



Workforce Alliance (WA) Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, January 28, 2026 • 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM



Wichita Workforce Center, 2021 N. Amidon, Suite 1100

ZOOM Option: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81755458133>

Mission—Supporting and advancing a competitive workforce in South Central Kansas

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1. **Welcome, Introductions and Public Comment:** Scott Stiles (10:00)
 2. **2026-2028 WA Board of Directors Strategic Planning:** Keith Lawing (10:05) (p. 2)
A proposed strategic framework for the organization will be presented and discussed.
Recommended Action: Approve the 2026-2028 Workforce Alliance strategic framework.
 3. **Leased Space Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Wichita Workforce Center / Administrative Office Lease - Garvey Center:** Chad Pettera (10:30) (pp. 3-4)
An update on the Wichita Workforce Center leased space RFP and combining the administration function currently located at the Garvey Center to the Wichita Workforce Center will be provided.
Recommended Action: Approve new lease for Wichita Workforce Center to consolidate Workforce Alliance operations.
 4. **Community Impact Project Updates:** Amanda Duncan (10:45) (pp. 5-16)
 - One Workforce
 - Returning Citizens Consortium- Kaufmann Planning Grant
 - Youth Employment Project (YEP)
 - Home Base Wichita
 - EPA Brownfields Job Training Grant
 - Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP)
 - Child Care Employer Solutions Summit**Recommended action:** Take appropriate action.
 5. **Consent Agenda:** Keith Lawing (11:15)
The action items in the following reports have been reviewed, discussed and acted upon at the Committee level. Members may request discussion on any of the action items at the meeting or the reports may be accepted as presented in a single motion.
 - A. Approval of Meeting Minutes from July 23, 2025 (pp. 17-20)
 - B. Budget Update for Program Year 2025 (p.21)
 - C. LWDB Executive Committee Actions (pp. 22-23)
 - D. Workforce Center Operations and One-Stop Operator Update (pp. 24-31)
 - E. Project Reports - Fair Chance, Registered Apprenticeship and Communications (pp. 32-40)**Recommended action:** Approve the recommendations as presented in the consent agenda.
 6. **Adjourn** (11:30)
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The next WA Board of Directors meeting will be on April 22, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

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The Workforce Alliance is the Local Workforce Development Board for Local Area IV

WORKFORCE ALLIANCE OF SOUTH CENTRAL KANSAS

2026 - 2028 Strategic Plan

Connecting people, purpose, and prosperity across South Central Kansas.

MISSION

Growing the regional economy through a skilled workforce by connecting people, employers, and community partners.

VISION

A thriving regional economy where every employer has the talent they need, and every Kansan has access to meaningful, living-wage work.

CORE VALUES

COLLABORATION

ACCESS

ACCOUNTABILITY

INNOVATION

ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE

STRATEGIC PILLARS

PERFORMANCE AND SERVICE EXCELLENCE



Exceed federal and state performance benchmarks by delivering high-quality, data-driven programs that improve employment outcomes.

- WIOA Title I and SCSEP performance
- Continuous improvement in one-stop operations
- Enhanced customer service and satisfaction

YOUTH AND CAREER PATHWAYS



Equip young people with the skills, experiences, and networks to launch successful careers.

- Expand Youth Employment Project (YEP) / Helping Youth Prepare for Employment (HYPE)
- Increase Work-Based Learning (WBL) partnerships with employers
- Integrate career awareness for youth in education and community programs
- Prioritize engagement with foster care youth and disconnected young adults (16-24)

SYSTEM ALIGNMENT WITH COMMUNITY IMPACT



Strengthen coordination among workforce, education, and community partners to avoid duplication of services and maximize local impact.

- Leverage One-Stop Operations into a multi-agency Community Economic Mobility Collaborative across workforce, economic development, and human service systems
- Strategic coordination on employment services for Veterans, Military Spouses, and Justice-Involved Individuals
- Develop shared data and accountability measures

REVENUE GENERATION AND INNOVATION



Diversify and expand funding to sustain programs, pilot new approaches, and drive long-term organizational stability.

- Generate non-WIOA revenue streams through grants, contracts, and fee-for-service models to attract public, private and philanthropic investments
- Position priority populations, including Military Connected Individuals, At-Risk Youth and Justice-Involved Individuals, as catalysts for innovation and funding opportunities.
- Develop innovative, scalable workforce solutions for job seekers and employers
- Strengthen communications and brand visibility to attract new partners and investment

Item

Wichita Workforce Center Leased Space Request for Proposals (RFP) / Garvey Center Administrative Office Lease

Background

The Workforce Alliance (WA) released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for leased space to house the Wichita Workforce Center. A taskforce of WA Board members and staff was appointed to review proposals and make recommendations to the Executive Committee. Administrative functions of the WA are located at the Garvey Center downtown. That lease expires June 30, 2026.

Analysis

Wichita Workforce Center Leased Space Request for Proposals (RFP)

The RFP was issued on September 24, 2025, with a closing date of October 30, 2025. WA received five proposals. The RFP Review Taskforce convened multiple times and conducted tours of all proposed properties. Upon completion of the evaluation process, the proposals were ranked as follows:

| Address | Score | Ranking |
|-----------------|--------------|----------------|
| 2021 N Amidon | 6030 | 1 |
| 238 N Mead | 5480 | 2 |
| 4729 S Palisade | 5370 | 3 |
| 260 N Rock Road | 3240 | 4 |
| 1919 N Amidon | 3430 | 5 |

The taskforce authorized staff to begin negotiations with the highest-ranked proposer to request updates and modifications to the facility.

All the proposers have been notified throughout the process, and were all given notice at the end of December that WA and the preferred vendor have reached an agreement.

Staff and the preferred vendor's representatives (New Leaf Plaza) have reached an agreement. New Leaf Plaza will complete all the requested changes to the space pending building code review by the City of Wichita/Sedgwick County. They proposed a rate increase of \$0.25 per square foot (psf) to the original proposal. The original cost proposal was \$14.98 psf, it would increase to \$15.23. The total square footage is 24,510. The lease would be for ten years and would cost \$373,287.30 annually, which would be shared by operating partners through the required Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) process. Operational expenses would be capped at \$6.00 psf annually, any operational costs over the \$6.00 cap would be WA and subleases responsibility. WA staff started the lease review with legal counsel and hope to have that completed soon.

Administrative Office Lease- Garvey Center

The Wichita Workforce Center lease RFP was released with a goal of combining the administrative function with the Wichita Workforce Center. The Workforce Center lease RFP was developed with the intent of consolidating the administrative functions currently located at the Garvey Center (300 W. Douglas) into the Wichita Workforce Center. This consolidation is a cost-saving measure in response to projected reduced revenues in 2026–2027 and staffing reductions that have occurred over the past 12 months.

As part of the RFP process, the landlord for the Wichita Workforce Center has agreed to make modifications to the space, including the construction of additional offices and meeting areas, to accommodate Administrative staff relocating from the Garvey Center.

The Garvey Center lease includes provisions allowing for termination for convenience and funding reductions with sixty days notice. In fall 2025, WA staff notified Garvey Center representatives of our potential intent to vacate the space in 2026, contingent upon the outcome of the Leased Space RFP.

At the Executive Committee meeting on January 14, WA staff requested approval of the new lease for the Wichita Workforce Center and formally provide notice to the Garvey Center of intent to vacate the space once the new lease for the Wichita Workforce Center is fully executed and construction at the Wichita Workforce Center has been completed. The Executive Committee authorized the President & CEO to execute a lease with New Leaf Plaza pending legal review and to notify the Garvey Center of WA's Termination of Leased Space at 300 W. Douglas in 2026 pending construction timelines.

Recommended Action

Approve new lease for Wichita Workforce Center to consolidate Workforce Alliance operations.



Local Workforce Development Board in Kansas Area IV

One Workforce Grant: 2021 – 2025

Quarterly Progress Report 12/31/25

The One Workforce Grant is a \$9.9 million project funded by the United States Department of Labor and led by the Workforce Alliance engaging local employers through sector partnerships to deploy innovative workforce solutions and equip workers with emerging technical skills to build a stronger pipeline for businesses in the IT and Advanced Manufacturing sectors.

| One Workforce Grant Performance Outcome Measures | | | |
|--|--|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | Performance Outcomes | Targets | Actual Outcomes as of 12/31/2025 |
| 1 | Total participants served (cumulative 4-year total) | 900 | 1,258 |
| 2 | Total participants enrolled in education/training activities (cumulative 4-year total) | 900 | 1,140 |
| 3 | Total participants who complete education/training activities (cumulative 4-year total) | 675 | 1064 |
| 4 | Total participants who complete education/training activities and receive a degree, or other typed of credential | 506 | 863 |
| 5 | Total number of unemployed and underemployed participants who complete education/training activities and obtain employment | 380 | 420 |
| 6 | Total number of IWT participants who complete training activities and advance into a new position | 168 | 245 |
| WIOA Primary Indicators of Performance | | | |
| | Measure | Rate (Total 4-year period) | Actual Outcomes as of 9/30/2025 |
| 1 | Employment Rate – 2 nd Quarter After Exit | 72% | 82.7% |
| 2 | Employment Rate – 4 th Quarter After Exit | 70% | 91.9% |

Kansas Restorative and Opportunity Network (KRON)

Executive Summary

The Returning Citizen Consortium presents the Kansas Restorative and Opportunity Network, a five-year, \$20 million initiative that transforms how our state supports justice-involved individuals returning to Kansas communities. This groundbreaking public-private partnership addresses two urgent challenges simultaneously: critical workforce shortages across multiple industries and the release of approximately 3,500 individuals from state correctional facilities each year without adequate support to succeed. Current recidivism rates of nearly 30% cost Kansas taxpayers over \$44 million annually in incarceration expenses alone.

KRON brings together the Kansas Department of Corrections, business leaders, workforce development boards, community organizations, and educational institutions in a coordinated effort that leverages collective expertise and resources. Through three transformative innovations, KRON creates pathways to economic self-sufficiency and community belonging for returning citizens while providing Kansas employers with access to trained, motivated talent.

Three Transformative Innovations

Mind-Life-Work Ready Credential: This comprehensive credentialing system establishes clear, measurable standards across three essential dimensions. Mind Ready focuses on emotional resilience and trauma recovery through the evidence-based Remarkably Resilient Together curriculum delivered across all Kansas Department of Corrections facilities. Life Ready ensures stability in housing, transportation, financial management, and family reconnection. Work Ready prepares individuals for employment success through skill development, technical training, and industry-recognized certifications. Participants begin working toward this credential up to 18 months before release and continue through 18 months after returning to the community. Individuals working through the credentialing process are supported by case managers, peer mentors with lived experience, and sophisticated technology platforms that track progress and provide personalized guidance.

