

## **Workforce Connections: WIOA Title I**

### **Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth**

### **Job Training and Related Services to Unemployed or Underemployed**

#### **General quarterly updates since the last update in October 2021.**

- **American Job Centers** - The Comprehensive One-Stop Career Center and its 28 affiliate locations, which include 3 JobConnects, 11 One-Stop Career Centers, 4 Employ NV Career Hubs, 4 Employ NV Business Hubs and 6 Employ NV Youth Hubs, continued a hybrid service approach as most all locations have reopened for in-person services. In-person services are now available at most locations including the three Nevada JobConnect offices and the Belrose Department of Welfare and Supportive Services office. The Green Valley Library remains closed as it is currently undergoing renovations.
- **Job Fairs** - WC, Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR), elected officials, and local jurisdictions continued to collaborate and host job fairs for Southern Nevadans. The largest in-person job fair took place in December in collaboration with Governor Sisolak. An additional small business-focused job fair took place in November in collaboration with local economic development departments in the local jurisdictions. The Spring Job Fair took place on April 15, 2022 in collaboration with Clark County Commissioners.
- **Employ NV Business Hubs** - The new Employ NV Business Hubs continue to help businesses recover and grow. The business hubs are a collaboration between WC, DETR, the Vegas Chamber, the Las Vegas Clark County Library District, and the cities of North Las Vegas and Henderson. The North Las Vegas and Henderson locations opened in October 2021. The North Las Vegas Small Business Connector Hub has served more than 300 businesses in its first six months of operation.
- **One-Stop Delivery System Cross Training** - In February, the 17 one-stop mandated partner programs were invited and continued to cross-train staff to better serve the client, by receiving more in-depth information on Title II programming in the local workforce development area. Additionally, regularly scheduled business services and partner meetings are being conducted to continue providing training and information to all partners.
- **Work Ready Communities** - As the largest ACT Certified Work Ready Community (WRC), Clark County continued to deploy new resources to help employers "Hire the Right Worker the First Time" by having additional Job Profilers trained and certified in late 2021 and early 2022. In addition, the three remaining rural Southern Nevada counties – Esmeralda, Lincoln, and Nye – joined the WRC initiative by completing the WRC Boot Camp and starting the certification process. This means all counties in WC's jurisdiction have active WRC initiatives.

- **Workforce Fellowship Program** – In partnership with the Clark County School District (CCSD), the second cohort of Workforce Fellows was launched in September 2021. The purpose of the partnership is to build a bridge between the public workforce development system and the professionals who advise our future workforce, high school counselors. The fellowship provides information to high school students about career options and the resources within the public workforce system. The total number of Workforce Fellows with CCSD is now 11.
- **Promise Fellowship Program** – Based on the success of the CCSD Workforce Fellowship, WC has also launched a fellowship program in partnership with the Department of Juvenile Justice Services (DJJS) in October 2021. The Promise Fellows, nine DJJS professionals, will spend the next year immersed in the public workforce and economic development ecosystems. Promise Fellows will become advocates for understanding and leveraging WIOA programs for "at-promise" (vs. at-risk) youth and their families. The Promise Fellows will work closely with the Harbors and CCSD Academic Centers (formerly referred to as behavioral schools), located throughout Clark County, to expand the footprint of workforce development services in the community.
- **Evaluation Peer Learning Cohort (EvalPLC)** – WC staff participated in the EvalPLC along with WIOA core partners from Title II, Title III, Title IV, DETR and GOWINN. Under WIOA, states are required to utilize formal research and evaluation to improve system performance. The EvalPLC was technical assistance designed to help states develop a plan and implement research and evaluation.
- **Four-Year Local Plan** – WC staff is currently updating the Four-Year Local Plan to reflect current economic conditions, updates to local strategy, and alignment with the state plan.
- **Clark County Childcare Career Pathway Pilot** – In collaboration with DWSS and Help of Southern Nevada, this new collaborative pilot program, continues to target young adults interested in a childcare career pathway by providing career exploration, work experiences, wrap-around services, and an option for continuous education. The staff have revamped recruitment efforts and now have 10 major childcare employers and have enrolled 34 youth to-date. Encouraged by the progress so far, DWSS has extended an option to renew the program for PY2022 (July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023).
- **Partnership and Co-location with The Harbors** – Workforce Connections Title I Youth providers: Equus Workforce Services, Help of Southern Nevada, and C2 GPS, are all co-located within 5 Harbors aimed at providing services and resources to youth and families in need. The Harbors not only act as a diversion from the juvenile justice system, but a conduit to community resources and workforce development services. This partnership will provide youth between the ages of 14-18 and their families access to education, training, and employment opportunities crucial to removing barriers to employment and building sustainable futures. Since commencing February 2022, our Title I providers have received 56 youth referrals and 8 adult referrals.

