youth participants	27 youth

FINANCIAL REPORT

FY 2025 – 2026 Q3

Funding by Grant Source

Funding By Grant Source



- WIOA
- NON-WIOA
- SPECIAL GRANTS - WIOA
- STATE
- LOCAL

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)

- Adult
- Dislocated Worker
- Youth
- Rapid Response
- RR-Layoff Aversion

NON-WIOA

- Fee-for-Services (FFS)
- Student Training and Employment Program (STEP)

SPECIAL GRANTS – WIOA

- BioPharma 3.0
- Prison to Employment
- RERP
- Hire LA
- High Performing Boards
- JPL – Additional Assistance

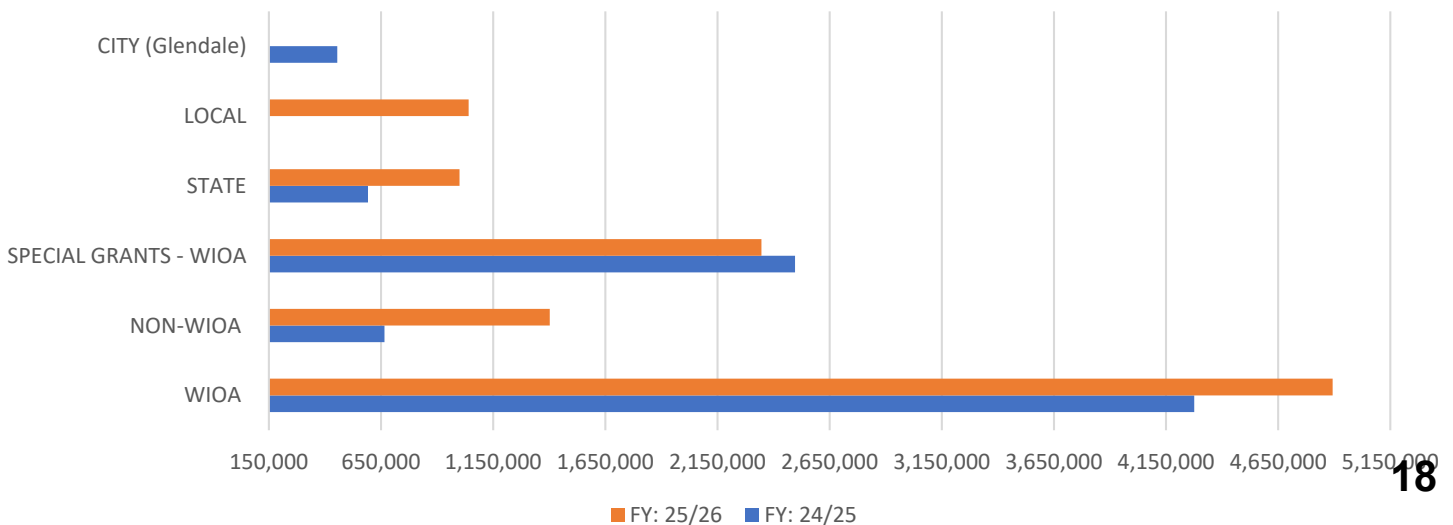
STATE

- California Adult Education Program (CAEP)

LOCAL

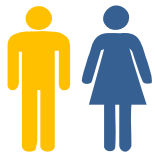
- Los Angeles County
- Youth@Work
- Wildfires
- Broad Foundation

