



**Workforce Alliance (WA) Executive Committee
Meeting Agenda**
Wichita Workforce Center, 2021 N. Amidon, #1100 OR
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82797655894>
Wednesday, February 14, 2024
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Jeff Longwell (11:30)
2. **WIOA Reauthorization Discussion:** Kathy Jewett (11:35) (pp. 2-3)
Congress is considering legislation to reauthorize the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) and the National Association of Workforce Boards (NAWB) released a list of issues of concern for local workforce boards.
Recommended Action: Take appropriate action
3. **One-Stop Operator Procurement Update:** Chad Pettera (11:45)
The Workforce Alliance released a Request for Proposals for one-stop operations.
Recommended Action: Take appropriate action.
4. **Leveraged Funds Strategy Task Force:** Alana McNary (11:50) (pp. 4-6)
The Task Force will provide an initial review and recommendations for discussion.
Recommended Action: Take appropriate action.
5. **2024 Community Impact Projects:** Keith Lawing (12:15)
 - A. *Youth Employment Project (YEP) (pp. 7-10)*
 - B. *Home Base Wichita (pp. 11-12)***Recommended Action:** Take appropriate action.
6. **Consent Agenda:** Keith Lawing (12:30)
 - A. *Approval of Meeting Minutes for January 10, 2024 (pp. 13-14)*
 - B. *Program Year 2023 Budget Update (p. 15)*
 - C. *Operations Report (pp. 16-19)*
 - D. *Communications Report (pp. 20-22)*
 - E. *Registered Apprenticeship Report (pp. 23-24)*
 - F. *On-the-Job Training (OJT) Contracts - Harper Industries, Learjet, Midwest Hemp Technology, Netability and Novacoast (pp. 25-29)***Recommended Action:** Approve the Consent Agenda as presented.
7. **Adjourn:** Jeff Longwell (12:45)

The next WA Executive Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 13, 2024 at 11:30 a.m.

 **KANSASWORKS.com** In Partnership with  **AmericanJobCenter**

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



National Association of Workforce Boards

New WIOA Reauthorization Talking Points

Dear NAWB Member,

As you are aware, late last year the House Education and Workforce (E&W) Committee, on a bipartisan basis, marked up and advanced [H.R. 6655](#), **The Stronger Workforce for America Act (ASWA)**—legislation that would make significant updates to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). NAWB [responded to this proposal](#) as the E&W was considering it and has been continuing to engage extensively with partners in both the House and Senate on the wider WIOA reauthorization process.

As the legislation continues to be considered by Congress, we strongly encourage NAWB members to reach out to their Representatives and Senators to continue to highlight three primary areas of concern regarding this legislation:

H.R. 6655, A Stronger Workforce for America Act: Primary Areas of Concern and Related Impact on Local Decision-Making and Solutions

Mandates New 50% Training Requirement for Adult and Dislocated Worker Formula Funds

- Creates a federal, one size fits all requirement for local workforce boards to spend at least 50% of their funds on training (narrowly defined, mainly for tuition costs for training)
- Does not allow local workforce boards to tailor funded activities and services to meet local needs and wider conditions
- Does not count supportive or wraparound supports that help job seekers enroll in, and successfully complete, training towards the mandate
- Will lead to significant reductions in other critical services delivered to job seekers and employers

Increases State-level Set-Asides to 25% of Total WIOA Allocations

- In addition to the existing Governor's Reserve fund (15%), ASWA allows for the creation of a new 'Critical Industries Fund' (up to 10%)
- This increased state-level set-aside allowance further reduces local resources available to deliver the same training services newly mandated by ASWA
- Allows other federal funding, including the Governor's existing 15% reserve funding, to be used to meet the state's matching requirement for the creation of the Critical Industry Skills Fund
- This provision further erodes the ability of WIOA to leverage additional state funding for training and employment opportunities for workers and employers

LWDA Redesignation Requirements

- ASWA directs State Governors to commence a redesignation process for local workforce development areas (LWDAs) mid-way through the legislation's authorization period
- Governors can propose to maintain existing LWDAs or propose new LWDA designations which must be presented to local workforce boards for consideration
- As structured, even if a majority of local workforce development boards (LWDBs) vote against a Governor's redesignation proposal, the two alternative "fallback" options outlined in the law will still result in changes to the existing geography of LWDAs in the state
- This provision circumvents the voice of local job seekers and employers, leading to an option of reducing local workforce areas into single statewide areas
- A third fallback option must be included in future WIOA legislation if any redesignation provision is to be maintained
- Should a majority of LWDBs vote against a Governor's proposed redesignation process, LWDBs should have the ability to vote for an additional fallback option which maintains the existing LWDA structure in a State
- Such a change is aligned with the spirit and intent of the federal investment in workforce development which has historically emphasized local autonomy to best meet community needs

We welcome and encourage each of you to make use of these talking points as part of your wider engagement efforts with federal lawmakers this year.

Should you have any questions, please [reach out to NAWB via email](#).

Sincerely,

NAWB



**Workforce Alliance (WA)
Leveraged Funds Strategy Task Force
Initial Review and Recommendations
February 8, 2024**

Task Force Assignment:

Identify opportunities for the WA to generate revenue from state government, local government, philanthropy, community based organizations, and or employers to create community impact beyond WIOA and support 2023-2025 Strategic Goals.

Core Issue of a Leveraged Funds Strategy:

1. *Business community and employers must value WIOA and the Workforce Alliance*
2. *The Workforce Alliance needs to be recognized as a credible and relevant organization by businesses and community leaders.*
3. *The more the Workforce Alliance Board of Directors are visible in the community and engaged in raising awareness and community support, the more credibility is earned for the Workforce Alliance.*

Workforce Alliance Primary Funding Sources /Goals

1. *Federal Government Funding*
2. *State Government Funding*
3. *Local Government Funding*
4. *Philanthropic/Community Funding*
5. *Employer Partnerships*

1. Workforce Alliance Current Federal Funding:

- Annual WIOA allocations (USDOL)
- Competitive Grants (primarily USDOL)
- Senior Community Service Employment Program (USDOL)
- *MeadowLARK Grant (Federal funding through the Kansas Department of Commerce)
- *Federal Recovery Act funds (ARPA through the city of Wichita)

Federal Funding Opportunity:

- *SNAP E&T (Federal funding through the Kansas Department of Children and Families)
- Federal Recovery Act Funds (Brookings report)

Role of Board:

- ***Identify WIOA as important community resource for your company or organization.***
 - *Utilize the services of the WA and Workforce Center, job posting, pre-screening, job fairs, skills training resources*
- ***Directly engage in presentations to, and conversations with, the federal congressional delegation on outcomes, data and the impact of Workforce Alliance led programs and strategies.***

Examples:

- Attending community events and networking opportunities on behalf of the Workforce Alliance
 - Wichita Chamber of Commerce events, federal issues forums, DC Fly-In, etc....
- Public statements/letters of support from companies and business leaders highlighting the need and importance of employment and skills training resources

- Invite Senators Moran, Marshall and Representative Estes to tour Workforce Centers and meet with Workforce Alliance Board members.
(NOTE: Impact on increasing WIOA funding to Workforce Alliance and Kansas will be limited, but these resources are the foundation for operations and the ability to leverage and align with multiple funding sources to create significant community impact.)

