



**Workforce Alliance (WA) Executive Committee
Meeting Agenda**
Wichita Workforce Center, 2021 N. Amidon, #1100 OR
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87878196254>
Wednesday, January 10, 2024
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Jeff Longwell (11:30)
2. **Level Up Kansas:** Keith Lawing (11:35) (p. 2)
The Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce is leading the Level Up Kansas project get more Kansans connected to the Kansas Promise scholarship.
Recommended Action: Take appropriate action.
3. **Workforce Alliance 2024 Priority Projects:** Amanda Duncan and Denise Houston (11:45)
 - A. Youth Employment Project (YEP) (pp. 3-4)
 - B. Home Base Wichita (pp. 5-7)
 - C. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education and Training (SNAP E&T)**Recommended Action:** Take appropriate action.
4. **Consent Agenda:** Keith Lawing (12:15)
 - A. Approval of Meeting Minutes for December 13, 2023 (pp. 8-10)
 - B. Program Year 2023 Budget Update (p. 11)
 - C. Operations / One-Stop Operator Report (pp. 12-19)
 - D. Communications Report (pp. 20-22)
 - E. Registered Apprenticeship Report (pp. 23-24)
 - F. On-the-Job Training (OJT) Contract - Star Lumber and Supply Co. (p. 25)**Recommended Action:** Approve the Consent Agenda as presented.
5. **Adjourn:** Jeff Longwell (12:45)

The next WA Executive Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 14, 2024 at 11:30 a.m.

January 10, 2024

Submitted By: Keith Lawing

Item

Level Up Kansas

Background

The Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce is leading the Level Up Kansas project to get more Kansans connected to the Kansas Promise scholarship. The Kansas Promise Scholarship Act provides service scholarships for students to attend Kansas community colleges and Kansas technical colleges in specific fields of study. Here is a link to the Kansas Board of Regents website for more information. [Promise Act Scholarship \(kansasregents.org\)](https://www.kansasregents.org)

Analysis

Level Up created a targeted outreach and marketing campaign that was funded by the Kansas Legislature in 2023. [Level Up Kansas | Opportunities for Free Associates and Technical Degrees \(levelupks.com\)](https://levelupks.com)

Leadership from the Wichita Chamber and Level Up have met with the Workforce Alliance and the other local workforce boards in Kansas about partnerships for developing strategies that will leverage and align Level Up with the services and resources from the KansasWorks workforce centers. John Rolfe, Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce president and WA board member, is planning to attend the January 24 Workforce Alliance Board meeting to discuss the Level Up project.

Recommended Action

Take appropriate action.



Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas
2024 Youth Employment Project Goals
Discussion Draft

Strategic Goals for 2024

- Grow capacity in terms of resources and employer engagement to increase community impact of the Youth Employment Project
- Coordinate with Wichita Public Schools and others USDs in the region to create high school internships as part of the Workforce Based Learning initiative and consistent with an applied learning philosophy

Tactics

- Identify YEP Champions to raise community awareness
 - Kelly Bielefeld, Wichita Public Schools (Strategic alignment with K-12 career pathways)
 - Mayor Lily Wu, City of Wichita (community vision of need and advantage in engaging young people)
 - Jason Cox, Wichita Chamber (Encouraging and modeling employer partnerships)
 - Wendall Funk, WIBA (Encouraging partnerships with small businesses)
 - Wichita Business Journal (framing the issue of youth employment to the Wichita area business community)
 - Workforce Alliance Board members (direct participation and or financial support)
- Messaging and outreach
 - Develop message to employers WA is “Easy Button” to set up summer internships / jobs
 - Hold series of “how to” sessions (recorded webinars?) for employers to understand options for high school internships, career camps and work based learning opportunities
 - Coordinated Social Media and Internet strategy to engage community partners and raise awareness
 - Develop presentation to USD area superintendents (Justin Henry and Marcy Aycock?)
 - Engage community leaders and employers in Butler, Cowley and Sumner counties
 - Conduct strategic planning sessions with YEP / HYPE partners and engage other community based organizations (webinar format?)
 - Leverage the Work Based Learning Intermediaries

Goals and Milestones

- Promotion of YEP /HYPE and challenge to business community at 2024 Chamber’s Chair lunch
- Roundtable conversation hosted by Wichita Business Journal
- Leverage chamber newsletters and events to promote YEP
- Speak at WIBA and to other groups of employers and community organizations
- Develop new paid summer high school internships with 20 area employers in 2024

Key Employer / Sector Focus in 2024 (Host a session with a specific ask of each of these partners related to youth employment and work based learning for 2024 and to deliver the “easy button” message?)

- Bombardier
- Engineering (PEC, Airbus)
- Insurance (IMA)
- Energy
 - Evergy
 - Black Hills
 - Kansas Gas Service
- Architecture, (Schaffer)
- Media / Journalism (Wichita Biz Journal)

Community Partners

- YMCA
- City of Wichita
- Urban League
- Empower Evergreen
- Sumner County EDC

DRAFT



**Home Base Wichita Activity Update
As of 1/5/2024**

HBW Partnership Activities/Updates

Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce

- Discussed
 - Friends of McConnell
 - Governor Military Council
 - Heroes Make America Tour
 - Consider Plant tour/visit
 - Include the Mayor
 - Potential of 20-25 attendees
 - Media Ideas
 - Air Force National Guard
 - Kansas City VFW
 - Chamber will update social media containing HBW information
 - HBW will work w/Scott on marketing/promotional ideas
 - Will add HBW flyer/info or upcoming events to Chamber newsletter
 - Will assist/back HBW on getting website listed on national veteran's org homepages
 - Chamber send Tamara upcoming events to participate in/get HBW info posted
 - Tamara added to Chamber newsletter distro list

Greater Wichita Partnership

- Partnership will update social media containing HBW information
- Work to create opportunities to educate business partners on HBW
- Media
 - Prepare local press release/op-ed (within next couple of weeks)
 - Will also work on larger scope press release for HBW to send to national organizations
 - Will send Tamara upcoming events to participate in/get HBW info posted

Community event/ re-launch

- Small hand-picked group of employers
- Ideally in the 1st Qtr. of 2024
- Potential lunch & learn
- HBW presentation
- Invite Mayor, County leadership, REAP

HWB Partner Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

- Tamara will work on roles/responsibilities for working group members and send draft out to members for edits

Chamber is still finalizing the proposed Military Affairs Committee (MAC)

- More to come
- HBW will be involved and allowed to provide input

Next meeting for the HBW partners will be the week of Feb 12-16

Participants Served

Veterans	1554	95.22%
Transitioning Military Personnel	51	3.13%
Military Spouses	27	1.65%
Total Participants Served	1632	100.00%
White	686	42.03%
Black or African American	203	12.44%
American Indian or Alaska Native	24	1.47%
Asian	26	1.59%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	6	0.37%
Not Disclosed	687	42.10%
Total Participants by Race	1632	100.00%
Hispanic	263	16.12%
Non-Hispanic	663	40.63%
Not Disclosed	706	43.26%
Total Participants by Ethnicity	1632	100.00%
Individuals with address in an Equity Zip Code	442	27.08%

Employer Engagement

Number of Employers Engaged	528
Number of Events to Connect Individuals to Employers	28
Number of Employers Receiving Technical Assistance	45
Number of Employers Receiving Training Funds to Hire Veterans	7

Job Placements

Advanced Manufacturing/Aviation	22
Agriculture	2
Transportation	1
Construction	5
Education	4
Engineering	1
Finance	1
IT	0
Hospitality	2
Human Resources	4
Law Enforcement	1
Logistics	4
Healthcare	2
Non-Profit	6
Retail/Customer Service	1
Total Industry Placements	56

Social Media and Web Activity

HBW utilizes website and social media platforms to engage with potential participants and employers. HBW ambassador videos and information posts continue to drive organic web traffic and interaction on all HBW digital platforms.

Analytics for activity on each site is below:

LinkedIn:

The HBW LinkedIn page has grown to 586 followers. In December, LinkedIn activity included 59 posts, resulting in 2,867 impressions.

LinkedIn	Followers	Posts	Unique visitors	Impressions	Page Views	Reactions
July 2023	56	20	41	1991	91	66
August 2023	524	52	85	4112	203	152
September 2023	554	60	84	3845	104	104
October 2023	565	41	31	2627	82	44
November 2023	574	41	34	3494	91	73
December 2023	586	59	31	2867	78	52

Facebook:

The HBW Facebook platform followers grew 20.5% over last month with a total of 82 followers for the month.

Facebook	Followers	Posts	Post Reach	Engagement	Page visits	Reactions
July 2023	6	18	179	31	13	6
August 2023	52	50	326	137	257	91
September 2023	60	53	296	100	59	79
October 2023	65	50	548	123	77	87
November 2023	68	52	930	291	133	144
December 2023	82	50	762	161	170	84

Website:

In December 2023, 80 unique visitors accessed the HBW website; 8% visited the site for the first time.

Website	Total Unique Visitors	New Unique Visitors	Returning Unique Visitors	Total Sessions	Total Page Views
July 2023	129	118	27	192	336
August 2023	152	140	33	277	737
September 2023	25	21	4	34	51
October 2023	81	61	7	167	391
November 2023	101	93	8	115	658
December 2023	80	74	14	92	579



Workforce Alliance
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Wichita Workforce Center and ZOOM
December 13, 2023 – 11:30 AM

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Workforce Alliance (WA) Executive Committee met on December 13, 2023. Chair Jeff Longwell welcomed Committee members, asked for self-introductions and called the meeting to order.