Employer Certification: This innovation supports and recognizes Kansas businesses that have created workplaces where credentialed justice-involved individuals can thrive. Employers become RCC-Certified through demonstrating fair-chance hiring policies, structured onboarding and mentorship programs, flexible scheduling for reentry requirements, and clear advancement pathways, in addition to familiarity with the Kansas correctional system and challenges faced by returning citizens. Comprehensive employer training will be delivered at executive leadership, human resources, and front-line supervisor levels to equip companies with practical tools for implementation. Certified employers benefit from financial incentives, access to a qualified talent pipeline, and public recognition. The RCC partners with the Kansas Chamber of Commerce and regional chambers to position second-chance employment within mainstream business strategy rather than as a niche social responsibility initiative.

Transition Support System: This coordinated network ensures credentialed returning citizens have access to immediate resources needed for successful community reintegration including housing, healthcare, and transportation before work begins. Supports would also include interview clothing, work equipment, and urgent food assistance. Once employment begins, a dedicated employment transportation fund covers the critical first month of work before participants receive paychecks. This system coordinates pre-release housing planning, develops a network of fair-chance housing

providers, ensures healthcare continuity through pre-release Medicaid enrollment, and creates transportation solutions particularly vital in rural areas with limited public transit. The comprehensive approach addresses the reality that credential attainment and employer readiness are insufficient if participants lack basic resources to show up for work.

Implementation Timeline and Reach

KRON follows a carefully designed phasing plan that prioritizes learning and quality over rapid expansion. Year 1 establishes governance structures, finalizes credential and certification standards, and builds technology infrastructure including a custom Data Portal. Years 1-2 include pilot implementation in Lansing, Topeka and El Dorado correctional facilities. In Years 2-3, RCC will conduct rigorous evaluation and system refinement based on evidence. By the end of Year 4, RCC will scale all innovations statewide, expanding ultimately from the 3 initial facilities to all 8 Kansas Department of Corrections adult facilities. Year 5 achieves full statewide implementation while planning for long-term sustainability and next-generation innovation.

By Year 5, KRON programming will serve approximately half of all individuals releasing from Kansas correctional facilities annually, with a goal of 80% of participants achieving a Mind-Life-Work Ready credential, thus creating a predictable pipeline of qualified candidates for Kansas employers. Employer certification will expand from ten early adopters in Year 2 to 150 certified employers statewide by Year 5, spanning diverse industries and geographic regions.

Measurable Impact

For justice-involved individuals, KRON creates clear pathways to economic mobility through quality employment, stable housing, and supportive community connections. Participants develop demonstrable competencies that employers recognize and value, transitioning from uncertainty and fragmentation to confidence and comprehensive support. For employers, KRON addresses persistent talent shortages by providing access to a skilled, stable workforce supported through the challenges of reintegration. Certified employers benefit from reduced turnover, enhanced productivity, positive community reputation, and financial incentives including the Work Opportunity Tax Credit and Kansas apprenticeship tax credits.

For Kansas communities, KRON generates cost savings through reduced recidivism and incarceration expenses, increased tax revenue from employed returning citizens, and enhanced public safety. The initiative documents return on investment through comprehensive data collection and analysis, building the evidence base for continued public and private investment in successful reentry.

A Model for the Nation

KRON represents more than a collection of programs. It is a fundamental redesign of how our state supports successful transitions from incarceration to community, breaking cycles that have persisted for generations. Through networked governance that ensures diverse stakeholder representation, sophisticated data infrastructure that enables continuous improvement, and unwavering commitment to centering the voices of those with lived experience, KRON creates lasting systems change.

The vision is ambitious but achievable with dedicated partnership, adequate resources, and unwavering focus on the human potential waiting to be unlocked when we invest in second chances and create systems worthy of people's courage to change. Kansas has the opportunity to demonstrate national leadership in criminal justice reform while strengthening our economy and communities. KRON invites employers, community partners, and civic leaders to join this transformative effort.

RCC Members

- Workforce Partnership (Administrative Lead)
- Kansas Department of Corrections
- Kansas City Kansas Community College
- Kansas Chamber of Commerce
- Reaching Out From Within
- Renaissance Community and Public Relations
- Structured Support
- P2P
- Starting Early
- Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas
- Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce
- Goodwill Industries of Kansas
- The Strategic Organization



The **Youth Employment Project's Summer Internships Interview Day**, and it's your best chance to find amazing, motivated talent right here in the **Wichita metro area and beyond**. We're talking about high-potential students ready to bring fresh ideas and real energy to your company.

Here's the scoop:

- **Date:** Saturday, February 7th
- **Time:** 10:00 AM – 2:30 PM
- **What:** A focused day of interviews with students from local schools, all eager for summer roles and internships.
- **Who:** Students 16+ and high school seniors will be strongly encouraged to apply as well!

Forget the hassle of posting, sifting, and scheduling. This event is built to be a huge time-saver! It's a structured, high-impact day where you can meet dozens of future employees and help invest in our community at the same time. It's a win-win!

YEP handle all the setup—you just need to show up and meet the students!

Ready to grab your spot and see who you could hire?

Find all the details and register here:

Registration Link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Internshipinterviewdays>

If you have any questions please let me know and I would be happy to answer them,



Momentum is designed to connect students and businesses through career clusters, creating meaningful opportunities for both future professionals and employers.

Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/momentum-kansas-premier-high-school-career-fair-tickets-1935542041349?aff=oddttdtcreator>

📍 **Location:** Century II Performing Arts & Convention Center

📅 **Date:** April 22, 2026

🕒 **Time:** 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM

This event offers:

- **For Businesses:** A chance to showcase your industry and company to **high school sophomores** who are beginning to explore career paths, and **high school seniors** who are ready to invest in their future and become enthusiastic, trainable candidates.
- **For Students:** Insight into diverse career opportunities and hands-on experiences to guide their Individual Plans of Study and future goals.

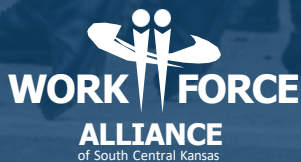
Employers are encouraged to provide interactive, hands-on activities at their booths!

Registration Includes:

- ✓ Access to 1,500+ future employees
- ✓ A booth at the career fair
- ✓ Lunch for two representatives

Don't miss this opportunity to inspire the next generation and build your future workforce!

Please contact Chelsea Daniel Cdaniel@workforce-ks.com with any questions!



EMPLOYER GUIDE



MISSION:

Recruit and retain highly skilled military-connected talent to jobs in the Wichita region.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE

- Veterans who previously served on active duty
- Transitioning service members on terminal leave
- National Guardsmen and Reservists who serve on drill and/or have past deployments

Military time served can be any duty status type, for any length of time, and at any point in time. All characters of discharge are acceptable, including dishonorable.

BENEFITS

- Pre- and post-hire follow-up
- Military veteran hiring & retention best practices
- Veteran-ready culture workshops
- Skills & labor force identification
- Target audience-focused job board

HBW PARTNERS

Home Base Wichita partners with small businesses to offer paid on-the-job training opportunities in roles that are:

- Full-time
- Benefits-eligible
- Paying at least \$15.40/hr

*Small businesses can qualify for up to *\$2500 to hire and train veterans*

**paid as reimbursement per eligible hire*

HBW COMPONENTS



**PAID
REIMBURSEMENT**



**ON-THE-JOB
TRAINING**



**SOCIAL MEDIA
PROMOTION**



**RECRUITMENT
SERVICES**



**HIRING
SERVICES**

LEARN MORE!

DIRECT INQUIRES TO:

HOMEBASEWICHITA@WORKFORCE-KS.COM

OR 316-771-6800



homebasewichita.com



Home Base Wichita

A proud partner of the **AmericanJobCenter** network

MISSION:

Recruit and retain highly skilled military-connected talent to jobs in the Wichita region.

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Military time served can be any duty status type, for any length of time, and at any point in time. All characters of discharge are acceptable, including dishonorable.

BENEFITS

- Paid On-the-Job training opportunities with emerging local businesses paying at least \$15.40/hour
- Free resume writing assistance and job interview preparation
- Follow-up support through first year of employment

HBW PARTNERS

Home Base Wichita partners with small businesses to offer paid on-the-job training opportunities in industries such as:

- Aviation
- Manufacturing
- Tech
- And more!

Home Base Wichita directly connects candidates with companies ready to hire military talent

HBW COMPONENTS



**JOB PREPARATION
SERVICES**



**ON-THE-JOB
TRAINING**



**JOB BOARD
POSTING**



**NETWORKING
OPPORTUNITIES**



**EARN A
PAYCHECK**

LEARN MORE!

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OR 316-771-6800



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Home Base Wichita

A proud partner of the **AmericanJobCenter** network

BROWNFIELDS JOB TRAINING PROGRAM

Training programs funded through the EPA Brownfields Job Training Grants enable participants to obtain skills to secure full-time, sustainable employment in the environmental field, including assessment, sustainable cleanup, chemical safety, and preparation or reuse of contaminated sites.

Who is Eligible?

Eligible candidates are:

- Unemployed or Underemployed (Underemployed is defined as working but earning less than \$35,000 annually)
- Residing in Sedgwick County, with emphasis on those impacted by waste facilities, blighted properties, or contaminated sites
- Eligible to work in the US with valid work authorization documents

Available Training

All participants will complete

- OSHA 30 Hr. Occupational Health & Safety for General Industry
- HAZOWPER 40

Participants can also select one of the following courses:

- Asbestos Training
- Commercial Driver's License Class A or B
- DOT Hazardous Materials Transportation Training or DOT Refresher
- RCRA Hazardous Waste Management (KS Regs) or RCRA Refresher



☎ 316-771-6800

🌐 workforce-ks.com



Equal Opportunity Employer/Program – Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Any individual with a disability may request accommodations by contacting the Workforce Centers at 316-771-6800, TDD: 711 or 1-800-766-3777, (admin@workforce-ks.com).

HOMELESS VETERANS' REINTEGRATION PROGRAM

The Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP) is an employment-focused grant program designed to enable America's Veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness to obtain high-quality career outcomes

Services Available

The program empowers veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness to secure employment in stable, high-demand occupations paying livable wages through:

- Career Exploration Opportunities
- Case Management
- Supportive Services
- Job-Driven Training



➔ Who is Eligible?

The HVRP serves the following veterans in Sedgwick County:

- Veterans experiencing homelessness
- Veterans at risk of homelessness, which can include but not limited to one of the following:
 - Veterans who found housing in the last 60 days
 - Veterans receiving public assistance
 - Veterans who are at risk of losing their housing
- Homeless women veterans
- Homeless veterans with children
- Veterans transitioning from correctional facilities and long-term care mental health facilities within 60 days

Learn More

☎ 316-771-6800

🌐 workforce-ks.com



Employer Action Session: Child Care Solutions for Workforce Participation December 18, 2025

Small Group Discussion Summary: Opportunities and Challenges to Employer-Led Child Care Solutions

On December 18, 2025, more than 40 area business leaders, nonprofit partners, and economic development organizations convened at the Wichita Workforce Center for the *Employer Action Session: Child Care Solutions for Workforce Participation*. The session built on the August 15 summit and was designed to move from awareness to action by exploring practical, employer-led strategies to address the cost, access, and availability of quality child care as a workforce participation issue. Following presentations on data, employer survey results, and existing child care models, participants engaged in facilitated small group discussions focused on what employers can realistically implement now and what could be possible through policy changes, partnerships, and advocacy.

