



## Workforce Alliance (WA) Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, July 23, 2025 • 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM

Wichita Workforce Center, 2021 N. Amidon, Suite 1100

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

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1. **Welcome, Introductions and Public Comment:** Alana McNary (10:00)
  2. **Changing of the Guard and Workforce Alliance Board Member Updates:** Keith Lawing (10:05) (pp. 2-5)  
*The current terms of the Board Chair and Vice Chair ended June 30, 2025, new board members were appointed and several reappointed. Updated leadership roles and committee assignments will be discussed.*  
**Recommended action:** Appoint Alana McNary as Chair of the WA Board, and Scott Stiles as Vice Chair of the WA Board.
  3. **Federal Grant and Funding Update:** Keith Lawing (10:15) (pp. 6-8)
    - WIOA
    - Senior Community Services Employment Program (SCSEP)
    - One Workforce
    - EPA Brownfields Job Training Grant
    - Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP)**Recommended action:** Take appropriate action.
  4. **Community Impact Project Updates:** Amanda Duncan (10:30) (p. 9)
    - Youth Employment Project (YEP)
    - Child Care Employer Solutions Summit
    - Home Base Wichita
    - Returning Citizens Consortium- Kauffmann Planning Grant
    - Partnership with Level Up Kansas
    - Regional Talent Talks**Recommended action:** Take appropriate action.
  5. **2026-2028 WA Board of Directors Strategic Planning Sessions:** Alana McNary (11:00) (pp. 10-12)  
*Updates on schedule, topics and speakers for the upcoming strategic planning sessions will be discussed.*  
**Recommended action:** Approve the 2026-2028 strategic planning sessions.
  6. **Consent Agenda:** Keith Lawing (11:15)  
*The action items in the following reports have been reviewed, discussed and acted upon at the Committee level. Members may request discussion on any of the action items at the meeting or the reports may be accepted as presented in a single motion.*
    - A. Approval of Meeting Minutes from April 23, 2025 (pp. 13-16)
    - B. LWDB Executive Committee Actions (pp. 17-18)
    - C. Self-Sufficient Wage for Program Year 2025 (pp. 19-20)
    - D. 2025 Jobs FORE Youth Golf Tournament (pp. 21-24)
    - E. On-the-Job Training (OJT) Contracts for the Eligible Training Provider List: Harlow Aerostructures and High Touch Technologies (pp. 25-26)
    - F. Workforce Center Operations and One-Stop Operator Update (pp. 27-34)
    - G. Project Reports - Fair Chance, Registered Apprenticeship and Communications (pp. 35-42)**Recommended action:** Approve the recommendations as presented in the consent agenda.
  7. **Adjourn** (11:30)
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The next WA Board of Directors meeting will be on October 22, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

KANSASWORKS.com In Partnership with AmericanJobCenter

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

**Item:**

Workforce Alliance Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) Member Updates

**Background:**

The Chief Elected Officials Board (CEOB) appoints members to the Board of Directors for the Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas, the designated LWDB for Local Area IV. Attached is a list of all members and their terms. The terms for Board members are staggered and the members with terms that expired in 2025 are highlighted.

The Workforce Alliance Board is led by a Chair and Vice-chair that serve two-year terms. The terms of the current Chair, Jeff Longwell, and Vice Chair, Alana McNary, ended on June 30 2025. Consistent with past practice the Vice Chair will transition to the Chair position. Scott Stiles of Schaffer Architecture is nominated to serve as Vice Chair.

**Analysis:**

As required by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act regulations, membership of the LWDB is comprised of the following:

- 51% Representatives from private sector who are owners of businesses, chief executive or operating officers of businesses, and other business executives with policymaking or hiring authority, and represent businesses, including small business or organizations representing businesses with employment opportunities that provide that, at a minimum, include: high-quality, work-relevant training and development in high demand industry sectors or occupations in the local area.
- 20% Labor Representatives from local labor federations in local areas where employees are represented by labor organizations. Additionally, will include a representative from a joint labor-management apprenticeship program in the local area who shall be a labor organization representative or training director.
- At least one representative from each of the following partners:
  - Adult Education (WIOA Title II)
  - Higher Education
  - Wagner Peyser (WIOA Title III)
  - Vocational Rehabilitation (WIOA Title IV)
  - Economic Development
- Additional members can be appointed as appropriate/needed by the CEOB and can include:
  - Community Based Organizations
  - Philanthropic Organizations
  - Governmental Organizations Representing Transportation or Housing

The CEOB met on June 26, 2025 and approved the following appointment and reappointments to the Workforce Alliance LWDB Board of Directors:

- New Appointments:
  - Marilou Mewborn, Ascension Via Christi
  - Jill Kuehny, Kanokla
  - Dr. Tamara Daniel, Butler Community College

July 23, 2025

Submitted by: Keith Lawing

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- Dr. Michelle Schoon, Cowley College
  - Justin Rochelle, Plumbers & Pipefitters
- Reappointments (for terms expiring June 30, 2025):
  - Robyn Heinz, Vornado
  - Jessica Ista, Bombardier
  - Pat Jonas, Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation
  - Luis Rodriguez, TEC Systems
  - John Rolfe, Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce
  - Sally Stang, City of Wichita
  - Erica Ramos, Kansas Department of Commerce
  - Andrew Chance, Iron Workers
- Membership terms ending in 2025.
  - Dr. Rachel Bates, Cowley College
  - Rod Blackburn, Partners in Education
  - John Clark, Plumbers & Pipefitter
  - Kevin Hunt, Spirit AeroSystems
  - Jeff Longwell, Gilley's
  - Dr. Jacqueline Vietti, Butler Community College
  - Bruce Witt, Ascension Via Christi

***Recommended Action:*** Appoint Alana McNary as Chair of the Workforce Alliance, Scott Stiles as Vice Chair.

<b>Workforce Alliance Board Members</b>	<b>Exp.</b>
Local Area IV	
<b><u>PRIVATE SECTOR</u></b>	
Cheryl Childers, Cox Machine	2026
Ebony Clemons-Ajibolade, Evergy	2026
Michele Gifford, Textron Aviation	2026
Robyn Heinz, Vornado Air (POP Co-Chair)	2028
Kevin Hunt, Spirit AeroSystems	2026
Jessica Istas, Bombardier	2028
Kathy Jewett, Human Resources Consultant	2027
Patrick Jonas, Center Industries/CPRF	2028
Jill Kuehny, Kanokla	2028
Alana McNary, Professional Engineering Consultants	2027
Marilou Mewborn, Ascension Via Christi Health	2027
Alex Munoz, Creekstone Farms	2026
Luis Rodriguez, TEC Systems	2028
John Rolfe, Wichita Regional Chamber	2028
Chip Schellhorn, CMJ Manufacturing	2028
Gabe Schlickau, CoBank	2027
Scott Stiles, Schaefer Architecture	2027
<b><u>PARTNERS</u></b>	
Dr. Tamara Daniel, Butler Community College, Higher Education	2026
Eric Hunt, Kansas Dept. of Children and Families, Vocational Rehabilitation	2026
Erica Ramos, KS. Dept. of Commerce, Wagner Peyser	2028
Dr. Michelle Schoon, Cowley College, Adult Basic Education	2027
Sally Stang, City of Wichita, Community Service Block Grant	2028
Sheree Utash, WSU Tech, Higher Education	2026
<b><u>LABOR</u></b>	
Andrew Chance, Iron Workers Local Union 24	2028
Marcus Curran, Sheet Metal Workers Local Union #29	2026
B.J. Moore, SPEEA	2027
Tony Naylor, Wichita Electrical Apprenticeship Joint Training Center/IBEW (POP Co-Chair)	2027
Justin Rochelle, Plumbers and Pipefitters	2028
Jeimeson Saudino, IBEW, #271	2027
Lisa Whitley, International Association of Machinists Lodge 70	2026



# LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

July 1, 2025

## Business & Industry

### **Cheryl Childers**

Human Resources Manager  
Cox Machine

### **Ebony Clemons-Ajibolade**

Community Relations Manager  
Evergy

### **Michele Gifford**

Director, Workforce & Employee Dev.  
Textron Aviation

### **Robyn Heinz**

Director of Human Resources  
Vornado Air

### **Jessica Istas**

Director US Strategy & Community  
Relations  
Bombardier

### **Kathy Jewett**

Human Resources Consultant

### **Patrick Jonas**

President & CEO  
Cerebral Palsy Research

### **Jill Kuehny**

Chief Executive Officer  
Kanokla

### **Alana McNary** (Chair)

Chief People Officer  
Professional Engineering  
Consultants

### **Marilou Mewborn**

Chief Human Resource Officer  
Ascension Via Christi Health

### **Alex Munoz**

Human Resources Manager  
Creekstone Farms

### **Luis Rodriguez**

President  
TEC Systems

### **John Rolfe**

President & CEO  
Wichita Regional Chamber

### **Chip Schellhorn**

President  
CMJ Manufacturing

### **Gabe Schlickau**

Sr. Relationship Manager, Regional  
Agribusiness Banking Group  
CoBank

### **Scott Stiles** (Vice Chair)

Director of Business Development  
Schaefer Architecture

## Adult Basic Education

### **Dr. Michelle Schoon**

President  
Cowley College

## Community Services Block Grant

### **Sally Stang**

Director, Housing & Community Svcs.  
City of Wichita

## Higher Education

### **Dr. Tamara Daniel**

President  
Butler Community College

### **Dr. Sheree Utash**

President  
WSU Tech

## Labor

### **Andrew Chance**

Apprenticeship Coordinator  
Iron Workers - LU #24

### **Marcus Curran**

Organizer / Executive Board  
Sheet Metal Workers #29

### **B.J. Moore**

Midwest Director  
SPEEA, IFPTE Local 2001

### **Tony Naylor**

Training Director  
Wichita Elec. Training-IBEW #271

### **Justin Rochelle**

Training Director  
Plumbers & Pipefitters #441

### **Jeimeson Saudino**

Business Manager  
IBEW, #271

### **Lisa Whitley**

Directing Business Representative  
Machinists Union Lodge#70

## Vocational Rehabilitation

### **Eric Hunt**

Director of Employment Services  
KS Dept. of Children & Families

## Wagner-Peyser

### **Erica Ramos**

Regional Operations Manager  
Kansas Dept. of Commerce

**Item:**

Federal Grants and Federal Funding Updates

**Background:**

The Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas (WA) continues to actively pursue and manage federal funding opportunities to expand services, strengthen partnerships, and support workforce development in South Central Kansas. While there are two grant projects preparing to begin operations in the next few weeks, there are ongoing concerns about future federal funding opportunities. This update will provide the Board with an overview of current efforts and recent developments related to several key federal funding programs and initiatives.

**Analysis:**

**Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)**

The WA received planning allocations for Program Year 2025 and will see an increase of \$192,444 or 7% in WIOA funds. However, the overall WA budget for PY25 will be reduced by 18% from PY 24. The PY25 Budget is attached and was reviewed by the Finance Committee and approved by both the Executive Committee and Chief Elected Officials Board.

Despite the increase, there is significant concern about ongoing WIOA funding. The legislation was not reauthorized last year, and the initial budget proposals being discussed in Congress include eliminating funding for the WIOA Youth program, making major reductions to WIOA Adult, and also changing funding models to give states block grants for employment and skills training programs. Staff are closely monitoring the situation and are in regular contact with the offices of Senators Moran, Marshall and Representative Ron Estes.