2. One-Stop Operator Request for Proposals (RFP)

Under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity act (WIOA), local workforce boards are required to conduct procurement to select a one-stop operator. Since 2017, Eckerd Connects has served in this role for Local Area IV. The current agreement with Eckerd Connects for one-stop operations was initially entered into in 2021 to provide one-stop operator services for the WA and expires June 30, 2024. In order to achieve the community impact goals of the 2023-2025 Strategic Plan that was recently adopted by the WA Board, staff are reviewing one-stop operations, agency partnerships and introducing new initiatives. Staff recommend updating the current scope of services for one-stop operations and releasing a Request For Proposals (RFP) to procure a new contract for one-stop operator services to begin on July 1, 2024. The plan is to release the RFP no later than December 20, 2023 with responses due in mid-February that will then undergo a selection process. As done in the past, staff recommend appointing a task force to review proposals to make a recommendation to the Executive Committee. After committee discussion, Kathy Jewett, Rod Blackburn, Michele Gifford and Erica Ramos were appointed to the task force.

Tony Naylor (Michele Gifford) move to approve the release of an RFP and the creation of a task force to review the proposals. Motion adopted

3. Computer Equipment for Virtual Meetings

Currently, the Air Capital room at the Workforce Center is the only meeting room equipped with the permanent technology to hold meetings virtually. To utilize the Keeper of the Plains room for virtual meetings as well, staff recommend acquiring new equipment to expand the capacity to host virtual meetings. Staff analyzed options to equip the Keeper of the Plains room with online meeting equipment. Staff worked with Kansas Department of Commerce and gathered two quotes and staff selected Cytek, a vendor that currently contracts with the State of Kansas, to provide this type of virtual equipment. The cost is \$34,980 and includes installation, training, and one year of support. The system includes video cameras, ceiling hanging microphones, ceiling speakers, wireless microphone system, touch screen control panel, along with many other amplifiers, and IT connectors.

Kathy Jewett (Alana McNary) moved to authorize President and CEO to enter into a purchase agreement with Cytek. Motion adopted.

4. Workforce Alliance Project Updates

Updates on some priority projects (Youth Employment Project (YEP), Home Base Wichita, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education and Training (SNAP E&T) and MeadowLARK Registered Apprenticeship grant for the WA was provided.

YEP had a strong year in 2023; there was an increase in employer and participant involvement. For 2024, staff want to build on the model for high school internships that relate to student academic interest and being able to offer more choices of industries and employers. This year, the financial services and public safety sectors were added and the plan is to add more career exploration choices. Wichita Public Schools has experienced challenges with placing students in internships during the school year and are working with the WA on summer focused internship placement. Staff will work with the Wichita Business



Journal, the Wichita Regional Chamber and the City of Wichita to help with outreach in obtaining more employers to participate. Wichita Mayor-Elect Lily Wu will visit the Workforce Center on December 21st to discuss the City's involvement and support of workforce strategies. Staff are implementing additional curriculum from Roadtrip Nation (RTN) to integrate with the schools and Camp HYPE. They are expanding the hosting of watch parties in the schools to watch the RTN episodes and use the RTN tools. Additional Camp HYPEs are planned for the summer and a virtual career exploration tool called Transfr is being introduced. The WA Youth Employment Committee meets next week to discuss the 2024 work plan and some requests are being prepared to community funders to assist in paying for youth programs and activities. Community impact meetings have been scheduled in Butler, Cowley and Sumner counties to provide outreach to businesses and local leadership with the goal to expand youth programs to those areas; strong employer involvement is needed.

WA staff Tamara Ray, the new Director of Home Base Wichita, was introduced and present to discuss the program. The goal is to sustain the program after the City of Wichita's initial investment ends by developing an identifiable strategy to direct military connected individuals to employment opportunities. She has been attending many community events such as the recent Get Hired Job Fair to promote awareness and outreach. The program is seeing an increase in job placements and individuals served through the program with the goal in the next six months of having a sustainable model in place beyond the initial City of Wichita's ARPA funding. Revamping social media and the website is a focus along with diversifying the employers that are involved in the program in order to expand the job options to other employment sectors and industries beyond aerospace and advanced manufacturing. The program seeks to help employers understand military culture as part of their hiring processes and transition skill sets in order to help recruit and retain employees.

Denise Houston provided an update on the SNAP E&T project. The WA is working with the Kansas Department of Children and Families (DCF) to identify eligible recipients of SNAP benefits that qualify for employment and training who are then brought into workforce system where training dollars are invested in them and are also assisted with finding jobs. The WA receives funding from DCF and then the WA can receive a match of a percentage of those funds with local dollars as well to grow those resources. Referrals were slow in the first few months, however they have started to increase in the last couple of months. Implementation of labs and workshops for participants are a focus in 2024.

The MeadowLARK Registered Apprenticeship (RA) grant expansion has had one application for an RA program approved with another for an automotive mechanic now in progress for Don Hattan that could be implemented for other dealerships in the area. The goal is to serve 100 individuals through 2027.
Report was received and file

5. **Consent Agenda**

Approval of meeting minutes for November 8, 2023, Program Year 2023 budget update, Operations / One-Stop Operator Report, Communications Report, Registered Apprenticeship Report, WIOA final performance reporting for Program Year 2022 and on-the-job training (OJT) contracts for Airbus, HM Dunn AeroSystems and Blake Clotia were presented to the Committee for review and approval. The Operations report shows that job seeker traffic continues to increase. The Communication report shows a decrease in Twitter participation and more engagement with LinkedIn so focus will shift there and expand to Instagram in 2024.

Michele Gifford (Tony Naylor) moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion adopted.

6. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 PM.



Attendees:

LWDB Executive Committee Members

Michele Gifford
Kathy Jewett
Jeff Longwell
Alana McNary
Tony Naylor
Amy Williams

Staff/Guests

Amanda Duncan
Denise Houston
Shirley Lindhorst
Chad Pettera via Zoom
Will Dorr, Eckerd Connects
Erica Ramos, LWDB
Jennifer Baysinger, Senator Roger Marshall's Office
via Zoom

DRAFT

Workforce Alliance Consolidated Budget PY23

July 2023 - June 2024

Category	WIOA				Community Impact Funds				<i>Expenditures Through 11/30/2023</i>			
	Budget	November	YTD	% Budget	Budget	November	YTD	% Budget	Consolidated			
		Expenditures	Expenditures	Remaining		Expenditures	Expenditures	Remaining	Budget	November	YTD	% Budget
Wages	\$ 1,978,521	\$ 112,439	\$ 577,007	71%	\$ 1,744,000	\$ 170,128	\$ 822,076	53%	\$ 3,722,521	\$ 282,567	\$ 1,399,083	62%
Fringe	\$ 465,593	\$ 25,405	\$ 132,149	72%	\$ 432,966	\$ 31,369	\$ 173,672	60%	\$ 898,559	\$ 56,774	\$ 305,821	66%
Facilities	\$ 274,601	\$ 45,768	\$ 160,998	41%	\$ 145,450	\$ 18,904	\$ 87,323	40%	\$ 420,051	\$ 64,672	\$ 248,321	41%
Contract/Pro Fees	\$ 174,983	\$ 17,916	\$ 38,094	78%	\$ 184,451	\$ 14,661	\$ 115,875	37%	\$ 359,434	\$ 32,577	\$ 153,969	57%
Supplies/Equipment	\$ 56,330	\$ 12,956	\$ 13,169	77%	\$ 44,285	\$ 1,745	\$ 7,020	84%	\$ 100,615	\$ 14,701	\$ 20,189	80%
IT	\$ 251,899	\$ 13,463	\$ 39,738	84%	\$ 43,500	\$ 3,110	\$ 22,383		\$ 295,399	\$ 16,573	\$ 62,121	79%
Outreach/Cap Building	\$ 50,330	\$ -	\$ 6,014	88%	\$ 102,498	\$ 1,506	\$ 80,191	22%	\$ 152,828	\$ 1,506	\$ 86,205	44%
Travel/Conferences	\$ 55,603	\$ 7,231	\$ 22,660	59%	\$ 33,243	\$ 941	\$ 14,823	55%	\$ 88,845	\$ 8,172	\$ 37,483	58%
Grants Awarded	\$ 118,536	\$ 13,438	\$ 59,434	50%	\$ 153,000	\$ -	\$ 40,755	73%	\$ 271,536	\$ 13,438	\$ 100,189	63%
Staff Development	\$ 20,950	\$ -	\$ 922	96%	\$ 23,950	\$ -	\$ 1,317	95%	\$ 44,900	\$ -	\$ 2,239	95%
Indirect	\$ -	\$ 11,267	\$ 79,749	#DIV/0!	\$ -	\$ (11,267)	\$ (79,749)	#DIV/0!	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	#DIV/0!
Misc/Dep/Int	\$ -			0%	\$ 27,050	\$ -	\$ 14,739	46%	\$ 27,050	\$ -	\$ 14,739	46%
Work Experience	\$ 818,752	\$ 73,590	\$ 459,522	44%	\$ 475,350	\$ 6,000	\$ 176,386	63%	\$ 1,294,102	\$ 79,590	\$ 635,908	51%
On The Job Training	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 579,803	\$ 11,083	\$ 47,698	92%	\$ 579,803	\$ 11,083	\$ 47,698	92%
Incentives	\$ 2,000	\$ 200	\$ 273	86%	\$ 242,000	\$ 50	\$ 21,325		\$ 244,000	\$ 250	\$ 21,598	91%
Occupational Training	\$ 127,294	\$ 7,104	\$ 30,103	76%	\$ 1,353,383	\$ 241,169	\$ 559,615	59%	\$ 1,480,677	\$ 248,273	\$ 589,718	60%
Supportive Services	\$ 111,346	\$ 8,897	\$ 36,677	67%	\$ 365,000	\$ 16,247	\$ 82,523	77%	\$ 476,346	\$ 25,144	\$ 119,200	75%
Total	\$ 4,506,737	\$ 349,674	\$ 1,656,509	63%	\$ 5,949,928	\$ 505,646	\$ 2,187,972	63%	\$ 10,456,665	\$ 855,320	\$ 3,844,481	63%

Analysis

Budget: The PY23 budget with expenditures through the end of the November 2023. The budget includes a breakdown between WIOA (LWDB budget) and non-WIOA Funding (Community Impact Funds) and combined totals.