Annual Comparison



Cost Category by Grant Source

	Total Budget By Grant				Total Expenditure By Grant		
	Total Funds by Grant Source	Staffing (Admin, Program, M&O)	Direct Assist.	Contracts	Expenditure - Staffing (Admin, Program, M&O)	Expenditure - Direct Assist.	Expenditure - Contracts
WIOA	\$ 4,892,838	\$ 3,037,758	\$ 899,461	\$ 955,620	\$ 1,362,665	\$ 349,853	\$ 587,831
NON-WIOA	\$ 1,402,000	\$ 72,980	\$ 692,763	\$ 636,257	\$ 28,152	\$ 427,650	\$ 484,253
SPECIAL GRANTS – WIOA	\$ 2,346,051	\$ 1,143,912	\$ 606,374	\$ 595,766	\$ 849,915	\$ 228,575	\$ 209,645
STATE	\$ 500,000	\$ 383,623	\$ 6,297	\$ 110,080	\$ 105,924	\$ 1,408	\$ 360
LOCAL	\$ 938,847	\$ 312,161	\$ 59,069	\$ 567,617	\$ 215,465	\$ -	\$ 210,560
Total	\$ 10,079,736	\$ 4,950,434	\$2,263,964	\$ 2,865,340	\$ 2,562,122	\$ 1,007,486	\$ 1,492,648



Staffing

Administrative Cost
Staff Salaries
Maintenance and Operations



Direct Assistance

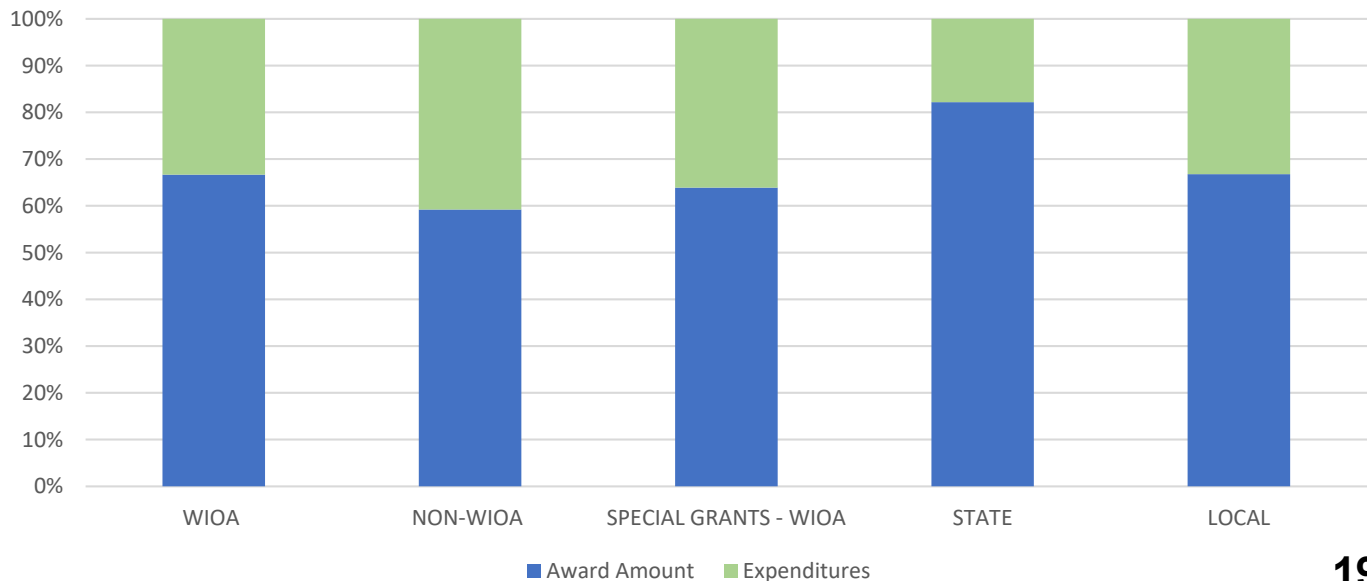
Funds spent directly on customers such as training, work experience, supportive services