Understanding Employee Needs

- Importance of grounding solutions in actual employee needs
- Tools discussed:
 - Employee surveys
 - Exit interviews
- Considerations:
 - Hesitation to solicit feedback without resources or leadership support to respond
 - Exit interviews and periodic surveys viewed as lower-risk entry points
 - Opportunity to be more intentional in how child care questions are framed and used

Financial Supports and Incentives

- Approaches discussed:
 - Direct stipends or monthly allowances for employees with young children
 - Dependent Care Flexible Spending Accounts (FSAs) as a starting point
- Key challenges:
 - Tax credits viewed as complex, time-consuming, and uncertain
 - Limited employer participation due to administrative burden
 - Tax incentives offer little value to nonprofit and tax-exempt entities
- Consensus:
 - Simplified incentives or direct public funding would increase employer engagement

Policy and Schedule Flexibility

- Viewed as among the most feasible near-term solutions
- Examples include:
 - Flexible schedules and shift adjustments
 - Supervisor discretion to accommodate family needs
- Critical for:
 - Employees working non-traditional or 24/7 schedules
 - Employers unable to offer direct financial subsidies
- Advantage:
 - Faster to implement than financial or infrastructure-based solutions

Structural and Sector-Specific Barriers

- Unionized workforces:
 - Limited flexibility once policies are set through collective bargaining

- More adaptability for employees outside collective bargaining agreements
- Large, multi-site employers:
 - Child care priorities vary by region
 - Lower child care costs locally may reduce perceived urgency
- Corporate structure:
 - Decision-making authority outside the region can limit local innovation
- Economic development perspective:
 - Interest in school-based child care models
 - Facilities may exist, but staffing is a major constraint

Recruitment, Retention, and Back-Up Care

- Mixed perspectives on child care as a recruitment or retention issue
- Acknowledgement that:
 - Lack of flexibility can influence employment decisions
 - Personal and anecdotal experiences underscore the impact
- Back-up child care:
 - Identified as a consistent gap
 - Particularly important for workforce stability during disruptions

Summary Takeaways

- Employer-led child care solutions must be flexible and tailored to workforce needs.
- Internal employer policy changes present immediate opportunities for impact.
- Financial supports are effective but need clearer, more predictable pathways.
- Public investment and streamlined incentives could shift employer participation.
- Continued collaboration and data collection are essential next steps.



Workforce Alliance (WA) Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes
July 23, 2025

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Workforce Alliance Board met in person at the Wichita Workforce Center and via Zoom. Vice Chair Scott Stiles called the meeting to order and asked for self-introductions.

2. Public Comment

No requests for public comment were received.

3. Changing of the Guard and Workforce Alliance Board Member Updates

The current terms of the Board Chair and Vice Chair ended June 30, 2025, new board members were appointed and several reappointed at the Chief Elected Officials meeting on June 26, 2025. Board members serve three-year terms and terms are staggered so a third are due for reappointment at a time. Leadership changes were discussed as Alana McNary was appointed as the new board chair, while Scott Stiles was named vice chair and chair of the Finance Committee. The board also welcomed new members including Dr. Tamara Daniel, Butler Community College, Chip Schellhorn, CMJ Manufacturing, Jill Keuhny, Kanokla, and Justin Rochelle, Plumbers and Pipefitters. New board members who were present were introduced. Jeff Longwell and Rod Blackburn were acknowledged as outgoing members and were recognized for their long-time service and dedication. Blackburn will continue to serve on the Executive Committee for another year.

Scott Stiles (Marcus Curran) moved to appoint Alana McNary as Chair of the Workforce Alliance Board, and Scott Stiles as Vice Chair of the Workforce Alliance Board.

4. Federal Grant and Funding Update

- WIOA - The WA received federal planning allocations for Program Year 2025 and will see a 7% increase in WIOA funds. Overall, although the WA is receiving a 7% increase in federal funding for PY 25, the WA budget will be reduced by 18% from PY 24, due to the loss of certain grants and funding changes. There is significant concern about ongoing WIOA funding. The legislation was not reauthorized last year, and the initial budget proposals being discussed in Congress include eliminating funding for the WIOA Youth program, making major reductions to WIOA Adult program, and also changing funding models to give states block grants for employment and skills training programs. Other One-Stop partners that have been impacted by federal funding are Job Corps, which is being eliminated and the American Indian Council, which is experiencing furloughs. With the possible elimination of the Department of Education, the WIOA Adult Ed programs could see changes in the near future as well. A new requirement for verifying individual eligibility for services through documentation is causing concern, as many clients may not have the necessary documents and could be turned away. Because of these challenges, there is a great need for future planning to identify priority projects and align with business and community needs to continue to promote growth of the regional economy. Staff are closely monitoring the situation and are in regular contact with Kansas congressional offices to provide and receive updates. Lawing and Stiles emphasized the importance of business and industry leaders like WA Board members advocating for these programs to Congress and local officials, particularly in Wichita, where workforce challenges persist.
- Senior Community Services Employment Program (SCSEP) - WA administers SCSEP funding through a U.S. Department of Labor (US DOL) program that assists unemployed, low skilled, low-income individuals over 55 years of age return to the workforce. The program connects participants to part-time employment with not-for-profit organizations for skill development opportunities.

Currently, the WA partners with 37 different host agencies and have 66 workers placed in “earn and learn” employment at \$7.25 per hour, but despite its success, the WA was recently directed by the State of Kansas to notify SCSEP participants and host agencies that funding was not confirmed beyond June 30, 2025, and the program could be “paused.” Operations were not paused as funding was extended, but SCSEP is one of the employment and skills training programs being recommended for elimination in current federal budget planning.

- One Workforce - This grant will end in January 2026 and staff continue to utilize the education and training funds to assist customers connect to better employment opportunities. It was a four-year, \$9.9 million multi-partner grant initiative funded by the USDOL to support training in high-demand sectors of advanced manufacturing and IT. A sustainability plan is being developed with the Greater Wichita Partnership as part of the grant outcomes.
- EPA Brownfields Job Training Grant - WA staff are awaiting final direction from the EPA to initiate this two-year, \$500,000 grant project and anticipate operations will begin before the end of 2025. The grant provides training for 90 individuals in environmental careers including asbestos abatement, obtaining a commercial driver’s license with hazmat certification and several industry credentials in remediation and clean up technician. Key employer partners in the grant include local employers Dondlinger Construction, iSi Environmental, Remediation Contractors and Terracon.
- Homeless Veterans’ Reintegration Program (HVRP) - The WA received a \$500,000 grant from USDOL to help veterans experiencing homelessness or are at risk of homelessness find meaningful employment and assist them in overcoming barriers to transition successfully into the workforce. Implementation plans are being made and it is hoped services can begin soon. Additional funding is available in 2026 and 2027. Partners in the grant include Continuum of Care, Coalition to End Homelessness in Wichita/Sedgwick County; Second Light, Goodwill Industries of Kansas, and the WA’s large employer network. Additionally, veterans transitioning out of incarceration will be eligible for support, with the Kansas Department of Corrections serving as a referral partner and funding for two full-time case managers and additional staff across the organization.

Report was received and filed.

5. Community Impact Projects Updates

Amanda Duncan provided a review of current WA projects.

- Youth Employment Project (YEP) - Camp HYPE’s career sessions are being held this summer and have been very successful and well-attended. Staff will have final numbers for the YEP program year to share with the Board right after school begins.
- Child Care Employer Solutions Summit - The WA in partnership with Child Start and the City of Wichita are hosting “The Business of Care: Tackling Child Care Through Workplace Innovation”. Information about the event was shared with Board members. The summit is designed to bring employers, policy leaders, and community partners together to develop actionable solutions that address childcare challenges in the community, with a focus on early childhood education as an economic development tool. Policy will also be discussed to include the Kansas state tax credit for employers supporting childcare and proposed a tri-share model where costs are split between local government/philanthropy, employers, and individuals.
- Home Base Wichita (HBW) - The current A&P mechanic fast track program that is available for active duty airmen who are transitioning out of the military or upskilling is being paid out of the WA’s One Workforce grant funding with the hope of keeping these airmen in the Wichita region. The WA will host a lunch for Lt. General Perry Wiggins, Executive Director of the Governor’s Military Council on August 7th; discussion will include sustainable funding for HBW.
- Kaufmann Returning Citizen Consortium (RCC) Planning Grant - The WA is working with its workforce board counterpart in Kansas City, Workforce Partnership, to create and present a project plan to the Kauffman Foundation by the end of November. The plan is to improve

support for justice-involved individuals, focusing on pre-release preparation and employment readiness as well as addressing barriers that this population faces and gaps in the system. If the plan is accepted, funds would be provided for implementation in 2026.

- Level Up Kansas (LUK) Partnership - The partnership between the WA and LUK has been a success. LUK customers that cannot be assisted by the Kansas Promise Scholarship are being referred to the WA and are assisted with services and programs that can meet their needs. The goal is for this to be a pilot project and the partnership could be expanded to the other local workforce board areas of the state.
- Regional Talent Talks - The purpose of these events is to improve the communication between local employers and the Workforce Alliance and community partners on employment and skills training priorities. Events were held in Cowley and Sumner. Another event is being planned for Butler County.

Report was received and filed.

6. 2026-2028 WA Board of Directors Strategic Planning

Lawing reviewed the 2026-2028 strategic planning session topics and schedule. Five sessions will be scheduled between August 13th and October 22nd (Current Labor Market Needs and Trends, Labor Market Data & Community Partnerships, Workforce Development Policy, Economic Mobility and a final recap/summary session). Invitations will be sent soon to board members, community partners, elected officials and employers. Upcoming strategic planning sessions were announced, scheduled from August to October, with the goal of developing a two-year strategic plan addressing employer needs, community partnerships, and economic mobility. The sessions will involve input from employers, community partners, and subject matter experts. A final plan will be presented to the Board for approval. Calendar meeting invitations will be sent to all board members.

Marcus Curran (Robyn Heinz) moved to approve the 2026-2028 strategic planning sessions.

7. Consent Agenda

Approval of meeting minutes from April 23, 2025, review of LWDB Executive Committee actions since the April 23rd board meeting, self-sufficient wage for Program Year 2025, on-the-job training (OJT) contracts for the Eligible Training Provider list for Harlow Aerostructures and High Touch Technologies, Workforce Center operations and one-stop operator update and project reports (Fair Chance, Registered Apprenticeship and Communications) were presented to the Board for review and approval. The board addressed the self-sufficient wage for the new program year, deciding to increase it by 3.5% in line with Consumer Price Index, as staff and Board continue to work towards the recommended wage of over \$19 per hour as indicated by MIT data for the region.

Kathy Jewett (Robyn Heinz) moved to approve the action items recommended in the Consent agenda. Motion adopted.

