

## EMPOWER MISSION

The mission of the EMPOWER Program is to empower young adults to make informed decisions by providing self-awareness, options, and accountability that lead to successful employment.



### TO QUALIFY:

- Must be between 18 and 24 at enrollment.
  - No longer enrolled in school
- And one (1) of the following:*
- School dropout
  - Homeless, runaway, foster youth, qualifies for SSI, or in an out-of-home placement
  - Pregnant or parenting
  - Subject to the Juvenile or Adult Justice System
  - Disabled
  - A low income individual who requires additional assistance to complete an educational program or to secure and hold employment

#### *And Must Have in Their Possession*

- All documents necessary to work - Social Security Card and a Current Picture ID (Driver's License or California ID)

## ADDITIONAL SERVICES

- Workability Training
- Job Portfolios
- Interview Skills
- Job Referrals
- Job Retention Strategies
- Career Path Exploration
- Local Labor Market Information
- Childcare Resources
- Assistance With Transportation
- Paid/Unpaid Work Experience
- Job Shadowing/Apprenticeships / On the Job Training Options
- Leadership Opportunities
- Assistance to Complete High School Diploma or GED
- Post-Secondary Education Assistance
- Financial Literacy Training
- Entrepreneur Training
- Leadership Skills Training
- Support Services—Work and interview clothing, drivers license, etc.

EMPOWER Program Service are available throughout Merced County

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**ORIENTATION**  
**EVERY TUESDAY at**  
**10 AM—11 AM**

For more information please call  
**(209) 381-5926**

Wolfe Educational Center, W-12  
732 W. 13th Street, Merced CA 95341



### EMPOWER SUCCESS STORY

William Olazabal enrolled into the EMPOWER Program in December 2019. He was a 19-year-old high school graduate with no work experience and no job training. William's goal was to enroll in Vocational Training, become certified/credentialed, and find full-time employment. William enrolled into the Merced College Welding training in Los Banos. During his training, EMPOWER assisted William by providing clothes, tools, and a gas allowance. After successfully finishing the Welding Training, William completed a Job Portfolio to assist with his job search. William quickly obtained a full-time job with Bettencourt Construction in Denair, CA. His job performance continues to show high levels of professionalism, competency, and proficiency. William has expressed his gratitude for the opportunities the EMPOWER Program has provided. William plans to continue working for Bettencourt Construction to gain work experience and to join a labor union. William is a true EMPOWER Success Story.

## EMPOWER SUCCESS STORY

Rosalinda Carreno-Venegas enrolled into EMPOWER in October 2020. Rosalinda's goal was



to become a Professional Truck Driver. She was referred to Advanced Career Institute's Class A Driver License training in December 2020. Rosalinda excelled in her training and obtained her Class A License in March 2021. EMPOWER provided Rosalinda with training clothes and tools, and assistance with

the job search process. Rosalinda is now employed as a full-time Professional Truck Driver with Central Valley Concrete & Trucking. [ROSALINDA IS A TRUE EMPOWER SUCCESS STORY!](#)



Steve M. Tietjen, Ed.D. | County Superintendent of Schools

THE EMPOWER PROGRAM CAN ASSIST WITH:

GED / High School Diploma

Work Experience

**JOBS!**

**EMPOWER!**

## EMPOWER SUCCESS STORY

Elias Herrera joined the MCOE WIOA EMPOWER Program in March 2020. His goal was to become an automotive mechanic. In September 2020 Elias was referred to an Automotive



Technology program. Elias was able to learn quickly and excelled in automotive diagnosis and mechanics. As Elias's skills and knowledge increased, he was hired at Merced Dodge. He quickly learned to trouble shoot and correct a multitude of mechanical problem on all different makes of automobiles. Elias was hired full time due to his outstanding work ethic and knowledge of automotive mechanics. Congratulations Elias!



# EMPOWER

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Website:

<https://www.mcoe.org/empower>

A program operated by  
The Merced County Office of Education  
and funded by the  
Merced County Workforce Investment Board.

