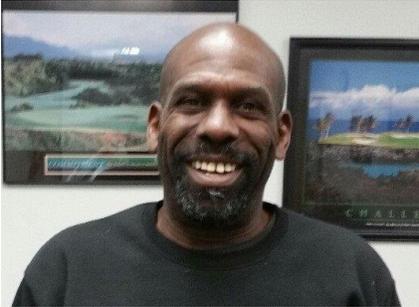


# Capitol Region

## Sacramento County

### Mark Sanders America's Job Center of California<sup>SM</sup>, Sacramento



As a disabled veteran and former felon, Michael McKinney has faced and overcome his share of life challenges and setbacks. But he proved to be resilient once again when it came to finding a job.

“Michael McKinney was a very rapid turnaround success,” said John Plane, a Disabled Veterans Outreach Program (DVOP) Specialist with Employment Development Department’s Mark Sanders America’s Job Center of California<sup>SM</sup> (AJCC) in Sacramento. Michael showed up to the AJCC in March, and within two days was hired by TNG West, a distribution and merchandising company, as a delivery driver. “The specialist I worked with was a good person,” Michael said. “He really helped me out.”

In his short time at the AJCC, Michael attended a VetNet workshop, where he learned how to present himself to employers and how to sell himself and his skills to potential employers with confidence. Michael says the courses gave him insight and the personalized help he needed.

On top of getting a full-time job with TNG West, Michael said his DVOP specialist helped him secure the salary he needed to support his family, including two daughters who are making their way through college. John credits that focus on family to Michael’s success. “He told me he was at the TNG yard at 6:30 a.m. in response to the employer telling him to come in ‘anytime’ the next day to apply for the job,” said John. “That early appearance both surprised and delighted his new employer.”

## Placer County

### America's Job Center of California<sup>SM</sup> (AJCC), Roseville Connections



With the help of America's Job Center of California (AJCC), Roseville Connections, Marisa Osborn got the help she needed while trying to re-enter the job market as a recent parolee.

Marisa received individual counseling and job development services, according to Darlene Galipo, Deputy Director of Golden Sierra Job Training Agency, an AJCC partner: "We leveraged our relationship with the local employer to develop a paid, work-based learning opportunity for Marisa to train in a non-traditional occupation."

Marissa was accepted into an intern program as a machinist with Independence Precision Machining in Roseville, shaping, cutting, drilling, and fabricating metal.

"I grew up in a machine shop," Marissa said. "It was my daycare. I always wanted to be a machinist. I knew when they offered me this opportunity that I had to take it. It was too good to be true. Because if I didn't, I knew I'd regret it for the rest of my life."

After her internship ended, the company agreed to hire her full time – and now she's a proud machinist at Independence Precision Machining in Roseville, where she operates huge machines that shape metal for industries all over California. She loves the exacting nature of her work.

"I made both my mother and my family proud of me," said Marisa about her successful re-entry into society. "I figured I'd be stuck in retail or fast food all my life with my background. And now I'm a machinist."

"Marisa loves her job," said Galipo. "And she plans to take *Career and Technical Education* (CTE) classes from the community college in the near future.

## **Placer County**

### **America's Job Center of California, Roseville Connections**

After leaving an unhealthy home environment and dealing with addiction, Angy Hernandez Morales is rebuilding her life with the goal of caring for her five younger siblings. "My motivation was that I saw how we were struggling – there wasn't enough money for food and clothes - and I just got tired of it," Angy said.

She turned for help to the Golden Sierra Job Training Agency, an EDD partner agency at America's Job Center of California, Roseville Connections, in Placer County. Counselors gave her career guidance and counseling. Though she didn't finish high school, Angy is committed to getting her GED certificate of high school equivalency by taking classes every morning.

But her day starts even earlier: She works from 3 a.m. to 6 a.m. as a freight handler for FedEx and Northern California Construction Training before heading to class. She secured the job after taking résumé and interview preparation workshops at Roseville Connections. And when she's not studying, Angy is in training for construction work.

She's grateful to Roseville Connections for giving her encouragement and support. "They helped me with whatever I needed: food and clothes, even tools for my training," said Angy.

Angy says her dream of bringing her family back together gets her through the long days and the moments when she feels discouraged. She wants to eventually buy a car and build a home for her and her siblings. When she reaches her goals, Angy says she'll never forget the people at Roseville Connections who helped her get there.

"They helped me start," Angy said, "and they showed me the path so I can see my future."

**El Dorado County  
Placerville Connections – America’s Job Center of California<sup>SM</sup>**

Austyn Copley is one big step closer to his dream. Ever since he was in high school, Austyn wanted to work alongside his father in the appliance repair trade. Their family goal: open their own business.

But Austyn faced some challenges: he had little experience, and few companies were willing to take a chance on him. Facing one dead end after another in the job application process, Austyn decided to sign up for On the Job Training through Placerville Connections, an America’s Job Center of California<sup>SM</sup>. “It was awesome,” said Austyn.

Over a six-month period, Austyn worked alongside experienced appliance techs. By shadowing workers, he improved his skills as a technician and learned how to interact one-on-one with customers. It’s an experience Austyn highly recommends.

“If you’re young and learning a trade, you can get right into the field – and on-the-job training will get you going,” he said. Austyn and his father now work for Appliance Company, Inc., a family appliance repair business that serves customers in Sacramento, El Dorado and Placer counties.

But by next year, they plan on taking their skills and experience, open up their own company, and make their dream a reality.