

**GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF WORKFORCE INNOVATION** 

# ANNUAL REPORT



MARCH 2022

555 E. Washington Ave, Ste. 4900 Las Vegas, NV 89101 | 702.486.8080 gowinn.nv.gov

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LETTER	
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	5
I. INTRODUCTION TO GOWINN	6
II. GOWINN KEY ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS	7
Grant Awards and Ongoing Activity	7
Strengthening of the Workforce Development System	8
Expanding Work-Based Learning	.10
Leveraging Labor Market and Workforce Data	.12
Validating Industry Recognized Credentials	13
Developing Career Pathways	13
Governor's Workforce Development Board and Industry Sector Councils	14
Additional GOWINN Accomplishments	.16
III. GOWINN FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	.18
Priority 1: Articulating the vision (north star) and the structures to achieve that vision	.19
Priority 2: Define the education/workforce/wraparound services system, build the data systems to track progress and success, and develop and clarify the pathways and credentials needed for Nevada's economic success	
Priority 3: Directs supports	20
Priority 4: Align resources to priorities and strengthen/streamline access and use of federal grants	.21
IV. UPCOMING INITIATIVES AND ACTIVITIES	22
V. GOWINN STAFF MEMBERS AND KEY LINKS	.23





#### A Skilled And Diverse Workforce Strengthens All Nevadans.



#### VISION

A Vibrant and Sustainable Economy.

#### MISSION

OWINN helps drive a skilled, diverse, and alinged workforce in the state of Nevada by promoting collaboration and cooperation amongst core entities focused on workforce development.

#### OUTCOMES

- 1. Prepare all K-12 students for college and career success
- 2. Increase Nevadans with postsecondary degrees and credentials
- 3. Increase employment outcomes in training and credentialling programs



NDE - Nevada Department of Education

NSHE - Nevada System of Higher Education

GOED - Governor's Office of Economic Development

**DETR** - Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation

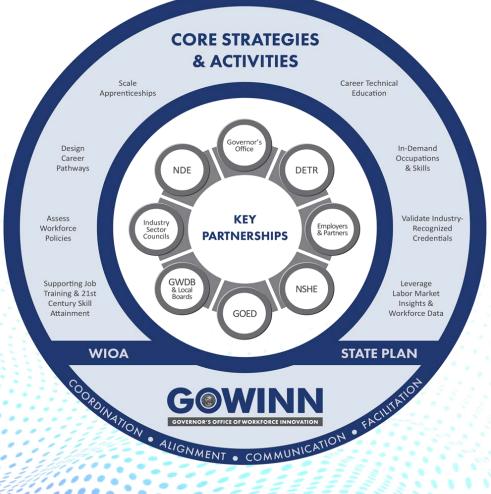
**GWDB** - Governor's Workforce Development Boards

WIOA - Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

#### GOWINN

555. East Washington Ave. Suite 4900 Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 www.gov.nv.gov/OWINN











Since my appointment last February to serve as Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Workforce Innovation, it has been an honor to not only lead the talented members of the GOWINN team but also a privilege to work collaboratively with our sister state agencies and community partners to pursue innovative and impactful ways to enhance workforce development for all Nevadans.

GOWINN and its partners through grit, determination, and willingness to work together have accomplished so much over the last year in the face of challenging times as Nevada emerges from the COVID-19 pandemic. But despite our notable successes this past year, more work is to be done to grasp this historic opportunity to develop a more highly effective workforce development ecosystem that serves Nevadans by aligning and integrating workforce development priorities with those found in economic development, K-12 and higher education, and social services.

GOWINN stands ready to assist Governor Sisolak's administration in achieving its workforce development priorities. Workforce development is more than just establishing job training programs – it is about cultivating an environment that allows for Nevadans to see their future selves working in a meaningful, well-paying job that brings dignity while also having the necessary support systems in place to guide them to further opportunities and social mobility.