- **National Association of Workforce Boards (NAWB) Conference** – Members of WC Board and Local Elected Officials Consortium attended the NAWB Forum in April, in Washington D.C. The Forum is the nation’s largest annual workforce development conference and provides the opportunity for leaders, stakeholders and policymakers to share best practices and drive positive change. WC presented at three sessions: “New to Forum”, “Workforce Collaborations with K-12 to Grow Regional Economies and Improve Education Labor Supply” and “Workforce Blueprint: Identifying Current and Future Workforce Needs Through Data-Driven Regional Collaboration” sessions.
- **Economic Development Agency (EDA) Regional Funding Grants** – On December 13, 2021, U.S. Secretary of Commerce Raimondo, announced the 60 finalists for the EDA Build Back Better Regional Challenge. The Lead applicant for the grant, Las Vegas Global Economic Alliance (LVGEA), was chosen out of 529 to move forward to compete in phase two of the Challenge. The revised regional proposal for Phase two was submitted by LVGEA in February 2022. EDA will select 20 - 30 awardees from this pool. The EDA also released the “Good Jobs Challenge” which focused on workforce development. The \$28 million Good Jobs Southern Nevada grant was submitted by the lead applicant, WC on February 7<sup>th</sup>. The level of leadership, collaboration, and engagement by partners was evidenced by over 113 letters of commitment and support secured (including 28 commitments to hire from employers). The letters were submitted to EDA to demonstrate that our region is “shovel ready” and competitive for this project. Notification of the award will be announced later this fall.

***Any COVID-related news/updates related to Title I.***

- **National Dislocated Worker Grant (DWG) Disaster Recovery and Employment Recovery** – DWG funding has been deployed to provide employment and training services to dislocated workers. WC continues to work with the service providers to establish outreach strategies to individuals and employers and provide ongoing technical assistance.
  - The DWG is a joint effort between Nevadaworks, WC and DETR.
  - DWG funding totals \$10.4 million in Southern Nevada for the period July 1, 2020, through September 30, 2022.
  - WC and Nevadaworks have submitted a request to DETR for a no-cost extension to allow additional time to serve participants until June 30, 2023. DETR has submitted this request to the US Department of Labor.
  - The DWG targets 1,300 individuals and has been used to fund career and training services for 1,121 participants as of March 31, 2022.
  - Disaster-Relief employment positions are currently placed at the three southern Nevada JobConnect offices and the One-Stop Career Center. Previous disaster-relief positions were placed with Dining with Dignity and the Southern Nevada Health District.

- **Waivers** – The extensions of US Department of Labor (DOL) approved statewide waivers allowing for OJT employer reimbursement at a rate of up to 90%, allowing for occupational skills training for in-school youth ages 18-21, and allowing in-school expenditures to increase to 50% were submitted to DOL as part of the state plan.