Other One-Stop partners that have been impacted by Federal funding cuts are Job Corps and the American Indian Council. With the possible elimination of the Department of Education, the WIOA Adult Ed programs could see changes in the near future as well.

**Senior Community Services Employment Program (SCSEP)**

WA administers SCSEP funding through a U.S. Department of Labor program targeting unemployed, low-income individuals age 55 and older. The program connects participants to part-time community service assignments and skill development opportunities. Currently, the WA partners with 37 different host agencies and have 66 workers placed in “earn and learn” employment at \$7.25 per hour.

The WA was recently directed by the State of Kansas to notify SCSEP participants and host agencies that funding was not confirmed beyond June 30, 2025, and the program could be “paused.” Operations were not paused as funding was extended, but SCSEP is one of the employment and skills training programs being recommended for elimination in current federal budget planning.

### **One Workforce Grant**

The WA is leading the four-year, \$9.9 million multi-partner grant initiative funded by the U.S. Department of Labor to support training in high-demand sectors of advanced manufacturing and IT. Funding for the project ends in January of 2026, and a sustainability plan is being developed as part of the grant outcomes. Overall, the One Workforce project supports job seekers with wrap-around services, training funds, and employer engagement activities. Staff will provide updates for the Board.

### **Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfields Job Training Grant**

The WA are awaiting final direction from the EPA to initiate the project, and anticipate operations will begin before the end of 2025. The EPA grant provides training in key areas, including asbestos abatement; obtaining a commercial driver's license for the transportation of hazardous waste; Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Hazardous Waste Management; and OSHA 30-hour Occupational Health and Safety for General Industry. This comprehensive training will equip students with the necessary expertise to contribute effectively to their community and empower them with the essential skills needed to tackle and mitigate critical environmental issues within the local community. Partners in the grant include the City of Wichita, Sedgwick County, Regional Economic Area Partnership, Kansas Department of Commerce, Goodwill Industries of Kansas, and local employers Clean Harbors, Dondlinger Construction, iSi Environmental, Remediation Contractors, and Terracon.

### **Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP)**

The WA was competitively awarded a HVRP grant to support Veterans' experiencing homelessness find meaningful employment and assist them in overcoming barriers to transition successfully into the workforce. The HVRP grant program was established in 1987; this is the first time a HVRP grant has been awarded in Kansas. The WA received \$500,000 for 2025, with an additional \$1 million of funding available in 2026 and 2027.

Through the HVRP grant services, a Veteran experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness in Wichita can complete occupational skills training, participate in apprenticeships or on-the-job training opportunities, and receive job search and placement assistance through the WA, in coordination with a strong referral system, connecting both the services of the WA and its partners. Partners in the grant include the Continuum of Care, Coalition to End Homelessness in Wichita/Sedgwick County; Second Light (formerly known as the Multi-Agency Center), Goodwill Industries of Kansas, and the WA's large employer network.

### **Recommended Action:**

*Take appropriate action*

## Workforce Alliance Consolidated Budget PY24 Comp PY25

July 2024- June 2026

PY24 Expenditures Through 03/30/2025

WIOA						Community Impact Funds						Consolidated					
	PY24	PY25	PY24-PY25	PY24 YTD	% Budget		PY24	PY25	PY24-PY25	PY24 YTD	% Budget		PY24	PY25	PY24-PY25	PY24 YTD	% Budget
Category	Budget	Budget	Budget	Expenditures	Remaining		Budget	Budget	Budget	Expenditures	Remaining		Budget	Budget	Budget	Expenditures	Remaining
Wages	\$ 1,831,334	\$ 1,654,999	\$ (176,335)	\$ 1,246,436	32%		\$ 1,407,982	\$ 993,622	\$ (414,360)	\$ 995,539	29%		\$ 3,239,316	\$ 2,648,622	\$ (590,694)	\$ 2,241,975	31%
Fringe	\$ 423,200	\$ 405,252	\$ (17,948)	\$ 270,089	36%		\$ 348,490	\$ 236,223	\$ (112,267)	\$ 214,470	38%		\$ 771,690	\$ 641,475	\$ (130,215)	\$ 484,559	37%
Facilities	\$ 260,835	\$ 259,860	\$ (975)	\$ 162,147	38%		\$ 128,265	\$ 97,760	\$ (30,505)	\$ 85,549	33%		\$ 389,100	\$ 357,620	\$ (31,480)	\$ 247,696	36%
Contract/Pro Fees	\$ 83,008	\$ 69,500	\$ (12,658)	\$ 49,307	41%		\$ 30,050	\$ 29,963	\$ (87)	\$ 64,515	-115%		\$ 113,058	\$ 99,463	\$ (13,595)	\$ 113,822	-1%
Supplies/Equipment	\$ 21,595	\$ 27,220	\$ 5,625	\$ 18,304	15%		\$ 16,530	\$ 21,225	\$ 4,720	\$ 7,279	56%		\$ 38,125	\$ 48,445	\$ 10,320	\$ 25,583	33%
IT	\$ 137,500	\$ 88,700	\$ (48,800)	\$ 16,330	88%		\$ 50,145	\$ 50,490	\$ 345	\$ 53,157	-6%		\$ 187,645	\$ 139,190	\$ (48,455)	\$ 69,487	63%
Outreach/Meetings	\$ 27,175	\$ 31,120	\$ 3,095	\$ 18,615	31%		\$ 123,575	\$ 78,010	\$ (34,099)	\$ 95,687	23%		\$ 150,750	\$ 109,130	\$ (41,620)	\$ 114,302	24%
Travel/Conference	\$ 52,140	\$ 43,570	\$ (8,570)	\$ 28,214	46%		\$ 35,062	\$ 32,220	\$ (2,842)	\$ 36,872	-5%		\$ 87,202	\$ 75,790	\$ (11,412)	\$ 65,085	25%
Grants Awarded	\$ 215,000	\$ 215,000	\$ -	\$ 37,406	83%		\$ 152,500	\$ -	\$ (152,500)	\$ 107,853	29%		\$ 367,500	\$ 215,000	\$ (152,500)	\$ 145,259	60%
Staff Development	\$ 9,700	\$ 7,440	\$ (2,260)	\$ 2,200	77%		\$ 14,050	\$ 12,050	\$ (2,000)	\$ 3,996	72%		\$ 23,750	\$ 19,490	\$ (4,260)	\$ 6,196	74%
Indierct	\$ 272,402	\$ 298,921	\$ 26,519	\$ 183,983			\$ 278,750	\$ 130,976	\$ (147,774)	\$ 333,779	-20%		\$ 551,152	\$ 429,897	\$ (121,255)	\$ 517,762	6%
Misc	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%		\$ 27,000	\$ 27,000	\$ -	\$ 14,365	47%		\$ 27,000	\$ 27,000	\$ -	\$ 14,365	47%
Youth Work Experience	\$ 205,770	\$ 320,918	\$ 115,148	\$ 98,311	52%		\$ -	\$ -	\$ (150,000)	\$ -	0%		\$ 205,770	\$ 320,918	\$ 115,148	\$ 98,311	52%
Adult WX/Incumbent	\$ 614,398	\$ 614,228	\$ 170	\$ 365,955	40%		\$ 550,000	\$ 400,000	\$ (94,750)	\$ 456,030	17%		\$ 1,164,398	\$ 1,014,228	\$ (150,170)	\$ 821,986	29%
OJT	\$ 40,000	\$ -	\$ (40,000)	\$ -	100%		\$ 620,000	\$ 675,250	\$ 55,250	\$ 174,096	72%		\$ 660,000	\$ 675,250	\$ 15,250	\$ 174,096	74%
Incentives	\$ 800	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,200	\$ 250	69%		\$ 22,000	\$ 26,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 23,175	-5%		\$ 22,800	\$ 28,000	\$ 5,200	\$ 23,425	-3%
Education & Training	\$ 130,000	\$ 221,201	\$ 91,201	\$ 63,592	51%		\$ 1,268,383	\$ 780,000	\$ (488,383)	\$ 377,528	70%		\$ 1,398,383	\$ 1,001,201	\$ (397,182)	\$ 441,120	68%
Supportive Services	\$ 86,995	\$ 100,000	\$ 13,005	\$ 90,067	-4%		\$ 540,962	\$ 255,000	\$ (285,962)	\$ 80,988	85%		\$ 627,958	\$ 355,000	\$ (272,958)	\$ 171,055	73%
Indirect																	
Total	\$ 4,411,852	\$ 4,359,928	\$ (51,583)	\$ 2,651,207	40%		\$ 5,613,745	\$ 3,845,789	\$ (1,851,215)	\$ 3,124,878	44%		\$ 10,025,597	\$ 8,205,717	\$ (1,819,880)	\$ 5,776,085	42%

# The Business of Care: Tackling Child Care Through Workplace Innovation

*Join us for a dynamic summit designed to strengthen connections with local and regional employers while highlighting the critical role child care plays in workforce stability and growth. Together, we'll explore actionable ways employers can support local child care needs and help create a replicable model for other regions across Kansas.*

**Botanica Gardens**

701 Amidon St  
Wichita, KS 67203  
August 15<sup>th</sup> 2025  
9:00am - 1:00pm

*Register here*



**All In For  
Kansas Kids**

**SRM<sup>®</sup> Wichita**

*This initiative was made possible by grant number 90TP0131. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official view of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families.*

**Item**

2026-2028 Workforce Alliance Board of Directors Strategic Planning Sessions

**Background**

The Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas (WA) Board of Directors adopts a strategic plan every two years and will engage in the strategic planning process in 2025. The strategic plan is used to guide the operations and set goals for the organization. The 2023-2025 Strategic plan is attached.

As per past practice, the Board will conduct a series of strategic planning sessions in 2025 that will focus on key topics to review progress and outcomes related to goals and community impact in order to update the strategic plan for the next two years. The goal is to adopt the new strategic plan by the WA Board in January of 2026 for the 2026-2028 planning cycle.

**Analysis**

The planning session topics are listed below and are scheduled as working lunch sessions from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm, with the exception of the final session on October 22 that will be from 10:00 to 11:30 AM.

The details are being finalized and a summary of the sessions are below. All WA Board and Committee members are invited and encouraged to participate in the planning sessions. Invitations will be sent to employer partners, community leaders, elected officials and Workforce Center partners.

*Session: Current Labor Market Needs and Trends (August 13)*

Purpose: Hear directly from employers about hiring needs and skills gaps to identify themes and patterns in the regional economy.

- Advanced Manufacturing
  - Cheryl Childers, Cox Machine
  - Michele Gifford, Textron Aviation
- Healthcare
  - Marilou Mewborn, Ascension Via Christi
- Data / IT - TBD
- Construction Trades - TBD

*Session: Labor Market Data and Community Partnerships (August 26)*

Purpose: Provide labor market data to help align with the feedback heard from employers at the previous session, and engage one-stop and community partners in a conversation about leveraging resources and aligning services to develop more SKILLED workers prepared for high wage and high demand jobs in the region.

- Goodwill of Kansas, One-Stop Operations and Adult Education
- Butler County Community College
- Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce, Veterans Employment

July 23, 2025

Submitted By: Keith Lawing

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Session: Workforce Development Policy Roundtable Session (Date TBD)

Purpose: Engage in a candid conversation with leaders from education and skills training institutions and workforce development professionals on the Good, Bad and Ugly when it comes to public policy and legislation impacting creating a pipeline of skilled workers to help grow jobs and expand businesses in South Central Kansas.