Thank you again for the opportunity to serve the people of our great state of Nevada.

Sincerely,

Isla Young

Executive Director







Pursuant to <u>AB 459</u>, the Governor's Office of Workforce Innovation (GOWINN) is required to submit an annual report to the Governor by March 31<sup>st</sup> each year on the agency's "activities, discussions, findings and recommendations."

This inaugural annual report is divided into five sections. Section I introduces GOWINN including its mission statement, legislative foundations, priority areas of focus, and entities it is responsible for administering including the Governor's Workforce Development Board and the Nevada P-20 to Workforce Research Data System.

Section II highlights GOWINN's key activities and accomplishments in multiple areas since January 2021. This first report covers GOWINN's work for all of 2021 and the first three months of 2022 to provide a more complete picture of the agency's impact including accomplishments in areas such as grant awards, strengthening the workforce development system, expanding work-based learning, developing career pathways and others. Subsequent annual reports will include information between April 1st and March 31st of the following year.

Section III provides details on GOWINN's findings and recommendations for workforce development in Nevada, specifically focusing on priorities such as the importance of a statewide workforce development vision, developing and incentivizing educational pathways and credentials, addressing childcare needs, strengthening the state's WIOA one-stop system, and several others. These recommendations derive from a report delivered by DFI Consulting from the state's involvement in the National Governors Association's Workforce Innovation Network (WIN) grant.

Finally, Section IV previews GOWINN's upcoming initiatives and activities in the near-term and Section IV list the names of office staff and key links associated with GOWINN's work.



The mission of the Governor's Office of Workforce Innovation (<u>GOWINN</u>) is to help drive a skilled, diverse, and aligned workforce in the state of Nevada by promoting collaboration and cooperation amongst core entities focused on workforce development.

GOWINN was originally established in March 2016 by Governor Brian Sandoval via Executive Order 2016-08. During the 79<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session, Senate Bill (SB) 516 was approved by the Nevada Legislature and signed into law by Governor Sandoval codifying GOWINN into state statute. Assembly Bill (AB) 459, approved by the Nevada Legislature during the 81<sup>st</sup> Legislative Session and signed into law by Governor Steve Sisolak, placed GOWINN under the administrative authority of the Department of Employment, Training, and Rehabilitation (DETR).

As the state agency addressing Nevada's key workforce priorities by strengthening alignment across state agency partners and stakeholders, GOWINN is helping Nevada prepare for the future of work by providing leadership in the following areas:

- 1. Assessing workforce policies and developing innovative ideas to strengthen the workforce system.
- 2. Scaling registered apprenticeships in non-construction fields and expanding work-based learning opportunities.
- 3. Leveraging labor market and workforce data.
- 4. Building consensus around industry-recognized credentials.
- 5. Developing career pathways.

These priorities move the state towards a vibrant and sustainable economy that strengthens all Nevadans by 1) Preparing all K-12 students for college and career success,

- 2) Increasing the number of individuals with postsecondary degrees and credentials and
- 3) Increasing employment outcomes in training and credentialing programs.



# II. GOWINN KEY ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

This section highlights GOWINN's key activities and accomplishments associated with the following areas:

- Grant awards and ongoing activity
- Strengthening the workforce development system
- Expanding work-based learning
- Leveraging labor market and workforce data
- Validating industry-recognized credentials
- Developing career pathways
- Governor's Workforce Development Board and Industry Sector Councils
- Additional GOWINN accomplishments

## **Grant Awards and Ongoing Activity**

In State Fiscal Year 2022 (SFY22), GOWINN manages federal and private grant funding totaling \$20,968,295.92. GOWINN, as the principal grantee, had an increase of awarded grant funds of \$16,868,298.92 in SFY21 and \$3,999,997.00 in SFY22. SFY22 grants under GOWINN's administration include the following:

Grant Name	Amount Awarded	Start Date	End Date
National Governors Association Work-based Learning Grant	\$100,000	2/1/2020	10/31/2021
National Governors Association Workforce Innovation Network Grant	\$100,000	3/1/2021	10/31/2021
U.S. Department of Labor State Apprenticeship Expansion (SAE) 2020 Grant	\$450,000	7/1/2020	6/30/2023
U.S. Department of Education Reimagine Grant for Project SANDI - Supporting and Advancing Nevada's Dislocated Individuals	\$13,818,298.92	10/1/2020	9/29/2023
U.S. Department of Labor H-1B Rural Healthcare Grant	\$2,500,000	2/1/2021	1/31/2025
U.S. Department of Labor Accelerating Nevada Apprenticeships for All (ANAA) Grant	\$3,999,997.00	7/1/2021	6/30/2025

#### **Strengthening the Workforce Development System**

GOWINN engages with partners to assess workforce policies and develop innovative strategies to strengthen the workforce development system statewide. Since January 2021, key activities and accomplishments include the following:

- Technical assistance for inter-agency collaboration: In March 2021, GOWINN was selected to participate as a grantee in the National Governors Association's Workforce Innovation Network (WIN). DFI Consulting was the selected vendor to provide technical assistance and a cross-agency leadership team was established consisting of representatives from DETR, GOWINN, the Department of Health and Human Services Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS), the Governor's Offices of Economic Development (GOED) and Science, Innovation & Technology (OSIT), the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE), the Nevada Department of Education (NDE) and others.
- The <u>WIN Grant</u> was awarded to help states build capacity for near-term innovation and develop longer-term strategies to prepare their workforces for the post-COVID-19 economy. Funding supported the development of strategies through public-private partnerships and strengthening of successful initiatives within the workforce development system that will better reconnect adult and dislocated workers who have been economically affected by the pandemic to in-demand careers.
- With the help of GOWINN staff, DFI Consulting engaged public, non-profit, and private stakeholders across the Nevada workforce development system to identify an understanding of system challenges and what a shared vision for the future could look like. These conversations took place between September and December 2021.

At the Fall Workforce Symposium hosted by the National Governors Association September 29 to October 1, 2021 in Phoenix, Arizona, GOWINN's Executive Director Isla Young participated in a multi-state panel where she highlighted Nevada's work under the NGA WIN Grant. Director Young summarized the value of the weekly, in-depth strategy sessions between GOWINN staff and the grant's consultant to discuss identified gaps in the workforce system and brainstorm strategies to alleviate them.

Director Young also highlighted the momentum toward an integrated, accessible, workforce data system and an integrated dashboard visualization that could be leveraged to support further cross-agency collaboration. The necessity of enhanced partnerships among the key stakeholders of the workforce development system to develop a common understanding of roles, responsibilities, and key objectives cannot be overstated.

A <u>final report</u> from DFR Consulting was issued at the end of January 2022 with 23 specific recommendations that will help the Nevada workforce development system meet the challenges of today and prepare for tomorrow. Follow-up meetings and discussions with the cross-agency leadership team has prioritized these recommendations to 13 that require the most immediate attention. These recommendations are detailed in section III of this report.

- Peer learning for the WIOA research and evaluation requirement In late 2021, GOWINN began engagement with representatives from DETR, NDE Adult Education, and the state's two local workforce development boards (Workforce Connections and Nevadaworks) in a multi-state Evaluation Peer Learning Cohort facilitated by the U.S. Department of Labor. Through this opportunity, the Nevada team will be provided with resources to build capacity to meet the research and evaluation requirements for all Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) title programs. Nevada is scheduled to present the research and evaluation plan to the cohort on March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022.
- Mapping the workforce ecosystem Throughout the past year, GOWINN has connected the dots between various stakeholders working to generate comprehensive asset maps of Nevada's workforce development ecosystem. As this has been identified as a key priority under the NGA WIN Grant report and has been demonstrated by broad stakeholder activities, GOWINN has begun to capture multi-stakeholder activities and combine findings into a single comprehensive resource. GOWINN has also begun to research best practices and identify a vendor that may take the work that has been done to produce an interactive visualization that will serve as the face of the state's systemwide workforce resource.

