



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

ZOOM Only: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84480390481>

Wednesday, July 8, 2026 • 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Keith Lawing (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. **Youth Employment Project (YEP) and Jobs FORE Youth Golf Tournament:** Keith Lawing (11:40) (pp. 2-6)
An update will be provided on YEP activities and progress on the annual golf tournament.
Recommended Action: Take appropriate action.
4. **State Training Expenditure Policy:** Keith Lawing / Denise Houston (11:45) (p. 7)
The Kansas Department of Commerce and the KansasWorks State Workforce Board adopted a policy that could have unintended consequences to “One-Stop” operations and support for skills training opportunities.
Recommended Action: Take appropriate action.
5. **Community Impact Project Updates:** Keith Lawing / Amanda Duncan (12:00)
 - Kaufmann Returning Citizen Consortium (RCC) Planning Grant
 - Homeless Veterans’ Reintegration Program (HVRP)
 - EPA Brownfields Grant**Recommended Action:** Take appropriate action.
6. **Consent Agenda:** Keith Lawing (12:15)
 - A. Approval of Meeting Minutes for June 10, 2026 (pp. 8-10)
 - B. On-the-Job-Training (OJT) Contract for Yingling Aviation (p. 11)
 - C. Operations & One-Stop Operator Report for May (pp. 12-20)**Recommended Action:** Approve the Consent Agenda as presented.
7. **Adjourn:** Keith Lawing (12:30)

The next WA Executive Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 12, 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

2026 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 \$25,000 was raised to support youth internships and work experiences in South Central Kansas.

Analysis

The 14th annual Jobs FORE Youth Golf Tournament presented by Meritrust Credit Union is scheduled for Monday, September 14th at Willowbend Golf Club.

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

Emails have been sent to last year's sponsors, board members and employers asking for sponsorships and registrations; new potential sponsors were contacted this week.

Employer Partners:

Aerospace Turbine Rotables	Fiber Dynamics	Netability
Aero-Tech Engineering, Inc	GE Aerospace	NIAR
Airbus Americas, Inc.	Hall Industrial Services	Novacoast
Anchor Fabrication KS	Harlow Aerostructures	Omni Aerospace
BG Products, Inc.	Harper Industries	PB Hoidale
Blake Clotia	High Touch Technologies	Student Startup
Boeing	HM Dunn	TEC Systems
Bombardier	IdeaTek	Textron Aviation
CMJ Manufacturing	Integra Technologies	The Bradbury Group
Cox Machine	Keycentrix	USIC LLC
Creekstone Farms	Lawn Buddy	Vermillion
Design One Upholstery	Metal Finishing	Yingling Aviation
Ember Solutions	Midwest Hemp Technology	Youngers & Son's
Etezazi	Milling Precision Tool	

2025 Jobs FORE Youth Tournament Sponsors & Teams:

Title Sponsor

Gilley's

Registration Sponsor

Meritrust *

Event Sponsors

AGH *
Ascension
CPRF
Envision *
IBEW
KWCH (In-Kind)
Manpower
NECA

NIAR
Plumbers & Pipefitters
Rusty Eck (In-Kind)
Sheet Metal Workers
Spirit AeroSystems

Prize Donations

Butler Community College
Larkspur
Vornado
WSU

Beverage Cart Sponsors
Rensenhouse
TEC Systems

Hole Sponsors

Foulston
Delta Dental of Kansas
Fidelity Bank
PEC *
Schaefer Architecture
WMA
WSU Tech

Teams

Airxcel (2) *
Blake Clotia
Bombardier (2)
Center Industries
Dondlinger *
Goodwill
IMA
Kansas Building Trades
PEC *
Remediation Contractors
TEC Systems (2) *
WSU Tech

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

2026 Jobs FORE Youth Tournament Sponsors & Teams

Presenting Sponsor	Sponsorship Level
Meritrust	\$3,000.00
<i>Total</i>	\$3,000.00
Registration Sponsor	Sponsorship Level
Envision	\$2,000.00
<i>Total</i>	\$2,000.00

Event Sponsors (\$1,750)	Sponsorship Level
AGH	\$1,750.00
CPRF	\$1,750.00
KWCH (In-Kind)	-
Rusty Eck (In-Kind)	-
	\$3,500.00
Prize Donations	

Beverage Cart Sponsors	Sponsorship Level
	\$0.00
Hole Sponsors	Sponsorship Level
PEC *	\$200.00
NIAR *	\$200.00
Sheet Metal Workers *	\$200.00
<i>Total</i>	\$600.00
Total Sponsorships	\$9,100.00

Team Registrations	
Airxcel # 1	\$850.00
Airxcel # 2	\$850.00
Center Industries	\$850.00
Dondlinger Construction	\$850.00
NIAR *	\$800.00
PEC *	\$800.00
Sheet Metal Workers *	\$800.00
<i>Total Registrations</i>	\$5,800
GRAND TOTAL	\$14,900

** Package Hole/Team Sponsorships*

Recommended Action

Take appropriate action.



2026 Jobs FORE Youth Golf Tournament

Presented by:



Monday • September 14

Willowbend Golf Club - 8001 E. Mulberry Dr., Wichita

7:30 AM Breakfast / Registration - 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

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 or 316-771-6604*





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

7:30 AM Breakfast /Registration - 9:00 AM Tee Off

Monday, September 14, 2026

Willowbend Golf Club, Wichita



Fill out the form
below or online



- ☐ Event Sponsor: \$1,750 (Includes Team: \$850 value, logo on website, social media at event & KWCH ads)
- ☐ Beverage Cart Sponsor: \$1,000 - Logo displayed on website, social media & on the course
- ☐ Prize Sponsor: Donated Items: _____ - Logo displayed on website, social media & prize table
- ☐ Hole Sponsor: \$250 - Logo displayed on website, social media & hole sign at tee box
- ☐ Team Registration: \$850 -18 hole green fees, cart, breakfast/refreshments, contests, 2 beverage tickets & gift (included with Event Sponsorship)
- ☐ Team / Hole Sponsorship Package: \$1,000 - Incl. Team (\$850 value) & sign w/logo at tee box (\$250 value)

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, P. O. Box 4043, Wichita, KS 67204
- ☐ Please invoice my organization at the address above ☐ Tax deductible receipt requested
- ☐ To pay by credit card/QuickBooks invoice please email Shirley Lindhorst at: slindhorst@workforce-ks.com
(A QuickBooks invoice will be emailed to you.)