Format: Panel discussion, and focus invites to WA Board and area elected officials, CEOB, REAP, South Central Delegation, Federal Delegation (staff)

Co-host: Wichita Chamber

Session: Economic Mobility to Build Community Wealth and Improve Community Health (October 7)

Purpose: Identify how a focused economic mobility strategy can be designed to connect more citizens to skilled employment and career opportunities that will reduce the defined number of “working poor” or ALICE and the outcomes can have significant impact on the economy and personal health of families in South Central Kansas.

Format: Invite Subject Matter Experts to share data and highlight best practices to address Economic mobility and discuss current efforts underway by community partners

Final Session: “It’s a Wrap!!” (October 22, 10:00 to 11:30 am)

Purpose: Review outcomes and key points from previous sessions and develop consensus on goals and operational priorities to recommend to the WA Board of Directors in January of 2026.

Format: Open discussion hosted by Alana McNary, conversations facilitated by Keith and Amanda.

**Recommended Action**

*Approve the 2026-2028 strategic planning sessions.*

# Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas

## 2023—2025 Strategic Goals



### Mission:

Growing the Regional Economy through  
a Skilled Workforce

### Vision:

Supporting and Advancing a Competitive Workforce in  
South Central Kansas

**Exceed Workforce Innovation  
and Opportunity Act (WIOA)  
Performance Goals in  
Program and One-Stop  
Operations**

#### Tactical Focus:

- WIOA Title I
- Senior Community  
Employment Service  
Program (SCSEP)
- Integrated Service Delivery  
Model

**Leverage Resources and  
Align Services to Create  
Community Impact Beyond  
Annual WIOA Allocations**

#### Tactical Focus:

- Generate non-WIOA Funds
- Develop Creative and  
Innovative Partnerships
- Strategic Communication

**Support Youth Employment  
and Career Awareness  
through Work-Based  
Learning and Applied  
Learning Models**

#### Tactical Focus:

- Youth Employment Project  
(YEP)
- Work-Based Learning (WBL)
- Roadtrip Nation

### Workforce Alliance Core Values:

- Collaboration
- Access & Opportunity
- Digital Literacy
- Job Quality
- Applied Learning
- Employer-Led Sector Strategies

### Diversity, Equity and Inclusion



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

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

The Workforce Alliance Board met in person at the Wichita Workforce Center and via Zoom; Chair Jeff Longwell called the meeting to order and asked for self-introductions. Wichita Mayor Lily Wu attended the Board meeting and was recognized to share some remarks. The Mayor just had her first State of the City address last month, which touched on the City's major priorities - crime, streets, economic development and homelessness.

**2. Public Comment**

No requests for public comment were received.

**3. National Association of Workforce Boards (NAWB) Forum 2025**

Board members Alana McNary and Scott Stiles and staff Keith Lawing and Amanda Duncan attended the NAWB Forum in Washington DC and shared some key takeaways from the event. Of note was keynote speaker, Mark Perna's, CEO of TFS Results, presentation regarding his book "Answering Why: Unleashing Passion, Purpose, and Performance in Younger Generations"; there may be interest in inviting him to Wichita to speak on connecting with youth in ways that are different than traditional approaches. Other sessions attended included next generation sector partnerships, priorities for the 119<sup>th</sup> Congress, board member engagement and involvement (utilizing skills and contacts to benefit the organization) and how workforce boards are using artificial intelligence (AI) as well as exploring how AI can be used internally for administrative tasks and externally to assist job seekers. WA has formed an internal AI task force evaluating potential uses and risks and have provided some training to staff. A session on child care issues included a presentation of a tool for employers to use to determine return on child care related investment. As part of a grant that Child Start is receiving, a child care focused summit is being planned to bring employers together to discuss tools and best practices to address child care issues and such a tool could be presented as part of that summit. Also of interest, was information regarding a federal bonding program that can assist employers that hire people with criminal backgrounds with additional insurance. The WA is part of Kauffman planning grant for programs supporting justice-involved individuals where this information may be beneficial. Lawing and Duncan both presented at the event, which showcased WA programs and accomplishments. Mayor Wu expressed her appreciation and explained how it is always good to have local organizations highlighted on the national stage to gain exposure to the excellent work that is being done in this region.

*Report was received and filed.*

**4. Partnership Agreement with Level Up Kansas**

Board member John Rolfe, Wichita Regional Chamber of Commerce and Kaylie Bergkamp-Lagasse, Level Up Kansas (LUK) were present to discuss the WA's partnership with LUK. The Chamber leads the LUK project to get more Kansans connected to the Kansas Promise scholarship, which provides education and skills training scholarships for students to attend Kansas community colleges and technical colleges in specific fields of study. LUK has created a targeted outreach and marketing campaign funded by the Kansas Legislature. LUK receives a number of inquiries that are more focused on immediate employment opportunities, or seeking a combination of job leads with information on scholarships for education and skills training.

Leadership from the Chamber and LUK have met with WA staff and the other local workforce boards in Kansas about partnerships for developing strategies that will leverage and align LUK with the services and resources from the KansasWorks workforce centers. To help strengthen the relationship

between LUK and the Local Workforce Boards a draft agreement is being piloted with the WA. The draft agreement was presented, which establishes expectations and a defined customer referral and follow up process along with outreach, awareness and promotion of both programs. The LUK Board is also reviewing the draft agreement for approval. The language in the agreement is still in draft form and staff are still working with LUK staff to fine tune toward a final formal agreement. It is proposed the agreement be used as a model for the other local areas statewide to develop a “no wrong door” for Kansans seeking access to employment or skills training opportunities.

Rolfe added that the agreement would further the collaboration and partnership with WA as there is a need to assist LUK customers that have immediate employment needs that would benefit from WA services and programs. Chair Longwell expressed that the partnership could elevate both organizations and make this more of a priority with the state and possibly lead to further funding.

It was asked what kind of data reporting could be expected from LUK ie, type of inquiries and success rates. Bergkamp-Lagasse responded that LUK is very data driven and can provide aggregate information after following up with customers. LUK ensures customers have been taken care of from start to end result.

*Kathy Jewett (Robyn Heinz) moved to approve intent the agreement as presented and authorize staff to move forward with the partnership and make modifications after consultation with Level Up Kansas.*

#### **5. Kansas Local Workforce Boundaries**

The State of Kansas had been divided into five local workforce board areas to oversee federal job training and funding for over 40 years. Governor Kelly recently approved the merger of Local Areas I (Workforce One) and II (Heartland Works) changing the local area boundaries. The boundaries are used to allocate annual federal funding and the geographic framework for implementing the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). The previous map and the new map of local areas was provided to board members. The new merged Local Area includes 79 counties with 1.1 million people. No analysis was done prior to the merger regarding any changes to current local area boundaries.

While board members and staff agree that two local areas can merge, there is concern in regard to maintaining current boundaries if they do not reflect current labor markets. The merger further exacerbated the imbalance of the local areas. The WA provided comment to the State in support of the ability for the Local Workforce Development Boards (LWDBs) to merge, but requested a comprehensive and inclusive (economic development, workforce center partners, employers, community organizations and workforce boards) analysis be conducted to determine the most effective service areas and make the local area boundaries consistent with Kansas labor markets. The state response indicated that a process to review Local Area boundaries would be done in the future with possible changes being recommended to the Governor. To expedite the timeline of a State-led review of the local areas, and to check the status of any plans being developed, staff suggest the WA Board chair reach out to the Secretary of Commerce and Chairman of the State Workforce Board. A draft letter was presented to board members for review.

*Jessica Istas (Dr. Jacqueline Vietti) moved to authorize the WA Board Chair to request a comprehensive analysis of the local area service delivery boundaries for WIOA implementation.*

#### **6. Community Impact Projects Updates**

Amanda Duncan provided a review of current WA projects the WA.

Youth Employment Project (YEP) – The school year is winding down and youth employment and activities are ramping up for the the summer. An interview day was held on April 5<sup>th</sup> with a good turnout and new mix of employers. NIAR hired some youth for the first time. Spirit was not able participate due to the pending merger. Textron hired 170 interns this summer, some from out of state. Maize senior interview day was held on April 16. Wichita Public Schools had to cancel their interview day due to weather, so Maize school district opened up their interview to any high school senior who was graduating. The Camp HYPE, week long career camps for 14 to 15 year olds have been scheduled and open for registration. The WA has a regular segment on KWCH’s Newstalk program to discuss WA

programs and services and on April 17<sup>th</sup>, Amanda Duncan talked about the YEP's career camps and summer jobs for teens; the clip was shown to board members

EPA Brownfields grant implementation has been delayed. Staff are working with the grant officer with a goal of July 1st implementation.

Through Home Base Wichita in partnership with Heroes Make America, Manufacturing Institute, Textron Aviation and WSU Tech, an opportunity is being provided for active duty airmen who are transitioning out of the military or upskilling to attend an accelerated A&P mechanic program. Participants can earn a license in six weeks rather than 18 months for \$5,500 rather than \$35,000. The program is being paid out of the WA's One Workforce grant funding with the hope of keeping these airmen in the Wichita region.

Staff have applied for homeless veteran grant to US DOL and are waiting to hear the outcome. An announcement is expected in a couple of months.

*Report was received and filed.*

**7. 2026-2028 WA Board of Directors Strategic Planning**

The WA Board of Directors adopts a strategic plan every two years and will engage in the strategic planning process in 2025. The strategic plan is used to guide the operations and set goals for the organization. Lawing discussed the organization's focus on economic mobility and the need for alignment with other community-based organizations. He emphasized the importance of leveraging non-federal resources and building on the organization's existing structure. The Workforce Center will host a series of planning sessions that focus on key topics and review progress and outcomes related to goals and community impact. A different topic will be discussed at each session and board members, community partners, employers and elected officials will be invited. The suggested five planning sessions topics include current and anticipated local employment and skills training priorities, economic mobility, legislative workforce policy roundtable, technology tools for workforce development, education and skills training and a summary session. Board members are encouraged to attend and invite others they feel would benefit or can offer contributions to the discussions. The goal is for the WA Board to adopt the new strategic plan for 2026 through 2028 at its meeting in January of 2026.

*Dr. Jacqueline Vietti (Rod Blackburn) moved to approve the planning process for the 2026-2028 strategic plan.*

**8. Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) Local Plan**

WIOA requires each Local Area to have an approved Local Plan. These plans must be reviewed and updated every four years. The template for the new plan follows the exact same template as the current plan. Staff updated the plan to accurately reflect current operations and update according to the current labor market. The draft plan includes goals, strategies, service delivery plans, policies and management of the One Stop Workforce System in Local Area IV. The plan was released for public comment on April 7, 2025 and has been or will be shared with staff, board members and stakeholders. A link to the plan was shared with board members. Comments will be accepted through May 7, 2025. Staff will review comments as they are filed and then respond to the comments and make appropriate changes as necessary. All comments provided will be attachments to the plan. The plan will be reviewed by WIOA mandated partners at their meeting on April 24, 2025, by the Executive Committee at its May 14, 2025 meeting and by the CEOB at its meeting on May 8, 2025. The Local Plan is due to the Kansas Department of Commerce on June 2, 2025.