Contracts

Professional Services Agreements such as Youth Provider, Communications, Legal

Revenue / Expenditure

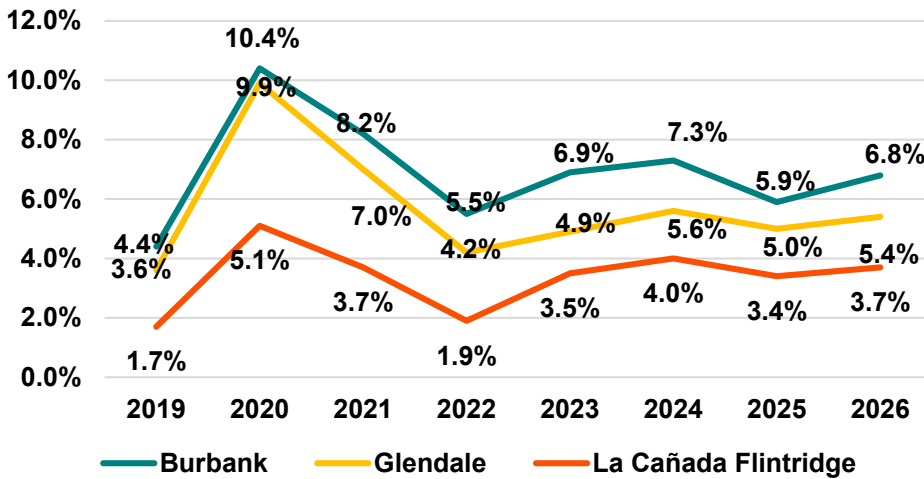


Verdugo Workforce Development Board Labor Market Report: Verdugo Region

January 2026
Quarterly Issue

The Verdugo Workforce Development Board (VWDB) envisions an economically vibrant, tri-city region with thriving businesses, youth, and job-seekers on career paths that reflect their highest potential.

ANNUAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATES BY CITY



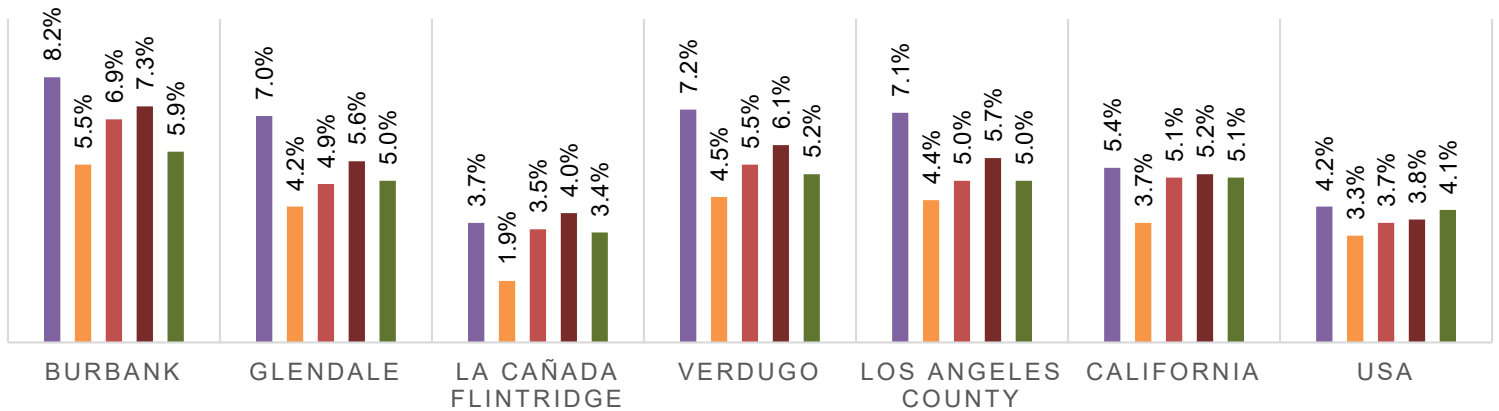
Unemployment Rates Comparison

Verdugo:	5.8%
LA County:	5.5%
California:	5.5%
USA:	4.7%

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES COMPARISON

The unemployment rate increased in the Verdugo Region and LA County.