2. Workforce Alliance Current State Funding:

- Work Based Learning (Kansas Department of Commerce)
- *Fair Chance (Kansas Department of Corrections)
- *MeadowLARK Grant (Federal funding through the Kansas Department of Commerce)

State Funding Opportunities:

- WBL Expansion (data tools, equipment, outreach events)
- Sector Based Skills Training Strategy (employer partnerships aligned with economic development priorities)
 - Advanced Manufacturing
 - Healthcare
 - Trades/Construction
 - IT / Data
- Targeted funding for demographic populations (Veterans, Youth, Justice Involved Individuals, legal immigrants)

Role of Board:

- *Identify Workforce Alliance as important community resource*
- *Partner with the Workforce Alliance on grants and projects*
- *Directly engage in presentations to, and conversations with, the South Central Kansas Legislative Delegation, State agencies and the Governor on outcomes, data and the impact of Workforce Alliance led programs and strategies.*

Examples:

- Attending community events and networking opportunities on behalf of the Workforce Alliance
 - Wichita Chamber of Commerce events- state issues forums, local elected officials reception, Topeka Legislative Reception, etc....
 - Kansas Chamber of Commerce events- Business Expo and annual workforce conference
- Public statements/letters of support from companies and business leaders highlighting the need and importance of employment and skills training resources
- Hosting legislators and leaders from state agencies to tour Workforce Centers and meet with Workforce Alliance Board members.

3. Workforce Alliance Current Local Funding

- Fair Chance (Sedgwick County)
- *Home Base Wichita (city of Wichita, ARPA funds)
- Service Agreements / Contracts
 - Regional Economic Area Partnership (REAP)
 - K-254 Highway Corridor Association
 - Evergy Connect Center

Local Funding Opportunities:

- Youth Employment Project (leverage with state funding for WBL)
- Home Base Wichita (sustainability strategy)
- SNAP E&T (to make 50-50 match model work)
- Sector Based Skills Training Strategy (employer partnerships aligned with economic development priorities)

- Targeted funding for demographic populations (Veterans, Youth, Justice Involved Individuals, legal immigrants)

Role of Board:

- *Identify Workforce Alliance as important community resource*
- *Partner with the Workforce Alliance on grants and projects*
- *Directly engage in presentations to, and conversations with, local government and economic development officials in the South Central Kansas on outcomes, data and the impact of Workforce Alliance led programs and strategies*

4. Philanthropic/Community Funding

Workforce Alliance Current Philanthropic / Community Funding

- National Fund for Workforce Solutions
- *Midwest Urban Strategies (MUS)
- Youth Employment Project (YEP)
 - Bank of America
 - United Way of the Plains
 - Wichita Crime Commission
 - Jobs FORE Youth Golf Tournament
- AT&T: (Digital literacy strategy)

Potential Philanthropic / Community Funding Local Funding:

- Expansion of Youth Employment Project (leverage with state funding for WBL)
- Targeted funding for demographic populations (Veterans, Youth, Justice Involved Individuals, legal immigrants)

Role of Board:

- *Identify Workforce Alliance as important community resource*
- *Help connect the Workforce Alliance to community organizations to develop strategic partnerships on grants and projects*
- *Deliver information, data and advocate for support to local governments in South Central Kansas*

5. Employer Partnerships and Funding

Workforce Alliance Current Employer Partnership Funding

- YEP and Career Camps
 - Ascension Via Christi
 - Spirit AeroSystems
 - Textron Aviation
 - Skills Trades Registered Apprenticeships
- Jobs FORE Youth Golf Tourney

Potential Employer Partnership Funding:

- Expansion of Youth Employment Project (leverage with state funding for WBL)
- Targeted funding for demographic populations (Veterans, Youth, Justice Involved Individuals, legal immigrants)

Role of Board:

- *Partner with the Workforce Alliance on grants and projects*
- *Provide financial support for Workforce Alliance strategies to engage the business community*

Item:

Youth Employment Project (YEP) 2024 Update

Analysis:

YEP 2024 goals and Year-to-Date measures as of 2/1/2024 are below

| Measure | 2024 Actual | 2024 Goal | 2023 Actual | 2022 Actual |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Total Young Adults Served | 2959 | 6000 | 5,732 | 3,583 |
| Workshop Participation | 79 | 1000 | 858 | 913 |
| Badges Awarded | 237 | 2000 | 1,545 | 2,151 |
| ESC Certificates Earned | 79 | 800 | 515 | 717 |
| Total Employment | 246 | 2,500 | 2,392 | 2,261 |
| Camp HYPE Participation | TBD | 200 | 164 | 92 |
| Employer Engagement | 199 | 450 | 435 | 244 |
| Job Fairs | 11 | 25 | 20 | 11 |
| Wages Paid | TBD | \$3,500,000 | \$3,444,480 | \$2,913,120 |
| Job Fair Attendance by Young Adults | 1,571 | 3,000 | 2,653 | 1,833 |
| Job Fair Attendance by Employers | 154 | 250 | 248 | 207 |
| Events (Outreach, Job Fair, Workshop) | 82 | 150 | 115 | 42 |
| Schools and Districts Engagement | 24 schools in 15 districts | 30 schools 16 districts | 27 schools 16 districts | 20 schools 14 districts |
| Counties Engaged | 7 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| WIOA Referrals | 11 | 50 | 30 | N/A |

2024 YEP Employment Outcomes

| Employment Type | Total |
|------------------------|--------------|
| WIOA | TDB |
| Pre-ETS | TBD |
| YEP Employer Funded | 243 |
| YEP Subsidized | TBD |
| Youth Self-Reported | 3 |
| Total | 246 |

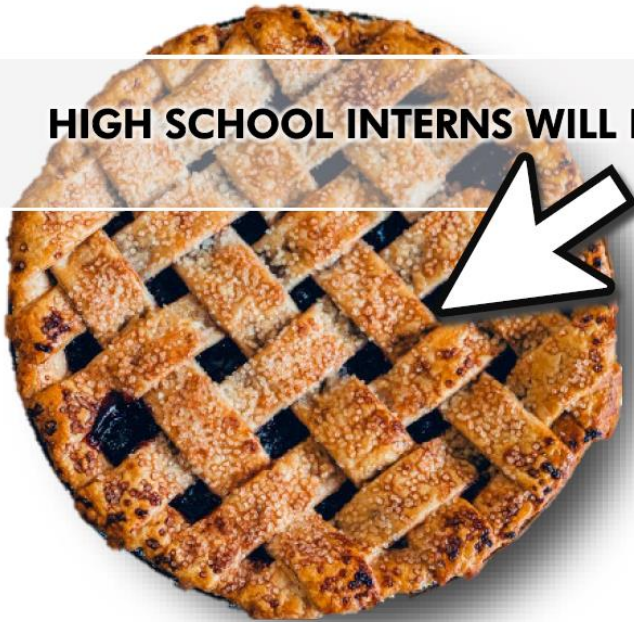
Employer Engagement

The WA rolled out the Easy as Pie campaign and Employer Survey to encourage employers to host high school interns. Meetings will be held on March 13 (zoom) and March 30 (in person) to assist employers with developing internships. The survey is can be found at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YEPEmployerForm>

Finding good help can be
EASY AS PIE.



HIGH SCHOOL INTERNS WILL BENEFIT YOUR BUSINESS



The Workforce Alliance will assist your company to develop a high school internship program through the Youth Employment Project. In partnership with local schools and teachers, YEP provides pre-employment soft skill and workplace etiquette training for students before the internship begins, can assist with promotion, screening, and hiring of interns.



