

# Firms offer training to fulfill obligation to community

► CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

program manager at VYDC, said the nonprofit also has a relationship with Salesforce, which is not one of the CBA companies, but has the advantage of being much larger than either Zoosk or Zendesk, and is “more sustainable to where it’s a pipeline of workforce opportunities for low-income and inner-city youth.”

The online dating site Zoosk, one of the smaller companies involved in the CBA process, paid its part-time two summer interns \$15 an hour. Zoosk also donated computers to VYDC.

“We’ve had a working relationship with those two in particular (Zoosk and Zendesk) for the past one and a half years,” Lagahid said, and mentioned career readiness workshops that opened clients’ eyes to career paths. “They’ve

been very supportive.”

VYDC job specialist Dan Raftery said the internships provided so far have not developed into full-time work.

Jinfeng Huang, 18, a 2013 Zoosk intern, said that going into her senior year at International High, she worked in the marketing department for 20 hours a week, learning how to build ads using the computer software. Now she’s enrolled at S.F. State, and says she’ll probably major in marketing. She lives near the Civic Center, she says, with her parents and little brothers and is the first in her family to go to college.

“It was great. They hired somebody with no work experience,” she said. She’d been coached at VYDC on interview skills and resume writing, but “I was pretty nervous” when she went in for her first interview at Zoosk.

This year, Zoosk promised to hire

three interns, invite two local students to a yearlong computer training program that meets weekly at Zoosk, and invite 10 VYDC members to a session on resume writing and interviewing skills. It will invite 10 more VYDC youths to Zoosk to discuss education, employment skills and career development and host local residents and human resource personnel in a session devoted to improving job searches, networking and learning what entry-level skills are need in the tech industry.

Twitter, “for the past 3 summers, has hosted a GWC (Girls Who Code) Summer Immersion Program in San Francisco, where 20 girls from the Bay Area study coding at Twitter Monday through Friday from 9-5,” Caroline Barlerin, Twitter’s community liaison, said in response to The Extra’s question about its employment outreach.

“Twitter is collaborating with Oasis for Girls to recruit more girls from the mid-Market area to next year’s class and Twitter’s CTO, Adam Messinger, sits on the GWC board,” Barlerin said. Oasis, on Mission Street near Seventh, is for at-risk girls of color ages 14-17.

“One thing they could do,” Jenks said, “is partner with existing employment and training programs that do placement and hiring, such as the Homeless Employment Center to hire applicants through those programs. Hire entry-level positions that they currently contract out – security, janitorial, food services, for instance, or pressure contractors to prioritize hiring folks from the community. We could send people to those jobs.

“They’ve said, ‘we don’t control that hiring,’ but they could influence that hiring,” Jenks said, “because those folks want that contract.” ■

A message from

## PIER 70 NEIGHBORS SUPPORTING PROPOSITION F



Dear San Francisco neighbors,

We, members of the **Dogpatch Neighborhood Association** and **Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Association** and longtime residents of the neighborhoods, write to urge you to support Proposition F, the ballot measure regarding revitalization of Pier 70.

Today, the area is a mix of vacant land and deteriorating buildings behind chain-linked and barbed wire fences that block waterfront access to the public.

For the past several years, we’ve been participating in an extensive community planning process that will support revitalization of the site with waterfront parks, housing affordable to low and middle income households, rehabilitation of historic buildings, space for local artists, and the creation of new jobs for San Franciscans.

Our respective neighborhood associations – the Dogpatch Neighborhood Association and the Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Association – both recently endorsed Prop F. We hope you will join us.

Sincerely,

*Dogpatch Neighborhood Association*

**Janet Carpinelli**, President, DNA  
**Susan Eslick**, Vice President, DNA  
**Vanessa Aquino**, Board Member  
**Jared Doumani**, Board Member  
**David Siegel**, Board Member  
Holly Allen, Joe Boss, Ellen Brin, Bernadette Doerr,  
Adam Ferrall-Nunge, Lesley Grossblatt, Andrew Ho,  
Alisha Holloway, Bruce Huie, Christopher Irion, Patricia  
and Scott Kline, Bill Lapczynski, Tina Lindinger, Michael  
Rhea, Mark Olsen and Kerry Rodgers, Robert Schooler,  
Brian Simonson, Callista Shepherd Smith, Alison and  
Mark Sullivan, Matt Svoboda, Stefan Kyle Watkins,  
John Warner, *Dogpatch Café*, Marc Goldfine, *Dogpatch  
Saloon*, Alex Goretsky, *La Stazione Coffee & Wine Bar*,  
Mark Dwight, *Rickshaw Bags*

*Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Association*

**JR Eppler**, President, Boosters  
**Stacey Bartlett**, Board Member  
**Joe Boss**, Board Member  
**Keith Goldstein**, Board Member  
**Carlin Holden**, Board Member  
**Monisha Mustapha**, Board Member  
**Lisa Schiller-Tehrani**, Board Member  
**Maulik Shah**, Board Member  
**Audrey Cole**, Past President  
**John deCastro**, Past President  
Bonnie Baron, Dan Crisafulli, Mara Iaconi, Jonathan  
Kass and Sarah Lucas, Ron Miguel, Jake and Bethany  
Millan, Judy Minton, Rose Marie Ostler, Jeremy and  
Michelle Regenbogen, Ralph Wilson, Wai Yip,  
Dr. Frank Gilson, *Potrero Chiropractors and Acupuncture*

Paid for by Yes on F, with major support from FC Pier 70, LLC