



**Workforce Alliance (WA) Executive Committee  
Meeting Agenda**

**ZOOM Only:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81259753811>  
Wednesday, May 13, 2026 • 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

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1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Alana McNary (11:30)
2. **Wichita Workforce Center Remodel Update:** Chad Pettera (11:35)  
*An update will be provided on the remodel project of the Wichita Workforce Center.*  
**Recommended Action:** Receive and file.
3. **State Proposed Training Expenditure Policy:** Keith Lawing (11:40) (pp. 2-3)  
*The WA provided comments on a policy proposed by the Kansas Department of Commerce and the KansasWorks State Workforce Board that could have unintended consequences to “One-Stop” operations and support for skills training opportunities.*  
**Recommended Action:** Take appropriate action.
4. **WIOA Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth Program Policies: Self-Sufficient Wage Review for Program Year 2026:** Janet Sutton (11:45) (pp. 4-5)  
*The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) tasks the Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) with setting an economic self-sufficiency standard for the local area.*  
**Recommended Action:** Approve the Program Operations and Performance Committee recommendation to increase the self-sufficient wage by 4% bringing it to \$17.39 per hour.
5. **Demand Occupation List for Program Year 2026:** Janet Sutton (11:55) (pp. 6-13)  
*An ongoing function of the Workforce Alliance (WA) Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) is to annually review the Demand Occupations List for Local Area IV.*  
**Recommended Action:** Approve the Demand Occupation List for Program Year 2026 as presented.
6. **Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) Memorandum of Understanding for Required Partners:** Chad Pettera (12:00) (p. 14 and Attachment)  
*The required One-Stop Partner WIOA Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is expiring and is being renewed for PY26.*  
**Recommended Action:** Approve the WIOA One Stop Partner Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).
7. **Community Impact Project Updates:** Keith Lawing (12:05)
  - Youth Employment Project (YEP) and Jobs FORE Youth (p. 15)
  - Kaufmann Returning Citizen Consortium (RCC) Planning Grant (pp. 16-17)
  - Homeless Veterans’ Reintegration Program (HVRP)
  - EPA Brownfields Grant**Recommended Action:** Take appropriate action.
8. **Consent Agenda:** Keith Lawing (12:25)
  - A. Approval of Meeting Minutes for April 8, 2026 (pp. 18-20)
  - B. Element Contract Amendments/Extensions (pp. 21-28)
  - C. Program Year 2025 (PY25) Budget Update (p. 29)
  - D. Operations & One-Stop Operator Report (pp. 30-36)
  - E. Reports: Fair Chance, Registered Apprenticeship and Communications (pp. 37-44)**Recommended Action:** Approve the Consent Agenda as presented.
9. **Adjourn:** Alana McNary (12:30)

*The next WA Executive Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 10, 2026 at 11:30 a.m.*

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

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

## **Item**

### State Proposed Training Expenditure Policy

#### **Background**

The Kansas Department of Commerce and the KansasWorks State Workforce Board are proposing a policy that would require Local Workforce Development Boards to spend 40 percent of Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Adult and Dislocated Worker funds on skills training activities. While the stated intent is to increase participation in training, significant concerns have been raised regarding the impact of the mandate on local workforce system operations, integrated service delivery, and local board flexibility.

The Workforce Alliance, along with other Local Workforce Development Boards, employers, workforce partners, and community stakeholders, submitted formal comments requesting that implementation of the policy be delayed until the full operational and financial impacts are better understood and additional stakeholder discussions can occur.

The Kansas State Workforce Board reviewed the proposed policy at its April 14, 2026 meeting and deferred action until June 2, 2026 to allow for additional discussion and stakeholder input. Several business and community representatives expressed concerns regarding the potential unintended consequences of the proposal and the impact on local workforce system operations and service delivery.

#### **Analysis**

The proposed policy could have unintended consequences for Workforce Alliance operations and may ultimately reduce the number of job seekers accessing skills training opportunities in South Central Kansas. Key concerns raised in formal comments and stakeholder discussions include:

- Shifts focus from outcomes to compliance: WIOA federal performance measures are based on employment, earnings, credential attainment, and measurable skill gains, not fixed spending thresholds. The proposed policy emphasizes expenditure levels over participant outcomes.
- Reduces local flexibility: A mandated 40 percent training expenditure limits the ability of Local Workforce Development Boards to design services based on regional labor market conditions, employer demand, and participant barriers to employment.
- May reduce overall training impact: The Workforce Alliance has successfully leveraged WIOA resources with non-WIOA grants and partnerships to support significantly more individuals in training than could be served with WIOA funding alone. Stakeholders expressed concern the proposed policy could weaken or discourage these braided funding strategies.
- Creates additional administrative burden: Increased tracking, reporting, and potential corrective action requirements may divert staff capacity and funding away from direct services to job seekers and employers.
- Risks disruption to integrated service delivery: The proposed mandate may unintentionally discourage the integrated staffing and co-enrollment practices currently utilized in Kansas workforce centers.

This concern is particularly notable given recent state monitoring findings that identified the Workforce Alliance integrated service delivery model as a best practice. The monitoring report stated:

*“The Workforce Alliance (WA) has a One-Stop Integration policy which seamlessly blends the WIOA program with the required partners. They use a functional group model to deliver integrated services where the staff is organized by services provided rather than by program. This allows customers to be co-enrolled across programs with minimal to no duplication of enrollment paperwork and allows staff to provide consistent services without concern for programmatic guidelines.”*

Stakeholders have questioned whether the proposed policy could undermine this nationally recognized integrated workforce model by forcing programs to operate in a more siloed and compliance-driven manner.

Additional comments submitted by employers, workforce partners, and community organizations emphasized the importance of preserving local innovation, employer engagement, integrated service strategies, and flexibility to address workforce shortages across different industries and populations.

Given the significance of the issue and the delayed action by the State Workforce Board, continued outreach and communication with State Workforce Board members prior to the June 2 meeting is suggested to provide a clear understanding of the operational, financial, and service delivery impacts the proposed policy could have on local workforce systems across Kansas.

**Recommended Action**

*Take appropriate action.*

## **Item**

### **Self-Sufficient Wage Review**

#### **Background**

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) tasks the Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) with setting an economic self-sufficiency standard for the local area. The LWDB undertakes this annually alongside the review of the occupations approved for training. The self-sufficient wage is used as a requirement for on-the-job training and incumbent worker training contracts as well as inclusion on the occupations approved for training list. The LWDB is not obligated by WIOA to change the self-sufficient wage every year.

#### **Analysis**

The self-sufficient wage for the Workforce Alliance Local Area (WA LA) is currently \$16.72 for all programs. Staff again used the MIT Living Wage calculator to assist in recommending the self-sufficient wage. The living wage for a single adult with no children for each county in the WA LA is as follows:

- Butler County: \$21.56 per hour or \$44,844.80 per year
- Cowley County: \$19.93 per hour or \$41,454.40 per year
- Harper County: \$20.06 per hour or \$41,724.80 per year
- Kingman County: \$20.81 per hour or \$43,284.80 per year
- Sedgwick County: \$20.65 per hour or \$42,952.00 per year
- Sumner County: \$21.33 per hour or \$44,366.40 per year
- Wichita MSA: \$20.78 per hour or \$43,222.40 per year

The data shows an increase of \$0.99 per hour in the living wage for the Wichita Metropolitan Statistical Area this year. The Board has, in the past, made it a priority to incrementally increase the self-sufficient wage in an effort to more closely align with the living wage. The incremental increases have, historically, been 3.5% which has been in line with or slightly above the change in the Consumer Price Index. As of March 2026, the Midwest region CPI has increased 3.4% since March 2025.

If the LWDB would consider a percentage increase again:

- 3.5% increase: \$17.31 per hour or \$36,004.80 per year; a difference of 59 cents per hour

The average wage for current OJTs is \$20.30 per hour; in 2025, there were nine OJTs paying under \$17.31 per hour. Similarly, the median wage for many of the current occupations approved for training has increased. If the Board chose to raise the self-sufficient wage by 3.5%, no demand occupations would be affected.

The following exceptions are allowed to the self-sufficient wage criteria and staff recommends keeping the exceptions:

- Training for justice involved individuals that includes a transitional job/work experience strategy or a career ladder that would result in a in self-sufficient wage

May 13, 2026

Submitted By: Janet Sutton

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- Training for persons with disabilities that includes a transitional job/work experience strategy or a career ladder that would result in a in self-sufficient wage
- Training resulting in a career ladder in which the trainee would reach or exceed the self-sufficient wage within six months

In order for a participant to be considered for one of the exceptions, staff must submit an exception request. The exception request shall have sufficient documentation attached to show the participant is eligible for one of the exceptions. The exception must be approved by two Workforce Alliance Senior Staff members.

The Program Operations and Performance (POP) Committee discussed the gap between the MIT living wage and the Local Area self sufficient wage and determined that a 3.5% increase was not enough to help close the gap between the two. They instead proposed and approved an initial 4% increase to the self-sufficient wage with the caveat that staff provide additional wage data for the occupations approved for training in our area.

**Recommended Action**

*Approve the Program Operations and Performance Committee recommendation to increase the self-sufficient wage by 4% bringing it to \$17.39 per hour.*

**Item**

Demand Occupation List Review- Staff Recommendations

**Background**

It is an annual function for the Workforce Alliance Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) to review and update the Demand Occupations List. The Demand Occupation List, also called the Occupations Approved for Training list, enumerates the occupations for which WIOA (and other grant) funds can be expended. Staff has researched current labor market trends, surveyed staff, employers, Board members, and reviewed regional initiatives to determine occupations in demand the Workforce Alliance Local Area.

**Analysis**

The results of the staff, employer, and Board member surveys indicate the majority would like to keep the occupations currently on the list. However, staff analysis indicates that there are some occupations on the current list for which there is no approved training available in the local area. These occupations are in red text on the PY25 Kansas Workforce Alliance Local Area WIOA Approved Training List.

Additionally, further staff research indicated that the American Health Information Management Association Certified Coding Specialist occupation is essentially two other occupations in one (Medical Records Specialist and Medical Billing) and suggest removing that occupation.

There were a few suggestions on occupations to add from the surveys collected. Those suggestions were evaluated and are included for discussion (see Suggested Additions PY26).

For Program Year 2026 (PY26), staff recommends:

- removing the programs listed in red until such time as approved training returns to the local area,
- adding Dental Assisting,
- and approving the remaining programs.

The proposed PY26 Demand Occupations List and supporting documentation follows.

The Program Operations and Performance (POP) Committee reviewed the staff's recommendations for updating the demand occupation list and approved it as presented.

**Recommended Action**

*Approve the Demand Occupation List for Program Year 2026 as presented.*

**PY25 Kansas Workforce Alliance Local Area WIOA Approved Training List**

Industry	O*Net Code	Occupation	Wichita (KS) Median Wage/Hr. 2024 O*Net	KS Growth Projection 2022-2032 O*Net	Staff Recommendation	Type of Training in Area	
Advanced Manufacturing	49-3011	Aviation Maintenance Technology/ A&P (Aircraft Mechanics)	\$36.10	13%	Remain	OST	
	49-2091	Avionics	\$30.50	14%	Remain	OST	
	17-3013	CAD/CAM & CATIA	\$38.71	-3% Decline	Remain	OST	
	51-2092	Composite Fabrication & Repair	\$18.44	-4% Decline	Remain	OST	
	51-9161	Computer Controlled Machine Tool Operator (CNC)	\$23.67	-5% Decline	Remain	OST	
	49-3031	Diesel Mechanics	\$27.50	3%	Remove	N/A	
	51-4191	Heat Treating Equipment Setters, Operators & Tenders, Metal and Plastic	\$22.59	0%	Remove	N/A	
	53-7051	Industrial Equipment Operator	\$21.81	1%	Remove	N/A	
	Advanced Materials	49-9071	Industrial Maintenance Technician	\$22.35	5%	Remain	Apprenticeship & OST
		51-4081	Machine Tool Operator- Metal and Plastic	\$17.52 (\$21.56)	0%	Remain	OST
Aerospace*	17-3026	Manufacturing or Production Technicians (Aerospace Manufacturing)	\$24.26	15%	Remain	OST	
	17-3029.01	Nondestructive Testing (NDT) or Inspection	\$28.30	6%	Remain	OST	
	11-1021	Operations Management Technical Certificate	\$41.20	10%	Remain	OST	
	19-4099.01	Quality Control or Inspection (O*NET -Quality Control Analyst)	\$31.21	4%	Remain	OST	
	17-3024.01	Robotics Technician	\$34.02 (US)	1% (US)	Remain	OST	