Get your piece of the pie at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YEPEmployerForm>

Upcoming Events

| Date | Event |
|--------------------|--|
| 2/12/2024 | Wichita Southeast VR Showcase |
| 2/22/2024 | Goddard Eisenhower College and Career Fair |
| 2/22/2024 | YEP/Circle Presentation to REAP |
| 2/26/2024 | Wichita West High Trio Workshop |
| TDB Feb/March | Butler County YEP Employer Meeting |
| 3/05/2024 | Mulvane Career Readiness Expo |
| 3/05/2024 | Jag K Career Expo and Judging |
| 3/06/2024 | WABA Build Your Future at Century II |
| 3/13/2024 | Easy as Pie Employer Internship Webinar (zoom) |
| 3/13/2024 | McConnell Road Trip Nation Watch Party |
| 3/22/2024 | Chaparral and Attica ESC Workshop |
| TDB Late March | Butler County ESC Workshop |
| 3/30/2024 | Easy as Pie Employer Internship Presentation at Wichita Workforce Center |
| TDB March/April | Butler County Intern Interview Day |
| 4/04/2024 | Maize Senior Job Fair |
| 4/06/2024 | Internship Interview Day at Future Ready Center |
| 4/10/2024 | Harper County YEP Job Fair |
| 4/16/2024 | USD 259 Senior Job Fair at AMAC |
| TBD | REAP Area Superintendent Meeting |

Camp HYPE

- Camps will be held June 6 – August 8
- USD 259 will provide four extern staff to assist with operating the camps and delivering workshop curriculum. Sumner County Economic Development and Cowley First will assist with camps in Wellington and Ark City.
- Students must be between the ages of 14-18 and have completed their freshman year of high school and have not graduated to attend, most camps are aimed at 14-15 year olds.
- Camps run Monday-Thursday. Some camp dates are still being determined; full schedule will announced March 8, 2024. Anticipated sponsors include Ascension via Christi, Bombardier, Financial Services, FlagshipKansas.Tech, Skilled Trades, Spirit AeroSystems, Textron Aviation, and Wichita Crime Commission.

| Event | Dates | Location |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Camp HYPE TBD | 6/03/2024-6/06/2024 | TBD |
| Camp HYPE TDB | 6/10/2024-6/13/2024 | TBD |
| Camp HYPE TBD | 6/17/2024-6/21/2024 | TBD |
| Camp HYPE TBD | 6/24/2024-6/28/2024 | TBD |
| Camp HYPE TBD | 7/08/2024-7/11/2024 | TBD |
| Camp HYPE TBD | 7/15/2024-7/18/2024 | TBD |
| Camp HYPE Textron Aviation | 7/22/2024-7/25/2024 | TBD |
| Camp HYPE Sumner County | 7/22/2024-7/25/2024 Tentative Date | Wellington |
| Camp HYPE TBD | 7/29/2024-8/1/2024 | TBD |
| Camp HYPE Cowley County | 7/29/2024-8/1/2024 Tentative Date | Ark City |
| Camp HYPE McConnell | 8/05/2024-8/08/2024 | McConnell AFB |

Recommended Action: Receive and file.



**Program Update
As of 2/5/2024**

HBW Partnership meeting will take place on 2/14/24 to discuss the following:

- Updates from the Wichita Regional Chamber and Greater Wichita Partnership
- Social media enhancements
- Community Event
- MOU
- Grant modification

Participants Served

| | | |
|--|-------------|----------------|
| Veterans | 1602 | 95.07% |
| Transitioning Military Personnel | 54 | 3.20% |
| Military Spouses | 29 | 1.72% |
| Total Participants Served | 1685 | 100.00% |
| White | 729 | 43.26% |
| Black or African American | 212 | 12.58% |
| American Indian or Alaska Native | 25 | 1.48% |
| Asian | 26 | 1.54% |
| Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander | 6 | 0.36% |
| Not Disclosed | 687 | 40.77% |
| Total Participants by Race | 1685 | 100.00% |
| Hispanic | 277 | 16.44% |
| Non-Hispanic | 702 | 41.66% |
| Not Disclosed | 706 | 41.90% |
| Total Participants by Ethnicity | 1685 | 100.00% |
| Individuals with address in an Equity Zip Code | 460 | 27.30% |
| Individuals in Other Zip Codes | 1225 | 72.70% |
| Total Participants by Zip Code | 1685 | 100.00% |

Job Placements

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Advanced Manufacturing/Aviation | 26 |
| Agriculture | 2 |
| Transportation | 1 |
| Construction | 5 |
| Education | 4 |
| Engineering | 1 |
| Finance | 1 |
| IT | 1 |
| Hospitality | 2 |
| Human Resources | 6 |
| Law Enforcement | 1 |
| Logistics | 3 |
| Healthcare | 2 |
| Non-Profit | 6 |
| Retail/Customer Service | 2 |
| Total Industry Placements | 63 |

Employer Engagement

| | |
|---|-----|
| Number of Employers Engaged | 639 |
| Number of Events to Connect Individuals to Employers | 30 |
| Number of Employers Receiving Technical Assistance | 45 |
| Number of Employers Receiving Training Funds to Hire Veterans | 9 |

New Employer Contracts

- Star Lumber approved for OJT in Jan 2024
- 26 active contracts/3 industries
- 7 active OJT/4 completed

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. HBW social media has increased job openings, ambassador videos, and Why Wichita posts resulting in a wave of activity on the Facebook page.

LinkedIn:

The HBW LinkedIn page has grown to 596 followers. In January, LinkedIn activity included 65 posts, resulting in 3,828 impressions.

| LinkedIn | Follower s | Posts | Unique visitors | Impressio ns | 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 |
| January 2024 | 596 | 65 | 28 | 3828 | 108 | 64 |

Facebook:

The HBW Facebook platform followers grew 24% over last month with a total of 102 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 |
| January 2024 | 102 | 72 | 2158 | 403 | 300 | 90 |

Website:

In January 2024, 141 unique visitors accessed the HBW website and total page views increased by 78%.

| 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 |
| January 2024 | 152 | 141 | 11 | 118 | 1034 |



Workforce Alliance
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Wichita Workforce Center and ZOOM
January 10, 2024 – 11:30 AM

1. **Welcome and Introductions**

The Workforce Alliance (WA) Executive Committee met on January 10, 2023 in person and via ZOOM. Chair Jeff Longwell welcomed Committee members, asked for self-introductions and called the meeting to order.

2. **Level Up Kansas**

The Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce is leading the Level Up Kansas project, a targeted outreach and marketing campaign, to get more Kansans connected to the Kansas Promise scholarship, which provides service scholarships for students to attend Kansas community colleges and technical colleges in specific fields of study. In 2023, the Kansas legislature allocated \$2.5 million to promote Level Up. Leadership from the Wichita Chamber and Level Up have met with the WA 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 24th Workforce Alliance Board meeting to discuss the Level Up project and describe what this working relationship looks like.

Report was received and filed.

3. **Workforce Alliance Priority Project Updates**

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

Amanda Duncan reviewed the 2024 WA YEP Goals Discussion Draft Plan that includes specific milestones and tactics. Staff have worked with the Board's Youth Employment Committee on these goals, which include increasing capacity of resources and employer engagement in WBL programs and creating more summer internship opportunities by identifying champions to raise community awareness and provide messaging and outreach. Key employers and community partners are identified in the plan including the City of Wichita, Cox Machine, Wichita Business Journal and WA board members are asked to include their organizations as employers that can provide outreach and work experience opportunities. Staff are developing an "easy button" for employers to show them how they can provide internships or engage in other ways that contribute to youth employment that can be tailored to their type of business and needs; this information will be introduced at the Chamber Chair Lunch on February 6th. Coordinated social media efforts and a web tool kit that can be added to community partner websites that links back to the YEP website are being created. A robust list of employers is a goal in order to expand Camp HYPE and increase the number of sessions offered.

Amanda Duncan and Tamara Ray discussed efforts for Home Base Wichita for 2024. The goal is to sustain the program after the City of Wichita's initial investment of ARPA funds ends June 30, 2024 by developing an identifiable strategy to direct military connected individuals to employment opportunities. Staff have met with program partners Greater Wichita Partnership (GWP), Wichita Regional Chamber and the Veteran Advocacy Board to discuss progress to date and goals moving forward, which include working with new partners and groups, engaging with McConnell Air Force Base differently, creating targeted messaging to a broader number of military partners, holding a relaunch event with key businesses and engaging with the City of Wichita and REAP. There have



been 56 job placements through program with goal of 100. The labor market has changed since the program was initiated and there is less interest in training. Staff plan to work with the City to adjust the current model to use less funds for training and increase funding for other employment activities. The program needs more employer participation and staff are working with the Chamber and the GWP to have the program more prominently promoted in their materials. The WA has committed to doing a military spouse job fair. Military spouses are a focus as a retiring military member would be more likely to stay in a community if their spouse is gainfully employed. There is a need to increase and diversify 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 where they are also assisted with finding jobs. Staff have received a larger number of referrals from DCF than the first few months of the project, so implementation of group activities such as labs and workshops for participants is beginning. U.S. Department of Agriculture will be visiting DCF in March and then will also visit with WA staff about the project. This program has the potential to generate revenue whereby the WA can receive a 50/50 match of a percentage of those funds with local non-federal funds to do focused employment and training.