8. Additional Topics/Announcements

- The 13th annual Jobs FORE Youth Golf Tournament presented by Gilley's will be held at Hidden Lakes Golf Course on Thursday, September 25th. Funds raised from the tournament help support the WA's Youth Employment Project. Additional sponsors, teams and prize donations are needed.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15.

Attendees

Present LWDB Members

- Marcus Curran
- Dr. Tamara Daniel
- Robyn Heinz
- Jessica Istas
- Kathy Jewett
- Pat Jonas via Zoom
- Jill Kuehny via Zoom
- Marilou Mewborn via Zoom
- B.J. Moore via Zoom
- John Rolfe
- Justin Rochelle via Zoom
- Chip Schellhorn
- Dr. Michelle Schoon
- Scott Stiles
- Lisa Whitley via Zoom

Guests & Staff

- Amanda Duncan
- Denise Houston
- Keith Lawing
- Shirley Lindhorst
- Chad Pettera
- Jeff Longwell
- Jamey Regier
- Janet Sutton
- Tyrone Baker, YMCA via Zoom
- Rod Blackburn, Partners in Education
- Peter Bodyk, KS Dept of Children & Families
- Jeff Longwell, Gilley's
- Lindsay McWilliams, Goodwill / One-Stop Operator
- Carol Noblit, Chief Elected Officials Board via Zoom

The Workforce Alliance is the Local Workforce Development Board for Local Area IV

Workforce Alliance Consolidated Budget PY25

July 2025 - June 2026

| Expenditures Through 11/30/2025 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------|------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------|-----------|
| WIOA | | | | | Community Impact Funds | | | | | Consolidated | | | |
| Category | Budget | Nov | YTD | % Budget | Budget | Nov | YTD | % Budget | Budget | Nov | YTD | % Budget | Remaining |
| | | Expenditures | Expenditures | Remaining | | Expenditures | Expenditures | Remaining | | Expenditures | Expenditures | Remaining | |
| Wages | \$ 1,675,282 | \$ 91,351 | \$ 516,015 | 69% | \$ 1,149,341 | \$ 121,771 | \$ 554,081 | 52% | \$ 2,824,623 | \$ 213,122 | \$ 1,070,096 | 62% | |
| Fringe | \$ 412,880 | \$ 23,923 | \$ 130,173 | 68% | \$ 282,472 | \$ 24,632 | \$ 121,180 | 57% | \$ 695,352 | \$ 48,555 | \$ 251,353 | 64% | |
| Facilities | \$ 262,996 | \$ 32,529 | \$ 214,450 | 18% | \$ 141,360 | \$ 10,398 | \$ 48,850 | 65% | \$ 404,356 | \$ 42,927 | \$ 263,300 | 35% | |
| Contract/Pro Fees | \$ 58,685 | \$ 3 | \$ 27,593 | 53% | \$ 31,063 | \$ 6,328 | \$ 14,096 | 55% | \$ 89,748 | \$ 6,331 | \$ 41,689 | 54% | |
| Supplies/Equipment | \$ 28,049 | \$ 7,883 | \$ 10,893 | 61% | \$ 22,325 | \$ 5,573 | \$ 7,873 | 65% | \$ 50,374 | \$ 13,456 | \$ 18,766 | 63% | |
| IT | \$ 88,800 | \$ 4,482 | \$ 13,118 | 85% | \$ 67,290 | \$ 5,851 | \$ 25,140 | 63% | \$ 156,090 | \$ 10,333 | \$ 38,258 | 75% | |
| Outreach/Cap Building | \$ 31,120 | \$ 845 | \$ 10,361 | 67% | \$ 78,010 | \$ 4,836 | \$ 51,264 | 34% | \$ 109,130 | \$ 5,681 | \$ 61,625 | 44% | |
| Travel/Conferences | \$ 44,568 | \$ 643 | \$ 12,005 | 73% | \$ 35,860 | \$ 3,392 | \$ 20,804 | 42% | \$ 80,428 | \$ 4,035 | \$ 32,809 | 59% | |
| Grants Awarded | \$ 185,000 | \$ 225 | \$ 20,170 | 89% | \$ 75,000 | \$ 53,620 | \$ 67,011 | 11% | \$ 260,000 | \$ 53,845 | \$ 87,181 | 66% | |
| Staff Development | \$ 7,890 | \$ 711 | \$ 791 | 90% | \$ 12,050 | \$ 531 | \$ 571 | 95% | \$ 19,940 | \$ 1,242 | \$ 1,362 | 93% | |
| Indirect | \$ 302,184 | \$ 6,628 | \$ 62,812 | 79% | \$ 172,997 | \$ 1,325 | \$ 8,517 | 95% | \$ 475,181 | \$ 7,953 | \$ 71,329 | 85% | |
| Misc/Dep/Int | \$ - | | | 0% | \$ 27,000 | \$ - | \$ 5,330 | 80% | \$ 27,000 | \$ - | \$ 5,330 | 80% | |
| Work Experience | \$ 862,749 | \$ 52,258 | \$ 254,328 | 71% | \$ 325,000 | \$ 35,297 | \$ 64,851 | 80% | \$ 1,187,749 | \$ 87,555 | \$ 319,179 | 73% | |
| On The Job Training | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | | \$ 765,250 | \$ 14,088 | \$ 120,244 | 84% | \$ 765,250 | \$ 14,088 | \$ 120,244 | 84% | |
| Incentives | \$ 2,000 | \$ - | \$ 100 | 95% | \$ 74,000 | \$ 1,025 | \$ 19,950 | 73% | \$ 76,000 | \$ 1,025 | \$ 20,050 | 74% | |
| Occupational Training | \$ 186,201 | \$ 600 | \$ 10,962 | 94% | \$ 780,000 | \$ 114,251 | \$ 364,020 | 53% | \$ 966,201 | \$ 114,851 | \$ 374,982 | 61% | |
| Supportive Services | \$ 139,704 | \$ 14,841 | \$ 33,189 | 76% | \$ 379,200 | \$ 14,583 | \$ 37,500 | 90% | \$ 518,904 | \$ 29,424 | \$ 70,689 | 86% | |
| Total | \$ 4,288,108 | \$ 236,922 | \$ 1,316,960 | 69% | \$ 4,418,218 | \$ 417,501 | \$ 1,531,282 | 65% | \$ 8,706,326 | \$ 654,423 | \$ 2,848,242 | 67% | |

Analysis

Budget: The PY25 budget with expenditures from July through November 2025. The budget includes a breakdown between WIOA (LWDB budget) and non-WIOA Funding (Community Impact Funds) and combined totals. Direct client spending so far this fiscal year is 32% of expenditures or \$905,144.

The PY25 budget allocates 40% on direct client spending including classroom training, work experience, on-the-job training and supportive services. There are accruals for participant training that are still being processed, showing a negative expenditure in July, those will clear as those accruals are processed. The budget has 67% remaining to date.

Recommended Action

Receive and file.

Item:

Workforce Alliance (WA) Executive Committee Actions

Background:

The WA Executive Committee provides leadership to the Board of Directors and other standing committees and task forces. The Executive Committee is empowered to act on behalf of the entire Board when action by the Board is not possible due to timing of full Board meetings and action is required, or as delegated by an approved motion from the Board. In addition, the Executive Committee is responsible for tasking the committees of the Board of Directors, and setting the agenda for meetings. The WA Executive Committee is appointed by the WA Board Chair.

Analysis:

Since the last WA Board of Directors meeting on July 23, 2025, the Executive Committee has taken the following actions:

September 15, 2025

Approved:

- Staff to submit application(s) with companies and update the WA Credit/Purchasing Card policy.
- Authorized the Board Chair to appoint an RFP evaluation taskforce for the Wichita Workforce Center lease.
- Appointed a WA Retirement Plan Modification task force.
- On-the-job-training (OJT) Contracts for GE Aerospace, Omni Aerospace and Galaxy Technologies

October 14, 2025

Approved:

- WA Retirement Plan Modifications (403(b) Plan Documents) and authorized the Board Chair to sign a resolution adopting the amended plan. Additionally, authorized the President/CEO to execute the updated Plan Adoption Agreement. Congress passed Secure 2.0 and many provisions take effect in 2026; therefore, the WA must update plan documents and offerings to comply.
- Updated WA Code of Business Conduct and Ethics. Changes were made to provide specific guidance regarding personal use of social media, adding clarifying language to the Long-Term Sick Leave policy and updating the general principles for computer and telephone usage for work purposes.
- On-the-job-training (OJT) contract for IdeaTek.

November 12, 2025

- Reviewed and provided feedback on a draft WA 2026 – 2028 Strategic Framework

Approved:

- 2026 Workforce Alliance Board and Committees Calendar.
- On-the-job-training (OJT) contract for Spirit AeroSystems.

January 28, 2026

Submitted by: Keith Lawing

December 10, 2025

Approved:

- WA Human Resources Policy: Paid Time Off (PTO) Sell-Back – This policy provides a process for employees to sell back a portion of their accrued Paid Time Off (PTO), when financially feasible for the organization, to support organizational needs and manage leave liabilities.

January 14, 2026

Authorized:

- The President/CEO to execute a new lease for the Wichita Workforce Center, 2021 N Amidon, #1100 with New Leaf Plaza pending Legal Review. The Workforce Center Lease RFP task force evaluated five proposals, the current location at 2021 North Amidon was selected as the preferred vendor. The lease will continue until June 30, 2026, with plans to consolidate all Wichita staff from the Garvey location into the main office by spring or early summer. The new lease agreement includes security upgrades and space modifications.
- The President/CEO to notify the Garvey Center of the termination of the WA's administrative office leased space at 300 W Douglas, #850 in 2026 pending construction timelines. The Workforce Alliance (WA) plans to combine the administrative function currently located at the Garvey Center with the Wichita Workforce Center.