Item

State of Kansas Training Policy Change

Background

The KANSASWORKS State Board approved a change to the Workforce Services Training Expenditure policy on June 2, 2026. The effective date of the policy is October 1, 2026. The revised policy establishes, as an additional State identified performance accountability measure, a minimum training expenditure rate of 40% for WIOA Adult, Dislocated Worker, and National Dislocated Worker grants. WIOA Youth funds have a 20% training expenditure requirement.

Analysis

As a result of the policy change, Workforce Alliance staff have been reviewing strategies that address the policy change and work towards increasing WIOA funds spent on training. Part of this strategy includes activities planned around the July 22, 2026 Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) meeting. All KANSASWORKS State Board members are invited to attend the LWDB meeting and participate in a roundtable conversation focused on how Kansas can provide more job seekers access to skills training that leads to quality employment opportunities. In addition, a ceremonial ribbon cutting celebrating the completion of the Wichita Workforce Center remodeling project is scheduled prior to the LWDB meeting.

Additional strategies include increased co-enrollment across programs and potentially focusing on short term healthcare credentials. Examples of short-term healthcare credentials could include Certified Nurse Aide, Certified Medication Aide, Phlebotomy, and EKG Technician. These strategies would lead to increased funds spent on training, increased participants in training, and a shorter turn around time for participants gaining self-sufficient employment.

Recommended Action:

Receive and file.



Workforce Alliance Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB)

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

June 10, 2026 – 11:30 AM

The Workforce Alliance (WA) Executive Committee met virtually on June 10, 2026 via Zoom. Keith Lawing facilitated welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order as Board Chair Alana McNary and Vice Chair Scott Stiles were unable to attend the meeting.

1. Wichita Workforce Center Remodel Update

An update was provided on the remodel project of the Wichita Workforce Center.

- Remodel nearing completion All WA staff are now located at Wichita Workforce Center.
- Consensus among Committee members to combine a ribbon cutting with the July 22 WA Board meeting. Community partners, media, and stakeholders will be invited.
- Butler County Workforce Center in El Dorado:
 - Lease terminated as a cost-saving measure.
 - The WA has partnered with the El Dorado Chamber and El Dorado Inc. to provide Workforce center services from space at the Civic Center.

Report was received and filed.

2. Program Year 2025 (PY25) Budget Review & Proposed Program Year 2026 (PY26) Budget Presentation

Staff reviewed the Program Year 2025 budget and presented a proposed budget for Program Year 2026.

- PY25 Overview
 - Overall finances considered stable with expected carryover.
- PY26 Proposed Draft Budget
 - Draft budget presented does not yet reflect PY26 allocations due to delays from the State. The allocation data has now been received and a final revised budget will be prepared for review in August or September.
 - Key funding changes include a slight decrease of approximately \$4,000 to Adult & Dislocated Worker and a \$100,000 decrease in Youth funding.
 - Federal trends show small incremental increases (~1–3% historically).
 - Kansas allocations show Adult increased by 24%, Dislocated Worker decreased by 11–12% and Youth increased by 28%
 - Total projected WA budget will be approximately \$6.8M (lowest in several years).
 - Operational breakdown shows 66% to operations/overhead vs. 34% to direct client services (lower than typical). The reduction is mainly due to expiration of One Workforce grant.
- Discussion
 - Concern about meeting state/federal training expenditure thresholds (40–50%).
 - Need for:
 - Strategic, proactive adjustments.
 - Investment in systems/technology to improve efficiency.
 - Clear narrative showing forward-looking adaptation.
 - Leadership to
 - Develop clearer narrative on strategic shifts within future budgets.
 - Evaluate opportunities for:

- Technology/system investments.
- Process efficiencies to reduce administrative burden.
- Continue planning toward training expenditure requirements.

Rod Blackburn (Tony Naylor) moved to approve the proposed PY26 budget with authorization to make adjustments once final carry over funding is known.

3. **State Proposed Training Expenditure Policy**

The State Workforce Board had a special meeting on June 2 and approved the Kansas Dept. of Commerce's proposed policy. The WA had provided formal comments to the State Board with concerns about the policy and its possible unintended consequences to "One-Stop" operations and support for skills training opportunities. The State Workforce Board adopted the 40% training expenditure policy despite opposition.

- Policy includes phased implementation (not immediate compliance).
- Concerns raised:
 - Policy may reduce operational flexibility.
 - Could hinder ability to form partnerships and expand training access.
 - Perception that state board lacked full understanding of local operations.
- Discussion
 - Importance of employer-led advocacy (more credible than internal lobbying).
 - Need for coordinated outreach campaign by entire board.
 - Board/Committee members expressed willingness to engage employer advocacy channels.
 - The State Workforce Board leadership will be invited to the July 22 board meeting to discuss the policy. Discussion to be framed around employer training needs and practical strategies to increase training participation.
 - Prepare concise talking points for board members and partners.
 - Gather supporting data:
 - Job placements without training.
 - Impact of workforce services beyond training dollars.

4. **Community Impact Project Updates**

- The 2026 Ad Astra Technology Summit organized by FlagshipKansas was held on June 4th and had strong attendance and engagement.
 - The event featured keynote speaker Salim Ismail, who discussed exponential organizational and technology trends and impacts
 - Breakout sessions included topics of workforce, AI, manufacturing, education, registered apprenticeship and startups.
- Youth Employment Project (YEP)
 - Rotary grant (\$7,500) awarded to the WA for youth program.
 - A WA youth program/Youth Employment Project and Helping Youth Prepare for Employment (HYPE) report will be emailed to board and stakeholders in the next few days.
- Jobs FORE Youth Golf Tournament
 - Planning underway and sponsorship outreach beginning.
 - Minor fee increases have been implemented.
- Kaufmann Returning Citizen Consortium (RCC) Planning Grant - The WA is part of a coalition that received a planning grant that aims to support pre- and post-release employment outcomes for justice-involved individuals. An implementation request has been submitted and a decision expected soon.
- Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program (HVRP) and EPA Brownfields Grant progressing well with outreach and training enrollments.