	47-2211	Sheet Metal Workers	\$23.28	6%	Remain	Apprenticeship & OST
	11-3071.04	Supply Chain/Logistics Managers	\$46.44	8%	Remain	OST
	51-4111	Tool and Die Maker (Engineering Design Technology)	\$39.06	-5% Decline	Remain	OST
	51-4033	Tooling	\$18.69	-6% Decline	Remain	OST
	53-3032	Transportation Equipment (Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers)	\$25.00	5%	Remain	OST
	51-4121	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	\$25.38	7%	Remain	OST
<b>Automotive</b>	49-3023	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	\$22.86	3%	Remain	OST
<b>Construction</b>	47-2031	Construction Carpenters	\$23.86	4%	Remain	OST
	47-2061	Construction Technology/Trades/Laborer	\$19.41	6%	Remain	OST
	49-9021	HVAC	\$24.78	8%	Remain	OST
<b>Data Services Information Technology*</b>	11-3021	Computer and Information System Managers (IM System Managers)	\$69.55	12%	Remove	N/A
	15-1232	Computer User Support Specialists	\$23.43	3%	Remain	OST
	15-1212	Cyber Security (Information Security Analysts)	\$44.71	24%	Remain	OST
	15-1244	Network and Computer Systems Administrators	\$38.24	1%	Remain	OST
	15-1252	Software Applications	\$49.25	23%	Remain	OST
	15-1252	Software Developers	\$49.25	23%	Remain	OST
	15-1252	Software Engineers	\$49.25	23%	Remain	OST
	15-1254	Web Developer	\$29.77	14%	Remain	OST
<b>Healthcare*</b>	43-3021	Acute Coding/Medical Billing (Billing, Posting and Rate Clerks)	\$21.52	-1% Decline	Remain	OST

	11-9111	Administration/Management (Medical and Health Service Managers)	\$48.16	28%	Remain	OST
	29-2072	American Health Information Management Association Certified Coding Specialist	\$22.16	7%	Remove	
	31-1131	Certified Nurse Aide (CNA)-Only as part of a career pathway	\$17.48	6%	Remain	OST
	31-1131	Certified Medication Aide (CMA)	\$17.48	6%	Remain	OST
	29-9021	Health Information Technology (HIT)	\$34.99	15%	Remain	OST
	31-1121	Home Health Aide (HHA)- Only as part of a career pathway	\$13.89	22%	Remain	OST
	29-2061	Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)	\$28.14	6%	Remain	OST
	31-9092	Medical Assistant	\$17.83	13%	Remain	OST
	29-2012	Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technician	\$30.83	4%	Remove	N/A
	29-2072	Medical Records Specialists	\$22.16	7%	Remain	OST
	31-2011	Occupational Therapy Assistant	\$30.68	20%	Remove	N/A
	29-2052	Pharmacy Technician/ Pharmacy Aid	\$18.29	9%	Remain	OST
	31-9097	Phlebotomist	\$17.91	7%	Remain	OST
	31-2021	Physical Therapy Assistant (PTA)	\$30.07	18%	Remove	N/A
	29-2034	Radiological Technician/Sonography	\$30.66	3%	Remove	N/A
	29-1141	Registered Nurse (RN)	\$35.48	5%	Remain	OST
	29-1126	Respiratory Therapist	\$32.61	13%	Remove	N/A
	29-2055	Surgical Technologist	\$25.01	3%	Remain	OST

<b>K-12 CTE</b>	All Certifications and Credentials included on the Kansas Excel in CTE Initiative approved list are included on the Kansas Local Area IV WIOA Approved Training List for Youth program only.				Remain	
<b>On-the-Job Training</b>	All occupations with demonstrated self-sufficient wages will be approved for OJT if employer has an active contract with the Workforce Alliance.				Remain	
<b>Public Safety</b>	29-2043	Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics	\$23.88	7%	Remain	OST
	33-2011	Fire Science/Firefighters	\$19.12	6%	Remove	N/A
	21-1092	Probation Officers and Correctional Treatment Specialists	\$25.95	5%	Remove	N/A
	33-3051	Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers	\$28.22	5%	Remain	OST
<b>Registered Apprenticeship</b>	All occupations and Related Technical Instruction for Apprenticeship Programs that have been registered with the Kansas State Office of Apprenticeship for the South-Central Region are included on the Kansas Local Area IV WIOA Approved Training List. RA's must also meet Local Area IV self-sufficient wage requirements.				Remain	
<b>Transportation and Logistics*</b>	53-3032	CDL	\$25.00	5%	Remain	OST

\*Industry corresponds to a Career Pathway. Career Pathways allow job seekers, students, and parents to explore educational requirements and career opportunities in prevalent industry clusters within the region. For more information, visit [www.greaterwichtapartnership.org/about\\_us/regional\\_growth\\_plan](http://www.greaterwichtapartnership.org/about_us/regional_growth_plan)

**Suggestions from Surveys for Occupations to Add for Program Year 2026**

<b>Industry</b>	<b>O*Net Code</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Wichita Median Wage/Hr.</b>	<b>KS Growth Projection 2022-2032</b>	<b>ETPs in Area</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Healthcare	31-9091.00	Dental Assistant	\$19.30	6%	Yes	
Healthcare	29-1292.00	Dental Hygienist	\$37.61	7%	No	WSU offers this as part of a BS, but they aren't an ETP
Data Services	15-2051.00	Data Scientists	\$44.11	34%	Yes	Online certificate training includes "Data Science & Artificial Intelligence Course" from Butler Career/Workforce Education
	25-2011.00	Preschool Teachers	\$20.49	3%		OST in the area, but programs not on ETP; Active apprenticeships in the area
	47-4014.00	Hazardous Materials Removal Workers	\$18.43	0%		Training Partners exist, but not on the ETPL

## Proposed Demand Occupation List PY2026

Industry	O*Net Code	Occupation	
<b>Advanced Manufacturing</b>	49-3011	Aviation Maintenance Technology/ A&P (Aircraft Mechanics)	
	49-2091	Avionics	
	17-3013	CAD/CAM & CATIA	
	51-2092	Composite Fabrication & Repair	
	51-9161	Computer Controlled Machine Tool Operator (CNC)	
	49-9071	Industrial Maintenance Technician	
	51-4081	Machine Tool Operator- Metal and Plastic	
	17-3026	Manufacturing or Production Technicians	
	17-3029.01	Nondestructive Testing (NDT) or Inspection	
	<b>Advanced Materials</b>	11-1021	Operations Management Technical Certificate
		19-4099.01	Quality Control or Inspection (O*NET -Quality Control Analyst)
	<b>Aerospace*</b>	17-3024.01	Robotics Technician
		47-2211	Sheet Metal Workers
		11-3071-04	Supply Chain/Logistics Managers
		51-4111	Tool and Die Maker
51-4033		Tooling	
53-3032		Transportation Equipment (Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers)	
51-4121		Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	
<b>Automotive</b>	49-3023	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics	
<b>Construction</b>	47-2031	Construction Carpenters	
	47-2061	Construction Technology/Trades/Laborer	
	49-9021	HVAC	
<b>Data Services Information Technology*</b>	15-1232	Computer User Support Specialists	
	15-1212	Cyber Security (Information Security Analysts)	
	15-1244	Network and Computer Systems Administrators	
	15-1252	Software Applications	
	15-1252	Software Developers	
	15-1252	Software Engineers	
	15-1254	Web Developer	
<b>Healthcare*</b>	43-3021	Acute Coding/Medical Billing (Billing, Posting and Rate Clerks)	
	11-9111	Administration/Management (Medical and Health Service Managers)	
	29-2031	Cardiovascular Technologists & Technicians	
	31-1131	Certified Nurse Aide (CNA)-Only as part of a career pathway	
	31-1121	Certified Medication Aide (CMA)	
	31.9091	Dental Assistants	
	11-3021	Health Information Technology (HIT)	
	31-1121	Home Health Aide (HHA)- Only as part of a career pathway	
	29-2061	Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)	

### Proposed Demand Occupation List PY2026

	31-9092	Medical Assistant
	29-2072	Medical Records Technician
	29-2052	Pharmacy Technician/ Pharmacy Aid
	31-9097	Phlebotomist
	29-1141	Registered Nurse (RN)
	29-2055	Surgical Technologist
<b>K-12 CTE</b>	All Certifications and Credentials included on the Kansas Excel in CTE Initiative approved list are included on the Kansas Local Area IV WIOA Approved Training List for Youth program only.	
<b>On-the-Job Training</b>	All occupations with demonstrated self-sufficient wages will be approved for OJT if employer has an active contract with the Workforce Alliance.	
<b>Public Safety</b>	29-2042	Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics
	33-3051	Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers
<b>Registered Apprenticeship</b>	All Occupations and Related Technical Instruction for Apprenticeship Programs that have been registered with the Kansas State Office of Apprenticeship for the South Central Region are included on the Kansas Local Area IV WIOA Approved Training List. RA's must also meet Local Area IV self-sufficient wage requirements.	
<b>Transportation and Logistics*</b>	53-3032	CDL

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**Item**

One-Stop Partner Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

**Background**

The One-Stop Partner Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that is currently in place expires June 30, 2026. A new MOU between the WIOA Partners has to be in place by July 1, 2026.

**Analysis**

Each required WIOA Partner has to sign an WIOA MOU. The MOU defines:

- Roles and Responsibilities of reach partner
- How services are provided through the One Stop System
- How customers are referred between partners
- How costs are shared

The current WIOA MOU was shared with all partners in January with guidance to review and provide updates. The MOU was also discussed at a WIOA Partner meetings in February and April. To date, no partner has requested any substantial changes. The updates primarily reflect operational adjustments over the past three years, along with alignment with updated guidance and the current Local Plan. Each WIOA partner is also updating its referral guidelines and the way services are made available through the America’s Job Centers in our local area (partner service grid). The LWDB Executive Committee reviewed the MOU in March and the full LWDB in April. The final approval of the LWDB is planned at the LWDB Executive Committee in May. Attached to this report is the most recent MOU version.

**Recommended Action**

*Approve the WIOA MOU and authorize the CEOB Chair and President and CEO to sign.*



# Save the Date!

## 2026 Jobs FORE Youth Golf Tournament

**Monday • September 14**

Willowbend Golf Club - 8001 E. Mulberry, Wichita

**7:30 AM Breakfast / Check-In - 9:00 AM Tee Off**

**HIT THE LINKS AND HELP PROVIDE A FIRST JOB  
OR VALUABLE WORK-BASED LEARNING EXPERIENCE**



**THIS TOURNAMENT HELPS FUND THE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROJECT (YEP)**

### How the Youth Employment Project Benefits Young Workers:

- Direct connections to local businesses and industries through work-based learning opportunities with high schools in South Central Kansas
- Development of paid internships for high school students
- No-cost workshop offerings educating youth on workplace etiquette, financial literacy, and finding employment

*For more information please contact Shirley Lindhorst  
at [sindhorst@workforce-ks.com](mailto:sindhorst@workforce-ks.com) or 316-771-6604*



# Explore the Mind-Life-Work Ready Credential

**Returning Citizen Consortium (RCC)**

[workforcepartnership.com/returning-citizen-consortium/](http://workforcepartnership.com/returning-citizen-consortium/)



The **Mind-Life-Work Ready Credential**, developed by the Returning Citizen Consortium, is a structured, measurable system that prepares justice-involved individuals for long-term employment success and community stability.

## What is it?

A three-pillar credentialing system that ensures individuals are prepared emotionally, socially, and professionally for successful reintegration and employment.

Participants begin working toward the credential up to 18 months prior to release and continue receiving structured support for 18 months after returning to the community.

The RCC provides intensive career navigation and case management, trauma and behavioral therapies, digital and financial literacy supports, as well as access to a data portal to house the individual's digital portfolio and credentials.

## WHY GET CREDENTIALIAED?

- Credentialed individuals gain direct access to certified employers.
- Demonstrate readiness for employment across all three pillars.
- Access to financial support for training, transportation, and other needs.



**Mind Ready**



**Life Ready**



**Work Ready**

## THREE PILLARS

### Mind Ready

Focuses on emotional resilience and trauma recovery through the evidence-based Remarkably Resilient Together curriculum and other cognitive behavioral therapies delivered in all KS Department of Corrections facilities.

### Life Ready

Focuses on establishing personal stability and essential life infrastructure to support successful community reintegration before and after release.

### Work Ready

Focuses on building the professional competencies and technical qualifications required for long-term employment success and career advancement.

# Become an Employer of Choice for Work-Ready Talent

## RCC Certification for Employers

[workforcepartnership.com/returning-citizen-consortium/](http://workforcepartnership.com/returning-citizen-consortium/)

### WHY SHOULD EMPLOYERS BECOME RCC CERTIFIED?

- Access to a highly motivated and skilled, labor-ready talent pool.
- Receive financial incentives to offset costs of hiring and training.
- Training opportunities and funding for supportive services.
- Retention rates 25% higher than industry averages.

### **SECOND CHANCE HIRING IS A MAINTSTREAM WORKFORCE STRATEGY, NOT A NICHE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY EFFORT.**

**The Returning Citizen Consortium (RCC)** is a public private initiative designed to change the system dynamics for formerly incarcerated individuals.