## **Expanding Work-based Learning**

GOWINN remains focused on expanding work-based learning opportunities. Since January 2021, key activities and accomplishments in this area include the following:

**Using technology to solve workforce needs -** Project SANDI (Supporting and Advancing Nevada's Dislocated Individuals), a three-year \$13.8 million grant awarded in 2020, supports career pathways for dislocated, underemployed, and new job seeking Nevadans who have been adversely affected by the pandemic. Objectives include:

- 1. Modernize the current workforce system to support translating skills and work experience into credentials;
- 2. Expand the use of digital platforms (including virtual reality) to remotely offer accelerated training and degree programs at community colleges and public libraries for in-demand careers:
- 3. Build an enhanced career navigation tool (Nevada Career Explorer); and
- 4. Develop an online, self-paced entrepreneurship module that will be embedded into training and educational programs within the Nevada Community College system.

Since its inception, Project SANDI efforts have resulted in an education and training catalog of over 90 short-term credential and licensing trainings available at the state's four community colleges and training partners outside the NSHE system. The goal of this program is to provide training to 1,600 individuals statewide.

• H-1B Rural Healthcare Grant - In January 2021, GOWINN partnered with Nevadaworks, northern Nevada's local workforce development board, and was awarded a four-year, \$2.5 million H-1B Rural Healthcare Grant from the U.S. Department of Labor. This grant will strengthen the state's efforts to develop the allied healthcare workforce system through job training programs across northern Nevada communities where the need for these skills has reached critical levels. To date, the Nevada Hospital Association has enrolled 18 participants and is working to expand program participation throughout the region with the goal of impacting 130 individuals in Nevada's rural communities.

- Work-based learning In January 2021, GOWINN was selected by the National Governor's Association (NGA) to serve as a mentor state in their <u>Work-based Learning</u> <u>Policy Academy.</u> At several learning session events throughout the year, GOWINN Executive Director Isla Young and other state partners highlighted how work-based learning is being leveraged as a key component in the state's workforce development strategy.
- On July 27, 2021, Ms. Young presented at the NGA Policy Academy on Scaling Work-based Learning with the College of Southern Nevada's Executive Director of Grants and Special Projects, Frank Woodbeck. This discussion focused on community colleges and highlighted how GOWINN and CSN collaborates to expand work-based learning opportunities in the state.
- On September 20, 2021, Ms. Young presented at the NGA Policy Academy on Scaling Work-based Learning with the Governor's Office of Economic Development Director of Strategic Programs, Karsten Heise, and Project SANDI Project Career Navigator, Denise Quon. This presentation highlighted Project SANDI as a work-based learning partnership with the state's library system.
- Accelerating apprenticeships In June 2021, GOWINN and the College of Southern Nevada hosted U.S. Labor Secretary Marty Walsh with Governor Sisolak to announce that Nevada had received the Accelerating Nevada Apprenticeships for All (ANAA) grant. This \$3,999,997.00 grant will support increased enrollments in Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAPs) in high-growth, high-demand careers in healthcare, information technology, and advanced manufacturing. The goal is to serve 500 participants who will receive training and enter a RAP, with a focus in southern Nevada.
- Pathways to apprenticeship GOWINN, in partnership with NSHE among others, helped support the registration of non-construction apprenticeship occupations such as Medical Assistant, Licensed Practical Nurse, Medical Front Office Representative, Pharmacy Technician, Certified Nursing Assistant, Emergency Medical Technician, Software Developer, Digital Marketer, Computer User Support Specialist, and Network

Support Specialist. Since March 2021, 135 individuals have been registered in these programs and placed in paid employment as apprentices, 75 of which are considered youth (16-24 years old).