*Jessica Istas (Kathy Jewett) moved to approve the draft Local Plan as presented pending public comments.*

**9. Consent Agenda**

Approval of meeting minutes for January 22, 2025, Program Year 2024 (PY24) budget update, Operations & One-Stop Operator report, and fair chance and communications reports, WA Executive Committee actions taken since the last board meeting and on-the-job training (OJT) contracts for the

Eligible Training Provider List for Anchor Fabrication and Keycentrix were presented to the Board for review and approval.

*Dr. Jacqueline Vietti (Robyn Heinz) moved to approve the action items recommended in the Consent agenda. Motion adopted.*

#### 10. **Additional Topics/Announcements**

- The annual Jobs FORE Youth Golf Tournament will be held at Hidden Lakes Golf Course on Thursday, September 25<sup>th</sup>. A Save the Date will be sent out soon. Sponsors, teams and prize donations are needed.
- The WA is part of a Kauffman planning grant with the Workforce Partnership in Kansas City to better align pre and post release education and job training services for justice involved individuals/returning citizens and address barriers to employment that exist. If the plan is accepted funds will be provided for implementation and more community and regional partners will be needed and invited to participate.
- Jeff Longwell's term as board chair will end on June 30th. Vice Chair Alana McNary is in line to become the new board chair.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40.

#### Present LWDB Members

- Dr. Rachel Bates via Zoom
- Rod Blackburn
- Cheryl Childers via Zoom
- Marcus Curran via Zoom
- Robyn Heinz
- Jessica Iestas
- Kathy Jewett
- Jeff Longwell
- Alana McNary
- B.J. Moore via Zoom
- Alex Munoz via Zoom
- Erica Ramos
- John Rolfe
- Gabe Schlickau via Zoom
- Sally Stang via Zoom
- Scott Stiles via Zoom
- Dr. Jacqueline Vietti
- Bruce Witt

#### Guests & Staff

- Amanda Duncan
- Denise Houston
- Keith Lawing
- Shirley Lindhorst
- Mary Mann
- Chad Pettera
- Justin Albert, Spirit AeroSystems
- Kaylie Bergkamp-Lagasse, LevelUp Kansas
- Lindsay McWilliams, Goodwill / One-Stop Operator
- Mayor Lily Wu, City of Wichita

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

**Item:**

Workforce Alliance (WA) Executive Committee Actions

**Background:**

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

**Analysis:**

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

May 14, 2025

Approved:

- The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Local Plan and authorized the Chair to sign the submittal to the Kansas Department of Commerce (KDC). WIOA requires each Local Area to have an approved Local Plan. These plans must be reviewed and updated every four years. The draft plan was posted for public comment; no comments were received. The following is a link to the plan:  
[www.workforce-ks.com/communityoutreach/localworkforcedevelopmentboard](http://www.workforce-ks.com/communityoutreach/localworkforcedevelopmentboard)
- A new WA Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy. The policy was created in order to protect the safety, privacy and intellectual property rights of the organization, staff, and customers.
- Approved a 3.5% increase in the Self-Sufficient Wage to \$16.72 an hour. WIOA tasks the Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) with setting an economic self-sufficiency standard for the local area. This policy is reviewed annually.
- Contract extensions for PY25 (July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026) for the WIOA Youth program with Cerebral Palsy Research Foundation (CPRF), Butler Community College, WSU Tech, Allied Health Career Training (AHCT), 160 Driving Academy, Pyxis, Amber DiNapoli, Wichita Technical Institute (WTI) and Heartland Welding Academy.

June 11, 2025

Approved:

- Program Year 2025 (PY25) budget and recommended approval by the Chief Elected Officials Board (CEOB).
- Demand Occupations List for Program Year 2025 for Local Area IV – The board reviews the list of occupations approved for training annually. No changes were made to the list from last year.
- Sessions for the WA's 2026-2028 strategic planning. Topics and possible speakers for the planning sessions were discussed. The goal is to hold five sessions between August 13 and October 22. Invitations will be sent to board, community partners and organizations.

July 23, 2025

Submitted by: Keith Lawing

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July 9, 2025

Approved:

- The appointment of Alana McNary as Chair of the WA Board, and Scott Stiles as Vice Chair of the WA Board for two-year terms.
- Approved the 2026-2028 strategic planning session topics and schedule. Five sessions will be scheduled between 8/13 and 10/22 (Current Labor Market Needs and Trends, Labor Market Data & Community Partnerships, Workforce Development Policy, Economic Mobility and a final recap/summary session).
- On-the-Job-Training (OJT) Contracts for Airxcel and Design One.

***Recommended Action:***

*Adopt the actions of the LWDB Executive Committee as presented.*

July 23, 2025

Submitted By: Janet Sutton

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**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 Local Area IV (LAIV) is currently \$16.15 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 LAIV is as follows:

- Butler County: \$20.48 per hour or \$42,598.40 per year
- Cowley County: \$19.32 per hour or \$40,185.60 per year
- Harper County: \$19.79 per hour or \$41,163.20 per year
- Kingman County: \$20.58 per hour or \$42,806.40 per year
- Sedgwick County: \$19.68 per hour or \$40,934.40 per year
- Sumner County: \$20.08 per hour or \$41,766.40 per year
- Wichita MSA: \$19.79 per hour or \$41,163.20 per year

The data shows an increase of \$3.64 per hour (22.5%) in the living wage for the Wichita Metropolitan Statistical Area. However, due to a concern about the impact such a large wage increase might have on operations, the Board approved a 3.5% increase in PY2024. This increase was in line with the Consumer Price Index (CPI) at that time. As of March 2025, the Midwest region CPI has increased 2.7% since March 2024.

The LWDB may consider a percentage increase again:

- 2.7% increase: \$16.59 per hour or \$34,507.20 per year; a difference of 44 cents per hour
- 3% increase: \$16.63 per hour or \$34,590.40 per year; a difference of 48 cents per hour
- 3.5% increase: \$16.72 per hour or \$34,777.60 per year; a difference of 57 cents per hour

The average wage for current OJTs is \$19.52 per hour; currently, there are two OJTs paying under \$17 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
- 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

July 23, 2025

Submitted By: Janet Sutton

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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 & Performance (POP) Committee met on May 1, 2025. No quorum was present at that meeting and no action was taken on this item; however, it was discussed and there was a question of the increase not being high enough considering it is still under what research is showing. Another opinion expressed was that the primary goal for the Workforce Alliance should be to ensure that public funding streams are not limited and can be used by employers to get as many people trained as possible.

The Executive Committee met on May 14, 2025 and approved a 3.5% increase to the self-sufficient wage.

**Recommended Action**

*Adopt the recommended 3.5% increase in the self-sufficient wage to \$16.72 an hour.*

July 23, 2025

Submitted By: Keith Lawing

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**Item**

2025 Jobs FORE Youth Golf Tournament

**Background**

Since 2013, the Workforce Alliance has coordinated a golf tournament every year to raise funds for youth employment services and programs. Last year, over \$31,000 was raised to support youth internships and work experiences in South Central Kansas.

**Analysis**

The 13<sup>th</sup> annual Jobs FORE Youth Golf Tournament presented by Gilley's is scheduled for Thursday, September 25th at Hidden Lakes Golf Course in Derby.

More sponsors, prize donations and team registrations are needed. Attached is the event flyer and sponsorship/team registration form.

The following is a list of current sponsors and team registrations:

<b>2025 Jobs FORE Youth Tournament Sponsors &amp; Teams</b>	
<b>Title Sponsor</b>	<b>Sponsorship Level</b>
1 Gilley's	\$5,000.00
<i>Total</i>	\$5,000.00
<b>Registration Sponsor</b>	<b>Sponsorship Level</b>
1 Meritrust	\$2,000.00
<i>Total</i>	\$2,000.00
<b>Event Sponsors</b>	<b>Sponsorship Level</b>
1 AGH	\$1,500.00
2 Ascension Via Christi	\$1,500.00
3 CPRF	\$1,500.00
4 Envision	\$1,500.00
5 KWCH	\$0.00
6 NIAR	\$1,500.00
7 Plumbers & Pipefitters	\$1,500.00
8 Rusty Eck	\$0.00
9 Spirit AeroSystems	\$1,500.00
<i>Total</i>	\$10,500.00
<b>Prize Sponsors</b>	<b>Sponsorship Level</b>
1 Vornado	
<i>Total</i>	
<b>Beverage Cart Sponsors</b>	<b>Sponsorship Level</b>
<i>Total</i>	\$0.00
<b>Hole Sponsors</b>	<b>Sponsorship Level</b>
1 Foulston	\$500.00
2 Delta Dental	\$500.00

July 23, 2025

Submitted By: Keith Lawing

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3	Fidelity Bank	\$500.00
4	PEC	\$500.00
5	WMA	\$500.00
6	WSU Tech	\$500.00
	<i>Total</i>	\$3,000.00
	Total Sponsorships	\$20,500.00

Team Registrations		
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1	Airxcel #1	\$600.00
2	Airxcel #2	\$600.00
3	Blake Clotia	\$600.00
4	Bombardier #1 - Defense C&P Eng.	\$600.00
5	Bombardier #2	\$600.00
6	Dondlinger	\$600.00
7	Goodwill	\$600.00
8	IBEW #1	\$600.00
9	IBEW #2	\$600.00
10	IBEW #3	\$600.00
11	IBEW #4	\$600.00
12	IBEW #5	\$600.00
13	IMA	\$600.00
14	PEC	\$600.00
15	Schaefer	\$600.00
16	WSU Tech	\$600.00
	Total Team Registrations	\$9,600.00
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$30,100.00</b>

**Recommended Action***Receive and file.*



# 2025 Jobs FORE Youth Golf Tournament



Presented by: *Gilley's* Title Sponsor

**Thursday • September 25**

Hidden Lakes Golf Course - 6020 S. Greenwich Rd., Derby  
11:30 Lunch / Registration - 12:30 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**

## 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 [slindhorst@workforce-ks.com](mailto:slindhorst@workforce-ks.com) or 316-771-6604*



Registration Sponsor





# Thank you for helping to provide a first job or work-based learning experience!

## 11:30 Lunch/12:30 Tee Off

Thursday, Sept. 25, 2025

Hidden Lakes Golf Course, Derby, KS



**Registration  
Sponsor**

Fill out the form  
below or online



- ☐ Event Sponsor: \$1,500 (Includes Team: \$600 value, logo on website, at event and on KWCH ads)
- ☐ Beverage Cart Sponsor: \$750 - Logo displayed on website and on beverage cart
- ☐ Prize Sponsor: Donated Items: \_\_\_\_\_ - Logo displayed on website & prize table
- ☐ Hole Sponsor: \$500 - Logo displayed on website & hole sign at tee box
- ☐ Team Registration: \$600 -18 hole green fees, cart, lunch, contests, 2 beverage tickets, gift, and unlimited driving range access (Included with Event Sponsorship)

**Team Members:** (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_  
(3) \_\_\_\_\_ (4) \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ I would be interested in providing or sponsoring a work experience opportunity for a youth.