The PY23 budget allocates 39% on direct client spending including classroom training, work experience, on-the-job training and supportive services. The direct client spending is at 37% through the month of November. The budget has 63% remaining.

Strategic Goals Supported

This activity supports the following Strategic goals of the Local Workforce Development Board:

- Expand Youth Employment Opportunities to help develop the workforce of the future
- Strengthen relationships with WIOA partners, community organizations and educational/training institutions to leverage resources and align services through the one-stop workforce centers (American Job Centers)
- Create and implement a more effective and comprehensive communication plan to increase public awareness about employment and training services, and skills needed for current and future careers in South Central Kansas
- Generate revenue to increase community impact of WIOA and Workforce Centers

Recommended Action

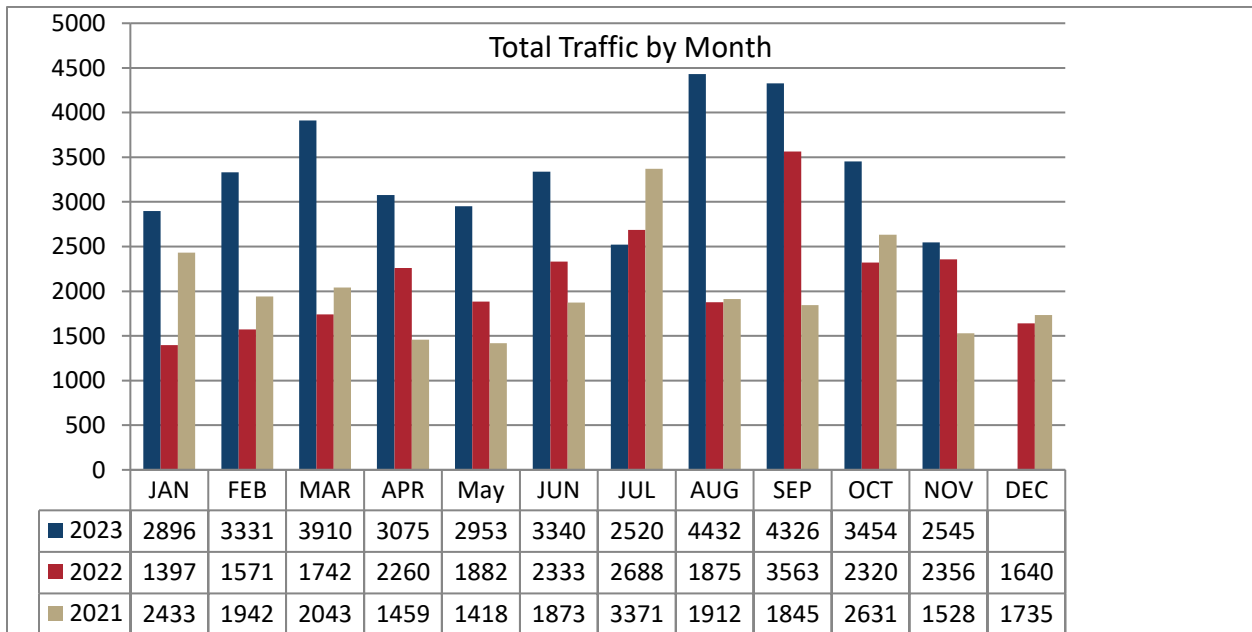
Receive and file.

Item

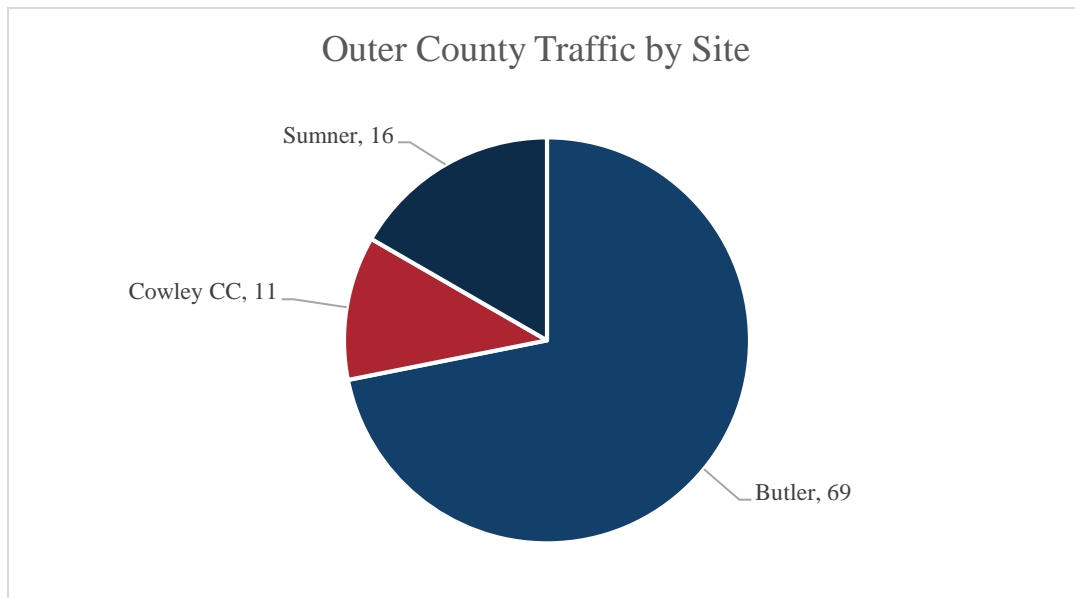
Workforce Centers Operations November Update

Job Seeker Traffic

The bar graph below provides a visual representation of jobseeker traffic through November of 2023. The graph reveals an increase of 189 participants as compared with November of 2022. Overall, job seeker engagement at all four centers exceeds the levels observed in the preceding two years. This positive trend underscores a continued expansion in job seeker participation.

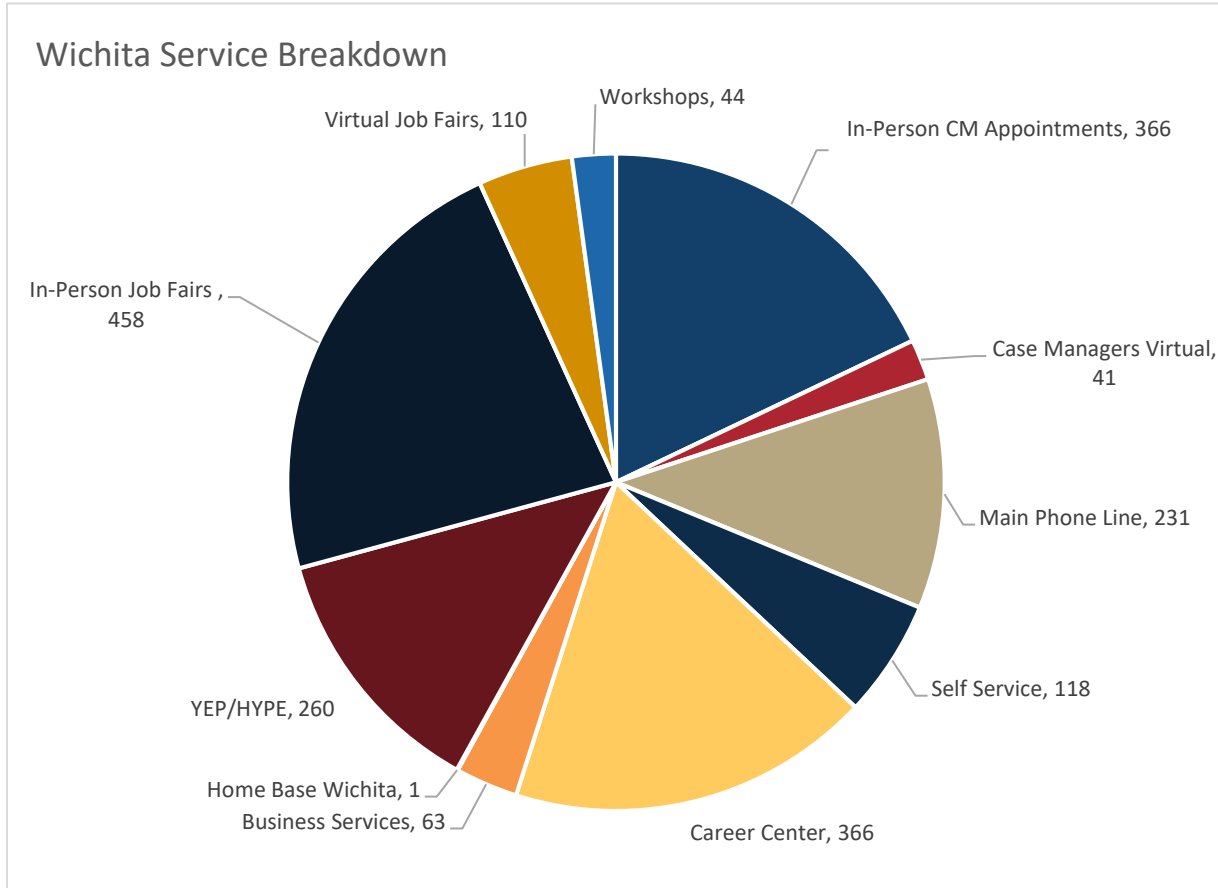


This pie chart offers a breakdown of the job seeker traffic by Area IV's Auxiliary Offices in Butler, Sumner, and Cowley counties.