- This work has also strengthened pathways between school districts and employers to
  establish formal pre-apprenticeship programs that align with existing career and
  technical education (CTE) programs. The Emergency Medical Technician and Certified
  Nursing Assistant programs were selected to pilot the concept and launched with
  noteworthy demand in the Fall of 2021.
- Additional progress on apprenticeship expansion is demonstrated by the Nevada State
  Apprenticeship Council's approval of a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) RAP under the
  sponsorship of NSHE. Following this approval, GOWINN, NSHE, and regional healthcare
  stakeholders announced a partnership with the City of Mesquite, Nevada to bring this
  high-demand occupational training program to this rural community's underserved,
  unemployed, underemployed, and incumbent workers.

## **Leveraging Labor Market and Workforce Data**

One of GOWINN's additional responsibilities is to serve as administrator of the Nevada P-20 to Workforce Research Data System (NPWR). GOWINN's leadership in leveraging the importance of labor market and workforce data is demonstrated in the following key activities and accomplishments since January 2021:

• Expansion efforts of the Nevada NPWR system have begun to incorporate additional state agency partners for further data match results that will allow updates of past reports and inclusion of future reports to better inform areas of workforce policy and practice in Nevada. When completed, this enhanced data system will promote increased stakeholder buy-in to end users to use valid and reliable labor market and workforce data for research purposes and policy data-driven decision making in the state.

## **Validating Industry-recognized Credentials**

Nevada seeks to identify industry-recognized credentials that meet national quality standards, are recognized by third party industry or credentialing organizations, support improved employment prospects, and have portable market value. As outlined in <u>SB 516</u>, one of GOWINN's roles is to identify and validate industry-recognized credentials in the state. Since January 2021, key activities and accomplishments in this area include the following:

- Throughout 2021, GOWINN provided funding to subsidize industry-recognized credentials and associated costs, such as licensing fees for 65 high school seniors about to enter the workforce in the state's designated priority industries.
- To organize and accelerate Nevadans' access to quality non-degree credentials, GOWINN is leading a state team of representatives from DETR, NDE, NSHE, GOED, and several community-based organizations to participate in the <u>National Skills Coalition's</u> 2021-2022 Quality Postsecondary Credential Policy Academy.
- In 2021, the GOWINN team overhauled the state's <u>industry-recognized credentials list</u> to include the type of credential, related higher education CIP code and description, and link to find more information on the credential.

After researching national demand and best practices, the GOWINN team expanded the list to include more credentials in Nevada's high-priority industries and launched a new online form to request credentials be added to the industry-recognized list, which has simplified and streamlined administration of the list.

## **Developing Career Pathways**

A career pathway is a series of structured and connected education programs and support services that enable students, including ones who are working, to advance over time to better jobs and higher levels of education and training. As a leader in developing career pathways, GOWINN has participated in the following key activities and accomplishments in this area:

- GOWINN and NDE partnered to launch <u>Nepris for Nevada</u>, a digital platform that connects educators and learners with a network of industry professionals, virtually, brining real-world relevance and career exposure to students. More than 8,000 Nevada teachers and 90 industry professionals are currently enrolled on the platform, and thousands of Nevada students have been engaged since the June 2021 launch.
- In partnership with Amazon Web Services (AWS), NDE, NSHE, and GOWINN have formalized efforts to enhance access to the AWS Academy to bring cloud computing training and certification to educators in Nevada's public institutions. The agreement was formalized in December 2021 and work is underway to inventory existing opportunities, research best opportunities for engagement, and engage employers.
- To better align and support high-growth/in-demand career pathways in Nevada,
   GOWINN partnered with NDE to pull the 25+ Work-based Learning Coordinators in
   Nevada's school districts together to discuss current efforts, offer support, and discuss upcoming opportunities.
- To support the critical need to support Nevadans impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, GOED and GOWINN leveraged CARES Act funding to launch the <u>Nevada SkillsMatch</u> tool for individuals looking to apply their experiences to new career opportunities. Nevada SkillsMatch walks users through the tool to translate their education and experiences into skills that can be applied to new careers. To date, thousands of Nevadans have utilized this tool.