Contact Information:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Organization

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail

Payment Options:

- ☐ Check enclosed: Payable to Workforce Alliance, 300 W. Douglas, Suite 850, Wichita KS 67202
- ☐ Please invoice my organization at the address above ☐ Tax deductible receipt requested
- ☐ To pay by credit card/PayPal invoice please email Shirley Lindhorst at: [slindhorst@workforce-ks.com](mailto:slindhorst@workforce-ks.com)  
A PayPal invoice will be emailed to you - (a 3% PayPal fee applies). It's easy and no PayPal account is necessary.

*The Workforce Alliance of S. Central Kansas, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) organization and all donations may be tax deductible.*

**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:	<b>Harlow Aerostructures LLC</b>
Company Description:	Repair, overhaul and exchange of aircraft instruments and fuel system components.
Location:	Wichita, Sedgwick County
Occupation(s):	Inspection, Deburr Operator, Machine Operator, Assembler-Sheet Metal
Training Length:	Approximately 3-6 months
Average Wage Range:	Entry level - \$17.00 - \$19.00
Benefits:	Full benefit package
Comments:	<p>Harlow Aerostructures LLC, located in Wichita, Kansas, has been supplying to the aerospace industry since 1954. We produce components from large bulkheads, spars, chords, stringers, to small bushings, bolts, pins and bearings.</p> <p>Retention rates reflect workers at Harlow Aerostructures no to work at the larger aerospace manufacturing companies for higher wages.</p> <p>No plans for Incumbent worker Training.</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 **Harlow Aerostructures 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:	<b>High Touch Technologies</b>
Company Description:	Information Technology
Location:	Wichita, Sedgwick County
Occupation(s):	Support Technicians (all levels), Engineers, Software Developers, Sales
Training Length:	Six months or less
Average Wage Range:	Average Entry Level Wage; \$16.50
Benefits:	Full Benefit Package
Comments:	<p>High Touch Technologies is a software, technology, and communications company that provides services and support to companies across the U.S. and in four countries. As a business technology partner, we focus on making technology accessible to our clients and expanding their existing technology and communications capabilities.</p> <p>Although High Touch did not utilize any reimbursement funding during the course of the last two years, they are still committed to being a contracted partner.</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**

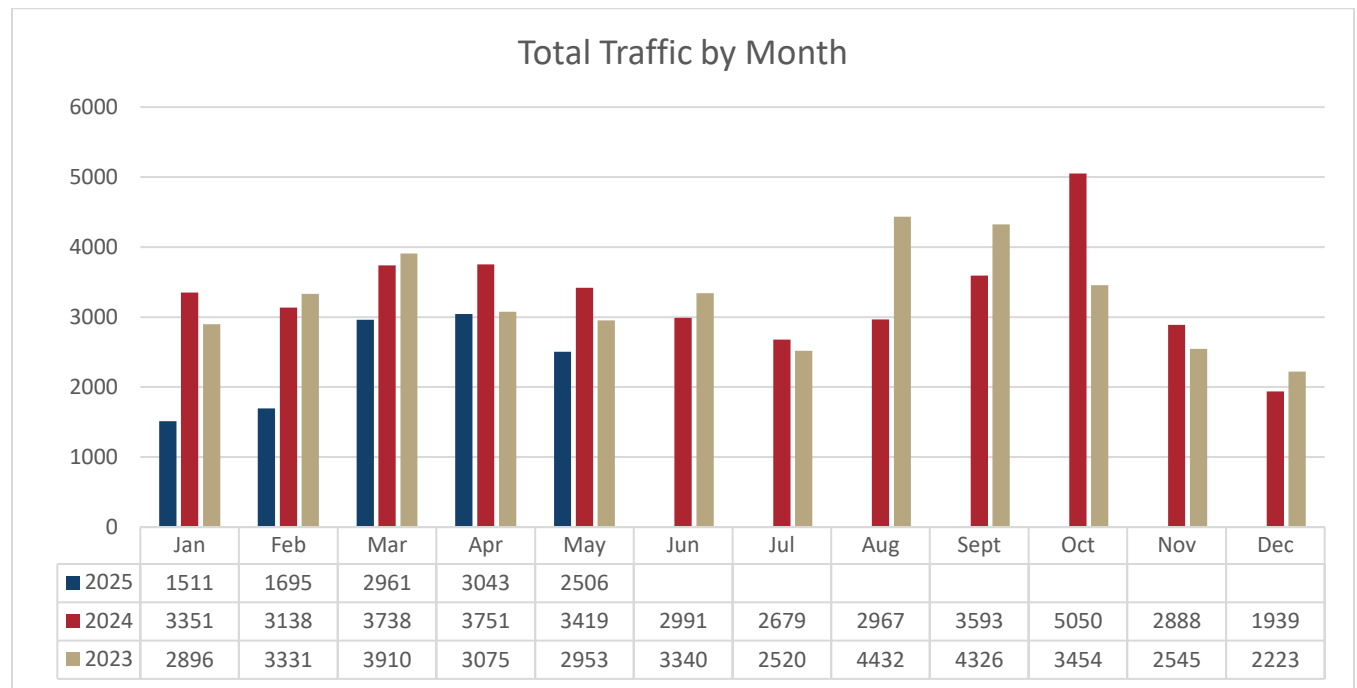
*Approve addition of **High Touch Technologies** to OJT ETP list.*

## Item

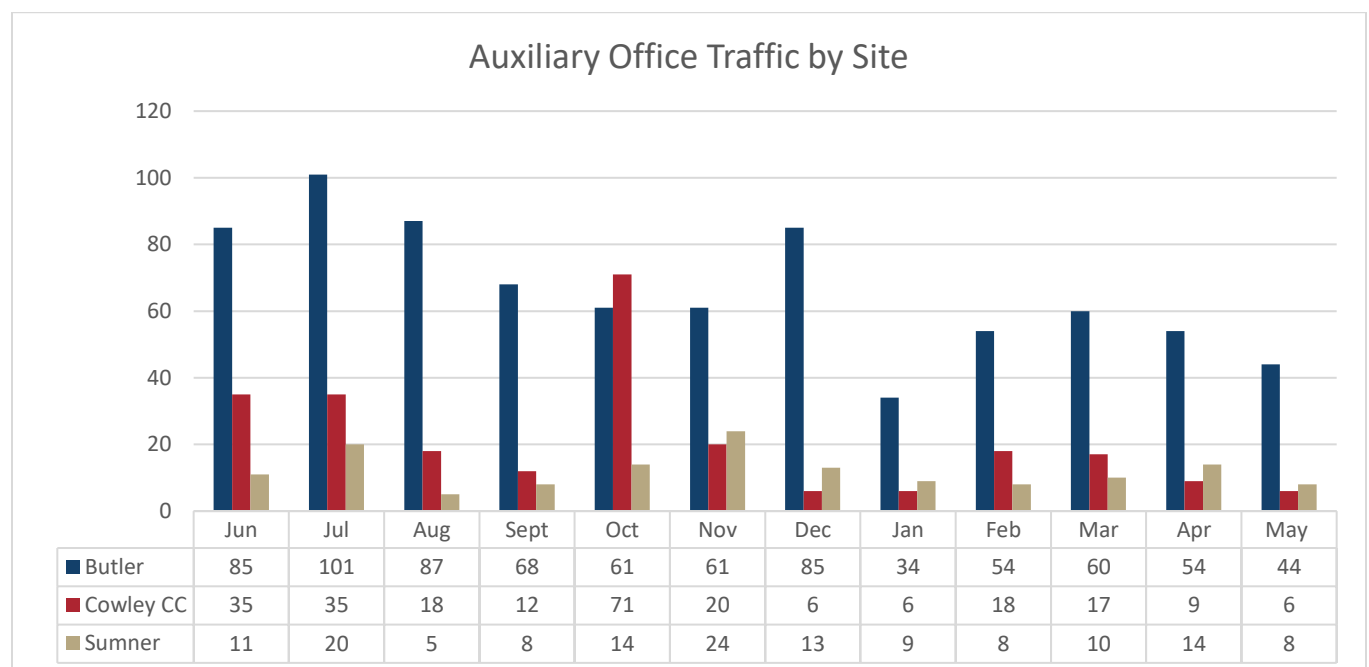
### Workforce Centers Operations May Update

#### Job Seeker Traffic

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

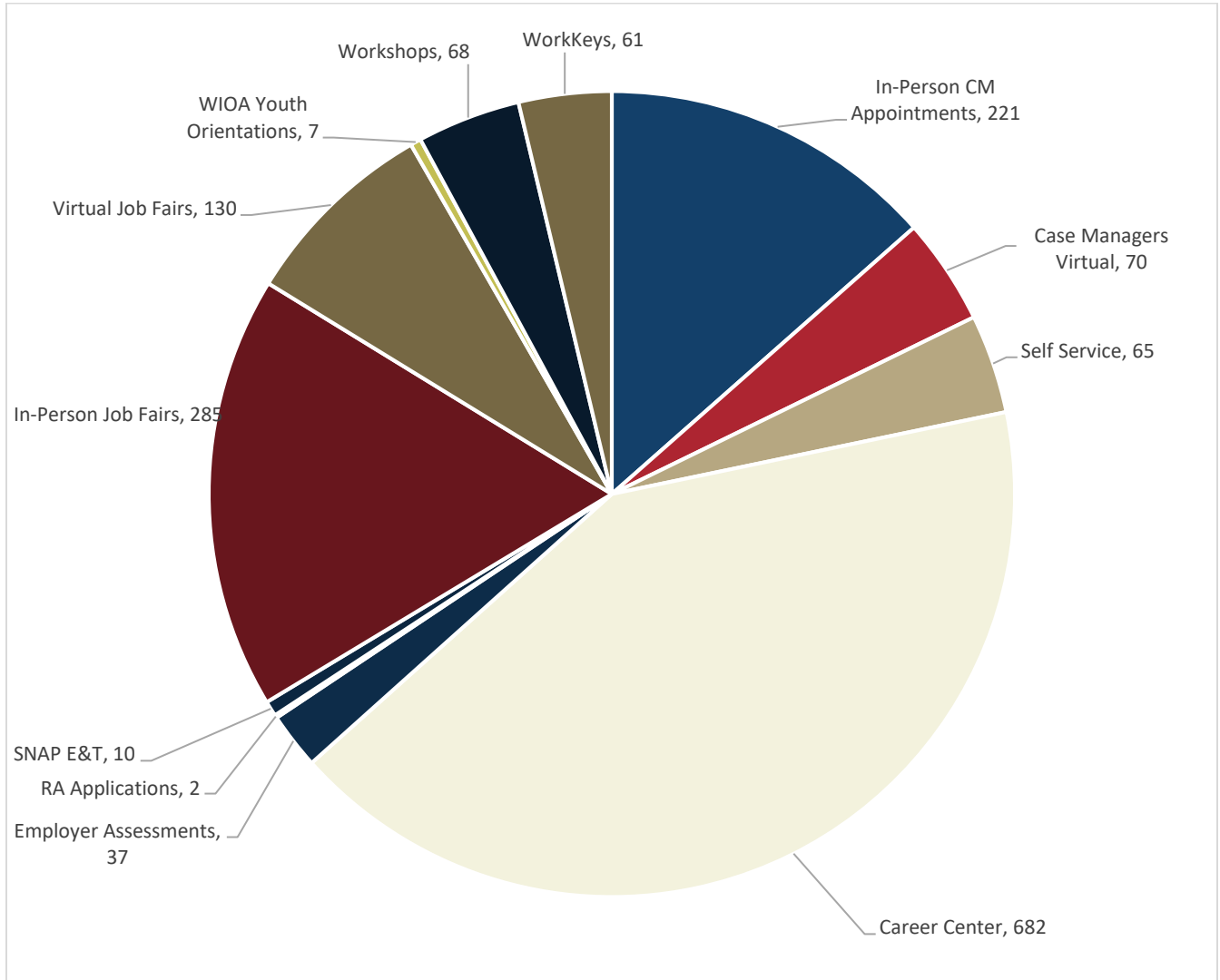


This bar graph offers a breakdown of the job seeker traffic by Area IV's Auxiliary Offices in Butler, Sumner, and Cowley counties.

