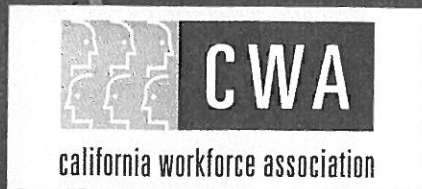
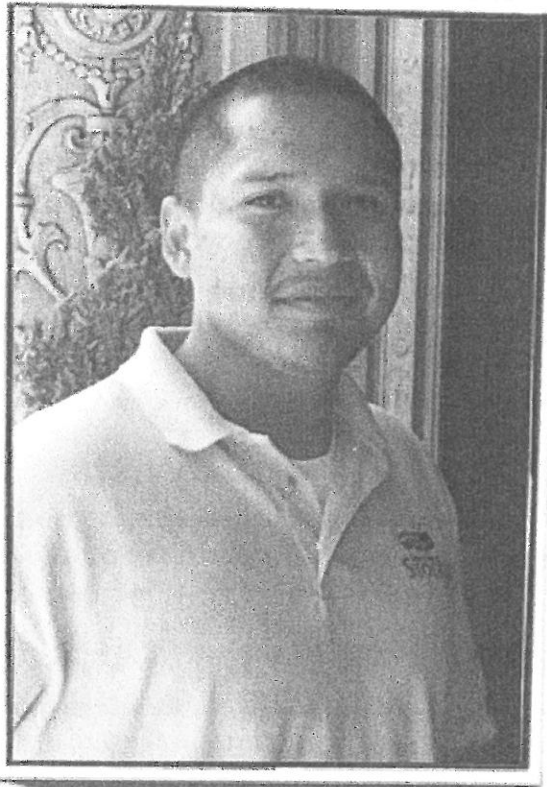


# SUMMER 2009



## The San Joaquin County Workforce Investment Board Presents:



### Luis Martinez Villa

Luis Martinez Villa worked for a non-profit organization called the Downtown Stockton Alliance. He served as an Ambassador for the Alliance, helping the public navigate their way to the many government office buildings, public agencies and businesses in the downtown Stockton area. Although Luis considers himself a shy person, he took on the challenge of the job because he saw the value of the public contact that the job required.

Luis' career goal is to become a social worker, and he found the work experience as an Ambassador for the Alliance a perfect way to develop the skills he needed to attain his goal. Supervised by a Senior Ambassador, his daily routine included answering questions and directing citizens to their intended destination through the maze of downtown parking garages, office buildings, and businesses. He assisted individuals in locating the appropriate City of Stockton or County of San Joaquin departments to complete their business. As an Ambassador, this unique job required that Luis be part guide and part information officer for the many agencies, organizations and business in the area. Luis' beaming smile and distinctive yellow Alliance shirt has become a downtown fixture since he began his job.

Luis' ability to speak Spanish was a tremendous benefit to the limited- and non-English speaking community in Stockton. Many of these individuals were unfamiliar with the downtown Stockton area and had difficulty locating the services or businesses they needed. With Luis' welcoming demeanor and bi-lingual capabilities, he served as a valuable asset to the Alliance and an important resource to those he helped. The staff of the Downtown Alliance said that Luis is the perfect Ambassador for the Alliance and a model participant of the Summer Youth Program.