■ November 2021 ■ December 2022 ■ December 2023 ■ December 2024 ■ December 2025

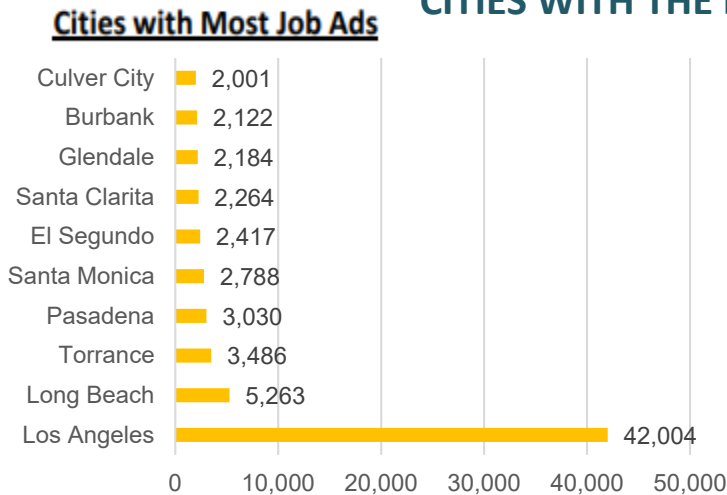


VERDUGO REGION LABOR FORCE (RESIDENTS)



Labor force numbers are based on EDD estimates of the number of residents who earned at least \$1 during the reporting period. These residents may be working outside of the Verdugo Consortium. The total Verdugo labor force as of January 2026 is 162,600.

CITIES WITH THE MOST JOB ADS



Help Wanted Online from The Conference Board and WANTED Technologies report the top ten cities in the Los Angeles County with the most job ads. Consistently, Burbank and Glendale are reported amongst these top ten cities with the number of job ads posted for the reporting month. This indicates the economic vibrancy of the businesses in the Verdugo community relative to the other cities located in the region.

TOP OCCUPATIONS IN JOB ADS – VERDUGO AREA

OCCUPATION	# OF JOB ADS
1. Registered Nurses	282
2. Retail Salespersons	198
3. Home Health and Personal Care Aides	159
4. First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers	117
5. Customer Service Representatives	101
6. Fast Food and Counter Workers	83
7. Medical and Health Services Managers	80
8. Lawyers	73
9. Food Service Managers	64
10. General and Operations Managers	62

The total number of job ads for the Top 10 Occupations decreased from 1,412 in December 2025 to 1,219 in January 2026 .

TOP 5 EMPLOYERS POSTING JOBS – VERDUGO AREA



*Increase/Decrease from December 2025 Verdugo LMI report.

DEFINITIONS

Labor force: Persons classified as employed or unemployed.

Employed persons: Persons 16 years and over in the civilian noninstitutional population who, during the reference week, (a) did any work at all (at least 1 hour) as paid employees; worked in their own business, profession, or on their own farm, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in an enterprise operated by a member of the family; and (b) all those who were not working but who had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent because of vacation, illness, bad weather, childcare problems, maternity or paternity leave, labor-management dispute, job training, or other family or personal reasons, whether or not they were paid for the time off or were seeking other jobs. Each employed person is counted only once, even if he or she holds more than one job. Excluded are persons whose only activity consisted of work around their own house (painting, repairing, or own home housework) or volunteer work for religious, charitable, and other organizations.

Unemployed persons: Persons aged 16 years and older who had no employment during the reference week, were available for work, except for temporary illness, and had made specific efforts to find employment sometime during the 4-week period ending with the reference week. Persons who were waiting to be recalled to a job from which they had been laid off need not have been looking for work to be classified as unemployed.

Unemployment rate: The unemployment rate represents the number unemployed as a percent of the labor force.

