



NEWS RELEASE

Workforce Development Board

September 2, 2021

CONTACT:

Brad Gates
Assistant Director, WDB
909-387-9856

WDB helps Victorville trucking company meet surging demand



As a smaller company in the fiercely competitive world of truck transport, Valley Bulk Inc. in Victorville leans heavily on the San Bernardino County Workforce Development Board – specifically WDB’s On-The-Job Training (OJT) program – to meet its employment needs.

The company, which transports products such as gypsum, cement powder and silica sand for the construction industry, requires its drivers to be able to operate their heavy-duty truck that include specialized features such as pneumatics.

“OJT has been a tremendous asset for us,” said Jeff Golson, President of Valley Bulk. “We’re a really specialized company, and to bring in someone without the right experience requires a lot of training and a lot of time to recoup that expense. OJT gives us that flexibility.”

The WDB-administered program provides eligible companies reimbursements of up to 50% of a newly hired employee’s salary while he or she is in training. Employers interested in participating should contact one of the county’s three America’s Job Centers of California. The AJCC will then refer a candidate to the employer and conduct the on-the-job training.

OJT has become an extremely popular resource for the growing number of businesses that call San Bernardino County home.

“Our Business Services team at WDB is tuned in to the needs of our employers, providing the critical support necessary to ensure that we’ve got the talent pool help them expand and prosper. It’s one more reason that San Bernardino County has become such a great place to do business,” said Curt Hagman, Chairman of the County Board of Supervisors.

For Valley Bulk, OJT has helped the family-owned business keep pace with the surging demand for construction products as the post-pandemic recovery accelerates. The company has about 90 employees, many of whom were hired and trained through the program.

WDB’s Business Services team also has helped the company identify and hire employees through the California Department of Rehabilitation.

“It’s all about giving people a second chance,” Golson said. “What makes my day is seeing someone succeed. When they’re able to get that opportunity, to work hard and buy their own home, they will go the length of the world for you.”

“It’s one big family here,” said the company’s Safety Director, Lloyd McCoy.

Phil Cothran, Chairman of the WDB, said helping companies such as Valley Bulk is especially rewarding.

"It's a great example of how the culture of an organization matters. For Valley Bulk and for us, it's a partnership – not simply about filling a position, but creating opportunity, transforming lives and helping the company and their workers succeed," Cothran said.

#

About the San Bernardino County Workforce Development Board

The San Bernardino County Workforce Development Board (WDB) is comprised of private business representatives and public partners appointed by the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors. The WDB strives to strengthen the skills of the County's workforce through partnerships with business, education and community-based organizations. The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors is committed to providing county resources, which generate jobs and investment in line with the [Countywide Vision](#).

The Workforce Development Board, through the San Bernardino County Economic Development Agency and Workforce Development Department, offers a variety of programs designed to help youth and adults identify career pathways and get the appropriate training and skills. Programs funded through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) provide eligible youth, ages 16 to 24, access to a variety of career and educational services designed to help enhance job skills, develop leadership qualities, explore career options, participate in adult and peer mentoring opportunities, and take advantage of work experiences. In addition, the WDB operates San Bernardino County's three America's Job Centers of California (AJCC). The AJCCs provide individuals with job training, placement and the tools to strengthen their skills to achieve a higher quality of life. The AJCCs also support and provide services to the County's businesses, including employee recruitment and business retention programs.

Employers and job seekers who are interested in the Workforce Development Board programs may call: (800) 451-JOBS or visit www.sbcounty.gov/workforce. Also follow us on: Facebook www.facebook.com/SBCountyWDB; Twitter [@InlandEmpireJob](https://twitter.com/InlandEmpireJob); LinkedIn <https://www.linkedin.com/company/sanbernardinocountywdb>; and YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/SBCountyWIB>.