

Riverside County Workforce Investment Board 2014 Strategic Planning Outcomes Executive Summary

On April 16, 2014, the Riverside County Workforce Investment Board (WIB) held the annual Strategic Planning Retreat, facilitated by John D. Baker. In addition to WIB members, participants included WIB staff and key partners and stakeholders involved with workforce development and economic development efforts throughout the county. The purpose of the retreat was to review the accomplishments of the 2011-2014 Strategic Plan, discuss the current state of the workforce and economy, select and affirm key strategies for the 2014/2015 program year and to gather input on the Slingshot Initiative.

Typically, at the end of a three year Strategic Plan cycle, a new plan is developed for the following three program years. Due to the desire of the WIB to continue with the same goals of the 2011-2014 Strategic Plan coupled with the need to align the Plan with the 2013-2017 Riverside County Workforce Development Plan approved by the California Workforce Investment Board, a decision was made to focus efforts on strengthening the priority strategies for each of the goals.

A group process was used to determine the priority strategies for each goal. Based upon what's happening in our region participants were asked to identify the strategies "that will take us further and faster into the preferred future". For each goal, the following three strategies were selected as priorities for the coming year:

Goal 1 - Advocacy

Educate political leaders at all levels about the importance of workforce development and its positive local impact.

Strategies

- 1.4 Actively and strategically engage in the political process and with the media and community to promote good policy development.
- 1.6 Leverage related workforce issues and organizations (i.e., identify the policy nexus between social services, economic development and educational issues) to promote joint advocacy.
- 1.1 Develop a policy agenda with a simple message.

Goal 2 - Workforce Preparation

Prepare the workforce for current and future economic needs.

Strategies

- 2.3 Align training with local economic development forecasts.
- 2.7 Deliver consistently high quality services that result in job placements.
- 2.2 Align K-16 curricula with industry standards.
- 2.4 Implement career pathways for middle skill jobs.

Goal 3 – Alignment and Image Enhancement

In support of Goals 1 and 2, align the WIB's service delivery system to meet industry needs and to enhance the WIB's image and visibility.

Strategies

- 3.2 Strengthen employer engagement.
- 3.6 Create a strategic marketing and communications plan.
- 3.3 Grow market share of employers using the WIB.