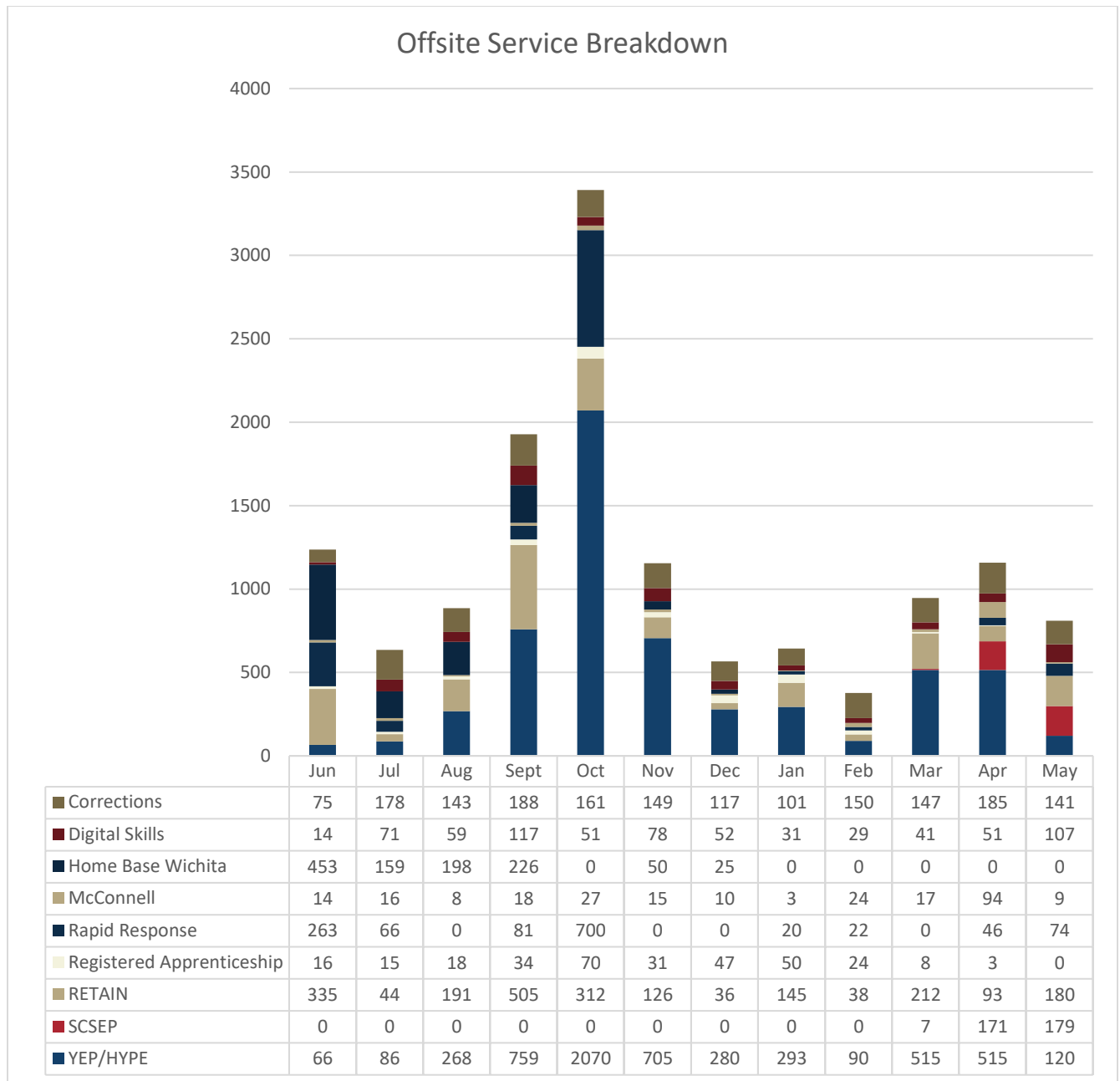


### Job Seeker Services

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.

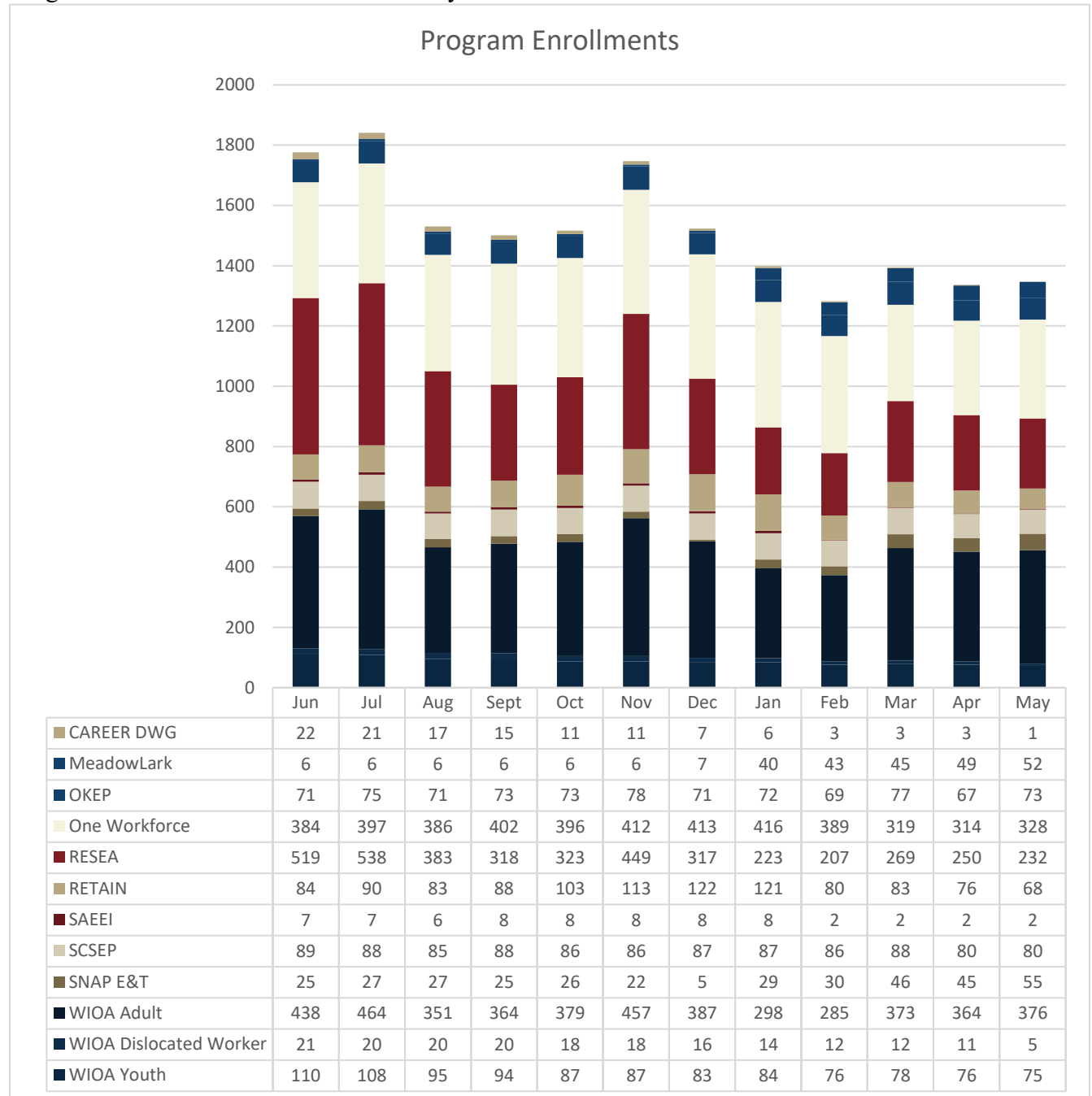


Throughout the last year, the Career Services staff has maintained a vital role in delivering comprehensive support to job seekers within Local Area IV. Their unwavering commitment extends to helping job seekers craft effective resumes, conduct mock interviews, navigate job searches, address barriers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

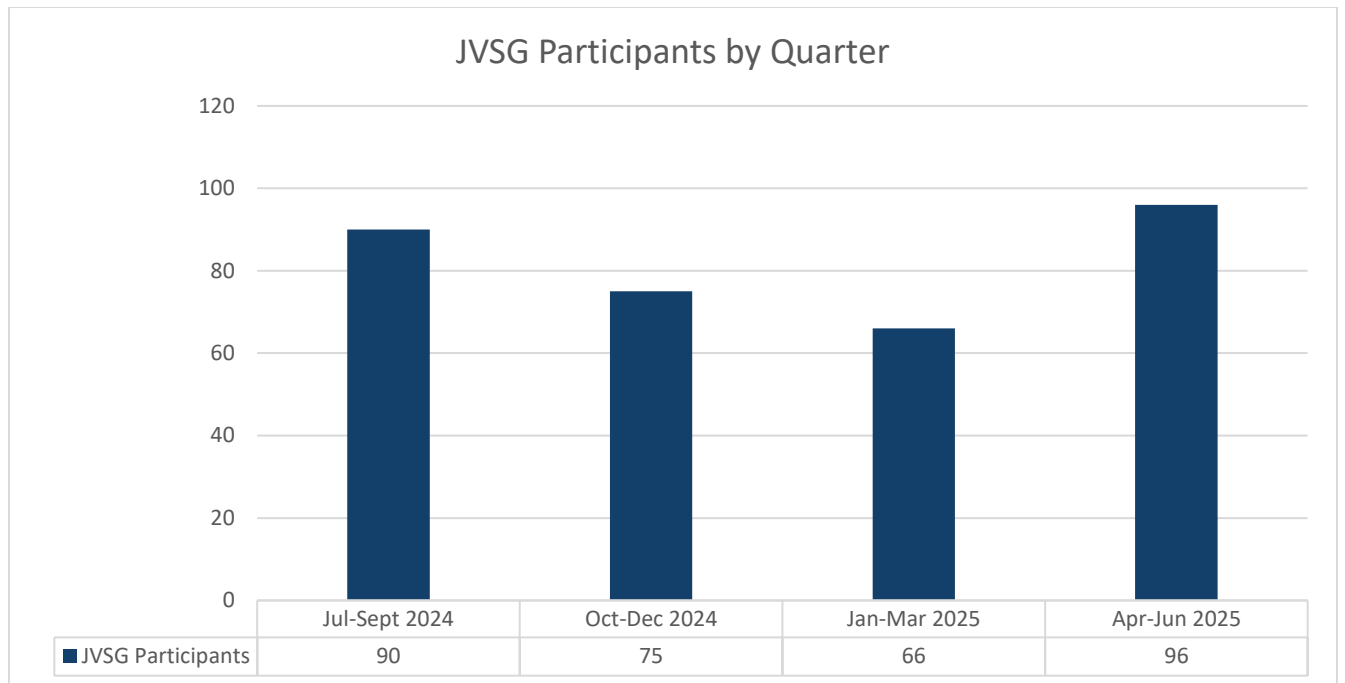
## Program Enrollments

Program enrollments have remained steady in 2025.