Employers can become **RCC-Certified** by submitting an application and demonstrating their adoption of fair-chance hiring practices, structured onboarding, mentorship, flexible scheduling, and clear advancement pathways.

RCC can offer comprehensive trainings for Executives, HR Professionals, and Frontline Supervisors to prepare a company for certification, including sessions on demystifying the correctional system, employee stability supports, best practices, career upskilling, inclusive culture, community resources, and compensation equity.



*RCC will support a pipeline of almost 2,000 individuals released annually in Kansas*



**Do you want to learn more about becoming an RCC Certified Employer?**

**In the Wichita region contact:**  
**Keith Lawing**  
[klawing@workforce-ks.com](mailto:klawing@workforce-ks.com)





**Workforce Alliance Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB)**  
**Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**  
April 8, 2026 – 11:30 AM

The Workforce Alliance (WA) Executive Committee met virtually on April 8, 2026 via Zoom. Board Chair Alana McNary welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order.

**1. Wichita Workforce Center Remodel Update**

- Staff completed moving administrative offices at the Garvey building downtown to the Wichita Workforce Center in March.
- Workforce Center remodel construction began close to schedule and remains on track for the anticipated a 60-day timeline.
  - Several offices and a conference room are complete and ready for paint.
  - Youth Services space is being reconfigured; walls are being removed and Career Center operations will move into that area. Youth Services will still have designated space and access to shared rooms.
  - A sliding, badged glass door will be installed to increase security near the information desk.
  - Badge access installations are expected in the coming weeks.
  - Glass doors and ADA glass have an approximate three-month supply backlog; expected installation likely May–June.
  - Final staff desk moves and permanent workstation assignments anticipated mid-to-late May or early June, pending completion and further coordination with partners and staff.
- Some items remain in storage and will be addressed once renovations are complete.
- A facility tour will be scheduled for an upcoming in-person board meeting, even if construction is not fully complete.

**2. National Association of Workforce Board (NAWB) Forum 2026**

Board members Alana McNary and Cheryl Childers and staff Keith Lawing and Amanda Duncan attended the annual National Association of Workforce Boards (NAWB) Forum in March and discussed some highlights and takeaways from the event.

- Artificial Intelligence (AI) was a dominant topic across breakout sessions.
- Board accountability and social media engagement as well as a need for an introductory workforce data course.
- Recommendation to explore Intro to Workforce Data (101) training for board members and partners.
- Discussion on defining organizational roles and responsibilities (“lanes”) and overlap among Workforce Alliance and community and education partners.
- Reflection on whether all necessary stakeholders are represented at the board table.
- Concern over removing the human element from job descriptions and resumes via AI.
- Highlighted potential risks regarding resume’ fraud and data integrity.
- Emphasized trust, ethics, and alignment with community partners.
- Be prepared to pivot in response to changing circumstances.
- Framed AI as a tool, not a replacement for human judgment.

**Committee Discussion -**

- Important to train people to use AI responsibly and practically.
- Use caution of the hype and over-promising of AI’s impact.
- Focus on fundamental AI literacy rather than advanced applications at this stage.
- The subject of AI and workforce impact will continue to be discussed at the next board meeting.

## State Proposed Training Expenditure Policy

Federal and state policy discussions include:

- Potential Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) reauthorization
- A new waiver process allowing states flexibility in workforce system structure
  - Concern about Kansas possibly moving toward a single-state workforce delivery system, which could negatively impact local boards in regard to local operations, funding flexibility, and training capacity.
  - Oklahoma’s experience with similar waivers raised concerns, including potential legal challenges.
  - The State of Kansas has released policy updates for public comment with a deadline of April 3, 2026.
    - Board members will be contacted to review and provide feedback to comments before they are submitted.
    - Staff will share formal comments with the State Workforce Board Chair and Vice Chair, requesting delay of proposed policies pending further discussion.
  - Proposed invitation to Lieutenant Governor / Secretary of Commerce David Toland to meet with the WA Board, employers and partners.

### 3. Community Impact Project Updates

- Momentum: Explore, Discover, Hire Youth, a city-wide career fair is scheduled for April 22, 2026 at Century II.
  - The WA is partnering with Wichita Public Schools and Maize Career Academy on the event.
  - Thousands of students from 40 high schools are expected to attend.
  - More employers are needed from the region to participate and provide career awareness and exploration for sophomores and job and internship opportunities for seniors.
  - Goal of over 80 employers (currently just over 50 confirmed) – Booth cost is \$250.
  - Board members are encouraged to recruit employer participation through their networks.
- Kaufmann Returning Citizen Consortium (RCC) Planning Grant – renamed Kansas Restorative & Opportunity Network (KRON)
  - Application has been submitted and a decision is expected in May. A funding decision is expected soon.
  - The project includes multiple partners in the Kansas City and Wichita region for five years at approximately \$20 million to assist justice-involved individuals (JII) gain employment and provide services to address barriers to employment.
  - An employer engagement outreach breakfast event is planned for May 15<sup>th</sup> with an anticipated audience of approximately 40 to 50 participants for potential employer partners to learn more about participating in the program.
- Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program referrals are increasing after a slow start.
- EPA Brownfields grant activity is ongoing.
- Additional funding opportunities are under exploration (apprenticeships, workforce programs).

### 4. Consent Agenda

Approval of meeting minutes for January 14, 2026 and March 11, 2026, Program Year 2025 budget update, Workforce Center operations and one-stop operator update for February and WA Communications, Corrections/Fair Chance and Registered Apprenticeship program updates were presented to the Committee for review and/or approval.

*Scott Stiles (Kathy Jewett) moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion adopted.*

**5. Workforce Alliance Updates**

The WA’s Revenue Generation Task Force met on April 7th.

- The annual Jobs FORE Youth Golf Tournament is scheduled for Monday, September 14, 2026 at 9:00 AM at Willowbend Golf Club. More details including new sponsorship levels have been discussed.
- Additional fundraising ideas are being explored.
- Task force information will be presented and discussed at the board meeting in April, with follow-up at the July meeting with recommendations

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:16 PM.

**Attendees:**

LWDB Executive Committee Members

Rod Blackburn  
Cheryl Childers  
Kathy Jewett  
Pat Jonas  
Alana McNary, Chair  
Luis Rodriguez  
Scott Stiles, Vice Chair

Staff/Guests

Marcy Aycock  
Denise Houston  
Keith Lawing  
Shirley Lindhorst  
Chad Pettera  
Angela Slattery, One-Stop Operator, Goodwill

**Item**

Element Contract Amendments/Extensions

**Background**

The Workforce Alliance (WA) is seeking to extend contacts for PY26 (July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 or 2028 depending on contract).

**Analysis**

**1. Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation (CPRF) (Subrecipient)**

CRPF responded to the WIOA Youth RFP released 8/31/2020, the subrecipient contract was extended for the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2026, and the subrecipient contract has extensions available. WA staff is recommending extending the subrecipient contract as allowed for an annual term that would start July 1, 2026 and end June 30, 2027.

The WIOA Youth elements/services provided by CPRF include:

- Case Management
- Outreach
- Work Experience
- Occupational Skills Training
- Leadership Development
- Financial Literacy
- Labor Market Data
- Follow Up

Performance and Budget to date: The chart of expenditures and client's services below is for a period of July 2025 through March of 2026.

CRPF WIOA Youth Monthly Invoice / Fiscal Report													
Youth Element	Item	Budget	Jul-26	Aug-26	Sep-26	Oct-26	Nov-26	Dec-26	Jan-27	Feb-27	Mar-27	Total Expenditures	Budget Remainin
<b>Case Management</b>													
	Wages	\$ 41,633.90	\$ 668.45	\$ 1,092.32	\$ 773.64	\$ 995.92	\$ 1,270.47	\$ 1,296.60	\$ 786.61	\$ 991.01	\$ 976.04	\$ 8,851.06	\$ 32,782.84
	Fringe		\$ 178.78	\$ 251.65	\$ 197.60	\$ 270.52	\$ 377.71	\$ 339.64	\$ 217.13	\$ 335.13	\$ 334.58	\$ 2,502.74	\$ (2,502.74)
	Facilities		\$ 216.00	\$ 216.00	\$ 216.00	\$ 216.00	\$ 216.00	\$ 216.00	\$ 216.00	\$ 216.00	\$ 216.00	\$ 1,944.00	\$ (1,944.00)
	Travel		\$ 243.00	\$ 218.75	\$ 243.46	\$ 280.77	\$ 108.78	\$ 356.16	\$ 144.34	\$ 41.86	\$ 344.57	\$ 1,981.69	\$ (1,981.69)
	Office Supplies		\$ 23.99	\$ 29.00	\$ -	\$ 75.52	\$ 30.55	\$ -		\$ 81.74	\$ -	\$ 240.80	\$ (240.80)
	Indirect		\$ 601.02	\$ 755.01	\$ 617.55	\$ 700.80	\$ 741.06	\$ 782.63	\$ 594.22	\$ 675.13	\$ 713.70	\$ 6,181.12	\$ (6,181.12)
	Communications		\$ 182.34	\$ 182.34	\$ 182.38	\$ 182.06	\$ 182.06	\$ 182.06	\$ 182.06	\$ 182.06	\$ 181.74	\$ 1,639.10	\$ (1,639.10)
	HR/Contracts		\$ 1,269.92	\$ 1,505.35	\$ 1,245.97	\$ 1,223.63	\$ 1,245.28	\$ 1,232.84	\$ 1,205.00	\$ 1,277.79	\$ 1,251.24	\$ 11,457.02	\$ (11,457.02)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 41,633.90</b>	<b>\$ 3,383.50</b>	<b>\$ 4,250.42</b>	<b>\$ 3,476.60</b>	<b>\$ 3,945.22</b>	<b>\$ 4,171.91</b>	<b>\$ 4,405.93</b>	<b>\$ 3,345.36</b>	<b>\$ 3,800.72</b>	<b>\$ 4,017.87</b>	<b>\$ 34,797.53</b>	<b>\$ 6,836.37</b>
	# of Clients Served	\$ 60.00	36	34	34	34	37	36	34	32	32		60
<b>Outreach</b>													
	Wage	\$ 4,500.00	127.82	512.94	518.71	385.32	101.48	196.07	292.43	259.89	423.49	\$ 2,818.15	\$ 1,681.85
	Fringe	\$ 1,500.00	34.94	172.58	154.08	125.9	27.1	68.05	89.66	91.45	149.67	\$ 913.43	\$ 586.57
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 6,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 162.76</b>	<b>\$ 685.52</b>	<b>\$ 672.79</b>	<b>\$ 511.22</b>	<b>\$ 128.58</b>	<b>\$ 264.12</b>	<b>\$ 382.09</b>	<b>\$ 351.34</b>	<b>\$ 573.16</b>	<b>\$ 3,731.58</b>	<b>\$ 2,268.42</b>
	# of Enrollments from Outreach		2	0	3	2	2	2	0	0	1	12	
<b>Work Experience</b>													
	Budget	\$ 101,000.00	\$ 7,460.00	\$ 7,340.00	\$ 6,880.00	\$ 6,200.00	\$ 5,480.00	\$ 5,600.00	\$ 5,180.00	\$ 3,620.00	\$ 5,160.00	\$ 52,920.00	\$ 48,080.00
	# of Clients Served	78	19	20	16	17	16	16	11	10	11		78
												# of Unduplicated Youth	
<b>Leadership Development</b>													
	Budget	\$ 5,400.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 400.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 3,600.00
	# of Clients Served	27		1	0	0	2	3	2	1	0		27
												# of Unduplicated Youth	
<b>Follow Up Services</b>													
	Budget	\$ 16,800.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 880.00	\$ 880.00	\$ 880.00	\$ 960.00	\$ 960.00	\$ 1,440.00	\$ 1,280.00	\$ 1,360.00	\$ 9,840.00	\$ 6,960.00
	# of Clients Served	31	15	11	11	1	12	12	18	16	17		31
												# of Unduplicated Youth	
<b>Literacy Education</b>													
	Budget	\$ 8,050.00	\$ 350.00			\$ 350.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 700.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 4,550.00
	# of Clients Served	23	1	0	0	1	2	1	2	2	1		23
												# of Unduplicated Youth	
<b>Labor Market Information</b>													
	Budget	\$ 4,800.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 2,000.00
	# of Clients Served	24	1	1	0	3	3	5	0	0	1		24
												# of Unduplicated Youth	
<b>Totals</b>													
	Expenditures	\$ 183,683.90	\$ 12,756.26	\$ 13,555.94	\$ 11,909.39	\$ 12,486.44	\$ 12,440.49	\$ 13,180.05	\$ 11,447.45	\$ 9,952.06	\$ 11,661.03	\$ 109,389.11	\$ -
	# of Clients Services	60	72	67	61	56	72	73	67	61	62		60
												# of Unduplicated Youth	
<b>Inkind Expenditures</b>													
			Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25	Oct-25	Nov-25	Dec-25	Jan-26	Feb-26	Mar-26	Total Expenditures	
	Case Management											\$ -	
	Work Experience											\$ -	
	Leadership Development											\$ -	
	Follow Up Services											\$ -	
	Literacy Education											\$ -	
	Labor Market Information											\$ -	
			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	

**CPRF Subrecipient Contract Renewal Budget PY25 July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027**

Youth Elements		QTR 1	QTR 2	QTR 3	QTR 4	Total
Case Management	# Participants	41	43	42	40	60
	Cost	\$ 8,982.19	\$ 10,997.70	\$ 10,200.00	\$ 11,454.01	\$ 41,633.90
Outreach						
		\$ 700.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 6,000.00
Work Experience	# Participants	21	19	20	18	78
	Cost	\$ 23,000.00	\$ 22,000.00	\$ 28,000.00	\$ 28,000.00	\$ 101,000.00
Leadership Dev.	# Participants	7	10	5	5	27
	Cost	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 5,400.00
Follow Up	# Participants	18	16	22	25	31
	Cost	\$ 4,480.00	\$ 4,400.00	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 4,720.00	\$ 16,800.00
Literacy	# Participants	7	7	4	5	23
	Cost	\$ 2,450.00	\$ 2,450.00	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,750.00	\$ 8,050.00
Labor Market	# Participants	7	6	6	5	24
	Cost	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 4,800.00
	Total Cost	\$ 42,412.19	\$ 45,547.70	\$ 46,300.00	\$ 49,424.01	\$ 183,683.90

Total # of Participants 60 Total Budget \$183,683.90

**2. Butler Community College**

Butler Community College provides Occupational Skills Training (OST) and Alternative Secondary Education for eligible WIOA Youth. The current contract expires 6/30/2026. Alternative Secondary School costs are \$30 per participant per semester plus \$132 for all four tests if needed. OST cost is the current tuition cost approved by the Kansas Board of Regents plus any fees and books. This amendment would be for the period of 7/1/2026 through 6/30/2027.