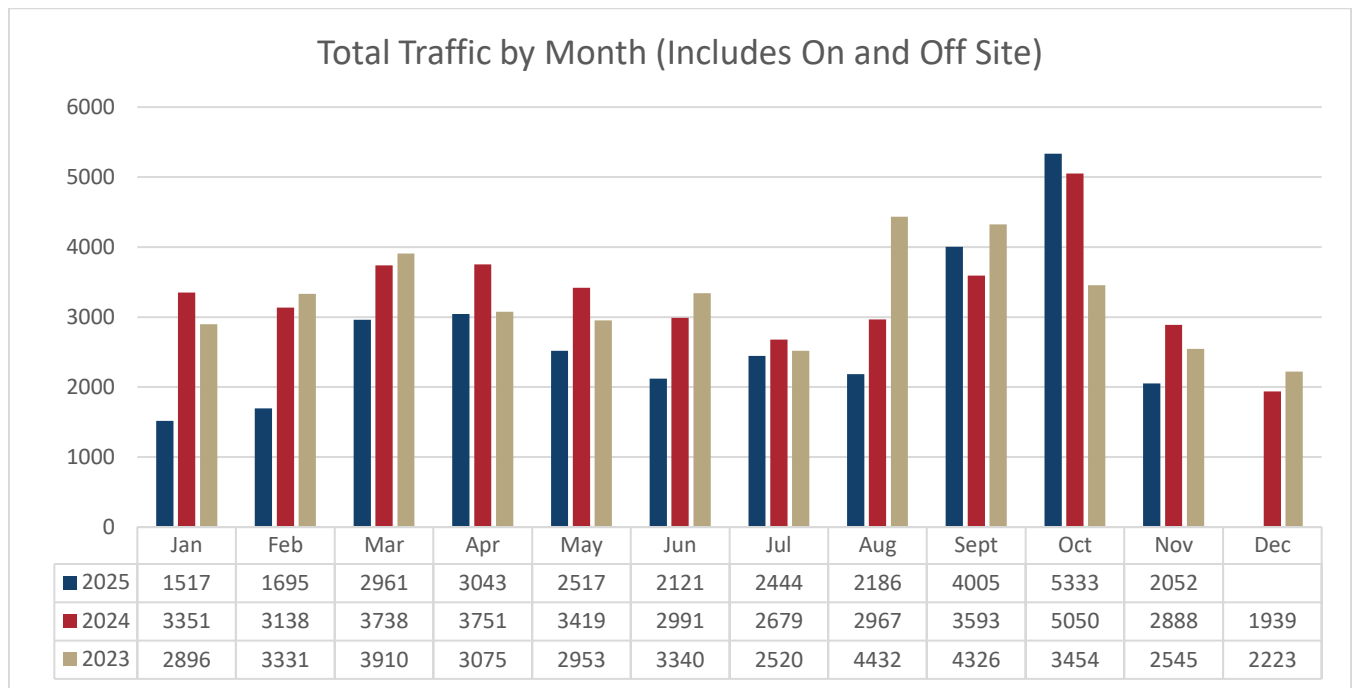
Recommended Action:

Adopt the actions of the LWDB Executive Committee as presented.

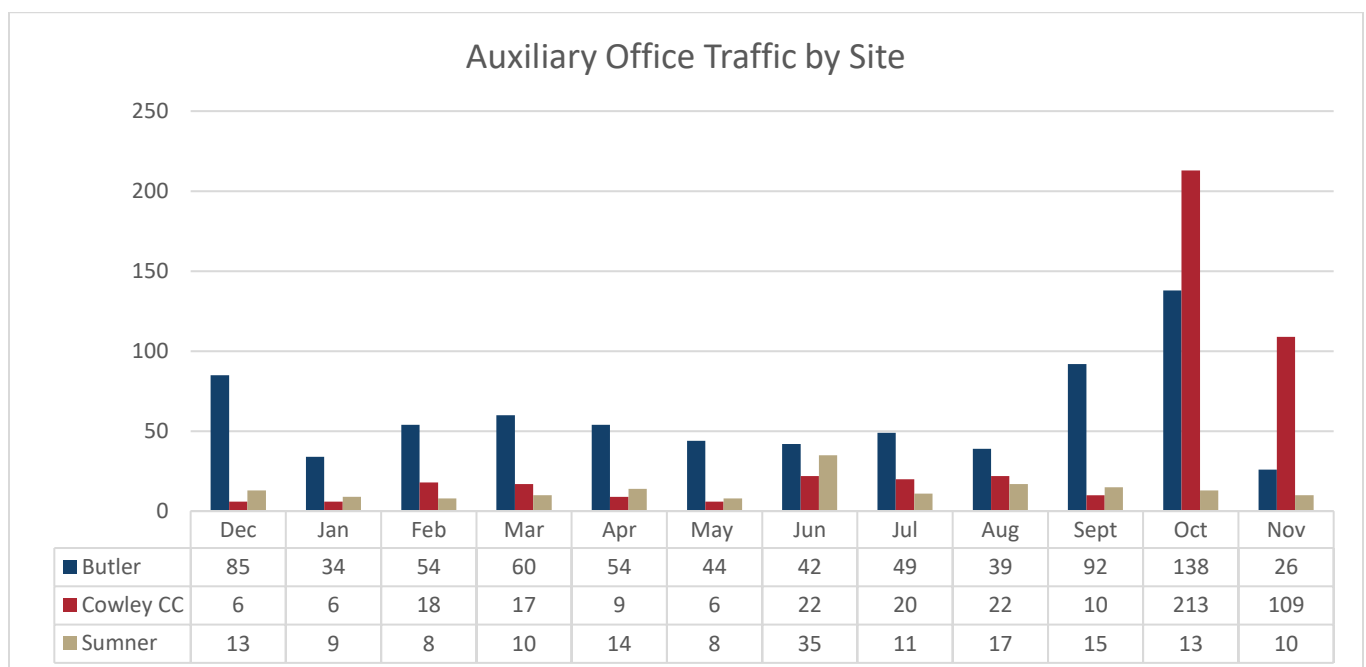
Item
Workforce Centers Operations November Update

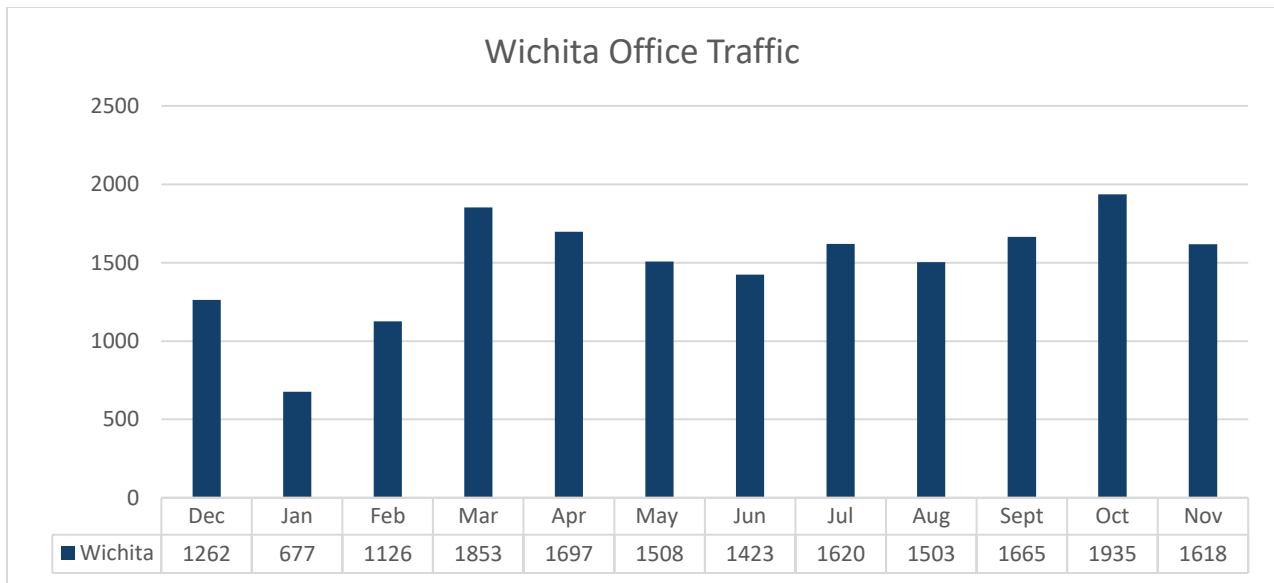
Job Seeker Traffic

The bar graph below provides a visual representation of job seeker traffic through November of 2025. Overall, job seeker engagement at all four centers is steady.



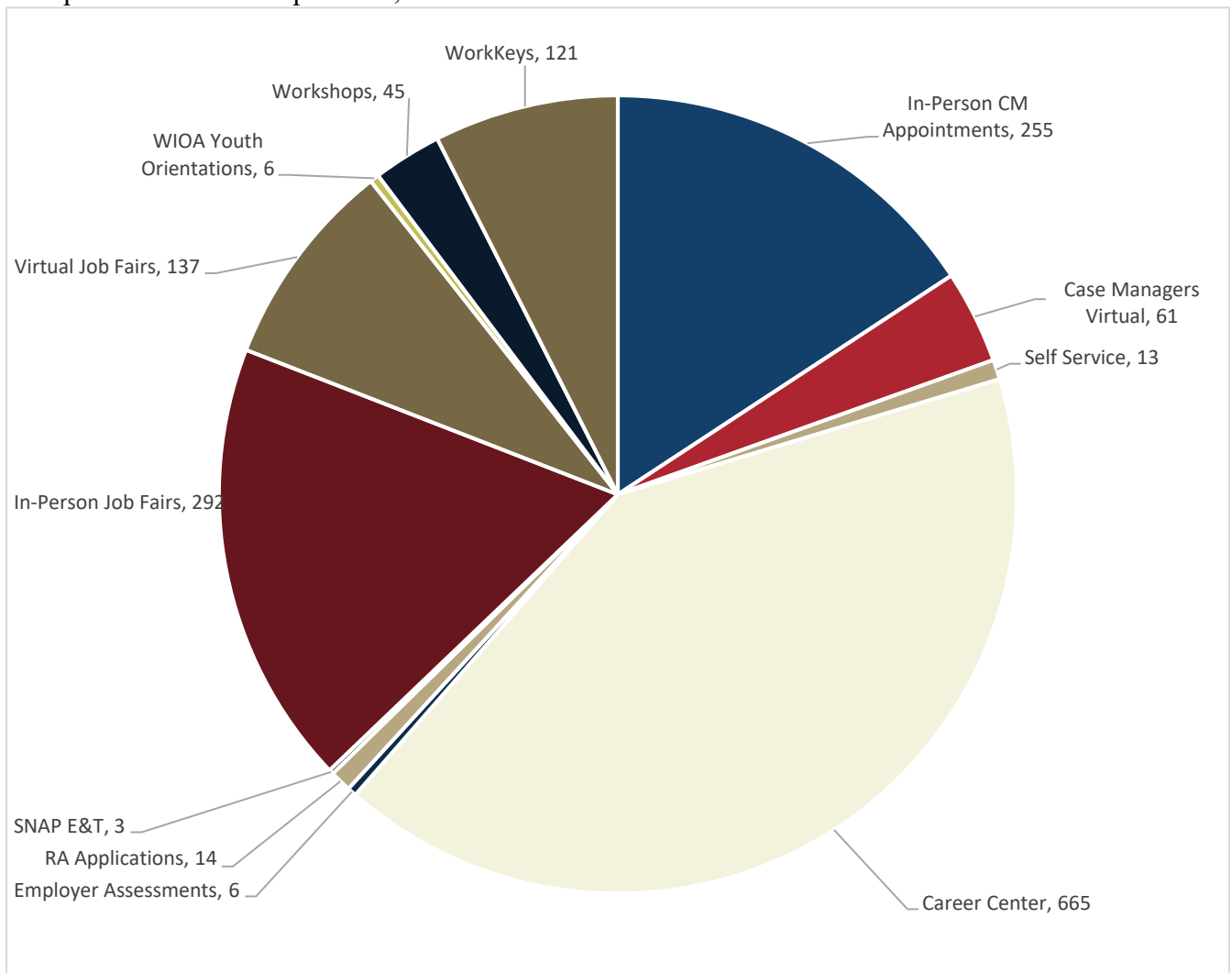
This bar graph offers a breakdown of the job seeker traffic by Auxiliary Offices in Butler, Sumner, and Cowley counties.