Report was received and filed.

5. Consent Agenda

Approval of meeting minutes for May 13, 2026, on-the job training contract for Prime Craftsman, Workforce Center operations and one-stop operator update for April and WA Communications and Registered Apprenticeship program updates were presented to the Committee for review and/or approval.

Kathy Jewett (Luis Rodriguez) moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion adopted.

6. Announcements

- This meeting was Rod Blackburn's final meeting on the Executive Committee. Rod was on the WA for over 25 years; he was recognized for his long-standing service and contributions.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 PM.

Attendees:

LWDB Executive Committee Members

Rod Blackburn
Cheryl Childers
Michele Gifford
Kathy Jewett
Tony Naylor
Luis Rodriguez

Staff/Guests

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

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:	Yingling Aviation
Company Description:	Aviation Maintenance
Location:	Wichita, Sedgwick County
Occupation(s):	A&P Mechanic, Aviation Technician, Painter, Sheet Metal Technician, Line Service Technician
Training Length:	Six months or less
Average Wage Range:	Average starting wage is \$15.00-\$25.00
Benefits:	Full benefit package
Comments:	This grant will continue the ongoing partnership between Yingling Aviation and the Workforce Alliance. This contract will continue to strengthen the ability of Yingling to support employees as they achieve a significant upgrade in skills. It will also continue to support Yingling as they make Kansas' current or future workforce more competitive and address a significant occupational demand.
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

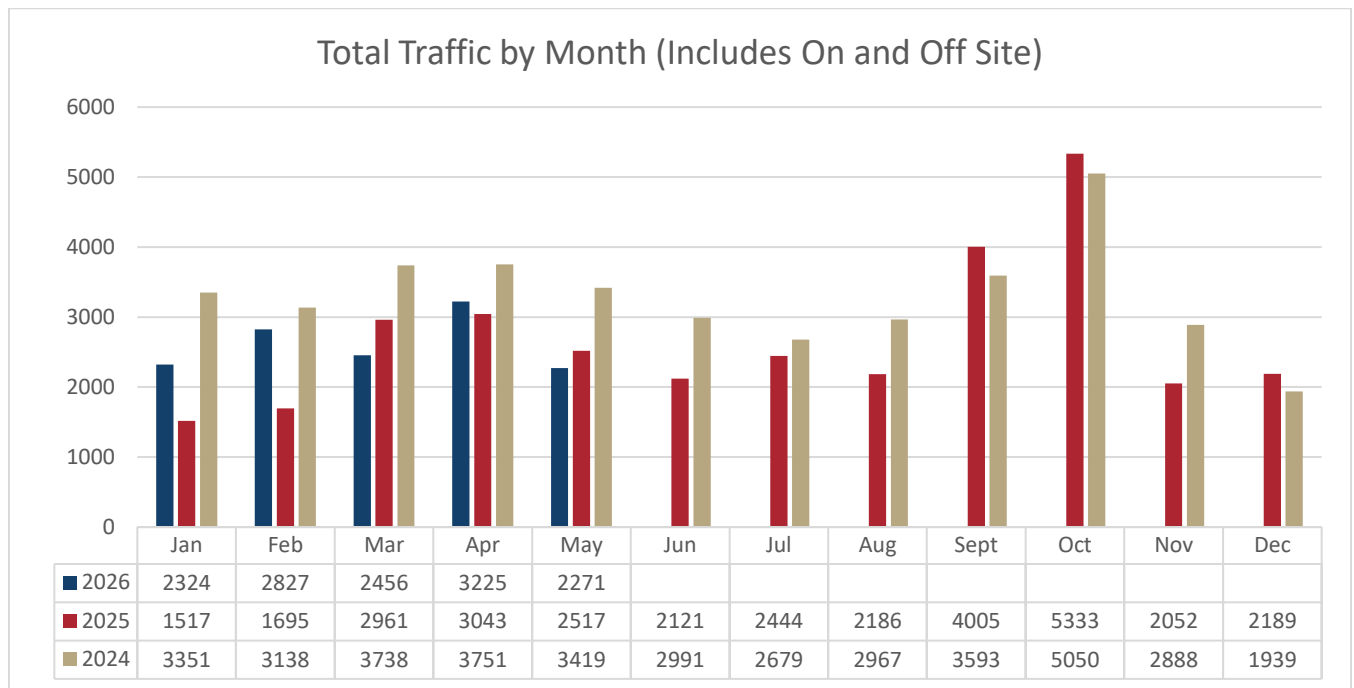
Approve addition of Yingling Aviation to OJT ETP list.

Item

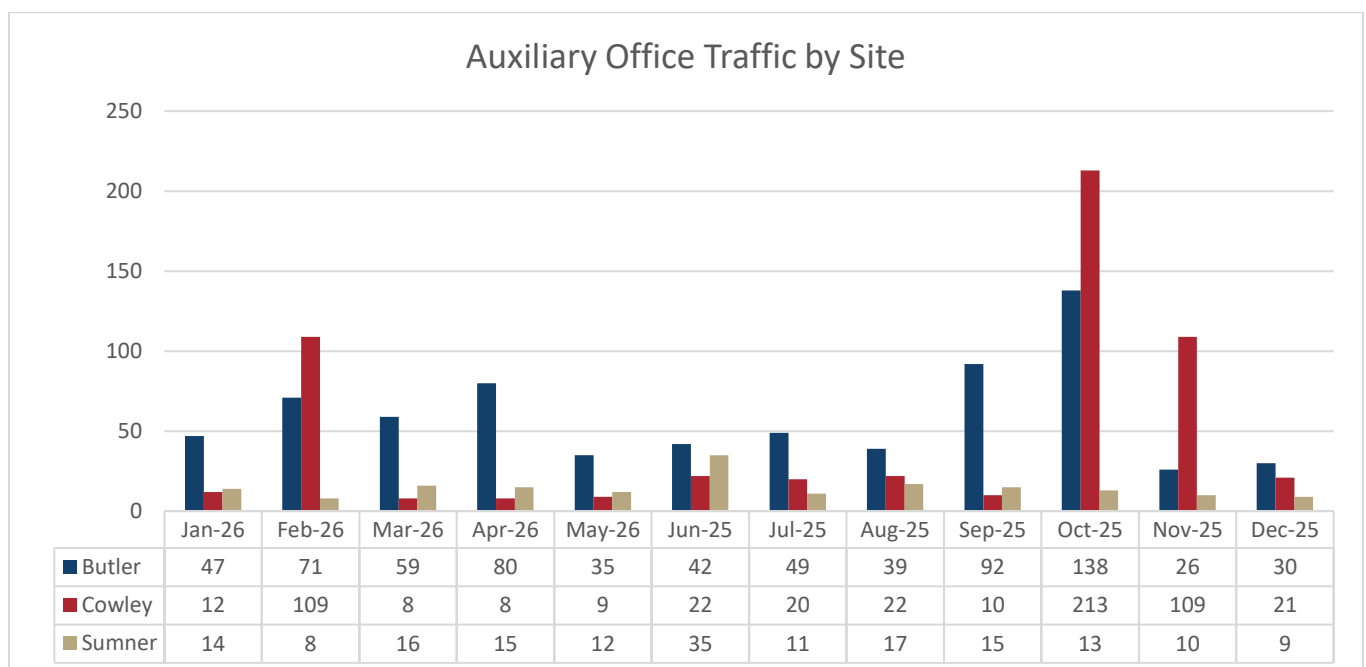
Workforce Centers Operations May 2026 Update