Report was received and file

4. Consent Agenda

Approval of meeting minutes for December 13, 2023, Program Year 2023 budget update, operations/one-stop operator report, communications report, registered apprenticeship report and an on-the-job training (OJT) contract for Star Lumber and Supply Co. were presented to the Committee for review and approval.

Kathy Jewett (Rod Blackburn) moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion adopted.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:36 PM.

Attendees:

LWDB Executive Committee Members

Rod Blackburn
Michele Gifford via ZOOM
Commissioner Jim Howell via ZOOM
Kathy Jewett
Pat Jonas via ZOOM
Jeff Longwell
Alana McNary via ZOOM
Amy Williams via ZOOM

Staff/Guests

Chelsea Daniel
Amanda Duncan
Denise Houston
Keith Lawing
Shirley Lindhorst
George Marko
Chad Pettera via ZOOM
Tamara Ray
Will Dorr, Eckerd Connects
Erica Ramos, LWDB via ZOOM

Workforce Alliance Consolidated Budget PY23

July 2023 - June 2024

Expenditures Through 12/31/2023

| Category | WIOA | | | | | Community Impact Funds | | | | Consolidated | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| | Budget | December Expenditures | YTD Expenditures | % Budget Remaining | | Budget | December Expenditures | YTD Expenditures | % Budget Remaining | Budget | December Expenditures | YTD Expenditures | % Budget Remaining |
| Wages | \$ 1,978,521 | \$ 132,150 | \$ 709,158 | 64% | | \$ 1,744,000 | \$ 201,817 | \$ 1,023,894 | 41% | \$ 3,722,521 | \$ 333,967 | \$ 1,733,052 | 53% |
| Fringe | \$ 465,593 | \$ 49,151 | \$ 181,301 | 61% | | \$ 432,966 | \$ 63,642 | \$ 237,314 | 45% | \$ 898,559 | \$ 112,793 | \$ 418,615 | 53% |
| Facilities | \$ 274,601 | \$ (17,424) | \$ 143,575 | 48% | | \$ 145,450 | \$ 19,091 | \$ 106,413 | 27% | \$ 420,051 | \$ 1,667 | \$ 249,988 | 40% |
| Contract/Pro Fees | \$ 174,983 | \$ 8,579 | \$ 42,316 | 76% | | \$ 184,451 | \$ 10,807 | \$ 141,586 | 23% | \$ 359,434 | \$ 19,386 | \$ 183,902 | 49% |
| Supplies/Equipment | \$ 56,330 | \$ 33,835 | \$ 15,645 | 72% | | \$ 44,285 | \$ (3,182) | \$ 3,839 | 91% | \$ 100,615 | \$ 30,653 | \$ 19,484 | 81% |
| IT | \$ 251,899 | \$ 35,715 | \$ 75,454 | 70% | | \$ 43,500 | \$ (14,906) | \$ 7,475 | 83% | \$ 295,399 | \$ 20,809 | \$ 82,929 | 72% |
| Outreach/Cap Building | \$ 50,330 | \$ 1,947 | \$ 7,959 | 84% | | \$ 102,498 | \$ 18,745 | \$ 98,937 | 3% | \$ 152,828 | \$ 20,692 | \$ 106,896 | 30% |
| Travel/Conferences | \$ 55,603 | \$ 3,044 | \$ 25,704 | 54% | | \$ 33,243 | \$ 1,361 | \$ 16,183 | 51% | \$ 88,845 | \$ 4,405 | \$ 41,887 | 53% |
| Grants Awarded | \$ 118,536 | \$ 12,559 | \$ 71,994 | 39% | | \$ 153,000 | \$ 35,000 | \$ 75,755 | 50% | \$ 271,536 | \$ 47,559 | \$ 147,749 | 46% |
| Staff Development | \$ 20,950 | \$ 1,450 | \$ 2,372 | 89% | | \$ 23,950 | \$ 1,450 | \$ 2,767 | 88% | \$ 44,900 | \$ 2,900 | \$ 5,139 | 89% |
| Indirect | \$ - | \$ 19,154 | \$ 98,903 | 0% | | \$ - | \$ 43,031 | \$ 257,599 | 0% | \$ - | \$ 62,185 | \$ 356,502 | 0% |
| Misc/Dep/Int | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | 0% | | \$ 27,050 | \$ 15,179 | \$ 29,918 | -11% | \$ 27,050 | \$ 15,179 | \$ 29,918 | -11% |
| Work Experience | \$ 818,752 | \$ 70,840 | \$ 530,362 | 35% | | \$ 475,350 | \$ 28,767 | \$ 205,153 | 57% | \$ 1,294,102 | \$ 99,607 | \$ 735,515 | 43% |
| On The Job Training | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | - | | \$ 579,803 | \$ 8,551 | \$ 56,250 | 90% | \$ 579,803 | \$ 8,551 | \$ 56,250 | 90% |
| Incentives | \$ 2,000 | \$ 150 | \$ 423 | 79% | | \$ 242,000 | \$ 725 | \$ 22,050 | - | \$ 244,000 | \$ 875 | \$ 22,473 | 91% |
| Occupational Training | \$ 127,294 | \$ 8,221 | \$ 38,325 | 70% | | \$ 1,353,383 | \$ 59,579 | \$ 619,194 | 54% | \$ 1,480,677 | \$ 67,800 | \$ 657,519 | 56% |
| Supportive Services | \$ 111,346 | \$ 11,265 | \$ 47,942 | 57% | | \$ 365,000 | \$ 15,705 | \$ 98,227 | 73% | \$ 476,346 | \$ 26,970 | \$ 146,169 | 69% |
| Total | \$ 4,506,737 | \$ 370,636 | \$ 1,991,433 | 56% | | \$ 5,949,928 | \$ 505,362 | \$ 3,002,554 | 50% | \$ 10,456,665 | \$ 875,998 | \$ 4,993,987 | 52% |

Analysis

Budget: The PY23 budget with expenditures through the end of the December 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 32% through the month of December. The budget has 52% 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

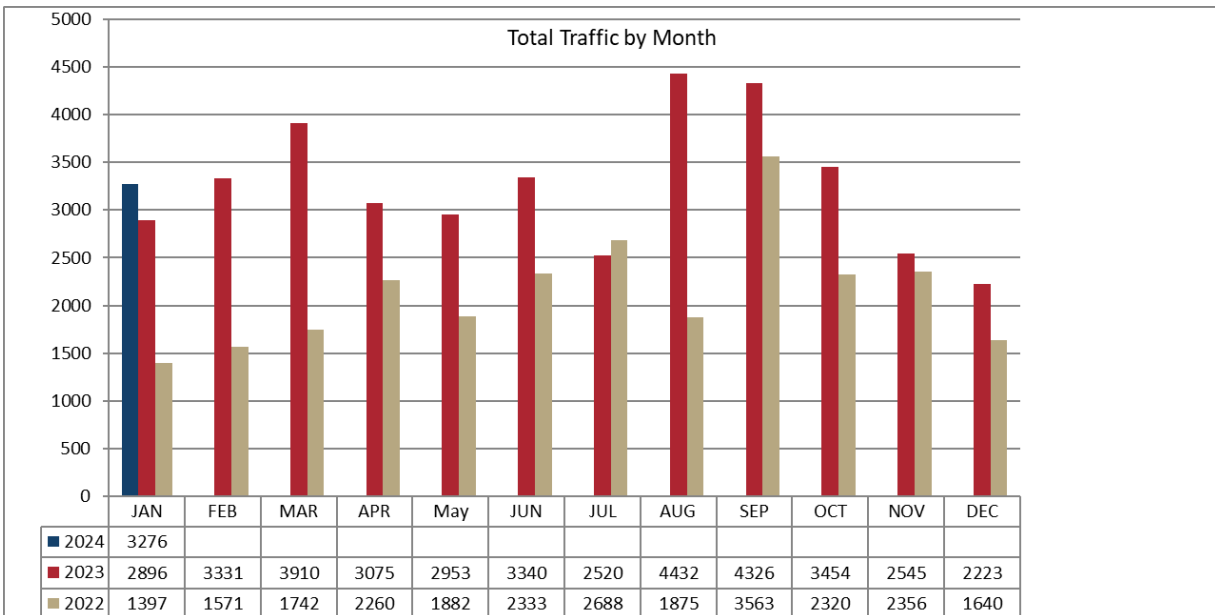
Receive and file.