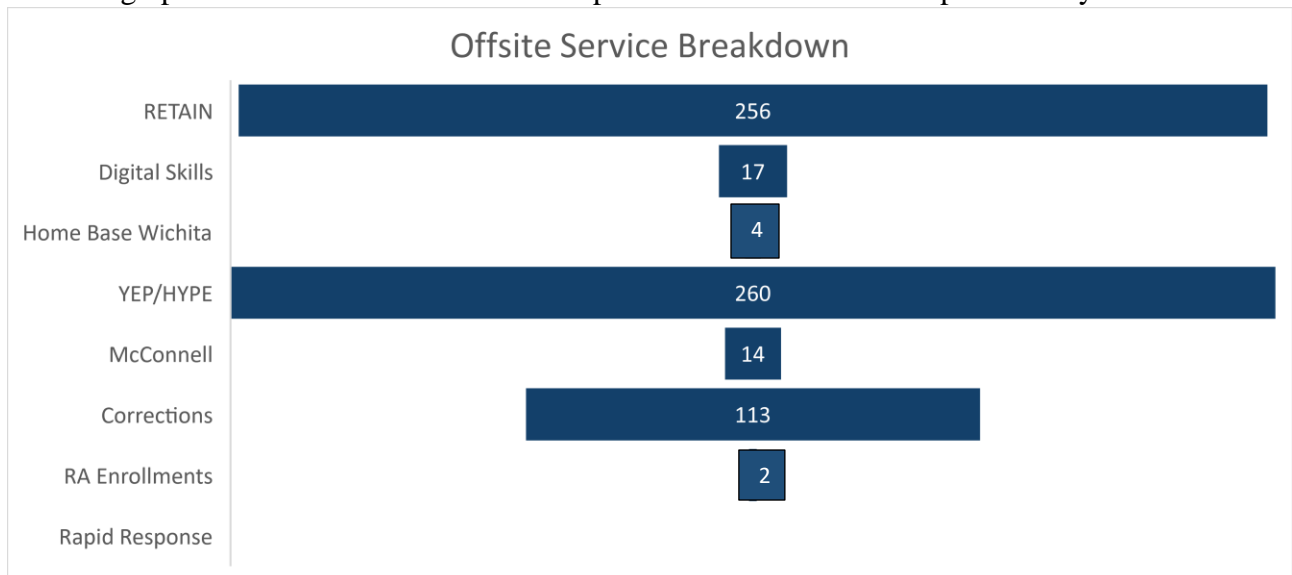


Job Seeker Services

This pie chart offers a breakdown of the comprehensive job seeker services provided by Area IV's One Stop Center, the Wichita Workforce Center.



This bar graph offers a breakdown of the comprehensive offsite services provided by Area IV.



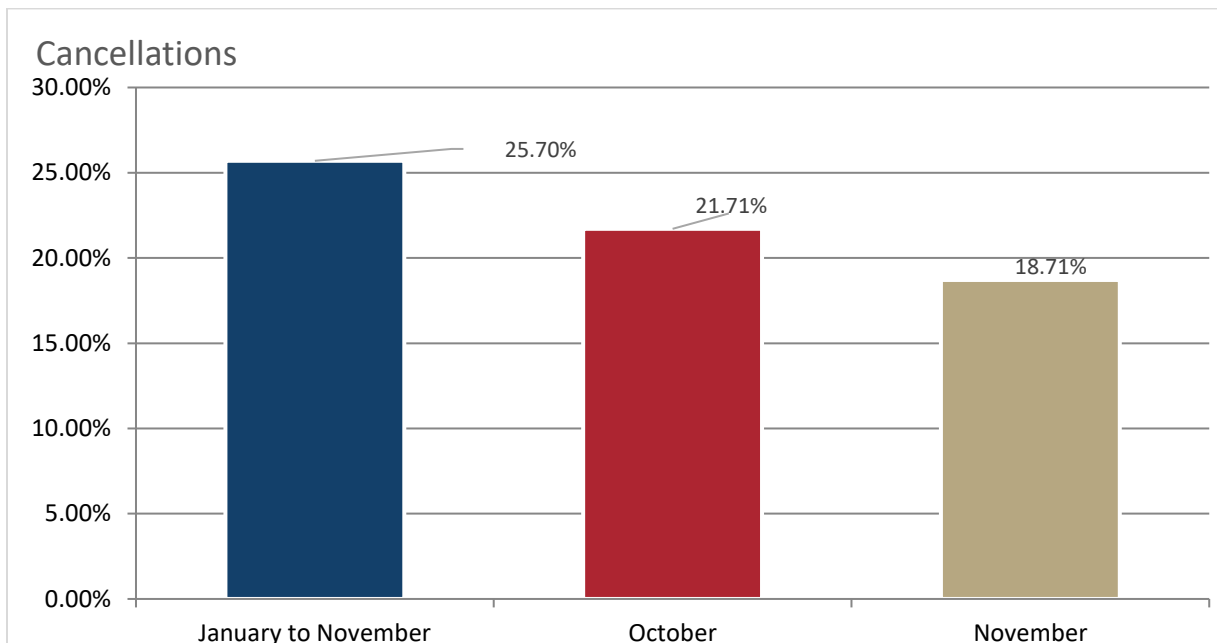
Throughout the year, the Career Services staff has maintained a vital role in delivering comprehensive support to job seekers within Local Area IV. Their unwavering commitment extends to helping job seekers craft effective resumes, conduct mock interviews, navigate job searches, address barriers to employment, and promptly respond to inquiries related to unemployment insurance.

In addition to conducting one-on-one appointments, the dedicated workforce center staff actively engage with customers through various avenues. This proactive approach encompasses returning calls from individuals receiving unemployment benefits, orchestrating group activities both within and beyond the Workforce Center premises, and providing timely responses to inquiries via the KansasWorks chat platform. This diversified approach underlines the center's dedication to delivering comprehensive and easily accessible support to job seekers.

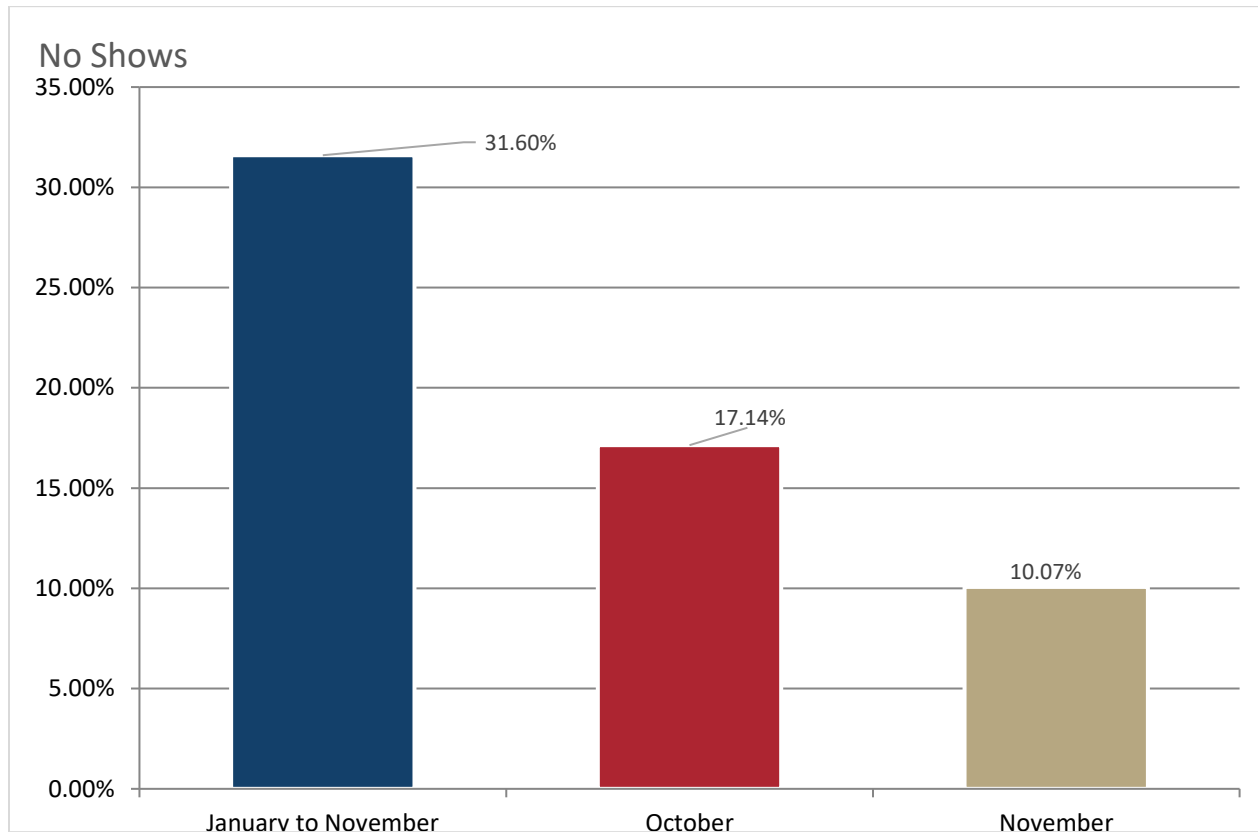
Over the course of the year, the Career Center has served a total of 7,471 customers which includes the addition of 484 customers served in the month of November. Among these, 3,256 have benefited from individual appointments, including the addition of 99 in November, and a total of 5,675 appointments have been scheduled, including the addition of 139 in November, highlighting the significant engagement levels.