# Governor's Workforce Development Board and Industry Sector Councils

An additional responsibility of GOWINN is to serve as the administrator and organizer of the Governor's Workforce Development Board (GWDB) and its associated Industry Sector Councils. The GWDB consists of appointed board members who oversee the implementation and continuous improvement of the workforce development system as

prescribed by WIOA. Since January 2021, key activities and accomplishments in this area include the following:

- GOWINN leveraged funding from the U.S. Department of Labor to host a comprehensive training for the GWBD, which took place in Spring of 2021. Topics included an overview and related discussion on the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), the GWBD's roles and responsibilities within the act's framework, and the board's relationship to the statewide workforce network.
- The GWDB initiated four subcommittees with different focus areas consisting of board and non-board members. The subcommittees include: Performance and Reporting, Continuous Improvement, Barriers and Underserved Populations, and Strategic Planning.
- In October 2021, nearly two-thirds of GWDB board members reached the end of their term. Thus, the GWDB welcomed 11 new board members and conducted an onboarding session for new and returning board members in January 2022. The first act by the new board was approving the revised version of the WIOA State Plan in February 2022.
- GOWINN spearheaded the revitalization of the state's Industry Sector Councils. After researching best practices, extensive engagement of ecosystem stakeholders, and formal approval from the GWDB, GOWINN serves as the lead facilitator for the initial relaunching of the GWDB's four Industry Sector Councils: Manufacturing, Logistics and Distribution, Technology, and Healthcare. Each Industry Sector Council has seven voting members who represent diverse segments of the state's geography, industry and workforce and partnerships.

The first meetings of the Logistics and Distribution Council and the Technology Sector Council were held in March 2022, and the first meetings of the Manufacturing and Healthcare Councils are scheduled for April 2022. All Industry Sector Council meetings are public and their key takeaways will be reported to the GWDB at its subsequent public meeting.

## **Additional GOWINN Accomplishments**

- GOWINN partnered with GOED and the Nevada Industry Excellence (NVIE) to host more
  than 60 individuals at the initial Southern Nevada Manufacturing Forum in June 2021 to
  identify workforce needs in the Manufacturing sector. A follow-up event was held on
  September 30, 2021 to address business development, accessing talent and engaging in
  the education pipeline.
- Between August and October 2021, GOWINN supported NDE's Teacher Externship
  program to connect the state's middle and high school teachers, counselors, and
  administrators with employers in various industries such as healthcare, technology,
  hospitality, and law enforcement. The two-day job shadowing experience rounded out
  real-world relevance of classroom curriculum and industrial advancements for these
  educators.

At the conclusion of the externship, teachers developed a lesson plan that highlighted the key takeaways from their experience, and many continue to engage with their host employer to organize interactions with students, either through in-person tours of their worksite or through Nepris for Nevada.

- GOWINN made key staffing changes during the first half of 2021 to round out administrative capacity to manage the office's grant awards. Additions included the following:
  - Amy Fleming, Program Development and Engagement Specialist (March 2021) Amy
    is charged with developing relationships with partners to discuss how GOWINN's work
    can address their needs and to provide connections with other entities around the
    state.
  - Kristen Dwyer, Grants and Programs Manager (May 2021) Kristen serves as the main point of contact for GOWINN's grant partners and oversees the programmatic and fiscal aspects of the office's grants.
  - Gaby Villafuerte, Grants and Contracts Manager (June 2021) Gaby creates and tracks
    all the contract needs for GOWINN and ensures policies and procedures are in place
    that align with grant requirements for all of the office's partners.