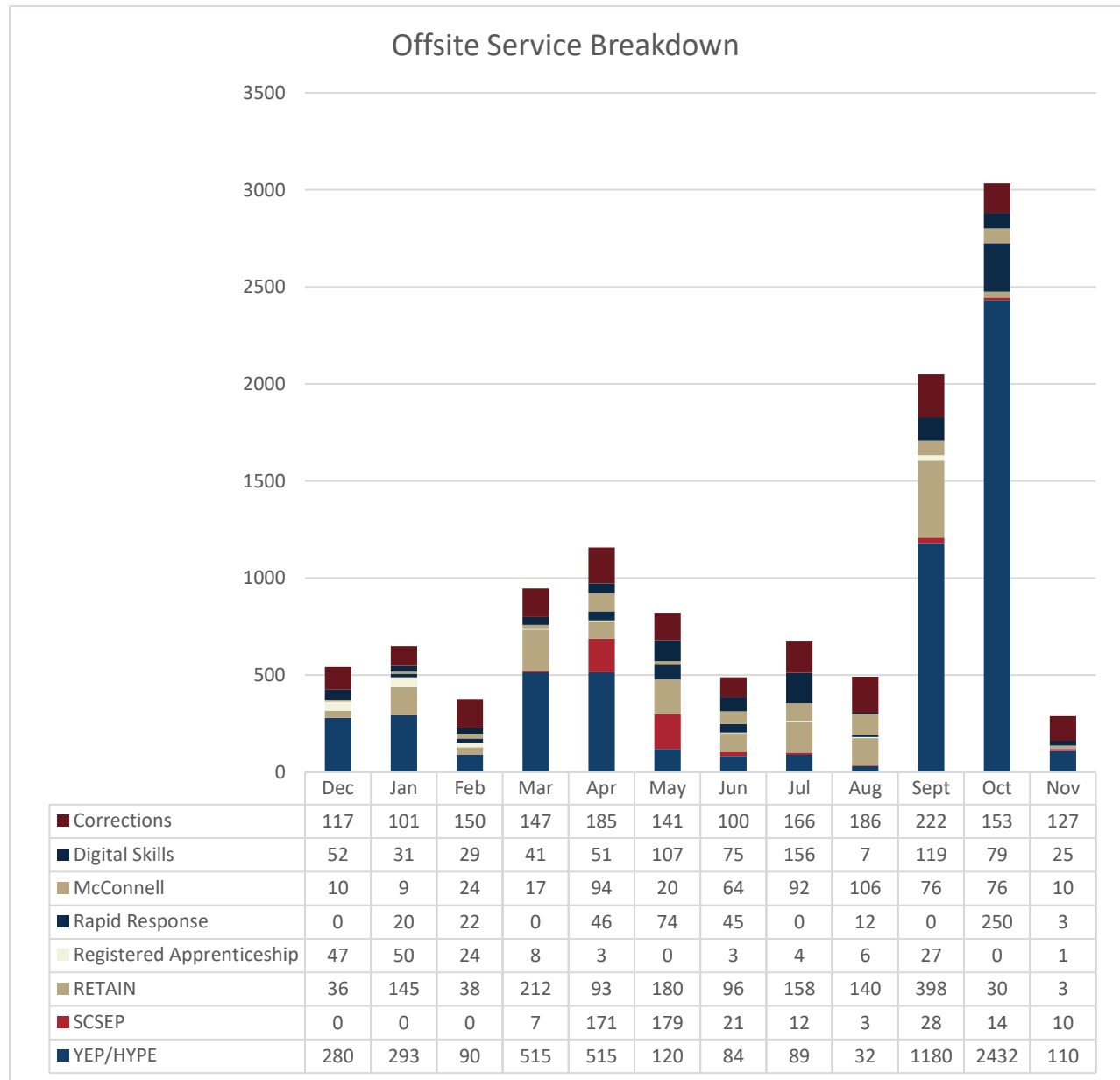


Job Seeker Services

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



This graph offers a breakdown of the comprehensive offsite services provided.

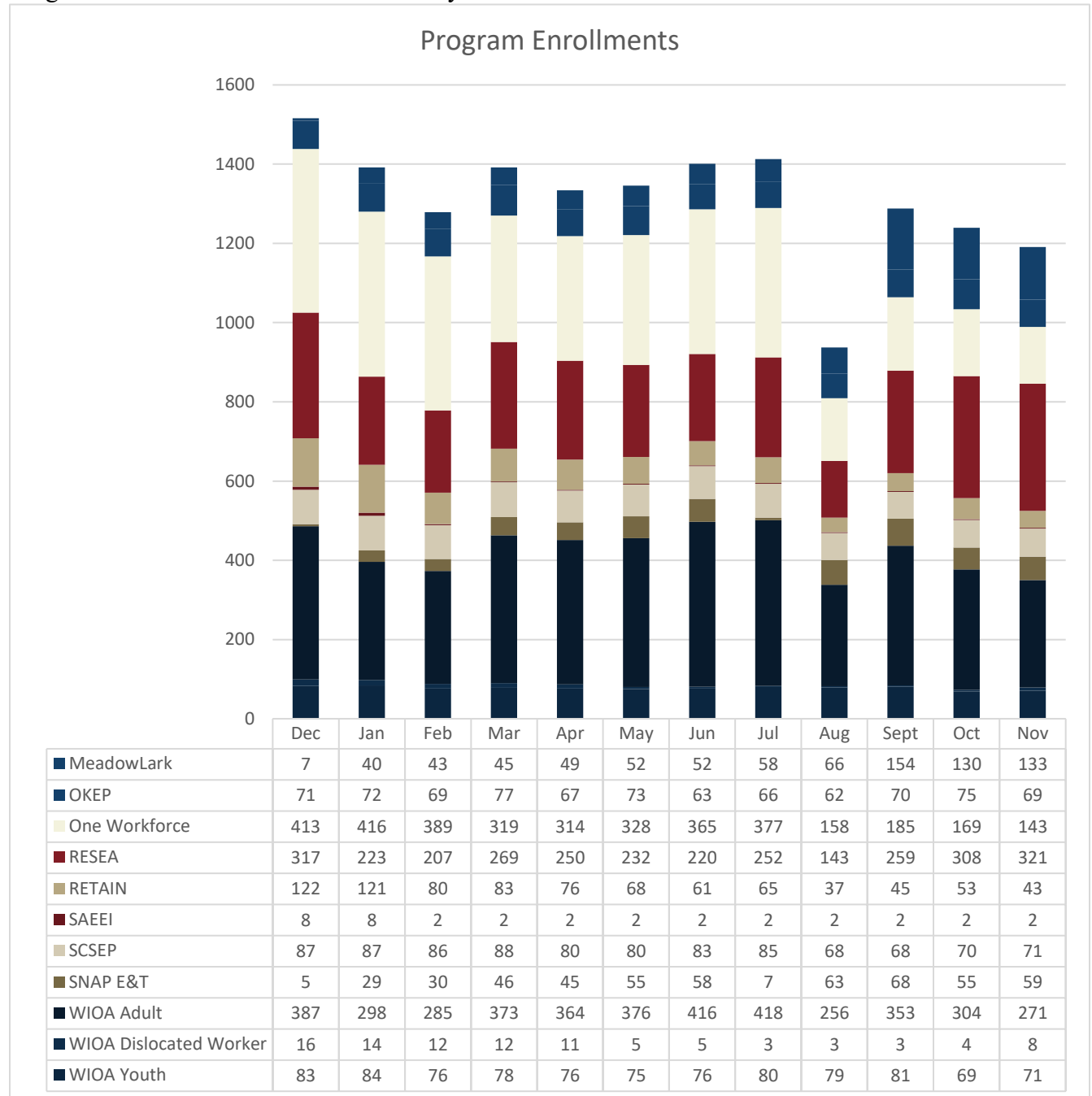


Throughout the last year, the Career Services staff has maintained a vital role in delivering comprehensive support to job seekers. Their unwavering commitment extends to helping job seekers craft effective resumes, conduct mock interviews, navigate job searches, address barriers to employment, and promptly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

In addition to conducting one-on-one appointments, the dedicated workforce center staff actively engages 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.

Program Enrollments

Program enrollments have remained steady.

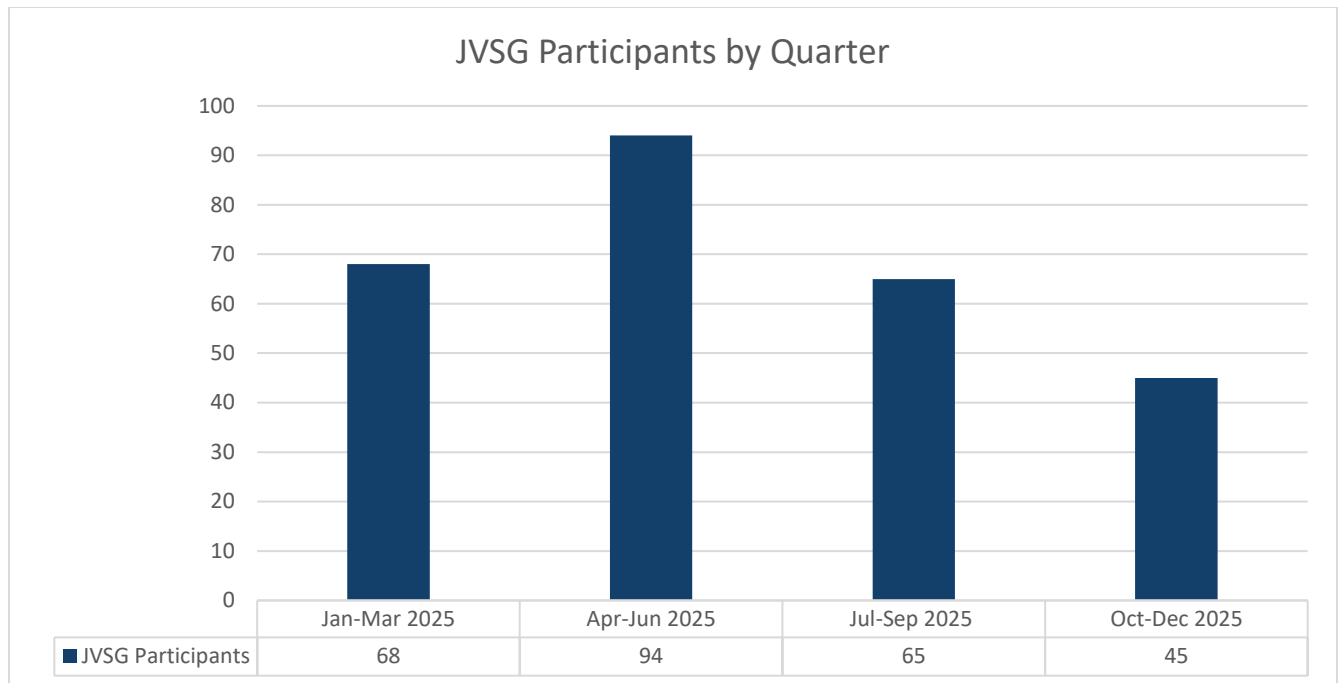


Program Enrollment Glossary

- MeadowLARK= Leading Apprenticeship Results in Kansas
- OKEP=Older Kansans Employment Program
- RESEA= Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment
- RETAIN=Retaining Employment and Talent After Injury/Illness Network
- SAEI= State Apprenticeship Equity, Expansion, and Innovation
- SCSEP= Senior Community Service Employment Program
- SNAP E&T= Supplement Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training
- WIOA= Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