In October, the Career Center operated primarily on a walk-in structure. The cancellations and no shows have both dropped from October to November, and those that were recorded during this period are customers who joined the waitlist from home and never showed up, customers who joined the waitlist and decided they did not want to wait to be seen, or customers who left after joining the waitlist and never returned.

The graph below illustrates that from January to November, 838 appointments were canceled out of 3,256 scheduled appointments which is 25.70%. The November data indicates that 26 appointments were canceled, representing 18.71% of scheduled appointments in November as compared with 21.71% reported in October.



The graph below illustrates that from January to November, 1,029 appointments resulted in no-shows out of 3,256 scheduled appointments which is 31.60%. The November data indicates that 14 appointments resulted in no-shows, representing 10.07% of scheduled appointments in November as compared with 17.14% reported in October.



Workshops

Virtual Workshops

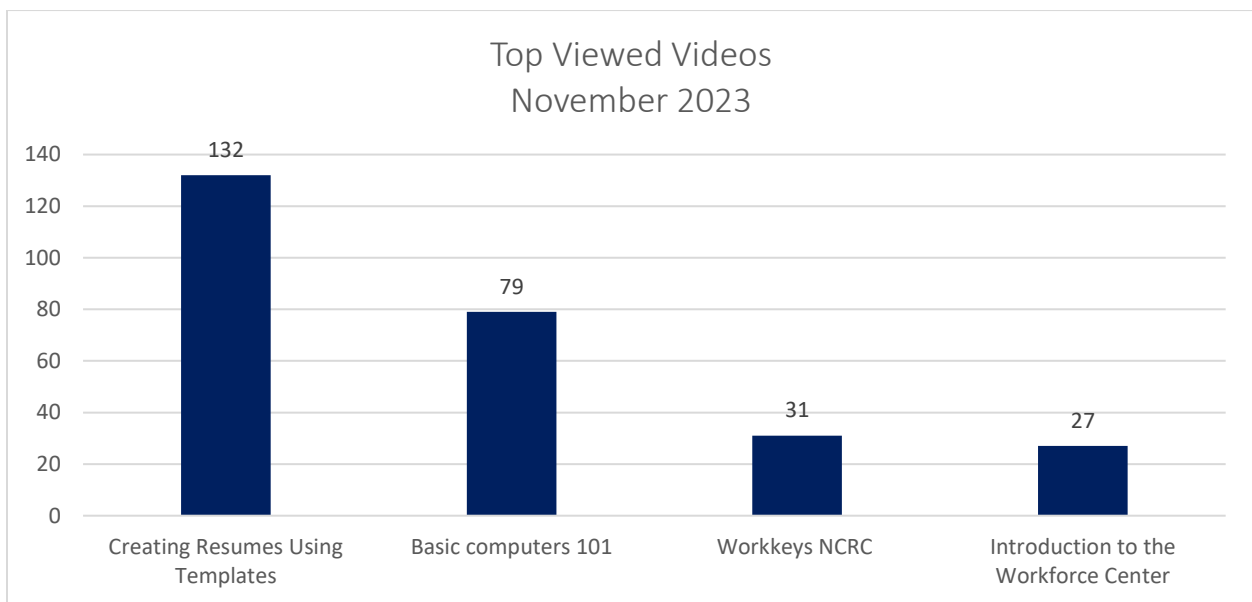
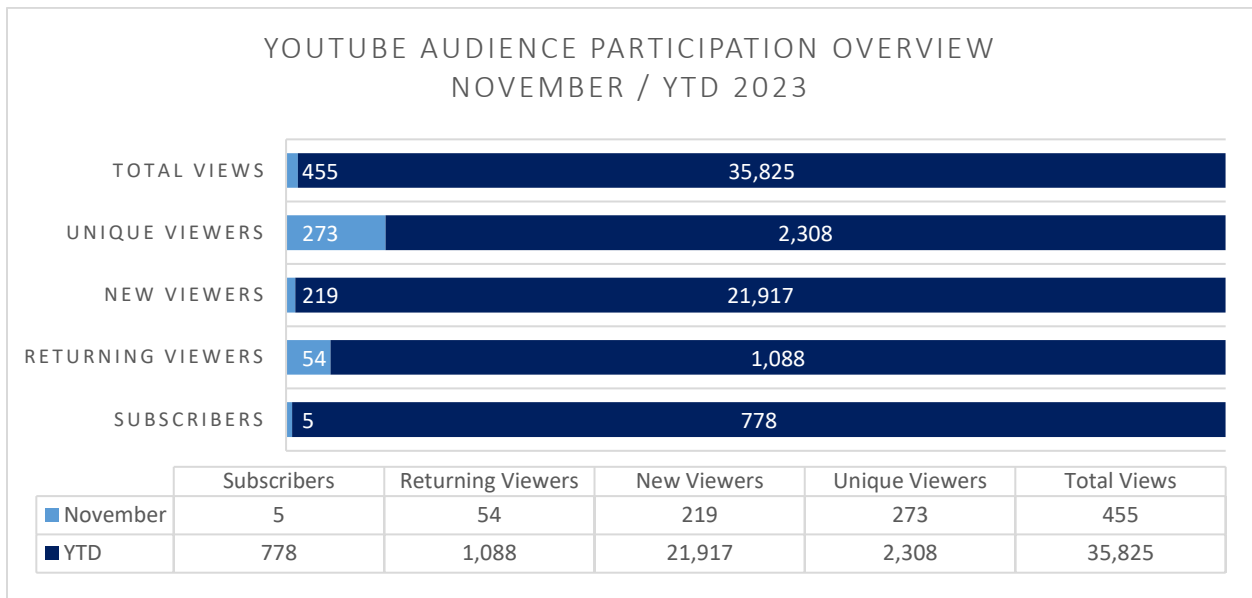
Throughout 2023, the Workforce Center witnessed fluctuations in online engagement on its YouTube channel. From a modest start in January, the total views gradually escalated, reaching a peak of 20.6K in March, and then following a varied pattern through the year. In November, the YouTube channel saw 455 views, with a total watch time of 36.2 hours.

The year began with 240 unique viewers in January, and by March, this number had increased to an impressive 13.6K. Despite some ebb and flow, November saw 273 unique viewers. This consistent presence of unique viewers demonstrates the value the content provides to a growing audience.

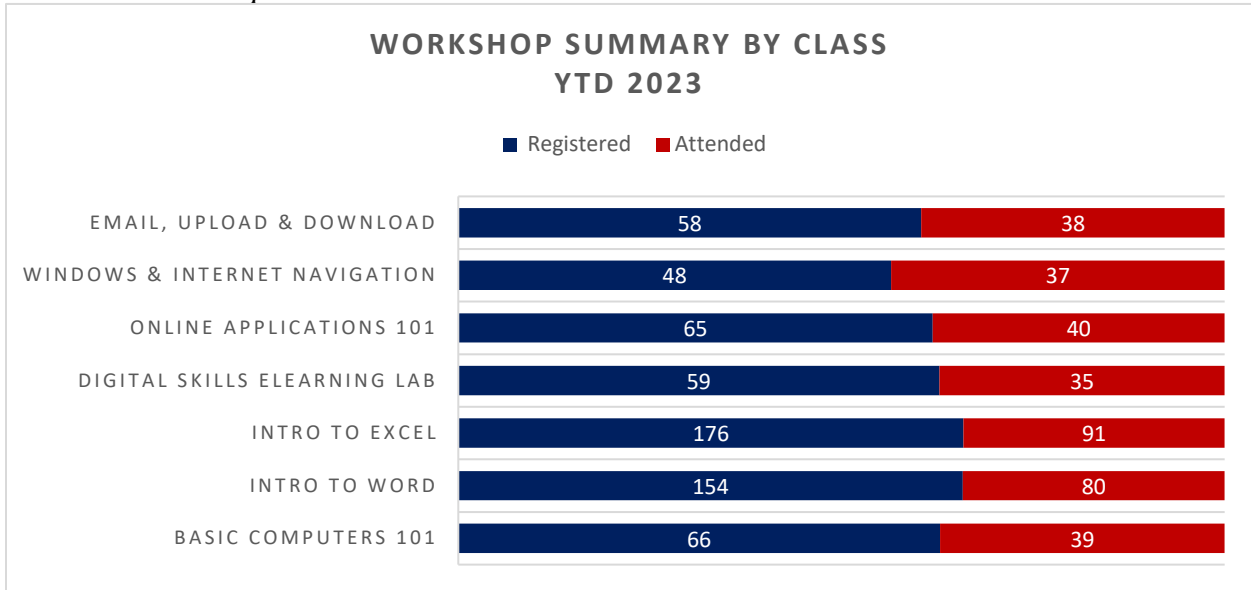
Returning viewers, those who continue to find value in the Workforce Center's workshops, remained engaged throughout the year. In November, there were 54 returning viewers, a testament to the quality of the content. In addition, 219 new viewers discovered The Workforce Center channel for the first time.