**Verdugo Workforce Development Board
Summary of Grant Opportunities**

#	Funding Source	Grant	Target or Due Date	Amount	Target Customer	Grant Information	Grant Status	Grant Period
1	State of CA Employment Development Department	Employment and Training Pathways Program 2025-2026	12/8/2025	\$ 2,000,000	Opportunity Youth, Veterans, English Learners	Enrollment in high-demand training, transitioning to employment, focus on apprenticeships, healthcare and bioscience.	Not Awarded	24 Months
2	State of CA Employment Development Department	25 Percent Additional Assistance	1/26/2026	\$ 500,000	Dislocated workers from Jet Propulsion Lab (JPL)	Provide career transition services, supportive services and assist with job search to new employers, occupations and industry sectors as needed.	Awarded; Awaiting Formal Notification	18 Months
3	State of CA Employment Development Department	Regional Coordination	3/23/2026	\$ 300,000	BioScience Community College Participants	Regional Grant with SELACO and Foothill Board for \$1 million; Verdugo would receive \$300,000 to continue its BioTC Initiative and serve 30 participants.	Pending	18-24 Months

Verdugo Workforce Development Board Roster

First Name	Last Name	Organization	Email Address
John	Acosta	AFM Local 41	john.acosta@afm47.org
Ara	Aslanian	Inverselogic, Inc.	ara@inverselogic.com
Luiza	Balyan	Pacific Clinics Head Start	Lbalyan@pacificclinics.org
Jose	Barba	I.U.O.E. Local 501	jbarba@local501.org
Sonya Kay	Blake	The Valley Economic Alliance	sblake@economicalliance.org
Vicki	Brannock	Biocom California Institute	vbrannock@biocom.org
Onnig	Bulanikian	City of Glendale, Comm. Services & Parks	obulanikian@glendaleca.gov
Alexis	Carter	Employment Development Department	alexis.carter@edd.ca.gov
Marisol	Espinoza	Southern California Gas Company	mespinoza2@semprautilities.com
Nicholas (Nick)	Hacopian	Glen West Management Co	nick@glenwest.com
Mary	Hamzoian	City of Burbank, Economic Development	mhamzoian@burbankca.gov
Steve	Kaplan	The Animation Guild, Local 839 IATSE	steve.kaplan@tag839.org
Jamie	Keyser	Burbank Chamber of Commerce	jkeyser@burbankchamber.org
Debbie	Kukta	KO Properties, Inc.	debbie@ko-properties.com
Caroline	Lett	Warner Bros. Discovery	caroline.lett@wbd.com
Pamela	Marcello	Hollywood Burbank Airport	PMarcello@bur.org
Iskra	Martinez	Department of Rehabilitation	iskra.martinez@dor.ca.gov
Kathy	McIntyre	CMTC/Roadmap 4 Innovation	kmcintyre@roadmap4innovation.com
Nicole	Miller	IATSE Local B-192	nicolemiller@b192iatse.org
Stephanie	O'Keefe	Grand Songbook Media	stephanie@stephanieokeefe.com
Michael	Ritterbrown	Glendale Community College	michaelr@glendale.edu
Veronica	Romero	PacFed Benefits Administrators	veronica.romero@pacfed.com
Soua	Vang	City of Glendale, Economic Development	SVang@Glendaleca.gov
Terry	Walker	Providence Saint Joseph Medical Center	Terry.X.Walker@Providence.org



Verdugo Workforce Development Board 2026 Full Board Meeting Schedule

Wednesday, February 11, 2026	9:30am	Full WDB Meeting Location: Verdugo Jobs Center
Wednesday, April 22, 2026	9:30am	Full WDB Meeting Location: Glendale Community College
Wednesday, June 24, 2026	9:30am	Full WDB Meeting Location: Providence Saint Joseph Medical Center
Wednesday, September 23, 2026	9:30am	Full WDB Meeting Location: Community Center of La Cañada
Wednesday, November 18, 2026	9am -Noon	Board Retreat Location: To be determined