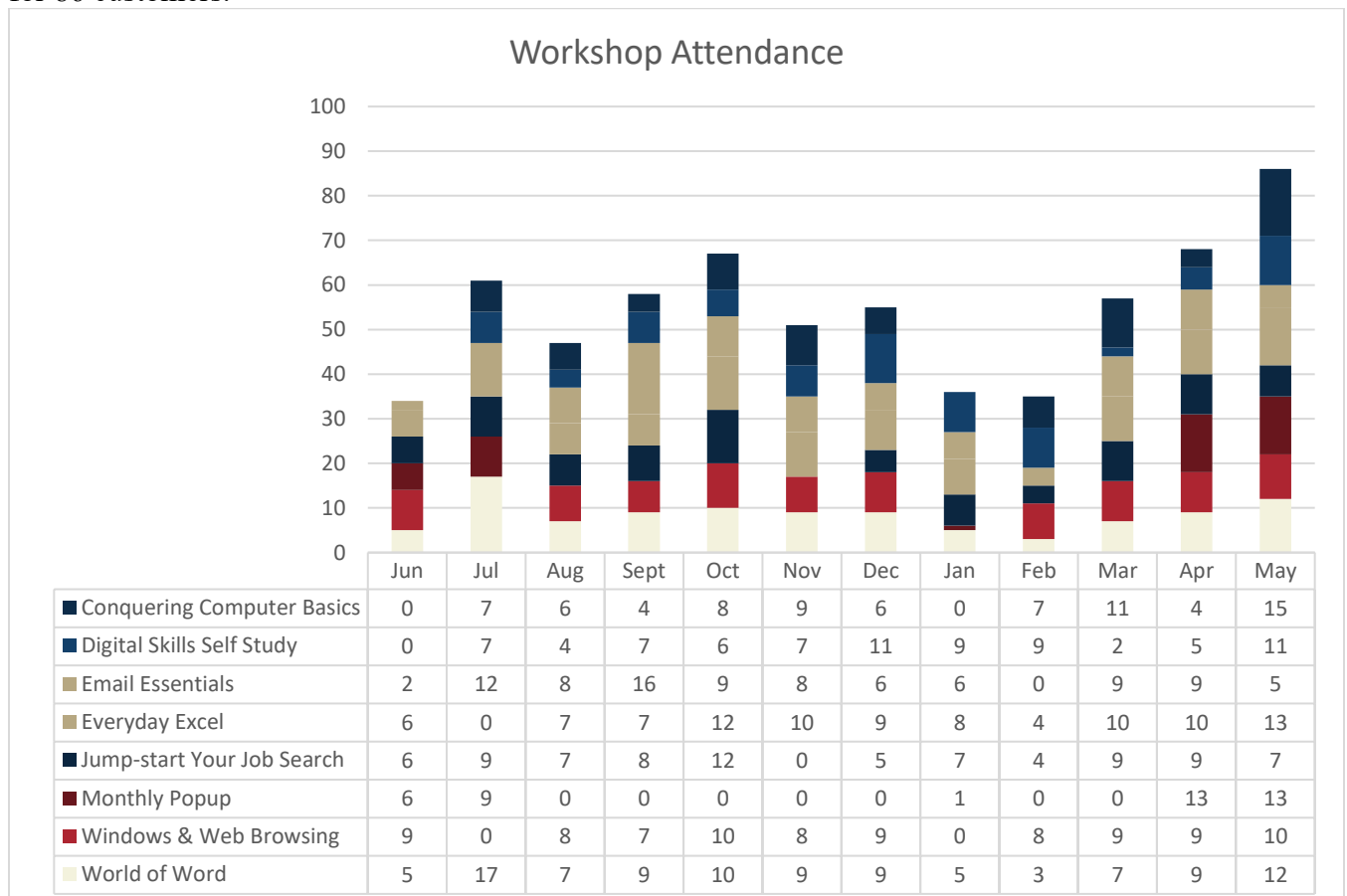
### Program Enrollment Glossary

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



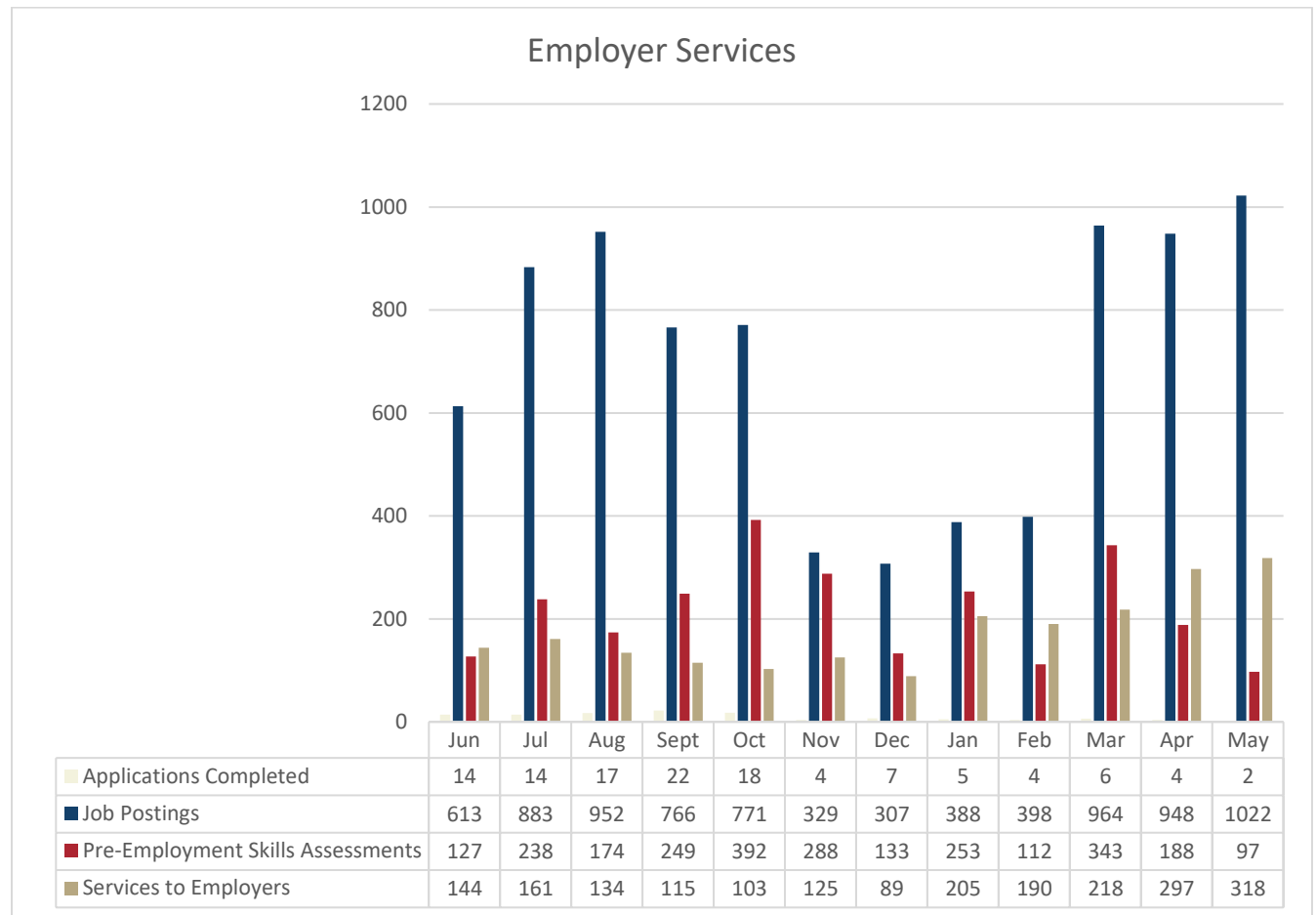
### Community Outreach & Workshops

In May, WA staff facilitated training sessions across 6 events, half of which were conducted offsite and/or in rural communities. WA staff participated in 2 resource events, conducting outreach to an additional 71 individuals. At the workforce center, 8 workshops were facilitated for 86 customers.



## Employer Services Overview

May saw an increase of 7.8% in job postings in Local Area IV compared to April. This was an increase from the previous month. There were 1022 total job postings across the 6-county radius for May. On a statewide level, there were 35,308 active positions available for job seekers to browse. Additionally, the system recorded a pool of 12,677 resumes for employers to consider during their recruitment efforts.

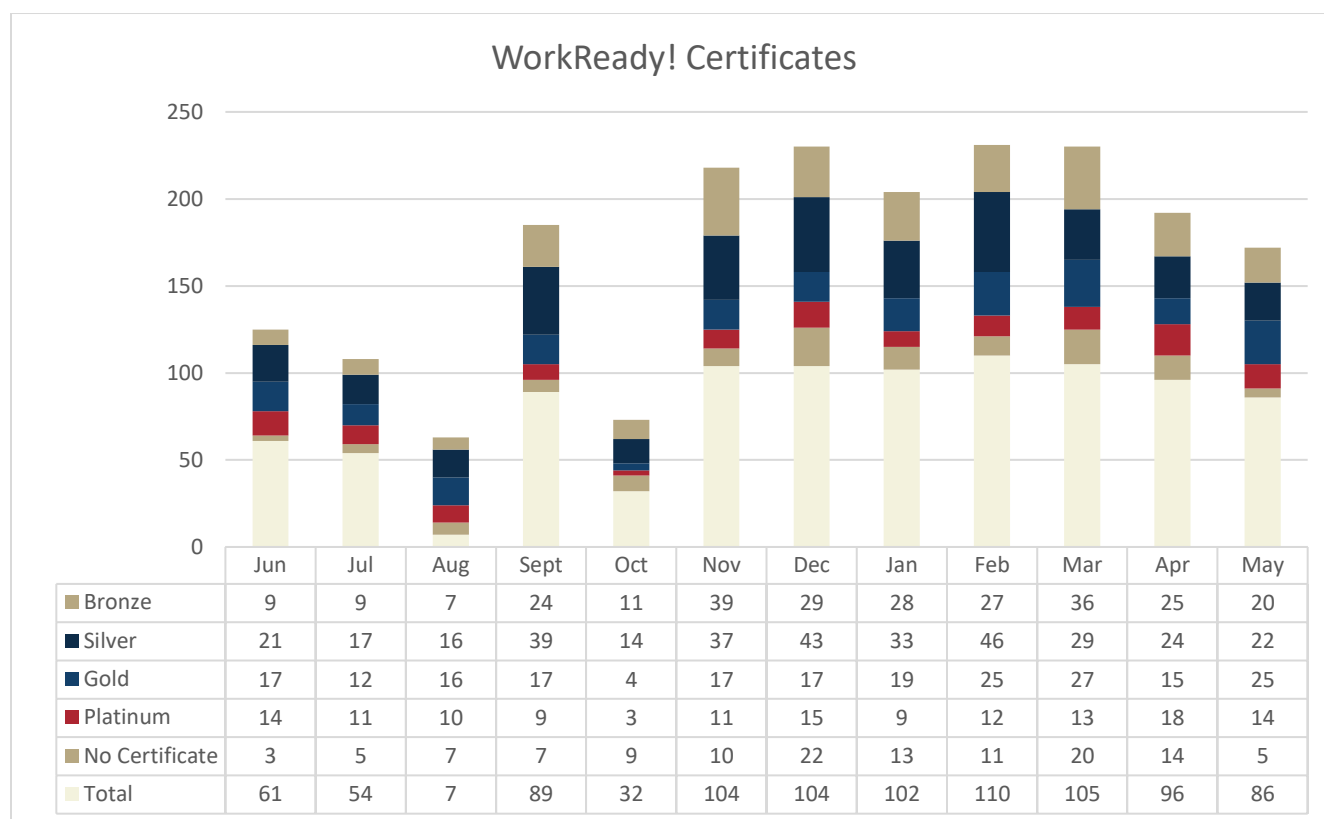


## Job Fairs

In May, our Workforce Centers coordinated three in-person employer hiring events, achieving remarkable success in bridging connections between local job seekers and local businesses. Collectively, these events engaged a total of 258 candidates with representatives from 27 diverse companies underscoring the vitality and reach of our initiatives.