**3. WSU Tech**

WSU Tech provides (OST) for eligible WIOA Youth. The current contract amendment expires 6/30/2026 and the contract has annual eligible renewals available. Cost for WIOA Youth is the current tuition price approved by the Kansas Board of Regents plus any fees and books. This amendment would be for the period of 7/1/2026 through 6/30/2027.

**4. Allied Health Career Training (AHCT)**

Allied Health Career Training's youth contract expires 6/30/2025 and is eligible for an annual extension through June 30, 2026. The courses and costs are below. This amendment would be for the period of 7/1/2025 through 6/30/2026.

Course	
Certified Nurse's Aide (CNA)	\$869
Certified Medical Aide (CMA)	\$829
EKG	\$685
Licensed Practical Nurse Intravenous Therapy Training (LPN IV)	\$885

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Submitted By: Chad Pettera

Adult Care home Operations Training	\$635
Pharmacy Tech	\$1,985
Restorative Aide	\$374
Medical Terminology	\$189
Home Health Aide	\$369
Certified Clinical Medical Assistant (CCMA)	\$1,897
Social Services/Activity Director	\$374
Basic Life Support	\$60
Phlebotomy	\$1,003

**5. Pyxis**

Pyxis provides the WIOA Youth Elements Adult Mentoring and Education and Workforce Preparation Activities and Training. Cost for Adult Mentoring is \$55 per client hour and cost for Education and Workforce Preparation Activities and Training is \$775 per participant. Financial Literacy will cost \$425 per participant. This amendment would be for the period of 7/1/2026 through 6/30/2027.

**6. Amber DiNapoli**

Ms. Amber DiNapoli provides counseling services for WIOA Youth. The services and costs are:

90791 (Psychiatric Diagnostic Interview)	\$225
90837 (Psychotherapy with client and/or family 60 min)	\$200
90834 (Psychotherapy with client and/or family 45 min)	\$175
90832 (Psychotherapy with client and/or family 30 min)	\$150
No show or late cancelation (less than 24 hours in advance)	\$25

This amendment would be for the period of 7/1/2026 through 6/30/2027.

**7. Wichita Technical Institute (WTI)**

Wichita Technical Institute (WTI) currently provides occupational skills training in the following fields:

Course Name	Cost	Length
Electronic Systems Technology	\$26,628.45	60 Weeks
Electronic Systems Tech AOS Degree	\$34,980.86	72 Weeks
Computer Technology & Network Administration	\$22,934.14	48 Weeks
Heating, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Technology	\$24,023.50	48 Weeks
Medical Assistant	\$21,605.57	48 Weeks
Pharmacy Tech	\$15,541.00	36 Weeks
Medical Insurance Billing and Coding	\$19,674.56	60 Weeks

This amendment would be for the period of 7/1/2026 through 6/30/2027.

**8. Heartland Welding Academy**

Heartland Welding Academy has an occupational skills training contract since 2020 for Structural Code Welding and Structural Code and Practical Pipe Welding. This amendment would be for the period of 7/1/2026 through 6/30/2027.

Structural Code Welding – 360 hours (SMAW, FCAW, GMAW)	Total Cost \$9,450 - Workforce Alliance Funding Limit \$4,500
Structural Code and Practical Pipe Welding- 720 hours (SMAW, FCAW, GMAW & GTAW)	Total Cost \$18,500 - Workforce Alliance Funding Limit \$4,500

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**9. Manpower- Employer of Record Contract**

An employer of record contract with Manpower Inc. was procured and a contract executed in July 2023. The current contract has available one two-year extension. Rates are as follows:

Office/Clerical	32%
Light Industrial	37%
Industrial	39%
Other	Agreed upon before placement
Criminal Record Check	\$15.00 per participant County of Residence Only \$7.50
Drug Test –In House	\$7.50 per participant
Drug Test	\$30.00 per participant
Health Care Related	
MMR	\$55 per participant
TB	\$35 per participant
If Positive TB=Chest X-Ray	\$45 per participant
Other Services	May be provided at pre-authorized prices

**10. The Arnold Group- Employer of Record Contract**

An employer of record contract with The Arnold Group. was procured and a contract executed in July 2023. The current contract has available one two-year extension. Rates are as follows.

Office/Clerical	40%- Overtime Rate 50%
Light Industrial	44%- Overtime Rate 50%
Other	Agreed upon before placement
Criminal Record Check	Varies by Type, billed at same rate as other contractors
Drug Test –In House	\$18.00 per participant
Drug Test	\$45.00 per participant
Health Care Related	
TB	Billed at cost
Other Services	May be provided at pre-authorized prices

**11. Goodwill Industries of Kansas- One Stop Operator**

The Goodwill Industries of Kansas (Goodwill) One Stop Operator Sub-Recipient contract has to be modified due to a monitoring conducted by the State of Kansas. Per DOL regulation a One Stop Operator Contract cannot exceed four years. The current Goodwill One Stop Operator has a term of five years, WA has to modify the agreement to reduce to four years.

WA and Goodwill have agreed to modify the scope of the agreement. The recommended new scope of services is as follows:

**a. Key Functions:**

One Stop Operator Activities Overview

WIOA defines the required activities authorized for One-Stop Operators. In general the One Stop Operator activities include:

- Coordinate the one-stop delivery system and ensure all required services are being effectively delivered in the local area
- Ensure access to career and training services (Sub-Recipient will not provide direct client services as a part of this request)
- Provide data, information, and analysis of appropriate labor market data
- Support and establish relationships and networks with large and small employers and their intermediaries and other community based organization to boost and build the system and support the one stop
- Develop, convene, or implement industry or sector partnerships

**b. Scope Elements**

- 1) Contractor will onboard and Workforce Alliance will train new Contractor Staff before conducting any other duties. Attachment 5 is a basic training plan that at a minimum should be completed for any contractor new hires within the first 60 days of placement at the One Stop.
- 2) Provide Lobby and Front Desk Support and Oversight
- 3) Facilitate One Stop Center staff and co-located partner meetings
  - i) Develop meeting agendas and seek approval from Workforce Alliance point of contact
  - ii) Establish a plan for monthly staff and partner meetings with outcomes and goals
  - iii) Share outcomes from meetings with partners/staff/organizations
  - iv) Partner outreach/Goodwill Partnership expansion and assist with Economic Mobility plan development
  - v) Facilitate Friday meetings
  - vi) Facilitate Workforce Center Supervisor Meetings
  - vii) Responsible for facilitation and development of two In Service training agendas with the approval WA. These are held on Columbus and Presidents Holidays
- 4) Level Up Referral Management
- 5) Ensure Access to data, information, and analysis for programs
  - a) Produce monthly One Stop Operations reports to customers/partners/staff/LWDB
  - b) Host focus groups with staff/partners/job seekers/employers to assess what data should be gathered and shared
  - c) Share labor market data with partners and staff
  - d) Provide regular reports on partner activity to board/staff/partners.
  - e) Gather data and outcomes from partners for regular reporting
  - f) Monthly reports on activities and outcomes achieved by the OSO/Resource Navigator
  - g) Develop new and innovative ways to share data with others

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Submitted By: Chad Pettera

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- 6) Ensure Access to Job Seeker Career, Training, Business, Outreach and employment services
  - a) Coordinate services with collocated and non-collocated partners to prevent duplication and ensure services are efficient and effective
  - b) Ensure partners are active in orientations, workshops, and training activities
  - c) Ensure services are being provided as established in WIOA and the WIOA Regional Plan
  - d) Track and report on referrals between organizations
- 7) General Outreach and support for events in coordination with Kansas Department of Commerce and Workforce Alliance.
- 8) Coordinate with Core Leadership Initiatives and activities
  - a) Support the Mission and Vision of the WA and contribute to the outcomes of WA
  - b) Support and assist in achieving outcomes of the WA Strategic Plan

**Recommended Action**

*Approve the contract extensions as presented.*

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## Workforce Alliance Consolidated Budget PY25

July 2025 - June 2026

*Expenditures Through 3/30/2026*

Category	WIOA				Community Impact Funds				Consolidated			
	Budget	March Expenditures	YTD Expenditures	% Budget Remaining	Budget	March Expenditures	YTD Expenditures	% Budget Remaining	Budget	March Expenditures	YTD Expenditures	% Budget Remaining
Wages	\$ 1,675,282	\$ 102,131	\$ 898,623	46%	\$ 1,149,341	\$ 100,012	\$ 1,087,563	5%	\$ 2,824,623	\$ 202,143	\$ 1,986,186	30%
Fringe	\$ 412,880	\$ 30,517	\$ 240,423	42%	\$ 282,472	\$ 16,615	\$ 217,804	23%	\$ 695,352	\$ 47,132	\$ 458,227	34%
Facilities	\$ 262,996	\$ (33,477)	\$ 200,241	24%	\$ 141,360	\$ 9,710	\$ 92,666	34%	\$ 404,356	\$ (23,767)	\$ 292,907	28%
Contract/Pro Fees	\$ 58,685	\$ 18,394	\$ 63,934	-9%	\$ 31,063	\$ 13,427	\$ 41,465	-33%	\$ 89,748	\$ 31,821	\$ 105,399	-17%
Supplies/Equipment	\$ 28,049	\$ 3,132	\$ 27,834	1%	\$ 22,325	\$ 2,176	\$ 24,675	-11%	\$ 50,374	\$ 5,308	\$ 52,509	-4%
IT	\$ 88,800	\$ 13,025	\$ 35,988	59%	\$ 67,290	\$ 12,816	\$ 65,706	2%	\$ 156,090	\$ 25,841	\$ 101,694	35%
Outreach/Cap Building	\$ 31,120	\$ 744	\$ 13,716	56%	\$ 78,010	\$ 5,286	\$ 71,505	8%	\$ 109,130	\$ 6,030	\$ 85,221	22%
Travel/Conferences	\$ 44,568	\$ 2,129	\$ 23,344	48%	\$ 35,860	\$ 1,943	\$ 31,278	13%	\$ 80,428	\$ 4,072	\$ 54,622	32%
Grants Awarded	\$ 185,000	\$ 4,429	\$ 25,058	86%	\$ 75,000	\$ -	\$ 133,447	-78%	\$ 260,000	\$ 4,429	\$ 158,505	39%
Staff Development	\$ 7,890	\$ -	\$ 889	89%	\$ 12,050	\$ -	\$ 631	95%	\$ 19,940	\$ -	\$ 1,520	92%
Indirect	\$ 302,184	\$ 8,628	\$ 103,270	66%	\$ 295,000	\$ 21,495	\$ 315,511	-7%	\$ 597,184	\$ 30,123	\$ 418,781	30%
Misc/Dep/Int	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%	\$ 27,000	\$ 13,237	\$ 19,530	28%	\$ 27,000	\$ 13,237	\$ 19,530	28%
Work Experience	\$ 862,749	\$ 47,846	\$ 463,747	46%	\$ 325,000	\$ 10,590	\$ 401,051	-23%	\$ 1,187,749	\$ 58,436	\$ 864,798	27%
On The Job Training	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	\$ 765,250	\$ -	\$ 254,164	67%	\$ 765,250	\$ -	\$ 254,164	67%
Incentives	\$ 2,000	\$ 100	\$ 300	85%	\$ 74,000	\$ 550	\$ 21,525	71%	\$ 76,000	\$ 650	\$ 21,825	71%
Occupational Training	\$ 186,201	\$ 2,709	\$ 39,643	79%	\$ 780,000	\$ 53,441	\$ 512,879	34%	\$ 966,201	\$ 56,150	\$ 552,522	43%
Supportive Services	\$ 139,704	\$ 11,582	\$ 72,833	48%	\$ 379,200	\$ 1,195	\$ 60,231	84%	\$ 518,904	\$ 12,777	\$ 133,064	74%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,288,108</b>	<b>\$ 211,889</b>	<b>\$ 2,209,843</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>\$ 4,540,221</b>	<b>\$ 262,493</b>	<b>\$ 3,351,631</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>\$ 8,828,329</b>	<b>\$ 474,382</b>	<b>\$ 5,561,474</b>	<b>37%</b>

**Analysis**

Budget: The PY25 budget reflects expenditures from July 2025 through March 2026. While the contract line item is currently overspent for the year, there are surpluses in other budget categories, so this is not a concern at this time.

