



Strong Workforce Program

## **Mt. San Antonio College** **Strong Workforce Program Success Stories** **June 2020**



The investment by California in the Strong Workforce Program has meant employment of thousands of Mt. San Antonio College graduates in high skill, high, wage jobs and provided a skilled workforce that has greatly expanded economic development in the region and the state. Following are stories of six programs that would not have produced this impact without that investment in the Strong Workforce Program and in Mt. San Antonio College.

The Strong Workforce **Drone Photography** program is training students in Drone Camera Operations, Drone Still and Motion Capture, and Drone Mapping, Inspection, and Thermal Imaging. They are not only Photography students—an influx of STEM students from Geotechnology, Aeronautics, Agricultural Science, and Architecture are training for these cutting-edge skill sets. Drone piloting and mapping skills enhance employability within high wage and high demand jobs in Los Angeles County such as Farm, Ranch, and Agricultural Managers, Architecture Technicians, Construction Managers, Geological/Petroleum Technicians, Environmental Science Technicians, as well as freelance and on-staff professional Photographers. The program will have its first cohort of completers in 2019-2020.

Industry Sectors: Agriculture, Water, and Environmental Technologies; Energy, Construction and Utilities; Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)/Digital Media.

The Strong Workforce **Business Division Work Experience Career Specialist** supports all of the Career Technical Education programs and has expanded work experience courses within eight programs in the Child Development, Office Technology, Computer Information Systems, Culinary and Fashion departments. Since May 2017, 97 new work experience sites were created with the help of our business and industry partners. As a result, 3,234 students were assisted with job searches, resumes/cover letters, and interview skills, and 85 Business Division students secured employment after their work experience courses.

Industry Sectors: Business and Entrepreneurship; Retail/Hospitality/Tourism; Education and Human Development; Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)/Digital Media.

The Strong Workforce **Registered Veterinary Technology (RVT)** program utilized the funding to build a state-of-the-art Animal Care Facility/Canine Lab and expand course capacity to meet industry needs in Los Angeles County. Annual job openings average 209 for Registered Veterinary Technicians with only 71 graduates in the county to meet the demand. The RVT program has now expanded their industry partnerships and is serving the Guide Dogs of America and the Riverside County Animal Shelters, giving over 400 students hands-on experience in spaying and neutering, radiography, veterinary medical nursing, and animal health. The program graduates over 45 students with Associate Degrees per year. Growth due to expanded capacity will take place in 2019-2020 and beyond.

Industry Sector: Agriculture, Water, and Environmental Technologies.

The Strong Workforce non-credit **Physical Therapist Aide** program has enrolled 236 students and 181 students have completed since the program began in 2017-2018. This program provides students with a basic understanding of working in a physical therapy setting with patients who need rehabilitation from an injury or accident. There is high demand in Los Angeles County for Physical Therapist Aides, with 227 job openings per year. Former students are working in facilities such as Casa Colina Center for Rehabilitation and CoasTherapy.

Industry Sector: Health.

The Strong Workforce **Child Development Apprenticeship** program provides a formal educational pathway leading to a Child Development Associate of Science Degree, Educational Paraprofessional Associate of Science Degree, or a Child Development Associate of Science for Transfer Degree, and on-the-job training at the Mt. San Antonio College Child Development Center.

Students engage in supportive mentoring, training, coaching, and extracurricular professional development that qualifies them for high demand, high wage positions in the Early Childhood workforce, such as instructional aides in school districts and child care centers. Since inception in 2017-2018, 34 apprentices have been hosted in community-based child development centers, and 22 have obtained permanent positions.

Industry Sector: Education and Human Development.

The Strong Workforce **Studio13 Graphic Design** project is a Design Studio within Mt. San Antonio College that produces multimedia for different departments and programs on campus. The studio was created to provide a venue for students to earn the experience requested in entry level job postings while completing their coursework. Studio13 has provided paid and unpaid internships ranging from one to four semesters for students in Graphic Design, Photography, Video Production, Illustration, Animation, and Marketing. There have been 42 students who have completed work experience in the studio and have produced projects for marketing, informational, and educational purposes.

Students have been hired in high demand, high wage jobs in graphic design and social media throughout Los Angeles and Orange Counties in businesses such as 5.11 Tactical®, Common Thread Collective, and WATG Architecture.

Industry Sectors: Information and Communication Technologies/Digital Media; Business and Entrepreneurship.