In November, 5 viewers subscribed for a total of more than 970 subscriptions, showcasing the center's capacity to attract and retain subscribers, ensuring a sustained impact in the region.

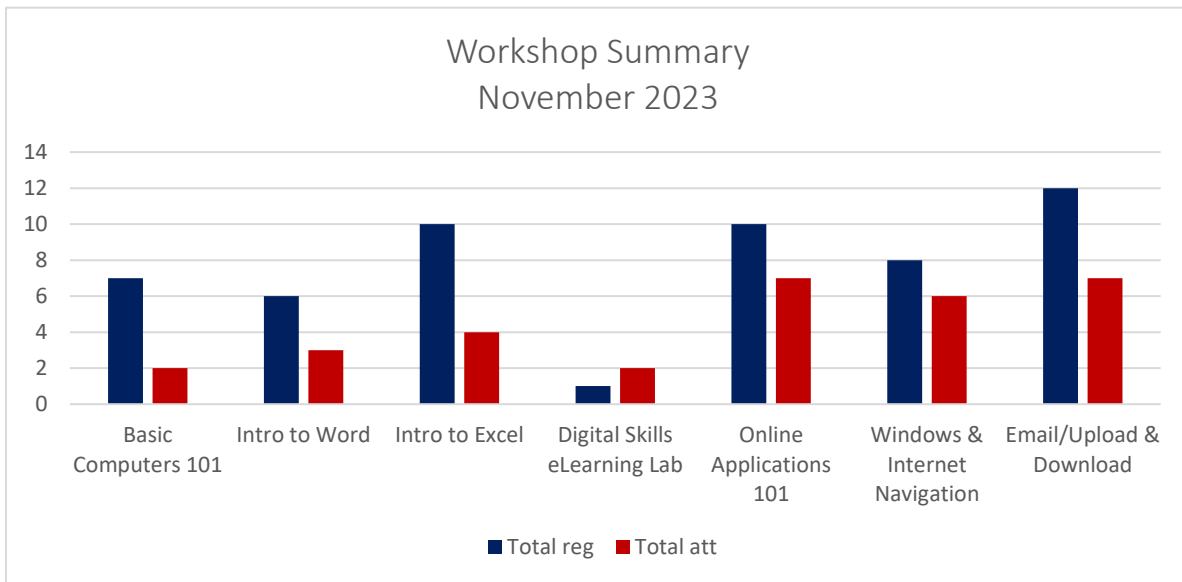
Despite the recent decline in views, the Workforce Center remains an invaluable resource for partner agencies and job seekers. With a diverse selection of over 70 workshops, the center continues to serve as a support hub, equipping the community with the skills they need to succeed in the modern workforce.



In Person Workshops



The graph below reflects November’s total attendance rate at in-person workshops. The Workforce Center saw more than 57% of registered attendees and increased our YTD attendance rates by nearly 17%. It is important to note that the Workforce Center continues to be a vital resource for those seeking to enhance their skills.



One Stop Operator Update

From the last report to the end of November, Will Dorr has completed the in-person visits and resource assessments of the original 11 Access Points. Will has also added an additional nine new interested access point participants, bringing the total to 11 new participants interested in joining as Access Points. Will has also drafted a new MOU for all workforce Access Points and

January 10, 2024

Submitted By: Will Dorr

has engaged all the existing and newly interested access point participants as workforce is working towards formalizing partnerships with them based on an updated MOU for each location. Additionally, Will began assembling the monthly Operations Report and, upon request, reorganized and scheduled ongoing quarterly resource partner, quarterly WIOA partner, and bimonthly Access Point collaboration meetings all of which he will lead. Will attended the Cowley College Auxiliary Office Open House in person. Will has met with many partners for collaboration meetings, including Catholic Charities Saint Anthony Family Shelter, Job Corps, TRIO, Dear Neighbor Ministries, Core Community in Augusta, KS, Core Community in Harper, KS, Core Community in Kingman, KS, Kansas Department for Children and Families, Wichita Public Library, International Rescue Committee, YMCA, City of Wichita Transportation Department, Family Promise of Greater Wichita, Andover Public Library, Urban League of Kansas, Butler Community College, United Way of the Plains, Cowley College, and Wichita Children's Home. Will continues to lead the twice monthly all supervisors meeting, the weekly center supervisor meeting, and the weekly all staff meeting. As part of the weekly all staff meetings, Will has coordinated two to three partner presenters a month, through the end of April, to provide staff development opportunities on partner resources and programs. Will met with five supervisors individually to increase his program knowledge and further collaboration within the Workforce and partners. Will suggested and began a monthly meeting with Marcy Aycock, Executive Director REAP, to coordinate collaboration opportunities with REAP. Will also met with his One Stop Operator (OSO) counterpart Sharon Beyer (Local Area II) to enhance collaboration. As part of the first ever monthly State of Kansas OSO meeting, which Will established, he met together with Laura Patzner (Local Area I) and Erich Ulmer (Local Area III) to further the collaboration between the Workforce Local Areas across the State of Kansas.

Business Services Overview

Local Area IV increased its engagement with the KansasWorks platform by 15.6% during the month of November. A total of 579 job openings were posted throughout the 6-county radius. Statewide, a total of 51,925 positions were active for job seekers to view, with a pool of 8,291 resumes documented in the system for employers to utilize during recruitment.

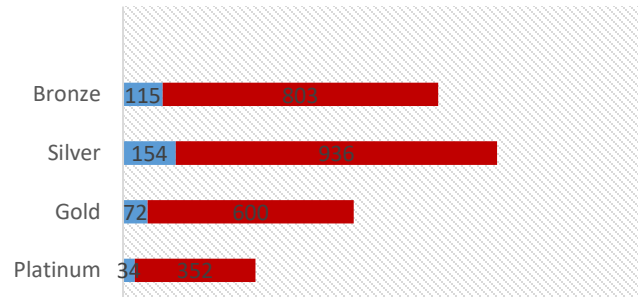
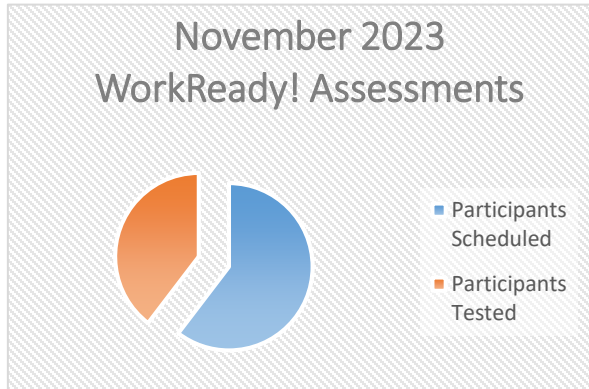
Job Fairs

During November, the region hosted the annual Get Hired! Job Fair over the course of three industry specific days at the Wichita Workforce Center. Advanced Manufacturing and Aerospace drew in the most traffic, sitting at 194 participants, with Municipalities attracting 100 participants, and an Open Industry day servicing 127 participants. The event averaged 140 job seekers per day, with a total participation of 421. 37 local employers registered and attended the event. Though participation still sits below pre-pandemic levels, employers continue to provide consistent positive feedback regarding the quality of applicants in attendance.

Kansas WorkReady! Assessment - ACT National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC)

The Workforce Center has maintained a steady pool of applicants ready to take the WorkKeys Assessment. A total of 24 sessions were offered during the month of November, with 678 job

seekers scheduled to complete. Local Area IV saw an increase in the attendance rate, sitting at 65.6%, with it being at 59.8% in the previous month. A total of 445 participants completed the assessment, and an 84.3% award rate was documented.



WorkReady! Certificates
 November Certificates Awarded - 293752
 Award Rate – 84.3%

2023 Certificates Awarded – 2,691
 Award Rate – 86.3%

WorkReady! Testing
 November Testing Sessions - 24
 Attendance Rate – 65.6%

2023 Testing Sessions – 258
 Attendance Rate – 61.5%

	November	2023 Totals
<i>Pre-Employment Skills Assessments Administered</i>	136	2,645
<i>Applications Completed</i>	16	347
<i>Services to Employers</i>	130	2,293
<i>Job Postings</i>	579	6,728
	861	12,013

Recommended Action
 Receive and File.