The budget provides a breakdown of funding between WIOA (LWDB budget) and non-WIOA sources (Community Impact Funds), as well as combined totals. Direct client spending accounts for 33% of total expenditures so far this fiscal year, totaling \$1,826,373.

**Recommended Action**

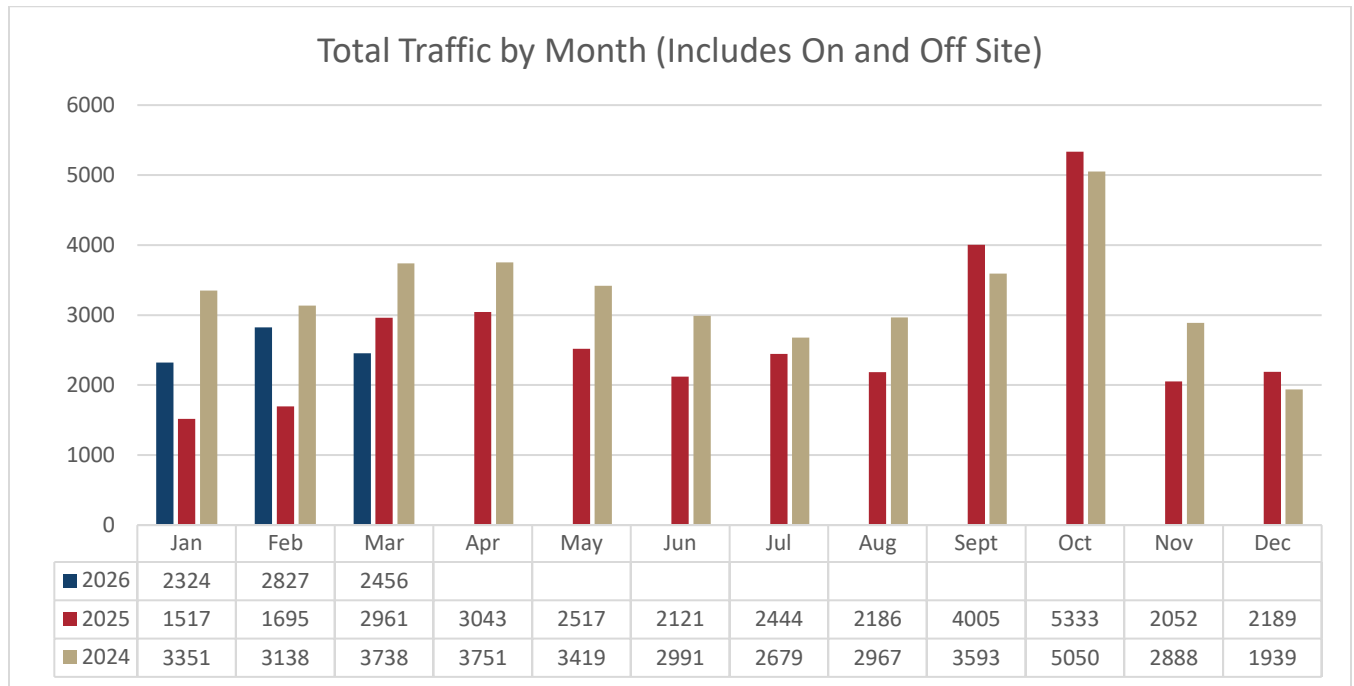
Receive and file.

**Item**

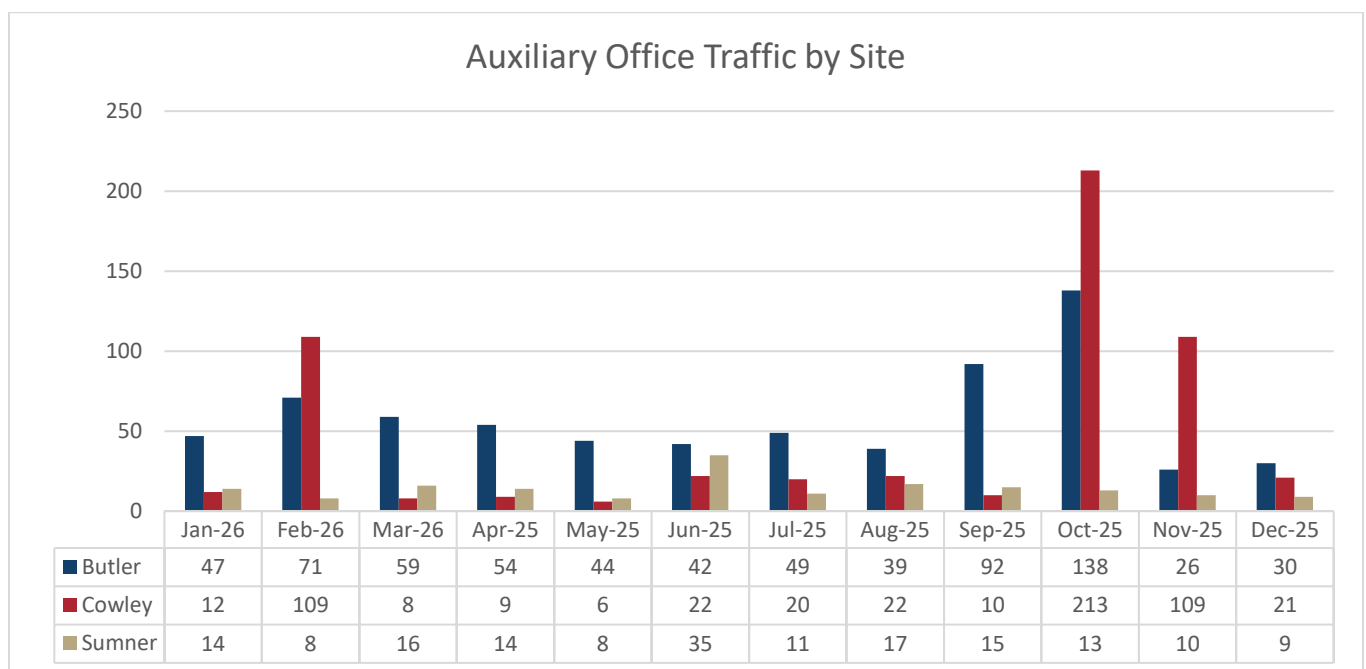
Workforce Centers Operations March 2026 Update

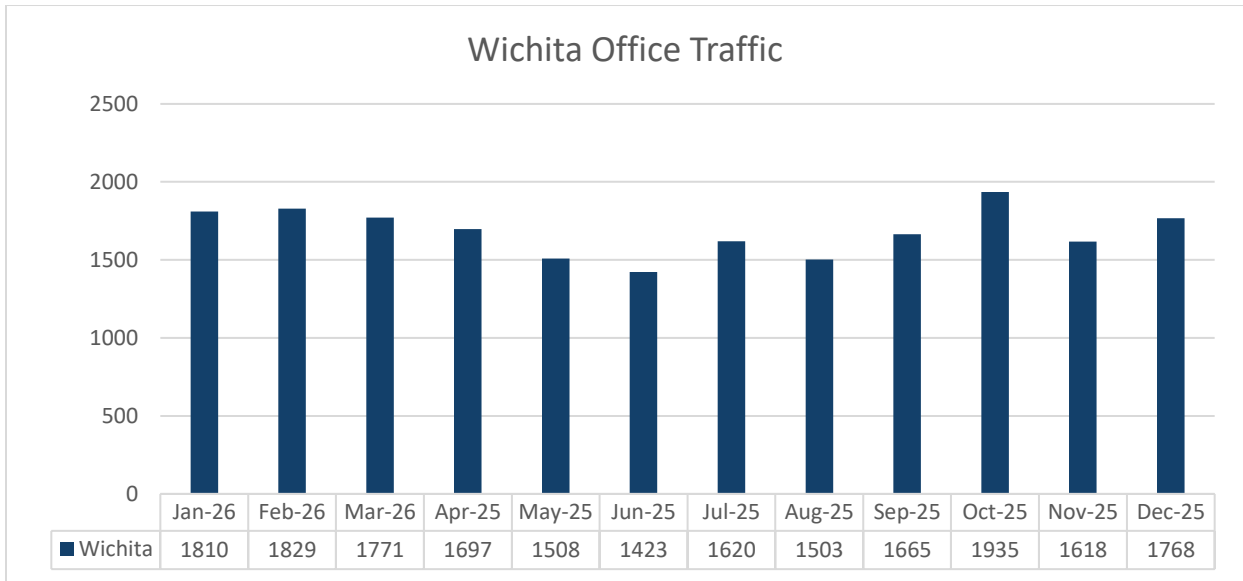
**Job Seeker Traffic**

The bar graph below provides a visual representation of job seeker traffic through March of 2026. Overall, job seeker engagement at all four centers is steady.



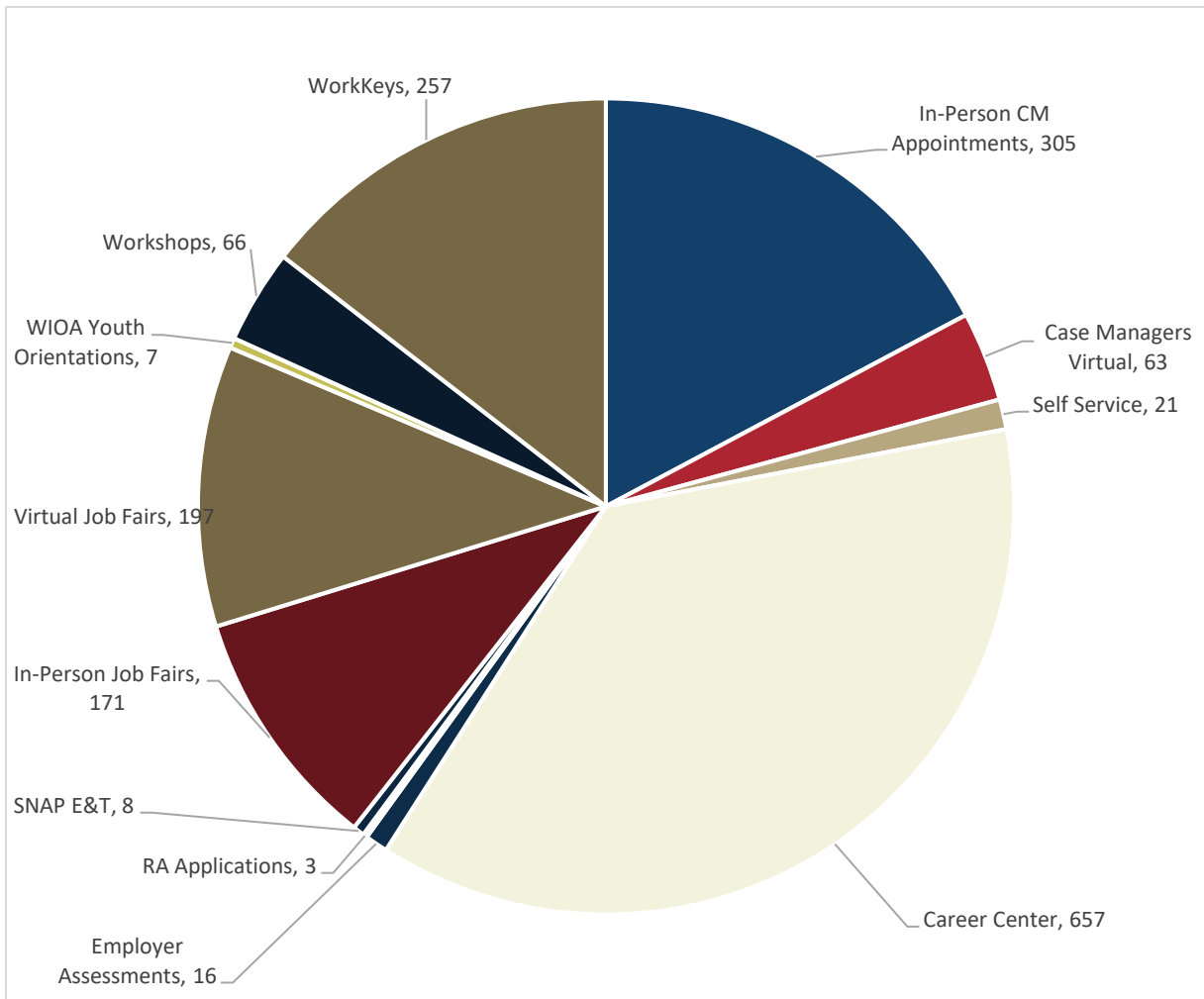
This bar graph offers a breakdown of the job seeker traffic by Auxiliary Offices in Butler, Sumner, and Cowley counties.