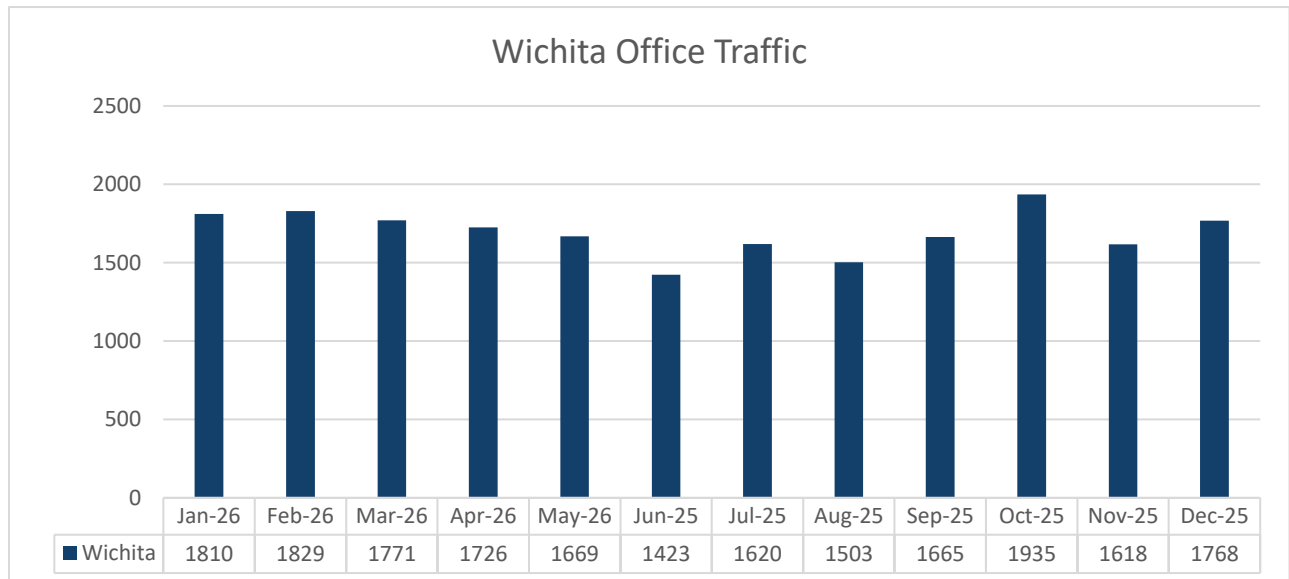
Job Seeker Traffic

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



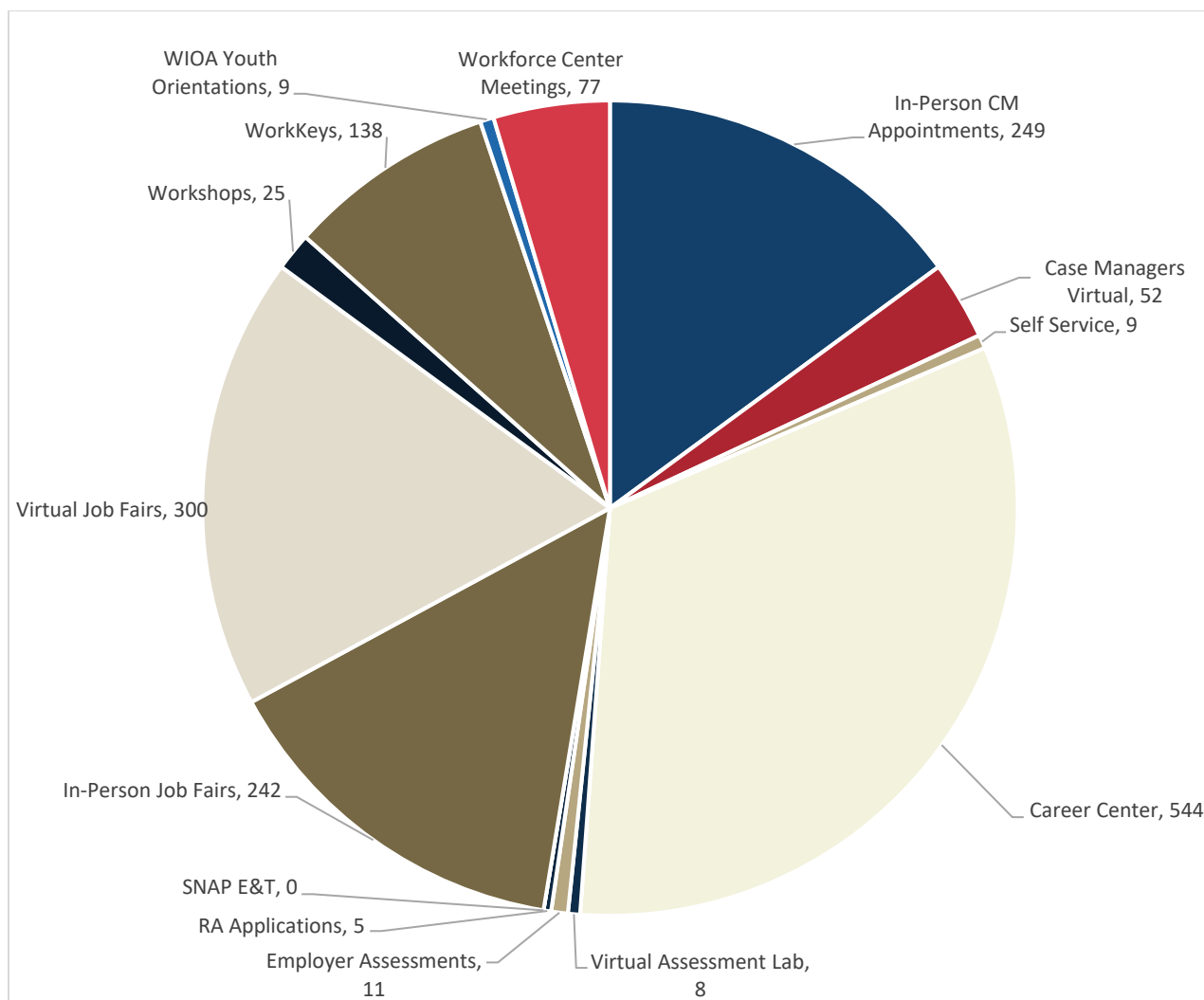
This bar graph offers a breakdown of the job seeker traffic by Auxiliary Offices in Butler, Sumner, and Cowley counties.