January 28, 2026

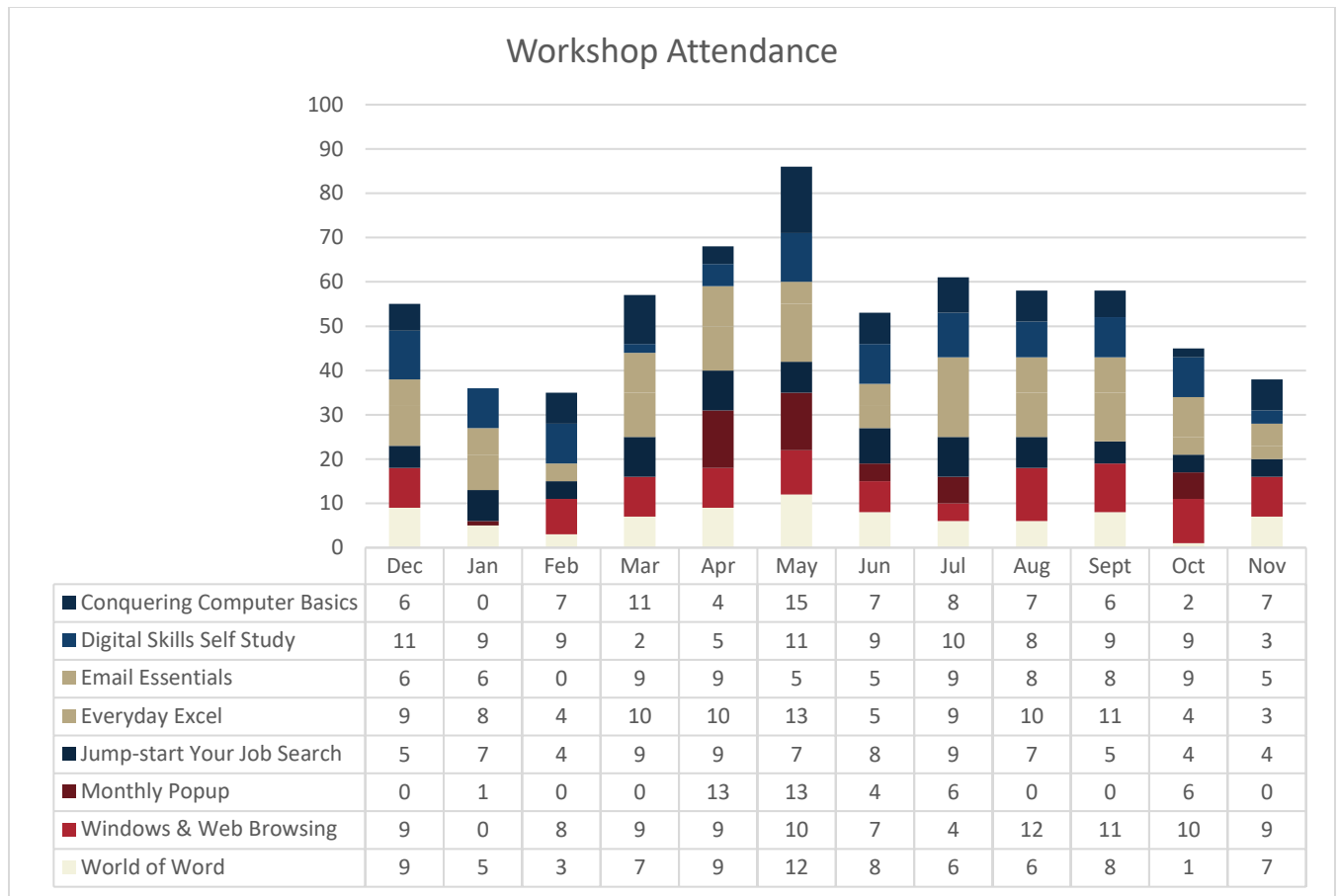
Submitted By: Denise Houston

**Community Outreach & Workshops**

In November, WA staff continued strengthening digital readiness across the region through 11 in-person workshops and training sessions serving 56 participants. An additional 25 individuals advanced their skills through online training, and 117 assessments were completed to help job seekers identify their digital competency needs. Staff served a total of 90 individuals through training and outreach, including 11 referrals from partner organizations that helped extend digital skill reach in the community. These efforts continue to build digital confidence and expand access to employment pathways.

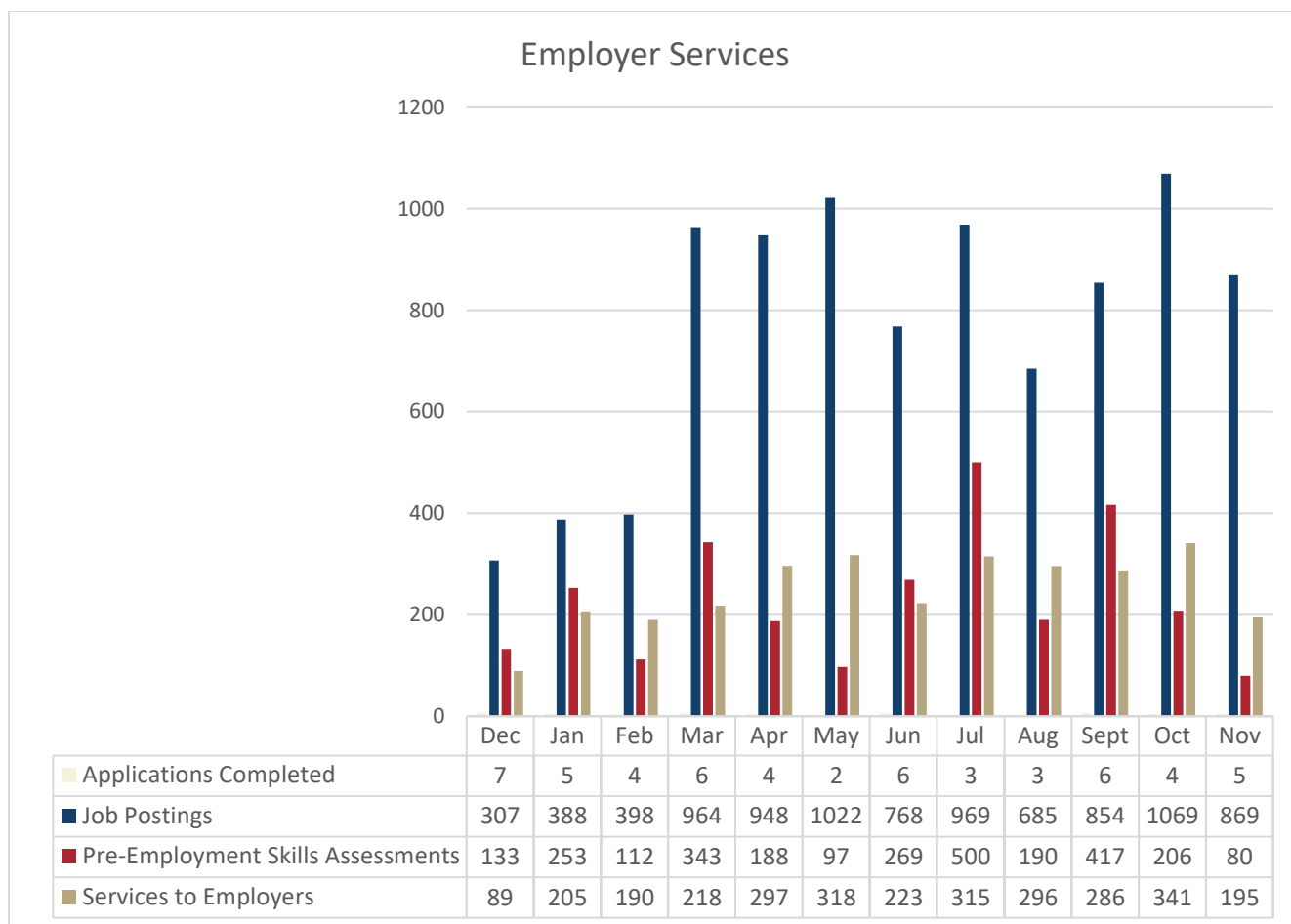
January 28, 2026

Submitted By: Denise Houston



Employer Services Overview

November saw a decrease of 18.7% in job postings compared to October. There were 869 total job postings across the 6-county radius for November. On a statewide level, there were 33,896 active positions available for job seekers to browse. Additionally, the system recorded a pool of 11,840 resumes for employers to consider during their recruitment efforts.