## 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 7 sessions were offered during the month of May, with 122 job seekers scheduled to complete. Local Area IV saw a slight decline in attendance rate, sitting at 70.5%, with it being at 71.1% in the previous month. A total of 86 participants completed the assessment and a 94.2% award rate was documented.



## One Stop Operator Update

### *Job Corps Operational Pause*

Job Corps announced a phased pause in operations, effective June 30. The Workforce Center is prepared to support impacted students and staff through coordinated transition services

In May, the One Stop Operator focused on several initiatives to enhance internal operations, communication, and partner engagement.

### *Center-Wide Newsletter*

A new internal newsletter was developed to streamline communication across all partners. It will provide updates, key reminders, and highlight ongoing initiatives to keep staff informed and connected. The first issue will be sent out on June 2.

### *Workforce 101 Series*

The OSO created content for Workforce 101, a recurring orientation for external partners to learn how to access services, navigate referrals, and engage meaningfully with the Workforce Center. The first group will meet on June 17.

### *City of Wichita Way to Work Interns*

The Workforce Center has two interns joining us this summer. One is working closely with Camp HYPE, the other is working closely with the OSO to learn about center operations. It is an 8-week internship that begins in June and concludes at the end of July.

*Satisfaction Survey*

Due to an issue, customer satisfaction surveys were unavailable for May. Accurate customer feedback remains a critical component of the Center's continuous improvement efforts.

**Recommended Action**

*Receive and File.*



## Corrections Workforce Partnership Report July 2, 2025

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 2 2025 Program Outcomes are below:

<b>Quarter 2 2025</b>	<b>Sedgwick County Department of Corrections</b>	<b>Wichita Parole Office</b>	<b>Total</b>
Employment Lab Attendees	61	0	61
Direct Referrals*	21	18	39
Individual Employment Services Provided	182	313	495
Appointments scheduled/NS or cancel	52/31	63/46	115/77
Individuals Entering Employment**	73	21	94
Entered Employment Rate	89%	100%	94.5%
Employment Retention: 6 Months	70%	90%	80%
Employment Retention: 12 Months	67%	100%	83.5%
Average Wage: 6 months	\$14.85	\$14.59	\$14.76
Average Wage: 12 months	\$14.71	\$15.25	\$14.98

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

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

The second quarter of 2025 has brought about elevated percentages in those entering employment in from Probation and Parole. These numbers reflect the hard work of the clients, the Probation and Parole staff, as well as Workforce staff. Employment retention rates are impressive this quarter as well. The no show/cancelled rate continues to be an issue. At Probation, employment lab continues to be a benefit to the clients who use it. Average wages have remained steady.

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	119	0	119
Direct Referrals*	37	40	77
Individual Employment Services Provided	406	562	968
Individuals Entering Employment**	152	41	193
Entered Employment Rate	83.5%	95.5%	89.5%
Employment Retention: 6 Months	69.5%	77.5%	73.5%
Employment Retention: 12 Months	63.5%	69.9%	87.5%
Average Wage: 6 months	\$14.68	\$15.04	\$14.72
Average Wage: 12 months	\$14.61	\$15.50	\$15.10

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

*\*\*Includes referrals from 2023 who gained employment in 2024*



**Registered Apprenticeship Report**  
**As of 5/31/2025**  
[LAIV Registered Apprenticeship Information](#)

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

The WA is an approved intermediary under the Meadowlark Grant, with 12 approved programs and eight employers: CDH, Inc., Don Hattan Dealerships, UV&S, Cox Machine, ISG Tech, F&H Insulation, Child Start, and Bailey’s Learning Academy.

Employer	Occupation	Status	Active Apprentices
Bailey’s Learning Academy	Early Childhood Educator	Approved	4
CDH	Construction Craft Laborer	Approved	7
	Welder	Approved	1
Child Start	Early Childhood Educator	Approved	0
Cox Machine	Router Operator	Approved	0
	Machine Operator	Approved	1
Don Hattan	Automotive Mechanic	Approved	0
	Tune Up Mechanic	Approved	0
ISG Tech	Service Technician 1	Approved	0
F&H Insulation Sales and Services, Inc.	Coatings	Approved	1
	Insulation Worker	Approved	1
UV&S	Computer Support Specialist	Approved	1

Additionally, the WA has 30 Meadowlark enrollments for apprentices served by other intermediaries. Below is the status on new program activity through the WA intermediary for the month:

Employer	Occupation	Status
AAR Component Services	Mechanic 1	In Development- on pause until July
AZM Solutions	Cyber Security/Cyber Analyst	In Development
F&H Insulations Sales and Services, Inc.	Plumber	In Development
Goodwill Industries	Counselor	In Development
CMJ Manufacturing	Machine Operator 1	In Development
Yingling Aviation	Avionics Technician	Submitted 6/26/25
Design One	Upholsterer	Submitted 6/26/25



**Registered Apprenticeship Report**  
**As of 5/31/2025**  
[LAI/V Registered Apprenticeship Information](#)

The WA accepts onsite applications for six RA programs. In June 2025, 10 individuals engaged in the RA application process, resulting in 6 completed applications, details are below:

RA Application and Prescreen Activity			
2025	Applications and Prescreens	Completed Referrals	Completion Percentage
January	5	3	60%
February	4	4	100%
March	7	6	85%
April	5	4	80%
May	2	2	100%
June	10	6	60%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>75%</b>

**The WA works in partnership with**





**Communications Report**  
As of 7/5/25

**June 2025 Feature Stories**

[BizTalk 418: Chelsea Daniel and getting students early looks at the workforce](#)

[Camp HYPE Links Youth to Local Jobs](#)

[Newstalk: Resources for those Separated from Employment](#)

[Workforce Alliance Receives Child Start's Workforce Champion Award](#)

May 2025 Job of the Day		
Date	Job Title	Employer
6/2/2025	GIS Technician - Information Technology	Sedgwick County
6/3/2025	Business Intelligence Analyst	Heartspring
6/4/2025	Accounting Business Analyst	Central Consolidated, Inc.
6/5/2025	Accounting Coordinator - National Accounts - AP	BG Products, Inc.
6/6/2025	Compliance Analyst	Fidelity Bank
6/9/2025	CNC Machinist I / II	B&B Airparts, Inc.
6/10/2025	Equipment Operator III H - Airport	City of Wichita
6/11/2025	CNC Programmer	Tran Aerospace, Inc.
6/12/2025	Hand Finisher	Pinnacle Aerospace, LLC
6/13/2025	Production Assistant	GKN Aerospace Precision Machining
6/16/2025	Commercial Sales Manager (Multiple Positions)	AutoZone
6/17/2025	Mechanic II - Fleet Management	Sedgwick County
6/18/2025	Ready Mix Driver	Andale Construction
6/19/2025	Sales	Eden's Auto Sales
6/20/2025	Regional Grain Truck Driver	TSI Kansas, Inc.
6/23/2025	Executive Administrative Assistant	Vermillion Incorporated
6/24/2025	Outpatient Receptionist	Mental Health America of South Central Kansas
6/25/2025	Workforce Professional	Kansas Department of Commerce
6/26/2025	Receptionist	Professional Engineering Consultants
6/27/2025	Police Records Technician	City of Haysville
6/30/2025	Web Developer	Kansas Turnpike Authority

## 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:

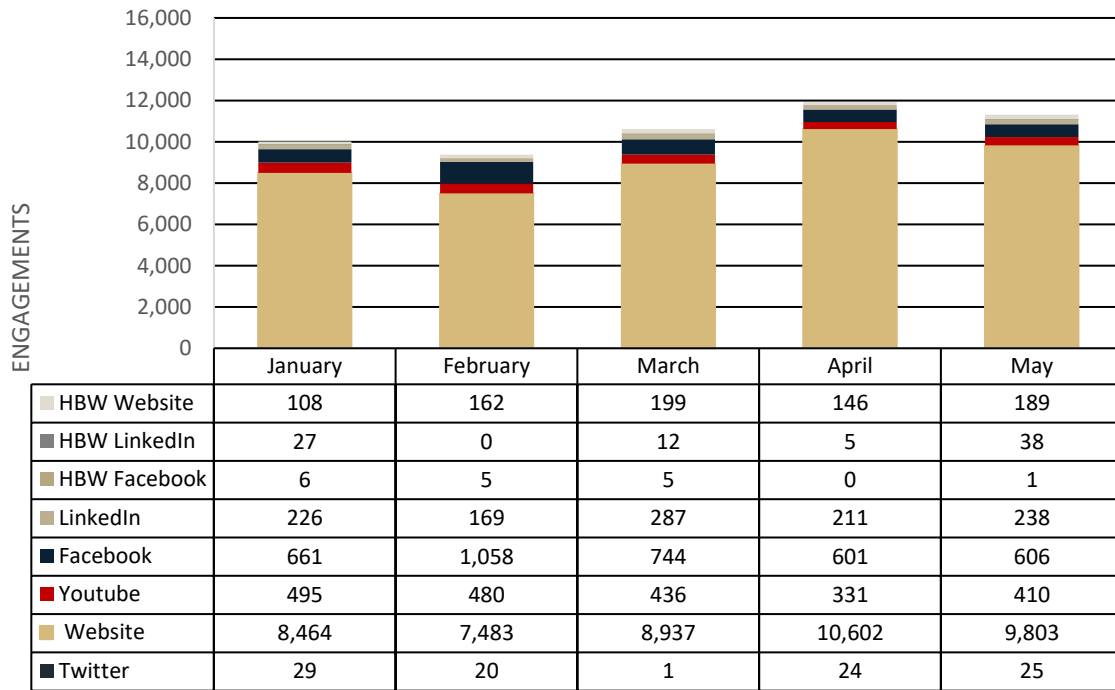
- Engagements - measures the total number of public interactions including shares, likes and comments
- Total Impressions - the number of times content is displayed to a user
- Followers – unique users who subscribe to receive updates

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 May saw increased engagement on all platforms except the WA Website. Impressions increased across all platforms except LinkedIn and the WA Website. Followers increased on all platforms except Twitter and the WA Website.

## Engagements



## Followers/Subscribers