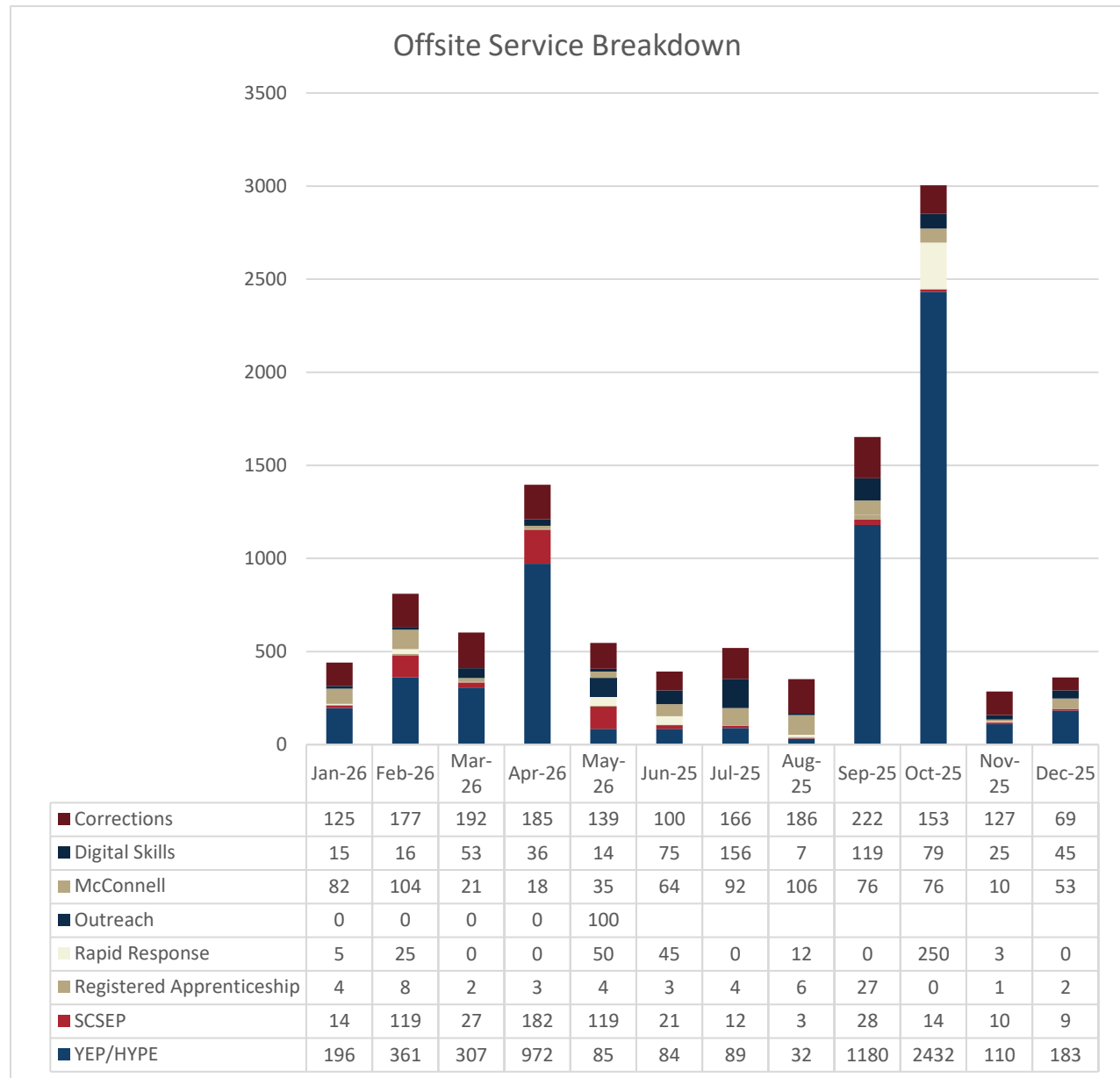


Job Seeker Services

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.