Communications Reports
As of 12/01/23

1. Building You

In September 2020, the Workforce Alliance and KWCH launched [Building You](#), a weekly feature story about jobs and the economy that airs each Wednesday at 4:00 pm. Additionally, *Building You* includes a Job of the Day highlighted on the 4 pm newscast and featured on the KWCH website with a link on how to access the job postings and other available jobs through the Workforce Center and Kansasworks.com. The Job of the Day segment also appears again on the KWCH morning newscast the following day. The Workforce Alliance provides content and leads for these features in strategic partnership with employers and partners who utilize the Workforce Center, and posts *Building You* and Job of the Day links on social media platforms.

December 23 Building You Stories

There were no Building You Stories in the month of December.

December 23 Job of the Day		
Date	Job Title	Employer
12/1/23	Elementary School Speech Pathologist	Derby Public Schools
12/4/23	Certified Nursing Assistant -FT and PT	Starkey Inc.
12/5/23	Medical Assistant	HealthCore Clinic
12/6/23	Non-CNA Caregiver	KETCH
12/7/23	Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)	Legend Senior Living
12/8/23	Registered Nurse – Med Surg	Wesley Medical Center
12/11/23	Elementary School Speech Pathologist	Derby Public Schools
12/12/23	Entry level Customer Relations	Etezazi Industries
12/13/23	Business Services Representative	Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas
12/14/23	Universal Banker - Wichita (Westway)	Emprise Bank
12/15/23	Election Support Specialist	Sedgwick County
12/18/23	Business Service Representative	Kansas Department of Commerce
12/19/23	Equipment Operator Trainee	Kansas Department of Transportation
12/20/23	Senior Planner - Advanced Plans	City of Wichita
12/21/23	Public Works Maintenance Worker I-III	City of El Dorado
12/22/23	Firefighter/Paramedic - PT	City of Arkansas City
12/25/23	Social Worker- MSW	Ascension Via Christi
12/26/23	Case Manager III - SCA - Aging & Disabilities	Sedgwick County
12/27/23	BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONSULTANT	HealthCore Clinic
12/28/23	Case Manager	Heartspring
12/29/23	Functional Family Therapist	EmberHope

2. Digital Media Report

The Workforce Alliance uses website and social media platforms to interact, inform, and educate the public on upcoming events and workforce development resources.

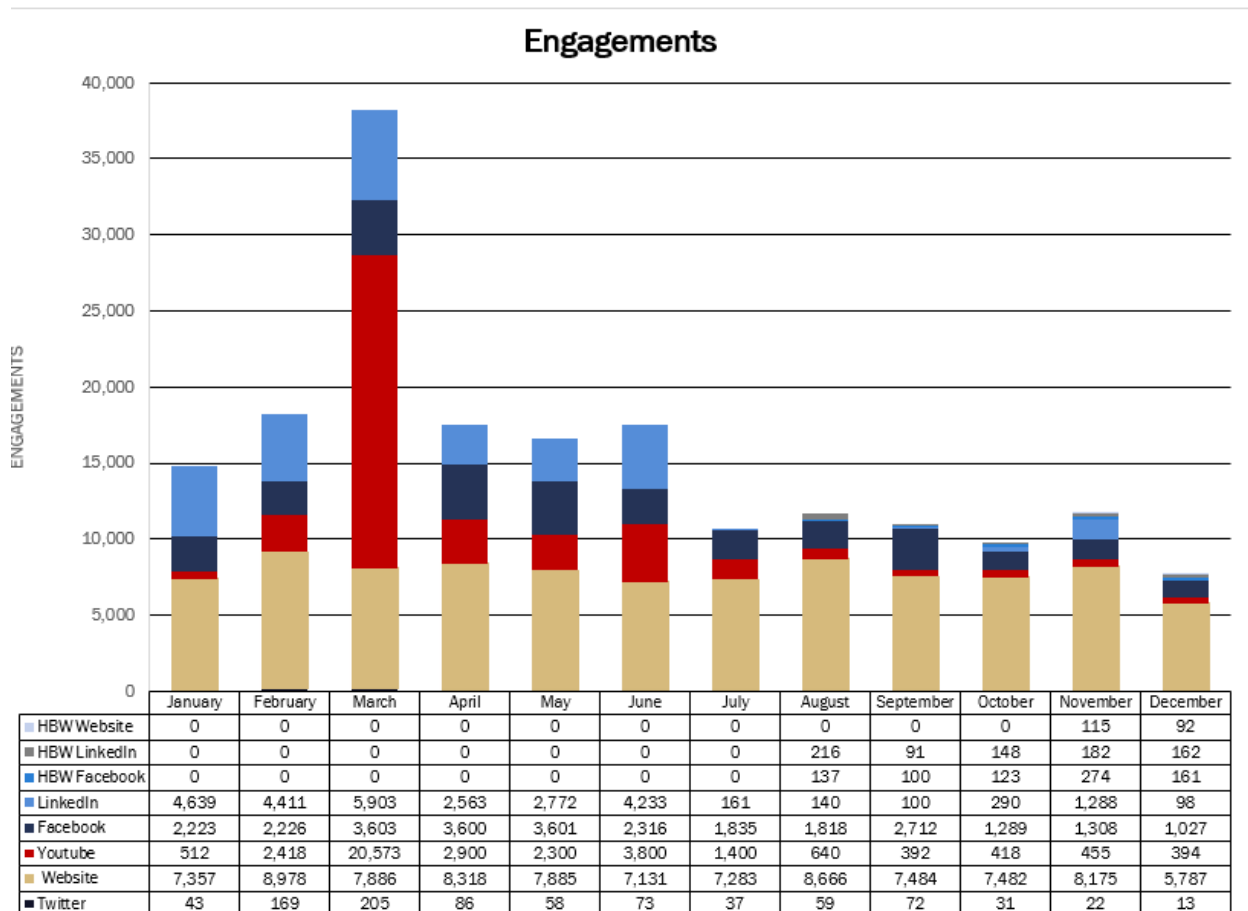
The digital traffic and impact numbers are broken down into the following key areas:

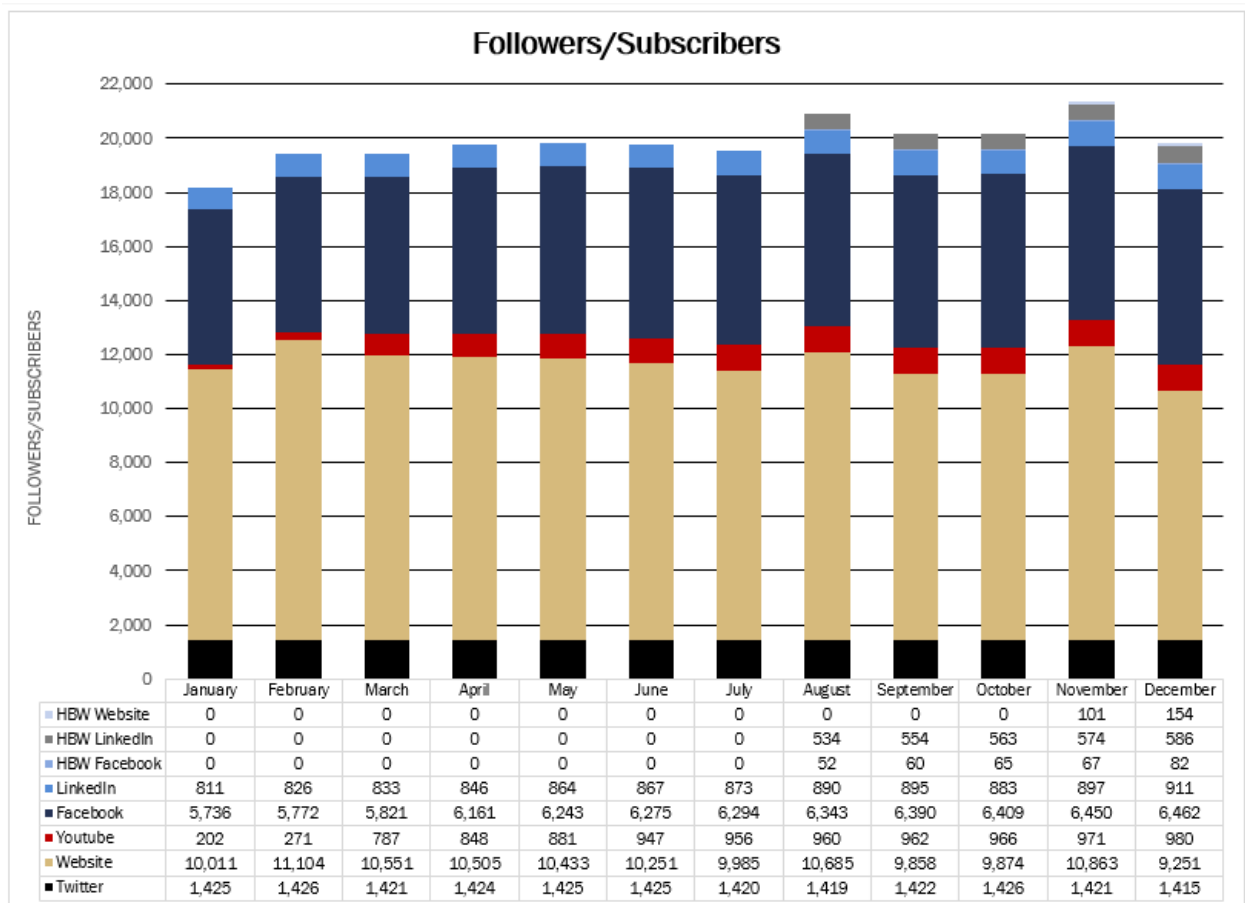
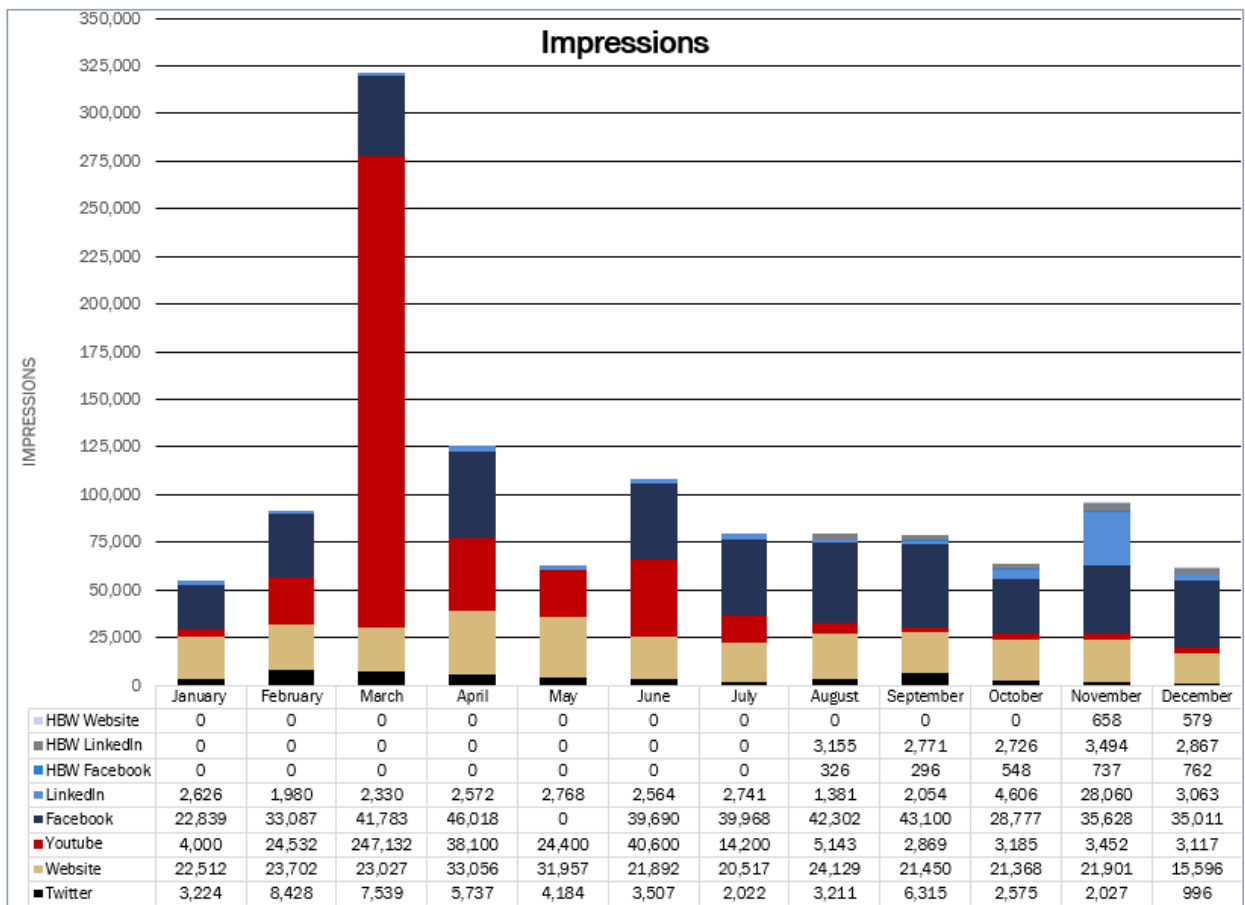
- Engagements - measures the total number of public interactions including shares, likes and comments
- Total Impressions - the number of times content is displayed to a user
- Followers – unique users who subscribe to receive updates

The data collected is from the platforms with the highest utilization:

- Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/WorkforceCenter>
- Home Base Wichita Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/HomeBaseWichita>
- YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/c/Workforce-ks>
- Twitter at <https://twitter.com/workforcecenter>
- LinkedIn at <https://www.linkedin.com/workforce-centers-of-south-central-kansas/>
- Home Base Wichita LinkedIn at <https://www.linkedin.com/company/home-base-wichita/>
- Workforce Alliance Website at www.workforce-ks.com
- Home Base Wichita Website at <https://homebasewichita.com/>

The month of December saw a decrease in engagements on all platforms. There was also a decrease in impressions on all platforms except the HBW Facebook. Followers increased on all platforms except the website and Twitter.







Registered Apprenticeship Report
As of 12/31/2023
[LAIV Registered Apprenticeship Information](#)

A strategic priority for the Workforce Alliance (WA) is to expand the use of Registered Apprenticeship (RA), both in traditional fields and for new and emerging occupations. The ‘earn and learn’ model benefits both employers and job seekers.

The WA became an approved intermediary under the Meadowlark Grant, with the first approved program for CDH. The first two apprentices have been enrolled with CDH. Below is the status on all activity through WA’s intermediary role:

Employer	Occupation	Status
Aero Metal Alliance	NC Machinist	In Development
Don Hattan Dealership	Automotive Mechanic—competency based	Approved
Don Hattan Dealership	Automotive Mechanic—hybrid based	Submitted to KAC

Currently there are 27 Registered Apprenticeship (RA) sponsors and three Intermediaries active in LAIV, totaling 51 approved RA programs. The WA accepts onsite applications for five RA programs. In December 2023, 9 individuals engaged in the RA application process, resulting in 6 completed applications delivered to RA program sponsors for consideration, details are below:

RA Application and Prescreen Activity			
2023	Applications and Prescreens	Completed Referrals	Completion Percentage
January	31	8	26%
February	25	4	16%
March	23	18	78%
April	31	11	35%
May	29	20	69%
June	19	10	53%
July	11	6	55%
August	13	6	46%
September	11	4	36%
October	8	3	38%
November	8	3	38%
December	9	6	66%
Totals	218	99	45%

Other Activity:

CDH, Inc. has 2 Construction Craft Laborer registered apprentices.



Registered Apprenticeship Report
As of 12/31/2023
[LAIV Registered Apprenticeship Information](#)

In LAIV, there are currently 618 active apprentices enrolled in 51 RA programs:

RA Sponsor	Active Apprentices
Butler Rural Electric	2
City of Augusta	3
City of Wellington	1
City of Winfield	3
Cox Machine	1
FlagshipKansas.Tech*	2
Independent Electrical Contractors	65
InterHab**	11
Ironworkers JAC	10
Metal Finishing	9
Plumbers & Pipefitters of Kansas	256
Sedgwick County Electric Cooperative	2
Sheet Metal Workers JAC	38
Spirit AeroSystems	52
Textron	17
Wichita Electrical JAC	142
Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas***	2
WSU Tech	2
Total	618

**Intermediary for tech occupations, active employers include Emprise Bank, KaaS, Novacoast, and UV&S*
***Intermediary for direct care occupations, active employers include Goodwill of Kansas and Flint Hills*
****Multi-employer intermediary for advanced manufacturing/MRO, semiconductor, healthcare, and other in demand occupations*

The WA works in partnership with



Item

On-the-Job Training (OJT) Contracts for the Eligible Training Provider List (ETP)

Background

1. Approval of Addition to the ETP List for OJT

The following employer has submitted an application to be added to the ETP list for OJT.

Employer:	Star Lumber & Supply Co.
Company Description:	Family owned, building material industry.
Location:	Wichita, Sedgwick County
Occupation(s):	Truss Manufacturing, Drivers and Forklift Operators
Training Length:	Six months or less
Average Wage Range:	The average wage at Star Truss is \$18.50. Companywide, the average wage is around \$25.00.
Benefits:	<p>BENEFITS INCLUDE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health, Dental and Vision • Employer paid life insurance • 401(k) with employer match • Holiday pay • Short term and long term disability benefits • Paid leave and vacation pay based upon tenure • Strong history of promoting from within the company for advanced roles • Dedication to a safe working environment • Plus, many additional benefits ranked over 4 stars by employees in a recent employee survey
Comments:	<p>Since Earl Goebel founded Star in 1939, Star Lumber & Supply Co. has grown into a major Kansas corporation with over 400 employees which operates with 3 company divisions: Star Lumber & Supply, Star Flooring, and Star Truss.</p> <p>The Goebel Family of Wichita along with Star employees are committed to the highest quality in products and service to our customers. Star serves the entire region throughout Kansas and Oklahoma.</p> <p>Currently, Star Truss is in the process of upgrading the technology on the production floor.</p> <p>They also offer CDL Training to qualified employees.</p>
OJT Funding Streams <i>subject to availability</i>	All Funding streams are available and appropriate based on occupation and new hire eligibility requirements.

Recommended Action

Approve addition of **Star Lumber & Supply Co.** to OJT ETP list.