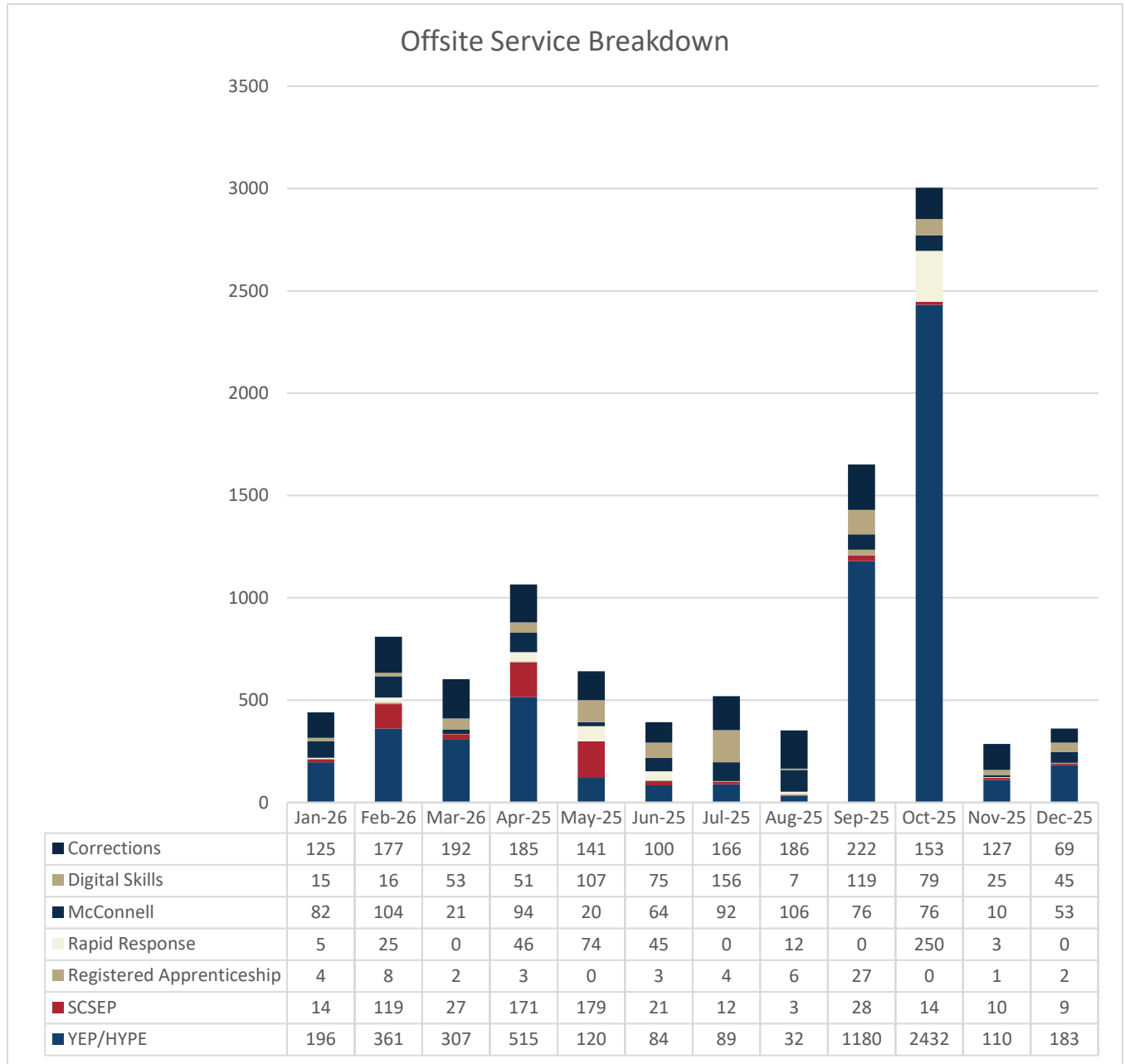


### Job Seeker Services

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.

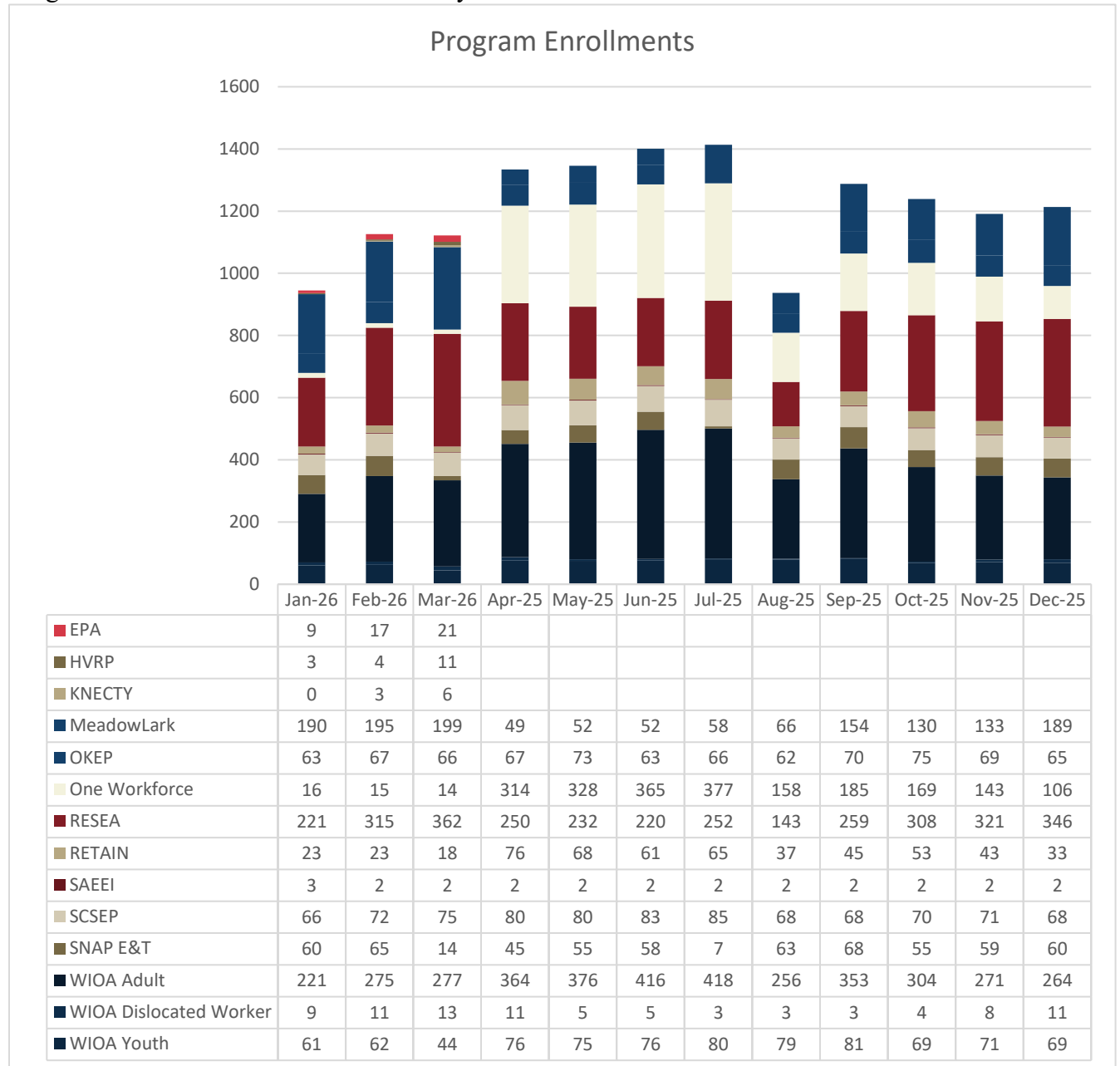


Throughout the last year, the Career Services staff has maintained a vital role in delivering comprehensive support to job seekers. Their unwavering commitment extends to helping job seekers craft effective resumes, conduct mock interviews, navigate job searches, address barriers to employment, and promptly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

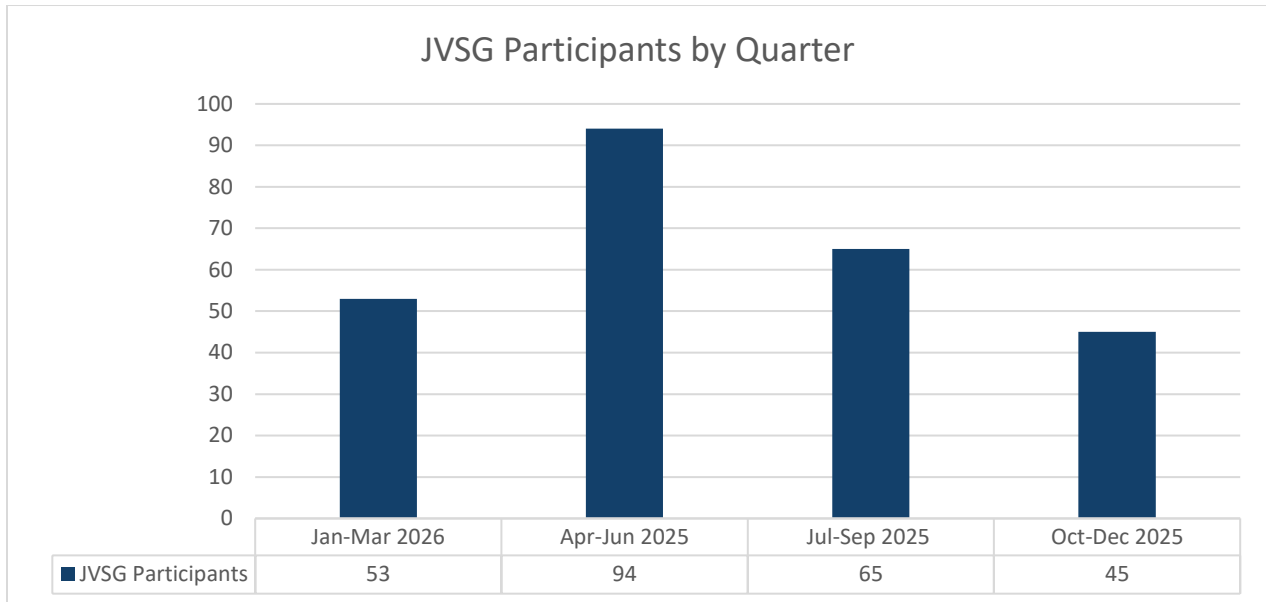
**Program Enrollments**

Program enrollments have remained steady.