Item

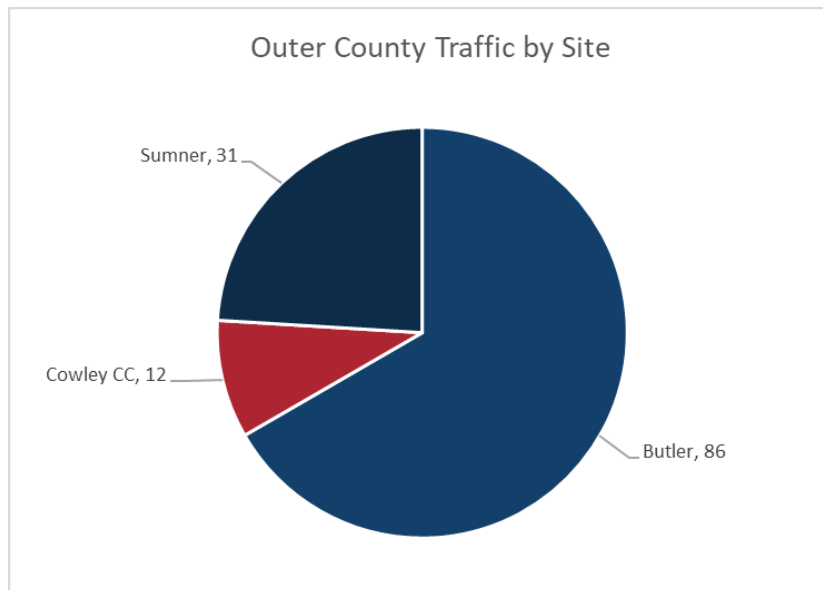
Workforce Centers Operations January Update

Job Seeker Traffic

The bar graph below provides a visual representation of jobseeker traffic through January of 2024. The graph reveals an increase of 380 participants as compared with January of 2023. 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.

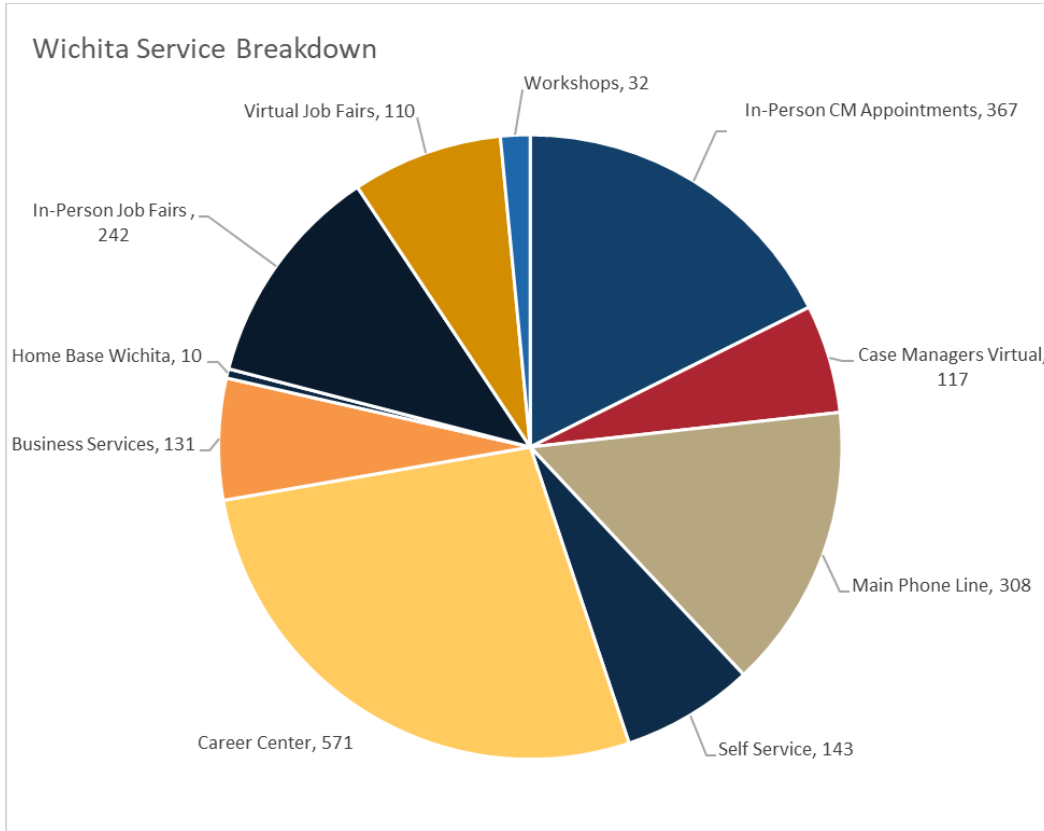


This pie chart offers a breakdown of the job seeker traffic by Area IV's Auxiliary Offices in Butler, Sumner, and Cowley counties.

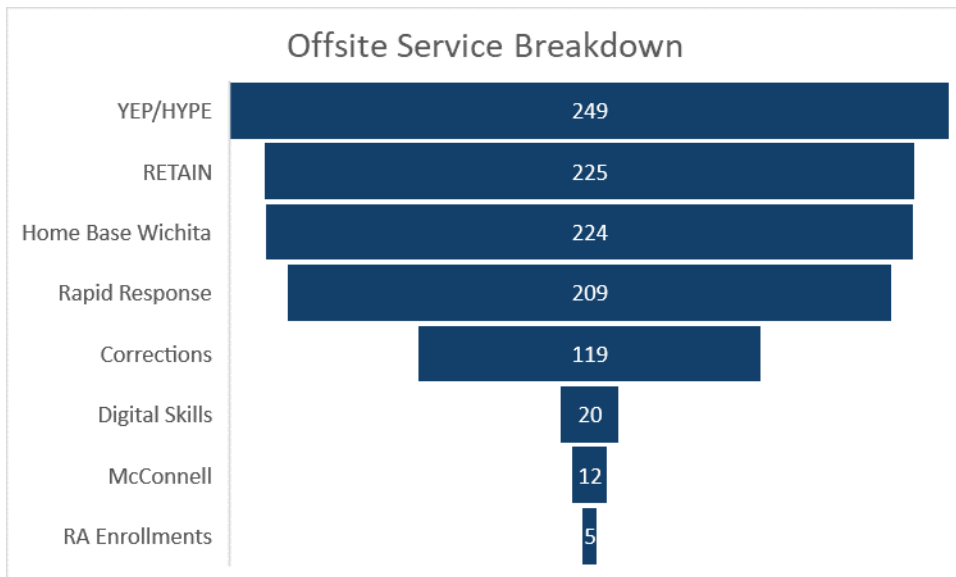


Job Seeker Services

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



Throughout the last 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.

