

## Press Release

### **Congressman Jim Costa visits Fresno EOC Valley Apprenticeship Connections (VAC)**

Today Congressman Jim Costa had an uplifting message for Fresno EOC VAC participants. Costa shared his support for job training opportunities in the Central Valley, and discussed President Biden's American Jobs Plan.

**Click [here](#) to download the press kit, which includes interview, B-Roll, and photos.**

"This program is giving students a chance who didn't have a chance before, whether they got involved in a gang or made mistakes in their life and they want to have a fresh start," said Costa. "Now they have an opportunity to make a change in their lives that will give them a good-paying job and self-esteem."

As Costa discussed, President Biden's American Jobs Plan will create quality jobs and utilize workers like those who have graduated from the VAC program to rebuild infrastructures such as buildings, highways, bridges, transit systems, and the like. "It's important even in this pandemic we provide the necessary bridge to get us through the health care crisis and create the foundation for good-paying jobs," said Costa.

VAC has recently seen over 300 successful graduates secure jobs in the construction industry. Within the 12-week training program, participants earn nine certificates while meeting the City of Fresno's National Targeted Hiring Policy and Tier I or Tier II requirements for contractors working with the High-Speed Rail.

"We appreciate the support Costa has provided for our program throughout the years," said Amalia Martinez, Program Manager. "As one of the many change makers we have in our community, we wanted to show our participants how individuals like Costa and others help open doors for job training opportunities in the Central Valley,"

If you or someone you know is interested in Fresno EOC VAC, please call (559) 263 - 1110 or click [here](#).

#### **About Fresno EOC**

Established in 1965, Fresno EOC is a non-profit Community Action Agency that provides opportunities, strengthens self-sufficiency, and offers support for all people. We listen to the needs of the communities we serve to create effective programs and services. Fresno EOC is at the forefront, continuing the war on poverty with over 35 programs dedicated to getting people the help they need to achieve their goals. Our Fresno EOC EOC Valley Apprenticeship Connections

(VAC) is a program of Fresno EOC that helps individuals 18 and over enter the construction industry with a 12-week pre-apprenticeship program.

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