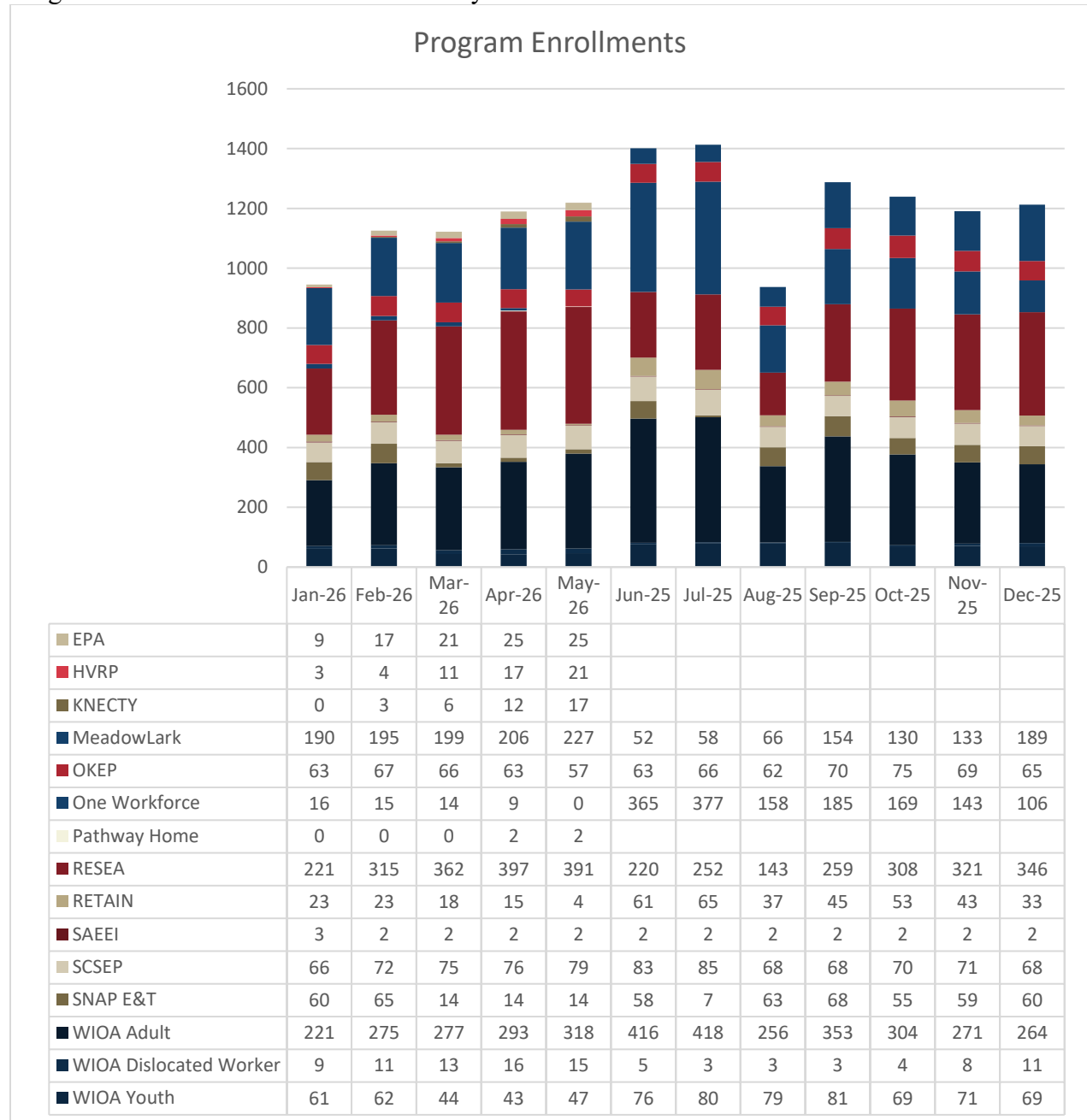


Throughout the last year, the Career Services staff has maintained a vital role in delivering comprehensive support to job seekers. Their unwavering commitment extends to helping job seekers craft effective resumes, conduct mock interviews, navigate job searches, address barriers to employment, and promptly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