#### • Future GOWINN Staff:

- GOWINN is interviewing for a new Strategic Data Manager (eta, April 2022) who will be responsible for managing the large-scale data project design and implementation of NPWR, analyzing data from the NPWR system, and communicating system findings to the broader community.
- GOWINN is also interviewing for a Program and Engagement Manager for southern Nevada (eta, April 2022) who will assist with maintaining relationships between industry and education to scale work-based learning opportunities and to support career and technical education, support employer networks per direction of GOWINN's Executive Director and the Program Development and Engagement Specialist, and engage with the Regional Development Authorities, Chambers of Commerce, Local Workforce Development Boards, and other business partners to support the education to workforce pipeline.





The main deliverable of the National Governors Association's Workforce Innovation Network (WIN) grant that Nevada received in March 2021 was the final report delivered by DFI Consulting: A Prosperous Nevada Built On A Cohesive System That Works For Its People And Employers. GOWINN's recommendations for workforce development in Nevada stem from this report.

The report effectively analyzed the workforce challenges Nevada faced even before the COVID-19 pandemic hit. Nevada is experiencing an economic evolution away from a state reliant on gaming, hospitality, and mining to a more diverse economy driven by high-growth, high-demand fields such as healthcare, logistics and distribution, manufacturing, and IT. These structural economic shifts did not pause as the pandemic impacted Nevada more than any other state. The negative effects of the pandemic were not felt evenly across the state; single mothers, women of color, black men, and young people were disproportionally impacted.

Nevada is recovering. The unemployment rate has fallen significantly over the past year. State government has partnered with local government, community-based organizations, and the private sector to make sure federal resources were directed to help workers and job seekers in need. At the same time, the underlying structural challenges that the state's dispersed workforce system faced in working to meet the demands of employers in emerging industries highlight the need to strengthen and align education and workforce training efforts.

This report offered 23 specific recommendations built on five premises: 1) more education and credentials aligned to the needs of employers better prepare individuals for success in a changing economy; 2) education and workforce training are not the only solutions needed for individuals who leave the workforce, especially for women with children who need affordable childcare; 3) education and job training to get people out of poverty also need to include a pathway to middle class jobs; 4) systems typically get the results they were built for, so government needs to reimagine and bring about an effective education

to workforce system with the necessary wraparound services; and 5) what happens today in a child's life impacts their educational and economic opportunities later in life.

In early March 2022, the Nevada cross-agency leadership team met to discuss these 23 recommendations and determine which ones were most urgent and feasible in the short-to near-term. The team settled on 13 of these recommendations in four priority areas.

The four priority areas and specific recommendations are as follows:

# Priority 1: Articulating the vision (North Star) and the structures to achieve that vision

- **Recommendation** Broadly articulate a strong economic transformation and workforce readiness vision and establish aggressive, but reachable attainment goals broken out by key demographics.
- **Recommendation** Invigorate a sub-cabinet focused on education, workforce, and wraparound services.
- Recommendation Strengthen the role and value of the Governor's Workforce Development Board.
- Recommendation Relaunch the GWDB's Industry Sector Councils and ensure their
  voices are incorporated into the work of the GWDB to promote strong input from
  employers on how the public and private sectors can work together to strengthen job
  training and employment in the major emerging and mature sectors.

# Priority 2: Define the education/workforce/wraparound services system, build the data systems to track progress and success, and develop and clarify the pathways and credentials needed for Nevada's economic success

- Recommendation Map the education to workforce system and wraparound services
  to clarify roles, responsibilities, and clear lines of accountability to achieve better
  outcomes.
- **Recommendation** Develop a state data dashboard/system that meets the needs of key leaders throughout the state to improve the policies, program, and budgets related to education, workforce, and wraparound services.
- Recommendation Align and incentivize educational paths, credentials, and degrees
  with the needs of employers and provide the wraparound supports needed for
  success.
- Recommendation Build a transparent system to expand the number and track industry- recognized credentials of value.