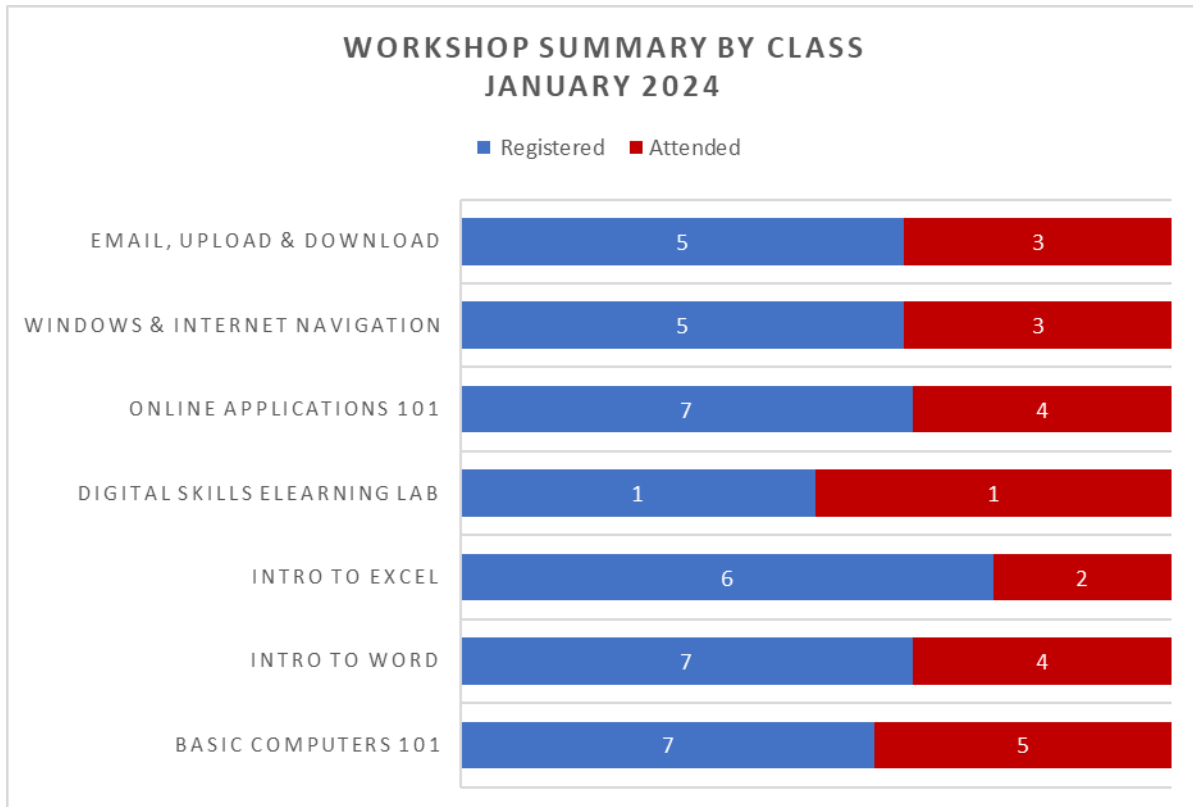
In addition to conducting one-on-one appointments, the dedicated workforce center staff actively engage with customers through various avenues. This proactive approach encompasses returning calls from individuals receiving unemployment benefits, orchestrating group activities both within and beyond the 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.

The Career Center served a total of 801 customers in the month of January. Among these, 567 have benefited from in-person individual appointments and another 234 through other various avenues such as KansasWorks chat and MRP call backs.

Workshops

In Person Workshops

The graph below reflects January's in-person workshops and total attendance rates. The Workforce Center continues to be a vital resource for those seeking to enhance their skills.



Business Services Overview

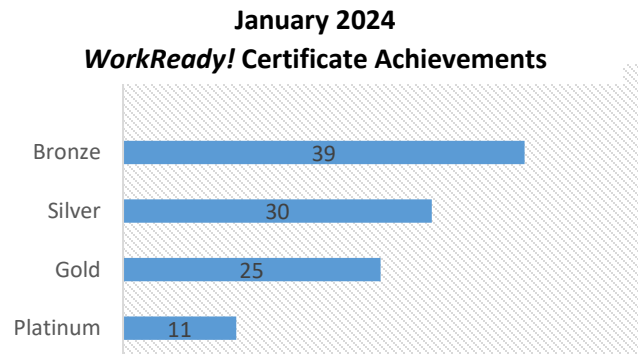
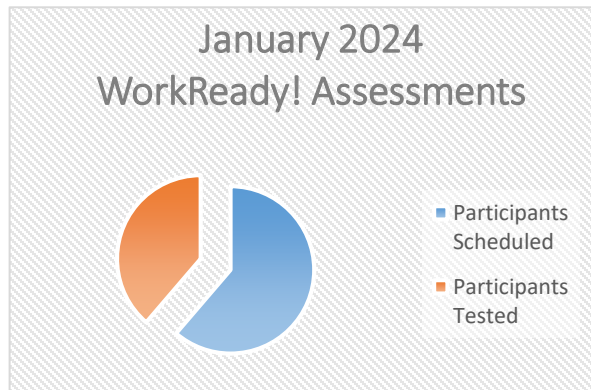
In Local Area IV a total of 669 job openings were posted throughout the 6-county radius. Statewide, a total of 45,863 positions were active for job seekers to view, with a pool of 8,506 resumes documented in the system for employers to utilize during recruitment.

Job Fairs

In January, the region organized four employer hiring events, including a statewide virtual job fair. Additionally, the workforce center conducted a hiring event for DB Schenker on January 17, 2024, which attracted 123 job seekers. On that day, DB Schenker recruited 41 individuals, while 18 more were awaiting background check results.

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 25 sessions were offered during the month of January, with 220 job seekers scheduled to complete. Local Area IV saw a small decrease in the attendance rate, sitting at 63.2%, with it being at 63.9% in the previous month. A total of 139 participants completed the assessment, and an 75.5% award rate was documented.



WorkReady! Certificates

January Certificates Awarded - 105
 Award Rate – 75.5%

2023 Certificates Awarded – 2,944
 Award Rate – 85.7%

WorkReady! Testing

January Testing Sessions - 25
 Attendance Rate – 63.2%

2023 Testing Sessions – 280
 Attendance Rate – 61.7%

| | January | 2023 Totals |
|--|---------|-------------|
| Pre-Employment Skills Assessments Administered | 258 | 2,805 |
| Applications Completed | 18 | 356 |
| Services to Employers | 234 | 2,561 |
| Job Postings | 669 | 7,358 |

Recommended Action

Receive and File



Communications Reports
As of 01/01/24

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.

January 24 Building You Stories

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

| January 24 Job of the Day | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Date | Job Title | Employer |
| 1/1/24 | Maintenance Coordinator | Goodwill Industries |
| 1/2/24 | Maintenance Manager | Worthington Industries |
| 1/3/24 | Maintenance Technician | Pratt Industries |
| 1/4/24 | Lead HVAC / Maintenance Technician | Butler Community College |
| 1/5/24 | Facilities Maintenance Worker | Harvey County |
| 1/8/24 | Programmer | Omni Aerospace, Inc |
| 1/9/24 | 5 Axis CNC Machinist/Operator | Cox Machine Inc |
| 1/10/24 | Aircraft Painter All Shifts | Cadence Aerospace |
| 1/11/24 | Aircraft Component Repair Technician | KAMAN Composites |
| 1/12/24 | Hydro Spinning Machine Operator | Globe Engineering Company Inc |
| 1/15/24 | Warehouse Clerk | DB Schenker, Inc |
| 1/16/24 | Route Driver | Darling Ingredients, Inc |
| 1/17/24 | Diesel Technician | FedEx Freight, Inc |
| 1/18/24 | Route Service Sales Representative | Cintas Corporation |
| 1/19/24 | Inventory Analyst I | BG Products, Inc |
| 1/22/24 | Communications & Support Assistant | Greater Wichita YMCA |
| 1/23/24 | Human Resources Specialist | Goodwill Industries |
| 1/24/24 | Controller | Omni Aerospace, Inc. |
| 1/25/24 | Director of Behavioral Health | GraceMed Health Clinic |
| 1/26/24 | Accounts Payable Clerk | Yingling Aviation |
| 1/29/24 | Financial Analyst - Entry Level | HM Dunn Aerosystems |
| 1/30/24 | Cost Accountant | Great Plains Industries - GPI |
| 1/31/24 | Controller | Wescon Controls |

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.