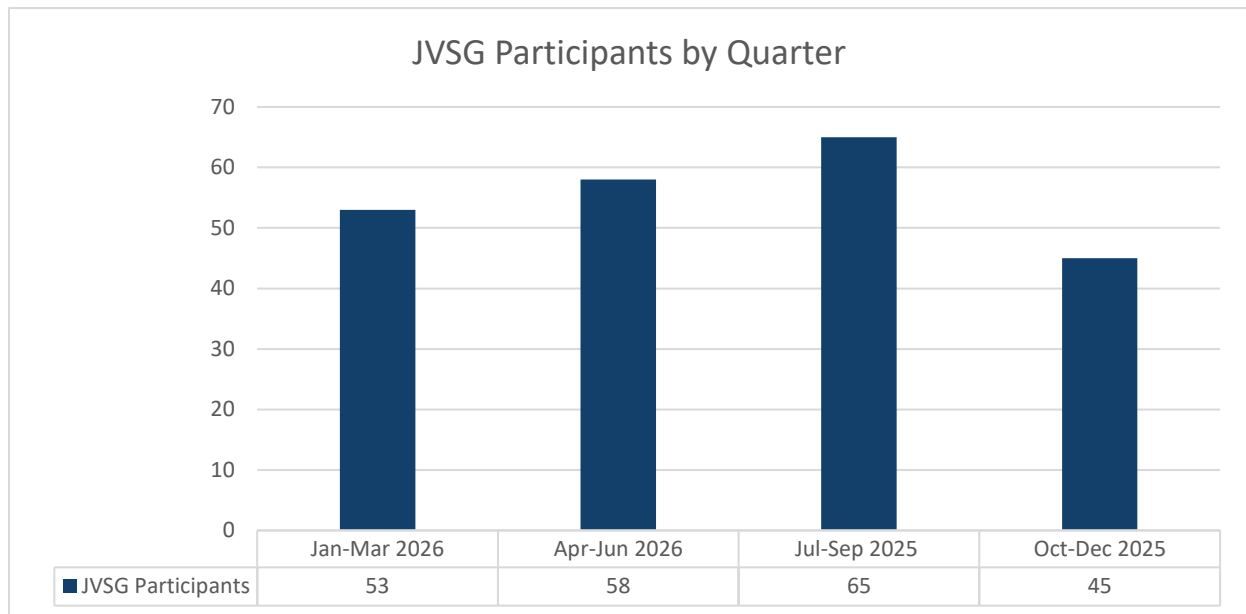
Program Enrollment Glossary

- 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

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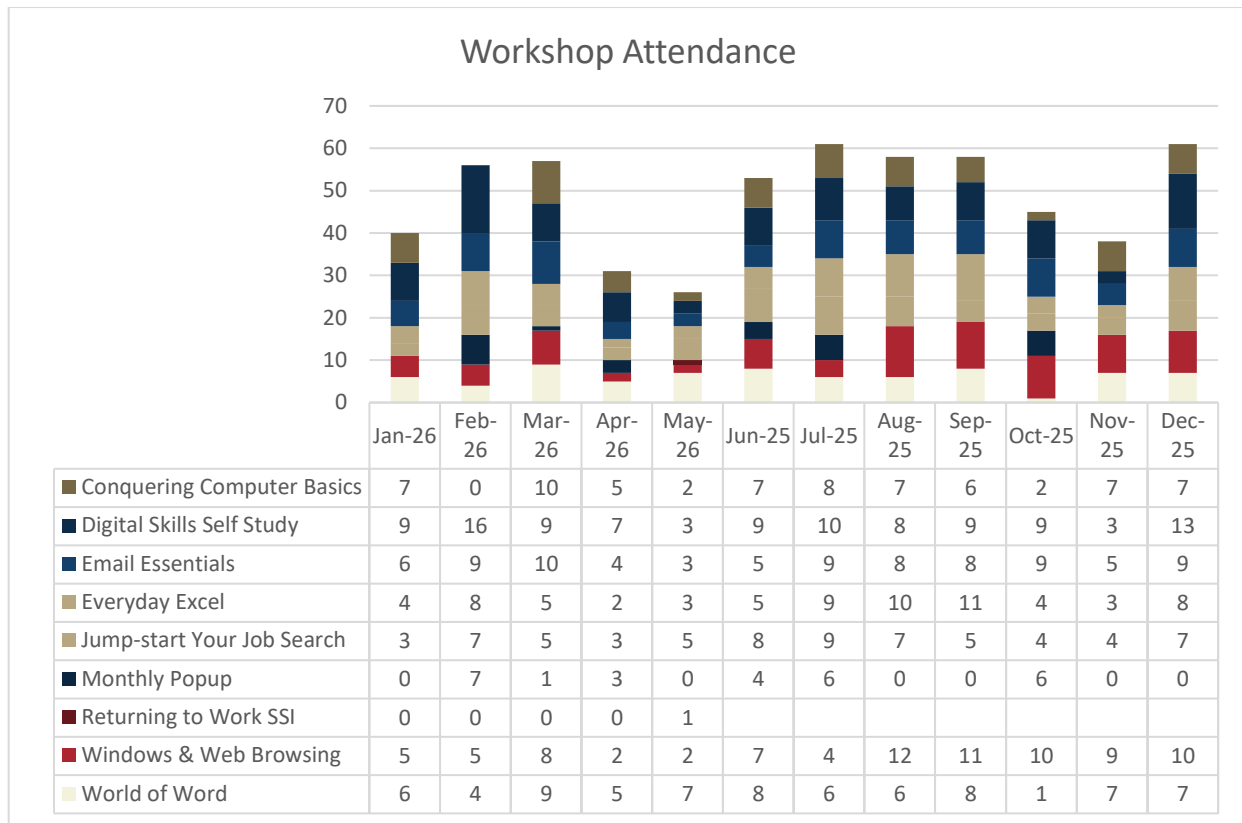
Submitted By: Denise Houston