Job Fairs

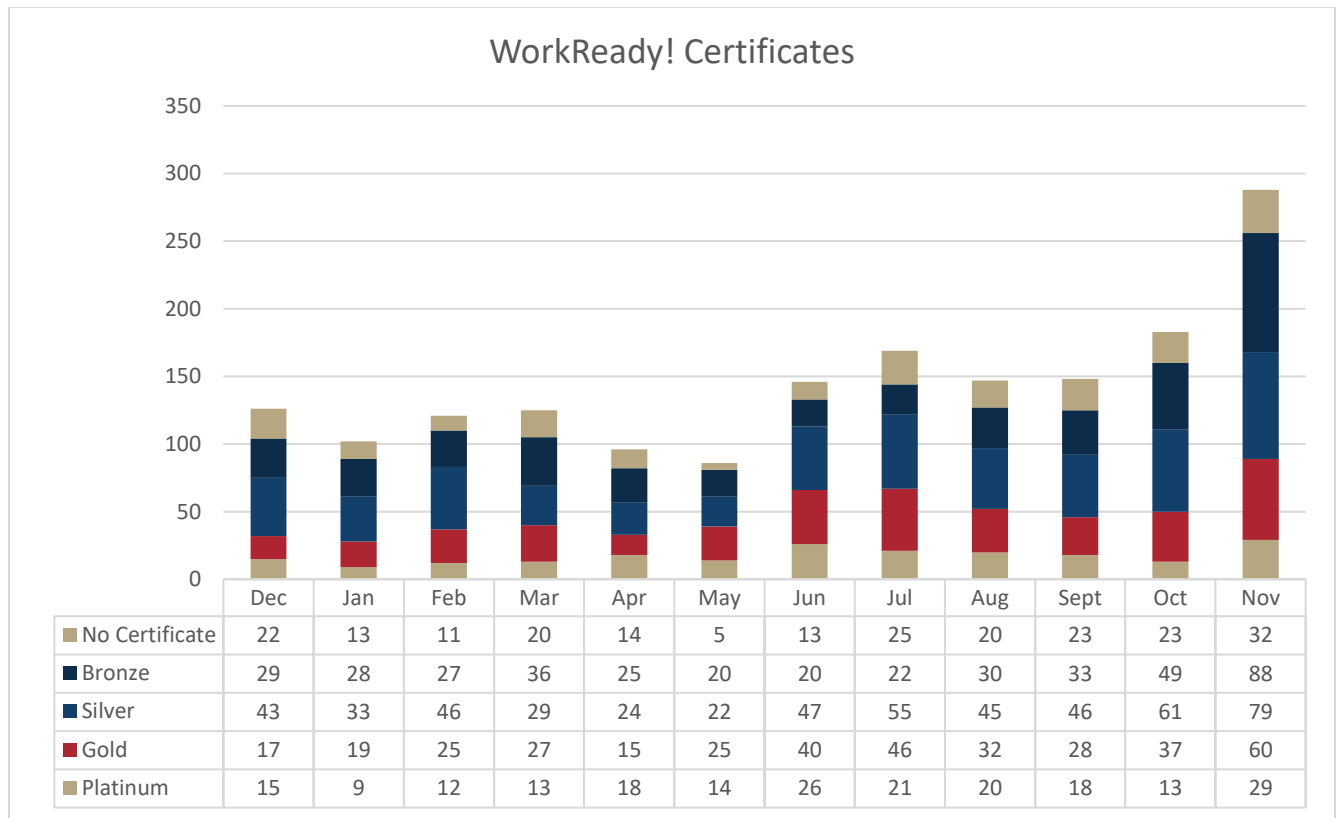
In November, the Workforce Centers hosted the annual Get Hired Job Fair on November 20, 2025 at the Advanced Learning Library. This event engaged a total of 271 candidates with representatives from 22 diverse companies. Employer partners included AAR Component Services, BG Products Inc, City of Wichita, Cox Machine, Etezazi Industries Inc, Fagron Sterile Services, First Student, Heartspring, HM Dunn Aerosystems Inc, Home Instead, Impact Home Health, KETCH, MOSAIC, Prairie View Inc, Sedgwick County Community Corrections, Sedgwick County Human Resources, Spirit Aerosystems, Starkey Inc, Vermillion Incorporated, Western Industries Plastic Products, WSU Tech, and XLT Ovens.

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 20 sessions were offered during the month of November, with 379 job seekers scheduled to complete. The area saw an increase in attendance rate, sitting at 76%, with it being at 73.8% in the previous month. A total of 288 participants completed the assessment, and an 88.9% award rate was documented.

January 28, 2026

Submitted By: Denise Houston

**Recommended Action***Receive and File.*



Corrections Workforce Partnership Report

January 8, 2026

Since 2016, the Workforce Alliance of South-Central Kansas (WA), the Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC) and Sedgwick County Department of Corrections (SCDOC) have formally partnered to in the Kansas Offender Risk Reduction and Reentry Plan (KOR3P), which includes various strategies to provide risk reduction and reentry programs, services and interventions.

The WA has been contracted to provide an Offender Workforce Development Specialist (OWDS) to assist with job readiness for individuals referred by KDOC and SCDOC and desires to continue and build on this partnership. Quarter 4 2025 Program Outcomes are below:

| Quarter 4 2025 | Sedgwick County Department of Corrections | Wichita Parole Office | Total |
|---|---|-----------------------------|---------|
| Employment Lab Attendees | 44 | 0 | 44 |
| Direct Referrals* | 25 | 24 | 49 |
| Individual Employment Services Provided | 162 | 127 | 289 |
| Appointments scheduled/NS or cancel | 33/21 | 29/18 | 62/39 |
| Individuals Entering Employment** | 70 | 14 | 84 |
| Entered Employment Rate | 100% | 78% | 89% |
| Employment Retention: 6 Months | 81.25% | 70% | 75.6% |
| Employment Retention: 12 Months | 87% | 90% | 88.5% |
| Average Wage: 6 months | \$15.55 | \$16.50 | \$16.00 |
| Average Wage: 12 months | \$14.94 | \$14.75 | \$14.85 |

**Total number of appointments held, does not count no show/reschedules*

***Includes referrals from previous quarter who gained employment this quarter*

The fourth quarter of 2025 had lower numbers of direct referrals and also in employment lab. During the last part of the year this trend is typical. However, the numbers were a bit lower than last year. The The number of clients entering employment can fall at this time of year due to the holidays but this year it remained pretty steady. Employment retention rates were very impressive. They average wage also increased.

Workforce Alliance staff maintains monthly contact with the staff at the Wichita Work Release Facility.

Annual cumulative numbers for 2025 are below based on data available.

| 2025 Summary | Sedgwick County Department of Corrections | Wichita Parole Office | Total |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Employment Lab Attendees | 252 | 0 | 252 |
| Direct Referrals* | 121 | 98 | 219 |
| Individual Employment Services Provided | 950 | 888 | 1838 |
| Individuals Entering Employment** | 295 | 76 | 371 |
| Entered Employment Rate | 86.25% | 98% | 92% |
| Employment Retention: 6 Months | 75% | 77% | 76% |
| Employment Retention: 12 Months | 76% | 87.5% | 81.75% |
| Average Wage: 6 months | \$15.16 | \$15.66 | \$15.41 |
| Average Wage: 12 months | \$14.80 | \$15.07 | \$14.94 |

**Total number of appointments held, does not count no show/reschedules*

***Includes referrals from 2024 who gained employment in 2025*



Registered Apprenticeship Report
As of 12/31/2025
[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 is an approved intermediary under the Meadowlark Grant, with 17 approved programs and thirteen employers: CDH, Inc., Don Hattan Dealerships, UV&S, Cox Machine, ISG Tech, F&H Insulation, Child Start, Bailey’s Learning Academy, Design One, Yingling Aviation, CMJ Manufacturing, Inc., and Little Kings and Queens Daycare, and Rainbows United.

| Employer | Occupation | Status | Active Apprentices |
|---|----------------------------------|----------|--------------------|
| Bailey’s Learning Academy | Early Childhood Educator | Approved | 6 |
| CDH | Construction Craft Laborer | Approved | 5 |
| | Welder | Approved | 1 |
| Child Start | Early Childhood Educator | Approved | 0 |
| CMJ Manufacturing, Inc. | Machine Operator | Approved | 0 |
| Cox Machine | Router Operator | Approved | 0 |
| | Machine Operator | Approved | 0 |
| Design One | Upholsterer Technician | Approved | 1 |
| Don Hattan | Automotive Mechanic | Approved | 0 |
| | Tune Up Mechanic | Approved | 3 |
| F&H Insulation Sales and Services, Inc. | Coatings | Approved | 1 |
| | Insulation Worker | Approved | 2 |
| ISG Tech | Service Technician 1 | Approved | 0 |
| Little Kings and Queens Daycare | Early Childhood Worker | Approved | 0 |
| Rainbows United | Childcare Development Specialist | Approved | 0 |
| UV&S | Computer Support Specialist | Approved | 1 |
| Yingling Aviation | Avionics Technician | Approved | 27 |

Below is the status on new program activity through the WA intermediary for the month:

| Employer | Occupation | Status |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| Goodwill Industries | Counselor | In Development |
| Miracle Home Care | CNA | Submitted |
| Kiddy College | Early Childhood Educator | Submitted |
| Czarniecki Construction | Carpenter | In Development |
| AZM Solutions | Defense Analyst | In Development |
| Rusty Eck | Automotive Technician | In Development |



Registered Apprenticeship Report
As of 12/31/2025
[LAIV Registered Apprenticeship Information](#)

The WA accepts onsite applications for six RA programs. In December, 8 individuals engaged in the RA application process, resulting in 3 completed applications, details are below:

| RA Application and Prescreen Activity | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2025 | Applications and Prescreens | Completed Referrals | Completion Percentage |
| January | 5 | 3 | 60% |
| February | 4 | 4 | 100% |
| March | 7 | 6 | 85% |
| April | 5 | 4 | 80% |
| May | 2 | 2 | 100% |
| June | 10 | 6 | 60% |
| July | 10 | 3 | 30% |
| August | 8 | 3 | 38% |
| September | 10 | 6 | 60% |
| October | 9 | 4 | 44% |
| November | 8 | 5 | 62% |
| December | 8 | 3 | 37% |
| Totals | 86 | 49 | 57% |

The WA works in partnership with





Communications Report
As of 1/5/26

December 2025 Feature Stories

[Newstalk: Coalition of the Willing Employer Action Session](#)

| December 2025 Job of the Day | | |
|------------------------------|--|---|
| Date | Job Title | Employer |
| 12/1/2025 | Senior Staff Accountant - Closely Held Business | AdamsBrown, LLC |
| 12/2/2025 | Mortgage Lender | Quantum Credit Union |
| 12/3/2025 | Accounts Payable Supervisor - Finance | Sedgwick County |
| 12/4/2025 | Accounts Payable Coordinator - EDI | Envision, Inc. |
| 12/5/2025 | Principal Budget Analyst - Operating Budget Coordinator | City of Wichita |
| 12/8/2025 | 3 Axis CNC Machine operator | Cox Machine, Inc. |
| 12/9/2025 | Fuel Inspector | Kansas Department of Agriculture |
| 12/10/2025 | FutureMaker - Events Demonstrator (Part Time) | WSU Tech |
| 12/11/2025 | Utility Operator I (Water) | City of Derby |
| 12/12/2025 | Children Attendant Care | South Central Mental Health Counseling Center |
| 12/15/2025 | Saw Operator | Aero Metals Alliance (Sunshine Metals) |
| 12/16/2025 | Faculty - Aerospace Coatings & Paint | WSU Tech |
| 12/17/2025 | Planner | Vermillion Incorporated |
| 12/18/2025 | CNC Machining Supervisor | Cox Machine, Inc. |
| 12/19/2025 | 5-Axis CNC Machine Operator | Galaxy Technologies |
| 12/22/2025 | Pediatric Home Health RN or LPN | Pediatric Home Service |
| 12/23/2025 | Private Duty Registered Nurse (RN) or Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) | Thrive Skilled Pediatric Care |
| 12/24/2025 | Adjunct Faculty - Short Term Health (CNA/CMA) | WSU Tech |
| 12/25/2025 | Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) Counselor / Therapist | Valley Hope - Addictions Treatment & Recovery |
| 12/26/2025 | Elementary School Speech Pathologist | Derby Public Schools |
| 12/29/2025 | Faculty - IT Programs | WSU Tech |
| 12/30/2025 | Geology Specialist | Kansas Corporation Commission |
| 12/31/2025 | Application Analyst - SCADA / Operational Technology | City of Wichita |

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 November saw decreased engagement on all platforms except the HBW website. Impressions decreased across all platforms except the WA website, Facebook, and HBW website. Followers increased on all platforms except Twitter, HBW Facebook, and HBW LinkedIn.

Engagements

