

# DWSS

## Division of Welfare and Supportive Services

### ***General updates since the last full board meeting***

- The WDU held job fairs at 20 High Schools statewide to promote careers in state service for the class of 2023 graduates. They have been able to identify 240 high school graduates who expressed interest in a state career. DWSS has hired 6 of these students so far and is partnering with other state agencies to address the overflow. WDU is assisting all students with the state application process and providing job preparedness services.
- The Recovery Friendly Workplace Unit is getting ready to kick off a project called the “Blooming Bistro.” This is a youth café that will give youths who are justice involved, in recovery, or homeless, an opportunity that offers paid training and job placement. The site will serve as a fully functioning EmployNV Youth Hub which will include full wraparound partnered services to address all barriers.

### ***Any COVID-related news/updates***

- No updates

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

- DWSS TANF Program – the WDU (Workforce Development Unit) can leverage up to \$5,000 of tuition funding per TANF participant for non-degree credentialing programs in addition to paying for equipment, uniforms, licensing fees, etc. For more information and to braid funding with DWSS, email [WorkforceDevelopment@DWSS.NV.gov](mailto:WorkforceDevelopment@DWSS.NV.gov)
- The Recovery Friendly Workplace Unit strives to engage employers in becoming a Recovery Friendly Workplace while providing services for individuals with substance use disorder (SUD) so they may achieve long-term success in the workplace.

### ***Any relevant and/or recent performance measure that can be shared.***

- In FFY 2021, Nevada achieved an All-Family Work Participation Rate (WPR) of 22.8% and a two-parent WPR of 29%. Nevada met the adjusted WPR for All-Family.
- WDU tracked 50 students from non-degree credentialing programs who became employed between June 2022 and June 2023. Those who took a job in the field they were trained in, earned an average of \$5.87 more per hour than those who accepted a job in a field other than the area they received training in.
- In 2023, WDU assisted in 244 Title I enrollments and Title I leveraged \$132,276 in tuition for TANF and SNAP recipients for career training.
- The SNAPET federal performance measures for FFY2022, showed 75% of the participants enrolled in the educational component were no longer receiving SNAP benefits twelve months after program completion, 53% of the participants had employment after the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of completion, and 47% of the participants had employment after the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of completion.

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

- The SNAPET program is continuing to work with the Nevada System of Higher Education to expand the educational opportunities for participants. The division is working to onboard an additional college, Western Nevada College (WNC) in FFY2024 to partner in the 50/50 Reimbursement Program.
- The division has merged the services of Workforce Development, Recovery Friendly Workplace, and the Homeless to Housing units to create a unified service department named WSD (Workforce Services & Development). Together these units are working to expand vocational training and employment options, while providing all the essential wrap-around services such as mentoring, job preparedness, supportive services, substance abuse recovery, and emergency housing assistance.