- 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



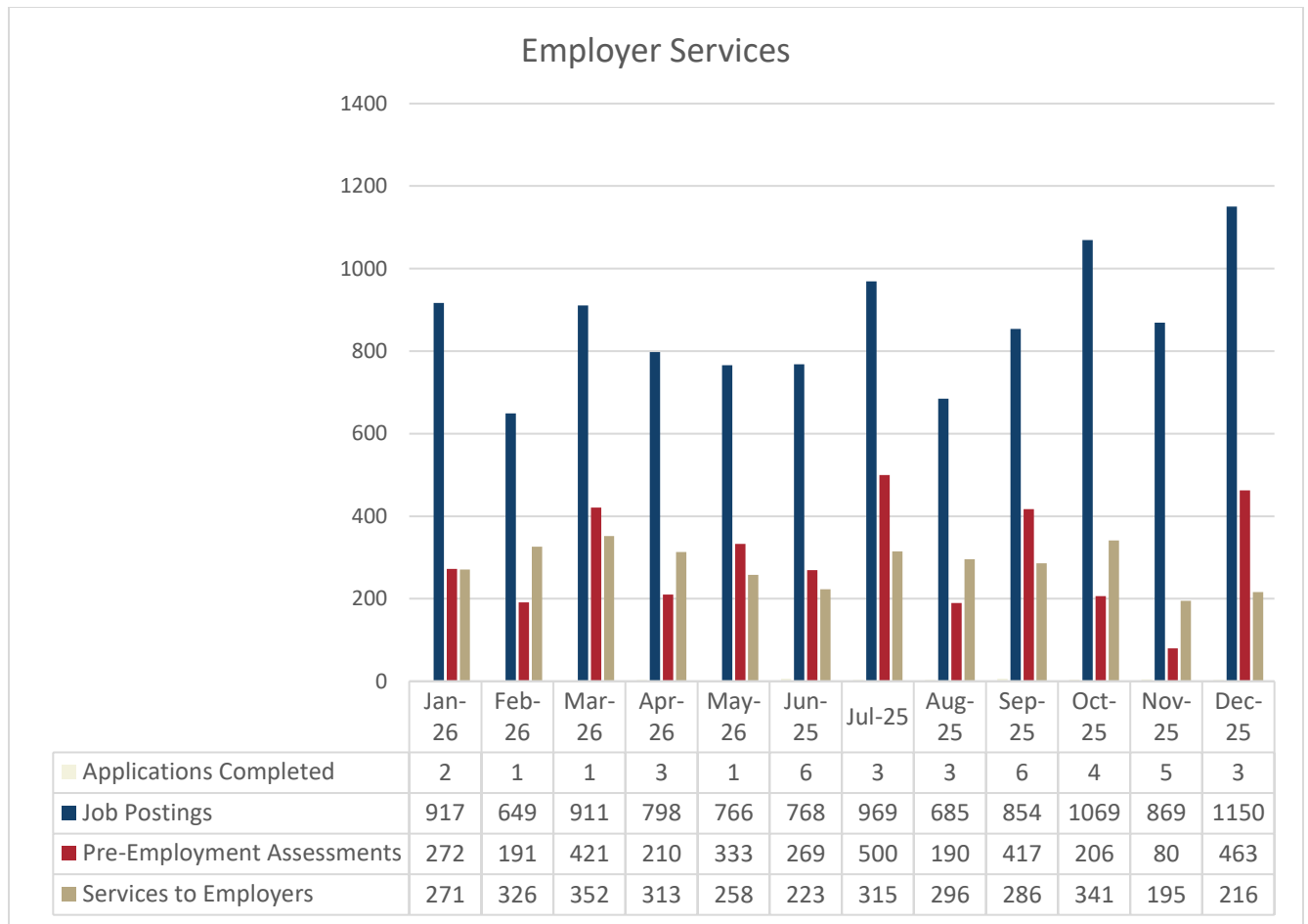
Community Outreach & Workshops

In May, staff focused on providing accessible digital skills training while continuing to expand awareness of available resources throughout the community. A total of 10 workshops and training sessions were delivered, with 40 participants participating in skill development activities. Learners started 23 training modules and completed 18, resulting in 18 digital credentials earned. Participants also logged 44 learning hours. Beyond direct training services, staff participated in three outreach events that connected an additional 114 individuals with information about available programs and services. One learner secured employment during the month. Combined, training and outreach activities reached 154 individuals in May.



Employer Services Overview

May saw a decrease of 4% in job postings compared to April. There were 766 total job postings across the 6-county radius for May. On a statewide level, there were 33,270 active positions available for job seekers to browse. Additionally, the system recorded a pool of 11,077 resumes for employers to consider during their recruitment efforts.



Job Fairs

In May, the Workforce Center hosted two in person job fairs in partnership with 31 employers, bringing in 211 job seekers across both events. Additionally, 13 employers from our local area participated in the statewide virtual job fair, where 287 unique job seekers visited the local area employer booths.

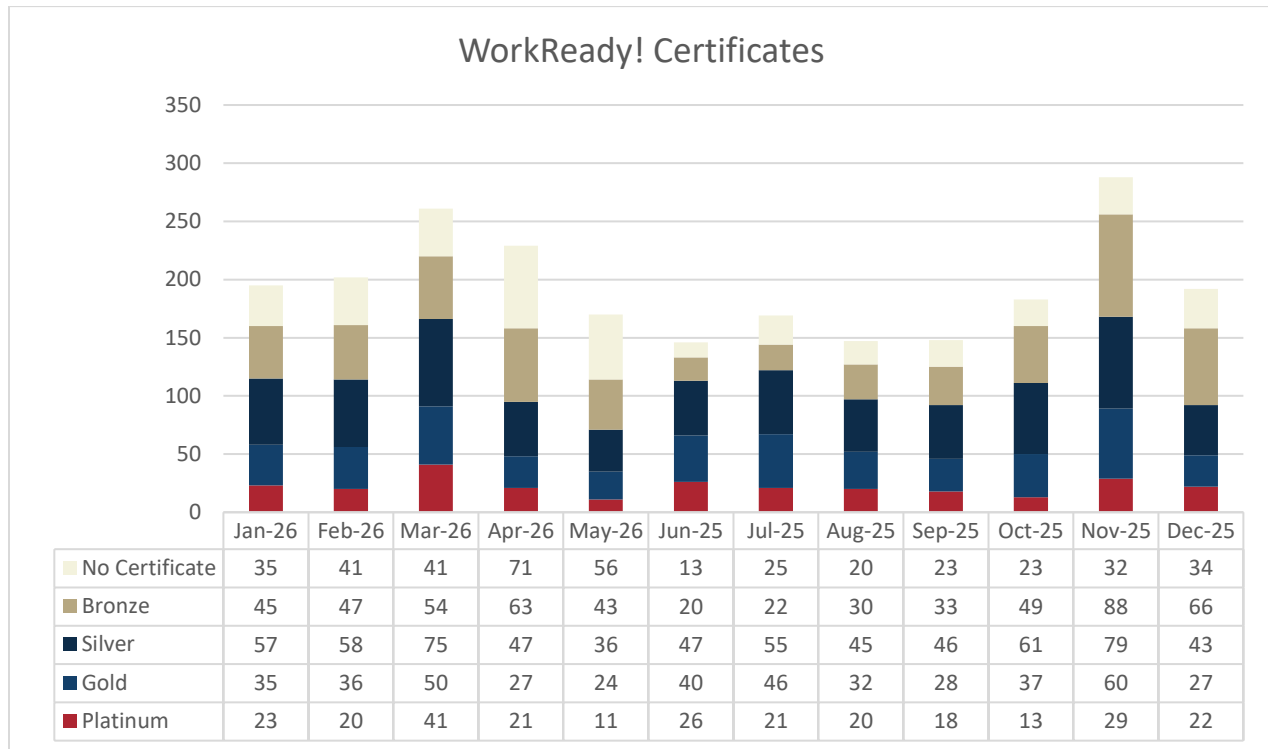
Kansas WorkReady! Assessment - ACT National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC)

The Workforce Center has maintained a steady pool of applicants ready to take the WorkKeys Assessment. A total of 17 sessions were offered during the month of May, with 250 job seekers scheduled to complete. The area saw a decrease in attendance rate, sitting at 68%, with it being at

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Submitted By: Denise Houston

68.8% in the previous month. A total of 170 participants completed the assessment, and a 67.1% award rate was documented.



One Stop Operator Report

May saw continued growth by the One Stop Operations staff, Angela Slattery. Activities in the month of May included:

- One Workforce 101 session with 5 individuals attending. Sessions will continue to occur monthly.
- Outreached to two new community-based organizations and provided information on accessing services at the Workforce Centers
- Provided seven Goodwill vouchers to men who recently released from incarceration
- Led May all staff meeting and coordinated the guest speaker for the meeting
- Participated in the Employer Led Childcare Solutions Convening
- Provided resources and information about the Workforce Centers to individuals referred from Level Up Kansas
- Reviewed Customer Satisfaction data and reached out to customers who indicated they did not have a good experience
- Began training on how to complete the Operations Report
- Provided support to the Front Desk by assisting at busy times and when gaps in staffing occurred

Recommended Action

Receive and File.