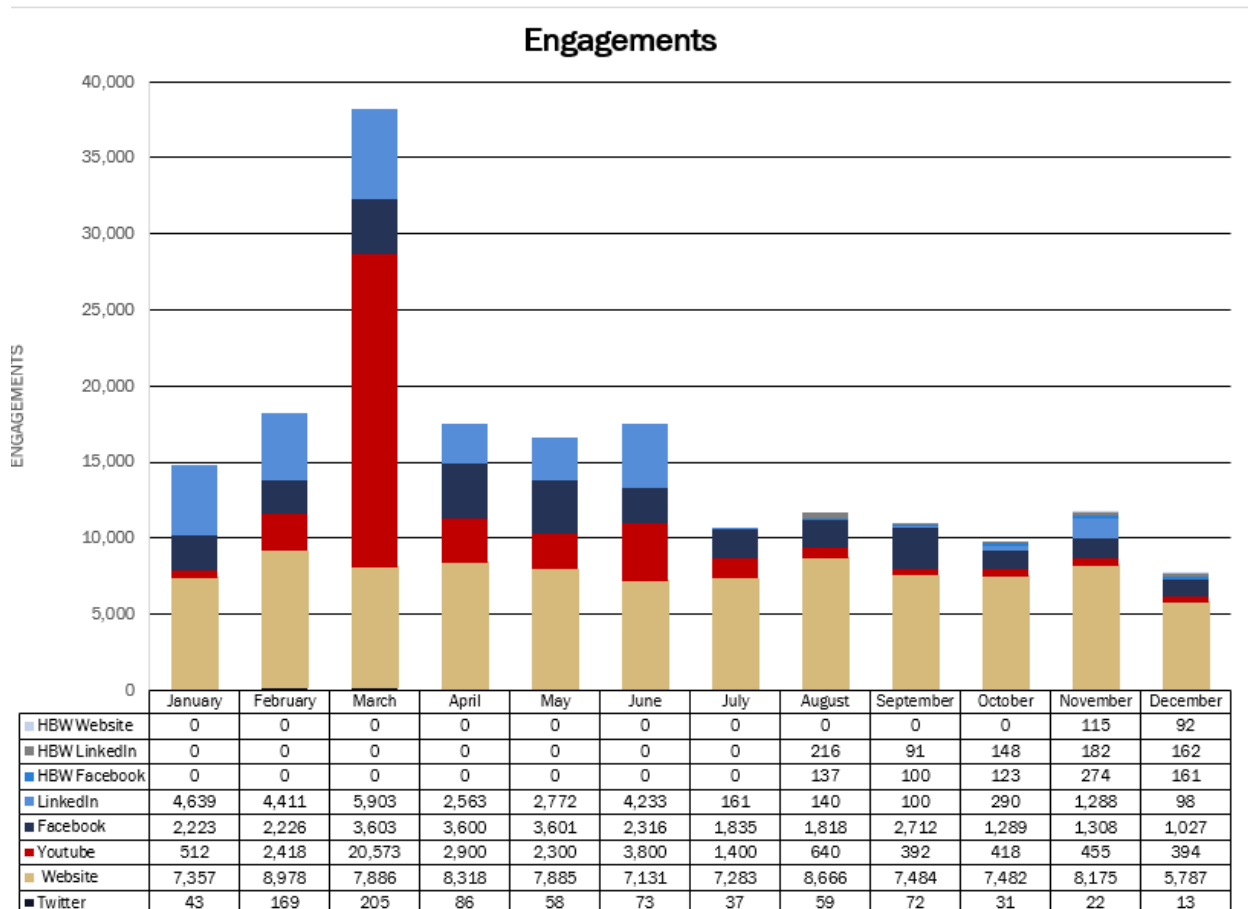
The digital traffic and impact numbers are broken down into the following key areas:

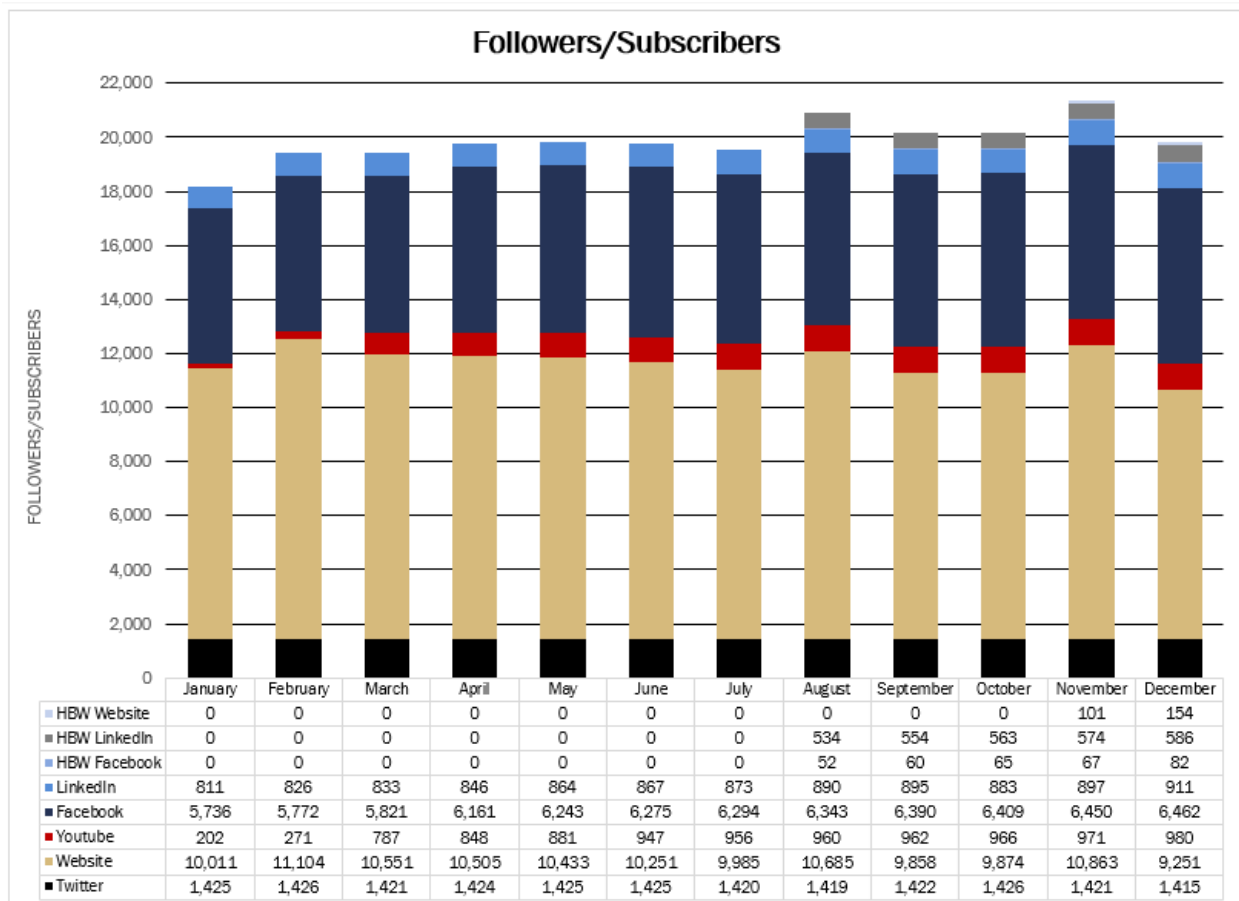
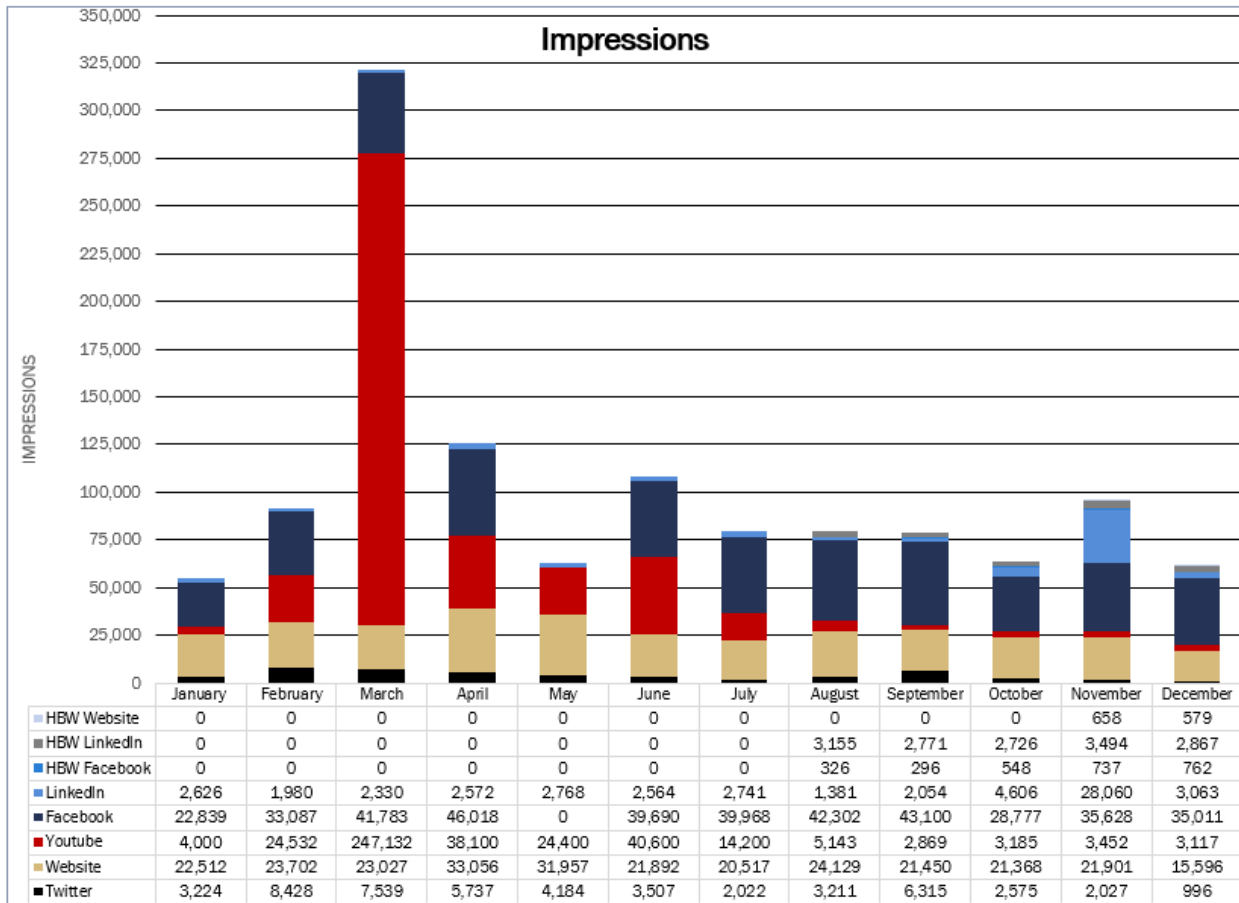
- Engagements - measures the total number of public interactions including shares, likes and comments
- Total Impressions - the number of times content is displayed to a user
- Followers – unique users who subscribe to receive updates