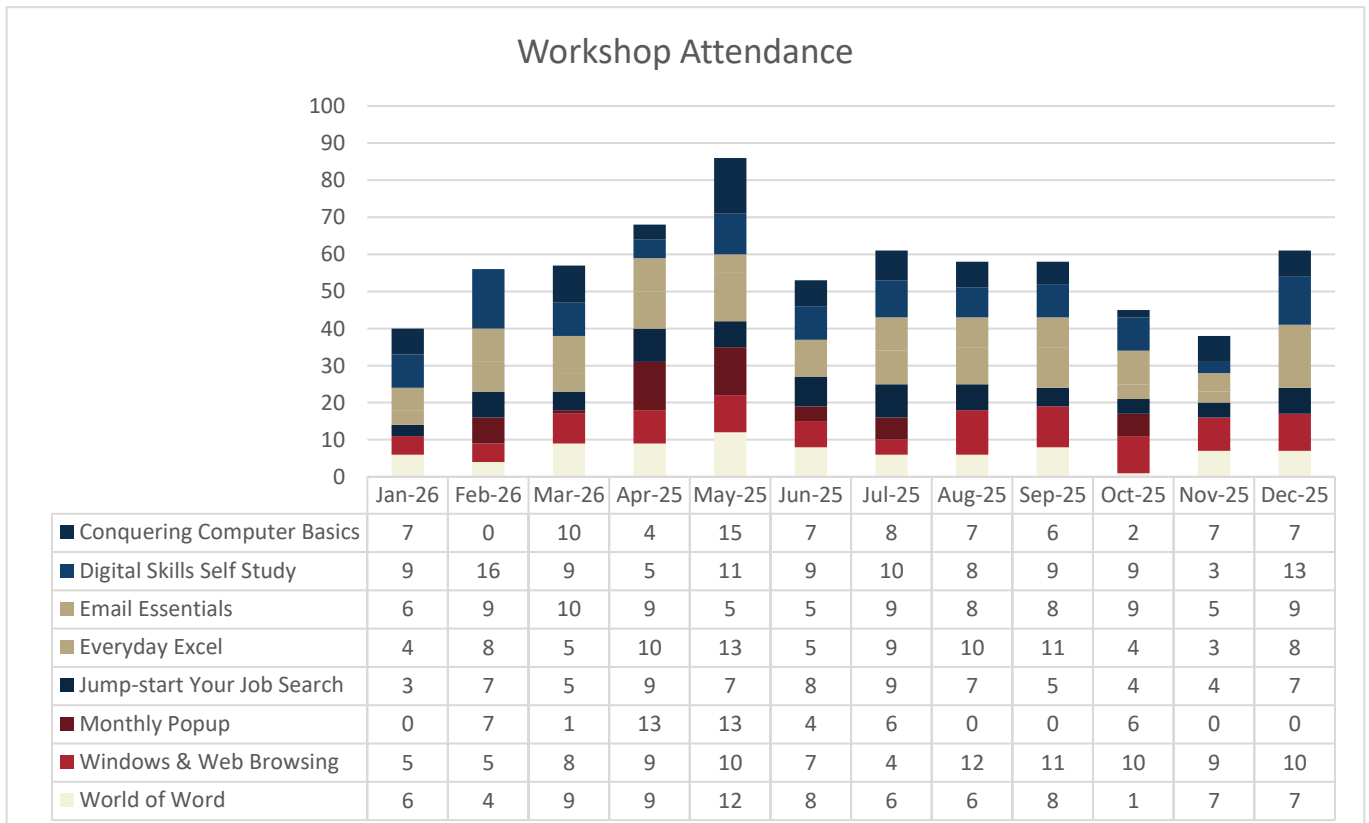
Program Enrollment Glossary

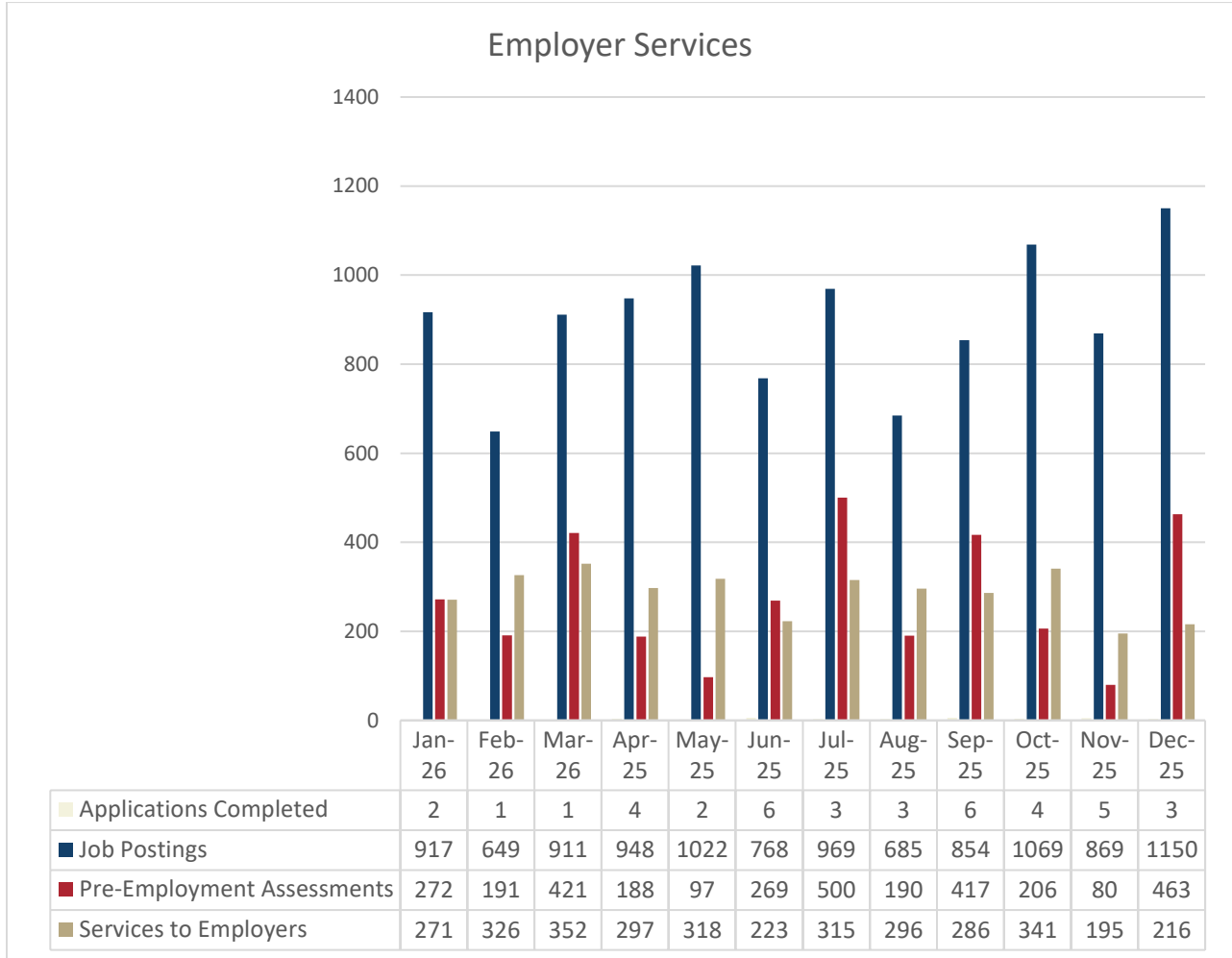
- EPA=EPA Brownfields Job Training Program
- HVRP=Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program
- KNECTY=Kansas Network for Employment and Career Transition for Youth
- MeadowLARK= Leading Apprenticeship Results in Kansas
- OKEP=Older Kansans Employment Program
- RESEA= Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment
- RETAIN=Retaining Employment and Talent After Injury/Illness Network
- SAEEI= 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



### Community Outreach & Workshops

In March, WA staff delivered 11 digital skills workshops and training sessions, engaging 70 unduplicated participants. Learners continued progress through online learning, with 66 modules initiated and 41 successfully completed. This activity supported the attainment of 41 digital credentials and totaled 173 learning hours, reflecting strong participation and skill development. Partner collaboration brought six new referrals, and WA staff outreached 53 individuals through the digital skills access project. One employment outcome was reported for the month as participants continued building the skills necessary for future workforce success.



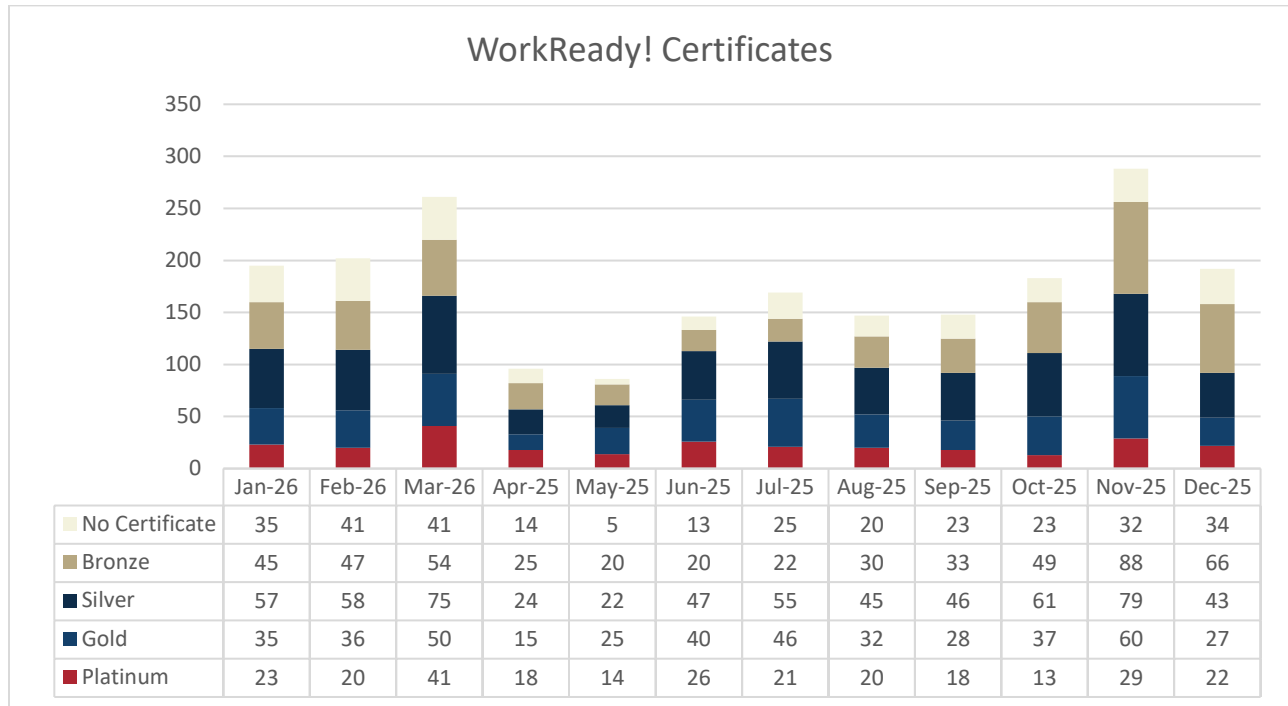


**Job Fairs**

In March, the Workforce Center hosted two in person job fairs in partnership with 24 employers, bringing in 147 job seekers across both events. Additionally, six employers from our local area participated in the statewide virtual job fair, where 191 unique job seekers visited the local area employer booths.

**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 19 sessions were offered during the month of March, with 375 job seekers scheduled to complete. The area saw an increase in attendance rate, sitting at 69.6%, with it being at 63.3% in the previous month. A total of 261 participants completed the assessment, and an 84.3% award rate was documented.



**One Stop Operator Report**

March saw continued training and implementation of duties by the new One Stop Operations staff, Angela Slattery. Activities in the month of March included:

- Scheduled, planned, and sent out invitations for the first Workforce 101 session in quite a while. All the seats for the first session in April are filled. Two additional sessions in May and June are planned.
- Developed a plan for distribution of Goodwill Vouchers with Workforce Center supervisors. Two vouchers were provided to participants in the Pathway Home program who recently released from incarceration.
- Planned and led second monthly all staff meeting
- Attended the Employer Services work group meeting
- Received training on the Level Up Kansas referral process and began addressing referrals
- Reviewed Customer Satisfaction data and reached out to customers who indicated they did not have a good experience
- Continued to shadow front desk and other Workforce Center functions to expand knowledge of the Workforce Center.

**Recommended Action**

*Receive and File.*



**Corrections Workforce Partnership Report**  
April 1, 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 1 2026 Program Outcomes are below:

<b>Quarter 1 2026</b>	<b>Sedgwick County Department of Corrections</b>	<b>Wichita Parole Office</b>	<b>Total</b>
Employment Lab Attendees	72	0	72
Direct Referrals*	50	34	84
Individual Employment Services Provided	296	170	466
Appointments scheduled/NS or cancel	58/27	46/28	104/55
Individuals Entering Employment**	75	12	87
Entered Employment Rate	100%	80%	90%
Employment Retention: 6 Months	71%	87%	79%
Employment Retention: 12 Months	95%	72%	83.5%
Average Wage: 6 months	\$15.15	\$15.81	\$15.48
Average Wage: 12 months	\$15.50	\$18.65	\$17.10

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

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

2026 has begun on a very strong note. As anticipated, referrals have increased for both probation and parole populations. The number of clients obtaining employment is particularly impressive, and employment retention rates continue to remain high. Average wages have held steady, indicating consistency in job quality. Additionally, participation in employment lab sessions has 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.

<b>2025 Summary</b>	<b>Sedgwick County Department of Corrections</b>	<b>Wichita Parole Office</b>	<b>Total</b>
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 4/30/2026**

**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 25 approved programs and 19 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, Rainbows United, Miracle Home Care, Kiddy Kollege, Rusty Eck Ford, Goodwill Industries, Azara Home Health, and Greater Wichita YMCA.