***Any information on service providers that can be shared.***

- **Enrollment Pace** – Year over year through March, the enrollments for formula Adult and Dislocated Worker (ADW) programs are up 37.5%. When accounting for the DWG funded enrollments, total ADW enrollments are up 40.0%. Youth program enrollments are flat year over year.
- **WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker Programs** – ADW programs in the One-Stop System continue to experience a significant increase in requests for assistance from job seekers impacted by the pandemic, with a high request for vocational training opportunities. Services continue to be provided in a hybrid model between in-person and virtually. WIOA staff returned to the three Nevada JobConnect offices when they re-opened to the public on 10/1/2021. Employer outreach continues as businesses increase hiring activities and as on-the-job training is viewed as a valuable tool to assist individuals and employers.
- **WIOA Youth** – Youth programs continue to operate in a hybrid model with both in-person and virtual services available. WIOA Title I youth staff continued to work closely with community partners and local businesses to find employment and work experience opportunities for youth participants.

***Any relevant and/or recent performance measure that can be shared. (see performance report on next page)***

- **Dislocated Worker Employed 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter After Exit and Employed 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter after Exit** – This measure was negatively impacted by the period July through September 2020, a period of unprecedented high unemployment. Preliminary data for Q3 indicates that this measure is slowly improving, but possibly still failing.
- **Youth Employed 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter after Exit, Credential Rate and Measurable Skills Gains**
  - This measure was negatively impacted by the period July through September 2020, a period of unprecedented high unemployment. Preliminary data for Q3 indicates that this measure has improved and is no longer failing.
  - Collecting and capturing attained credentials has been challenging. Participants who were scheduled to have graduated in May and June of 2020 struggled with credit deficiencies and others disengaged due to the pandemic disruptions. The assessment for basic skills deficiency is conducted in person, but because of the pandemic-related closures and social-distancing mandates, service providers were not able to conduct any post-testing, causing the failure in the measurable skill gains indicator.

**Workforce Connections**  
**Actual Achievement Rate and Percentage of DOL Negotiated Rate Attained**  
**PY2021-Q4 Rolling 4 Quarters**  
**1/1/2021 Through 12/31/2021**

<b>Adult</b>					
	Employed 2nd Quarter After Exit	Employed 4th Quarter After Exit	Median Earnings 2nd Quarter After Exit	Credential Rate	Measurable Skill Gains
Actual Achievement Rate	68.5%	61.5%	\$6,463	78.0%	60.5%
Local Negotiated Rate	70.5%	66.8%	\$5,130	76.9%	61.5%
% of Neg. Rate Attained	97.2%	92.1%	126.0%	101.4%	98.4%

<b>Dislocated Worker</b>					
	Employed 2nd Quarter After Exit	Employed 4th Quarter After Exit	Median Earnings 2nd Quarter After Exit	Credential Rate	Measurable Skill Gains
Actual Achievement Rate	63.2%	70.0%	\$7,576	88.0%	74.5%
Local Negotiated Rate	81.3%	82.5%	\$6,660	82.6%	64.0%
% of Neg. Rate Attained	77.7%	84.8%	113.7%	106.5%	116.4%

<b>Youth</b>					
	Employed 2nd Quarter After Exit	Employed 4th Quarter After Exit	Median Earnings 2nd Quarter After Exit	Credential Rate	Measurable Skill Gains
Actual Achievement Rate	56.6%	58.5%	\$3,411	33.8%	25.4%
Local Negotiated Rate	60.0%	66.5%	\$3,446	55.9%	49.0%
% of Neg. Rate Attained	94.3%	88.0%	99.0%	60.5%	51.8%

**Key**

Exceeding	Over Negotiated
Meeting	Within 10% of Negotiated
Failing	Below 90% of Negotiated

**Any upcoming initiatives and/or plans for the program.**

**LWDB Updates**

- **American Job Centers at Green Valley and West Charleston Libraries** – WC, in partnership with the Henderson Library District is finalizing the renovation of the American Job Center at the Green Valley Library. The renovated space will include 4,000 square feet dedicated to an Employ NV Career Hub and an Employ NV Business Hub. The center is expected to open in June 2022. In partnership with the LVCCLD, a brand-new Employ NV Youth Hub is also expected to open in June at the West Charleston Library. The newly designed space includes 2,000 square feet dedicated specifically to serving youth.