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 January 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

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: | Harper Industries, Inc. |
| Company Description: | Harper Industries, Inc. is a diverse, values-based manufacturing company building quality products in the fields of agriculture, hydraulics, landscaping and sports turf management. |
| Location: | Harper, Harper County |
| Occupation(s): | Manufacturing |
| Training Length: | TBD |
| Average Wage Range: | \$17.63, entry level with an increase to \$18.51 after training |
| Benefits: | Full benefit package |
| Comments: | Harper Industries is an active employer partner. Harper Industries is interested in upskilling their existing employees. |
| 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 **Harper Industries, Inc.** to OJT ETP list.

Item

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

Background

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: | Learjet, Inc (a subsidiary of Bombardier) |
| Company Description: | Bombardier Aircraft Maintenance, Flight Test, Defense Contracts |
| Location: | Wichita, Sedgwick County |
| Occupation(s): | Aerospace |
| Training Length: | TBD |
| Average Wage Range: | Entry level wage is \$25.00 |
| Benefits: | Full benefit package |
| Comments: | Job titles that will need to be filled are Technician, Aviation Maintenance; Technician, Paint, Technician, Elect/Avionics; Technician, Paint. Training will be focused on Apprentices. Both through existing employees and new hires. |
| 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 **Learjet, Inc (a subsidiary of Bombardier)** to OJT ETP list.

Item

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

Background

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: | Midwest Hemp Technology LLC |
| Company Description: | Manufacturing facility for hemp hurd for hempcrete and hemp grain for food. |
| Location: | Augusta, Butler County |
| Occupation(s): | Operations Manager, Production Staff |
| Training Length: | Six months or less |
| Average Wage Range: | Average starting wage is \$17.00 - \$18.00. |
| Benefits: | Full benefit package |
| Comments: | <p>Developing technology and company growth will require Midwest Hemp Technology to hire and train new staff as well as upskill existing staff.</p> <p>“In collaboration with local farmers and channel partners, Midwest Hemp Technology manufactures Kansas grown hemp for industrial purposes.</p> <p>Midwest Hemp Technology decorticates hemp stalks for hurd and fiber. Hemp grain is cleaned, sorted, dehulled and pressed for food and industrial uses. Supplying local horse stables, zoos and farm stores, Midwest Hemp Technology aims to create a regional supply chain. The company makes a variety of hemp based products from Kansas farms for use around the country.</p> <p>Hemp fiber and grain crops have the potential to supply food for humans and animals, textiles, plastic replacements, wood alternatives, bio-adsorbents and many other environmentally friendly products. The plant uses less water than cotton, grows way faster than trees and captures carbon in the atmosphere.”</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 **Midwest Hemp Technology LLC** to OJT ETP list.

Item

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

Background

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: | Netability LLC |
| Company Description: | IT Managed Services |
| Location: | Wichita, Sedgwick County |
| Occupation(s): | Information Technology, IT Technicians, Systems Engineers, IT Helpdesk Support |
| Training Length: | Six months or less |
| Average Wage Range: | Average starting wage is \$18.00 + bonuses, average wage of incumbent workers is \$34.85 |
| Benefits: | Full benefit package |
| Comments: | With One Workforce, Netability will be able to offer additional training to existing employees to elevate employee skills and provide promotional opportunities. Especially for entry level IT Technicians who are hired with limited experience. If Netability is able to increase skills, those entry level IT Technicians can be promoted to positions with a higher level of skill and wage. |
| 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 **Netability, LLC** to OJT ETP list.

Item

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

Background

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: | Novacoast, Inc. |
| Company Description: | IT Professional Services, Managed Security Services and Product Development |
| Location: | Wichita, Sedgwick County |
| Occupation(s): | Software Developers, SOC I Analysts, Data Analytics |
| Training Length: | Approximately 3 months (500 hours) |
| Average Wage Range: | For the SOC Analyst I; \$18.45 |
| Benefits: | Full benefit package |
| Comments: | Novacoast helps organizations find, create & implement solutions for a powerful security posture through advisory, engineering, development & managed services. They have a presence in the United Kingdom, California, Utah, Michigan, and Kansas. With the previous contract, Novacoast hired 24 through OJT, 21 were retained for 6 months and 20 are still employed. |
| 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 **Novacoast, Inc.** to OJT ETP list.