<b>Employer</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Active Apprentices</b>
Bailey’s Learning Academy	Early Childhood Educator	Approved	6
CDH	Construction Craft Laborer	Approved	5
	Welder	Approved	0
Child Start	Early Childhood Educator	Approved	0
CMJ Manufacturing, Inc.	Machine Operator	Approved	3
	CNC Operator	Approved	2
Cox Machine	Router Operator	Approved	0
	Machine Operator	Approved	0
Design One	Upholsterer Technician	Approved	3
Don Hattan	Automotive Mechanic	Approved	0
	Tune Up Mechanic	Approved	3
F&H Insulation Sales and Services, Inc.	Coatings	Approved	1
	Insulation Worker	Approved	1
Goodwill Industries	Employment Training Specialist	Approved	0
Greater Wichita YMCA	Preschool Teacher (CDA)	Approved	0
	Preschool Teacher (CCC)	Approved	0
ISG Tech	Service Technician 1	Approved	0
Kiddy Kollege	Lead Child Care Teacher	Approved	10
Little Kings and Queens Daycare	Early Childhood Worker	Approved	0
Miracle Home Care Azara Home Health	Certified Nursing Assistant	Approved	1
Rainbows United	Childcare Development Specialist	Approved	1
Rusty Eck Ford	Automotive Technician	Approved	0
UV&S	Computer Support Specialist	Approved	1
Yingling Aviation	Avionics Technician	Approved	26



**Registered Apprenticeship Report**  
**As of 4/30/2026**  
[LAIV Registered Apprenticeship Information](#)

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

<b>Employer</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Status</b>
Prime Craftsman Homes	Multiple	In Development
HCA Healthcare	Patient Care Technician	In Development
Sumner-Cowley Electrical Co-Op	Power Lineman	In Development
Charley's Appliance	Customer Service Representative	In Development
Ginger's Plumbing	Plumber	In Development

The WA accepts onsite applications for five RA programs. In April, four individuals engaged in the RA application process, resulting in three completed application, details are below:

<b>RA Application and Prescreen Activity</b>			
2026	Applications and Prescreens	Completed Referrals	Completion Percentage
January	3	2	66%
February	4	1	25%
March	3	1	33%
April	4	3	75%
<b>Totals</b>	14	9	64%

The WA works in partnership with





**Communications Report**  
As of 5/5/26

**April 2026 Feature Stories**

[Newstalk: Momentum Job Fair and Neighborhood Builder Award](#)

[Wichita career fair aims to connect 1,000 students with employers as teen job market shrinks](#)

[KWCH: Sedgwick County students learn about local job opportunities at career fair](#)

[GraceMed MedTalks: Workforce Center Services and RETAINWorks](#)

<b>April 2026 Job of the Day</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Job Title</b>	<b>Employer</b>
4/1/2026	Front Office Manager	UKSM-W Medical Practice Association
4/2/2026	Administrative Assistant	Fairmount Technologies
4/3/2026	Benefits Specialist	Creekstone Farms
4/6/2026	Medical Manager - Registered Nurse (RN)	GraceMed Health Clinic
4/7/2026	Program Director	Hope Ranch for Women
4/8/2026	Social Worker	Maize USD 266
4/9/2026	Elementary School Social Worker	Derby Public Schools
4/10/2026	Lead Clinician - Assertive Community Treatment Team	South Central Mental Health Counseling Center
4/13/2026	Retail Banking Support Specialist	Equity Bank
4/14/2026	Director Internal Audit	Wichita State University
4/15/2026	Accountant / Human Resources Manager	Etezazi Industries
4/16/2026	Director of Financial Aid	Friends University
4/17/2026	Alumni & Fundraising Coordinator	Cowley College
4/20/2026	Safety Manager	Central Consolidated, Inc.
4/21/2026	Trade Specialist	Sedgwick County
4/22/2026	OTR Truck Driver - RedGuard	RedGuard
4/23/2026	Teacher for Visually Impaired Students	Derby Public Schools
4/24/2026	Asphalt Laborer	Dustrol, Inc.
4/27/2026	Equipment Operator I (K) - 617 - Street Maintenance	City of Wichita
4/28/2026	Fiberglass Pipe Machine Operator	National Oilwell Varcos - Fiber Glass Systems
4/29/2026	Maintenance Technician	Metal-Fab, Inc.
4/30/2026	Manufacturing Specialist	Kyodo Yushi USA, Inc.

## 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:

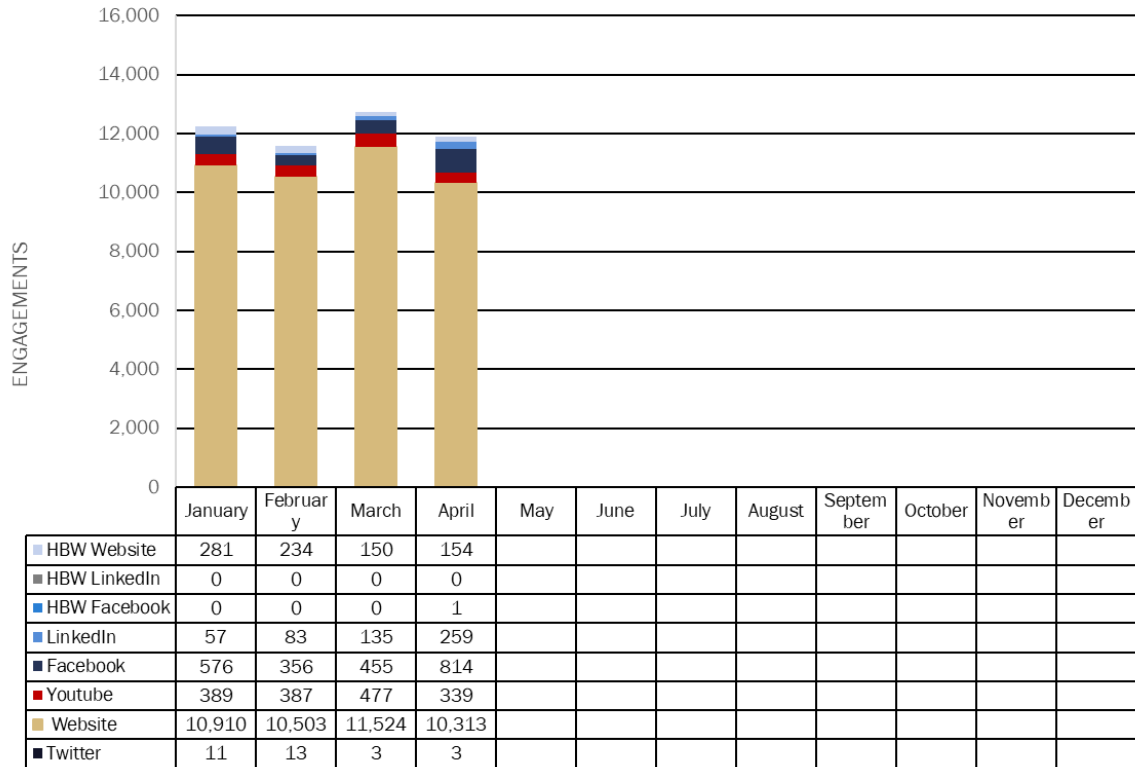
- Engagements - measures the total number of public interactions including shares, likes and comments
- Total Impressions - the number of times content is displayed to a user
- Followers – unique users who subscribe to receive updates

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

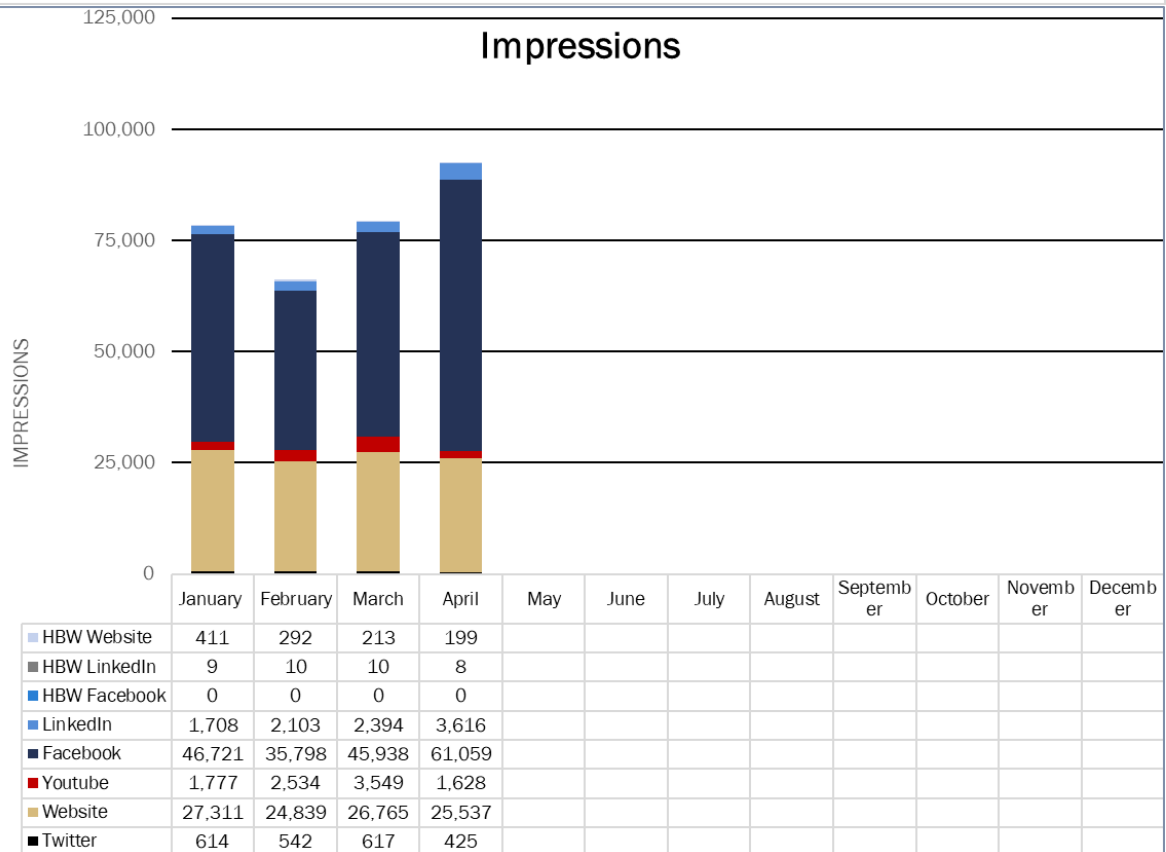
- Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/WorkforceCenter/>
- Home Base Wichita Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/HomeBaseWichita>
- YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/c/Workforce-ks>
- Twitter at <https://twitter.com/workforcecenter>
- LinkedIn at <https://www.linkedin.com/workforce-centers-of-south-central-kansas/>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

The month of April saw increased engagement on all platforms except Twitter, WA Website, YouTube, and HBW LinkedIn. Impressions decreased across all platforms except Facebook and LinkedIn. Followers increased on all platforms except Twitter, WA Website, and HBW LinkedIn.

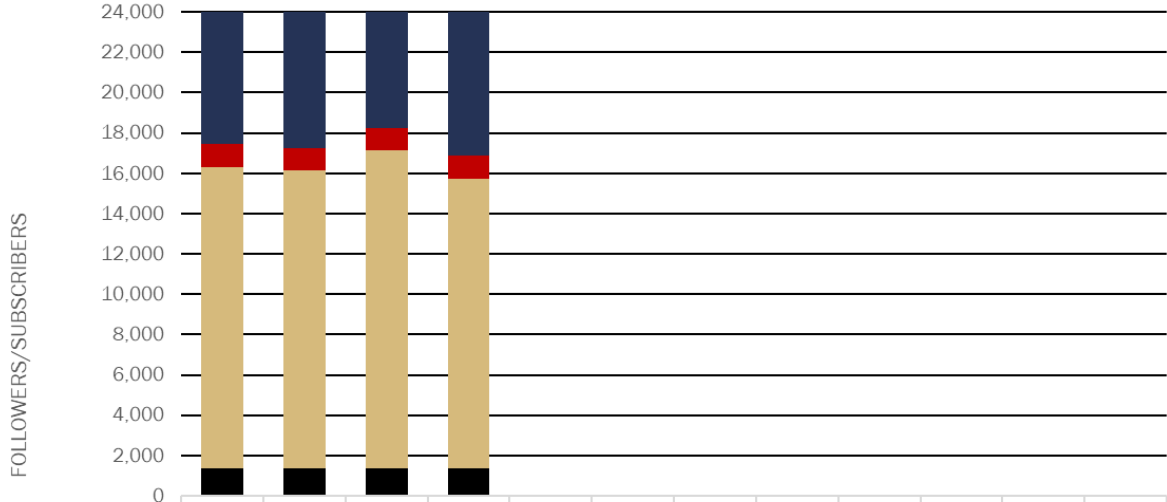
## Engagements



## Impressions



### Followers/Subscribers



	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
HBW Website	263	198	126	130								
HBW LinkedIn	731	732	732	731								
HBW Facebook	161	160	159	160								
LinkedIn	1,337	1,346	1,355	1,364								
Facebook	7,253	7,270	7,319	7,381								
Youtube	1,104	1,106	1,112	1,115								
Website	14,968	14,784	15,797	14,381								
Twitter	1,360	1,360	1,360	1,359								