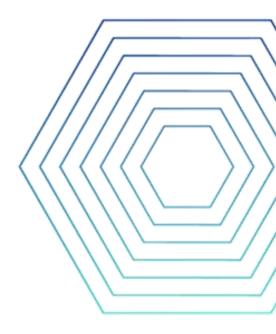
## **Priority 3: Direct supports**

- Recommendation Help more workers get back to work through incentives and childcare subsidies. Also strengthen the childcare workforce by increased training, wage subsidies, and refundable tax credits.
- Recommendation Accelerate and expand the work of the NSHE and NDE Teacher
  Pipeline Task Force, the Clark County School District (CCSD) Superintendent's Teacher
  Recruitment and Retention Commission, and other school districts' efforts to prepare
  several thousand highly qualified teachers, especially teachers of color.
- Recommendation Strengthen the state's WIOA One Stop system through greater integration of services and utilization of technologies.
- Recommendation Strengthen the state's WIOA One Stop system through expansion
  of co-located staff and enhancement of training for case managers and cross-cutting
  navigators.

# Priority 4: Align resources to priorities and strengthen/streamline access and use of federal grants

Recommendation - Leverage the coordination and utilization of federal grants through
the launch and staffing of the Governor's Office of Federal Assistance as enacted in <u>AB</u>
445 (2021). Place a representative from that office on the education to workforce
subcabinet to help break down silos and integrate funding streams for the benefit of
Nevadans. Align ARPA funding with these recommendations and the rest of the
Governor's priorities for the state.

Each priority area has been assigned to a specific lead person/agency from the workforce development system to develop goals, strategies, and key performance indicators. Frequent meetings with the cross-agency leadership team are ongoing to facilitate action plans for these recommendations. GOWINN will keep the Governor's Office informed of the progress made.





## IV. UPCOMING INITIATIVES AND ACTIVITIES

GOWINN will focus on several upcoming initiatives and activities:

- On April 6<sup>th</sup>, GOWINN will join Governor Sisolak, the Nevada Department of Education and the Nevada System of Higher Education at the College of Southern Nevada to announce the new statewide collaboration between Nevada and Amazon Web Services (AWS) to provide thousands of students across the state access to cloud computing training and education through the AWS education program.
- The WIN Grant leadership team will continue meeting on a regular basis to develop action plans on how to implement the 13 recommendations as detailed in Section III.
- The GWDB's Industry Sector Councils (Manufacturing, Logistics and Distribution, Technology, and Healthcare) have commenced meetings. The Logistics and Distribution Industry Sector Council met on March 7, 2022 with the other sector meetings scheduled at the end of March - April 2022 and continuing on a quarterly basis thereafter.
- The NPWR longitudinal data system is in the process of revitalization by adding state data partners such as the Nevada Departments of Motor Vehicles, Corrections, Veteran Services, and others.
- GOWINN and partner state agencies will complete their participation in the National Skills Coalition's 2021-2022 Quality Postsecondary Credential Policy Academy and start the process of establishing a state advisory team that will inform the state on equitable access and attainment policies for quality non-degree credentials.
- As a result of its participation in the U.S. Department of Labor's Evaluation Peer Learning Cohort, GOWINN and partner state agencies will develop an action plan to begin evidence-based assessments of the WIOA title programs.



# V. GOWINN STAFF MEMBERS AND KEY LINKS

#### **Staff Members**

- Isla Young Executive Director
- Ansara Martino Senior Program Administrator/Officer
- Andres Feijoo Policy Analyst and Administrator of the Governor's Workforce Development **Board**
- Amy Fleming Program Development and Engagement Specialist
- Kristen Dwyer Grants and Program Manager
- Caryn Swobe Northern Nevada Policy and Community Strategist
- Gabriela Villafuerte Grants and Contracts Manager
- Chelsea Galvan Executive Assistant

#### **Key Links**

- GOWINN Website <a href="https://gowinn.nv.gov/">https://gowinn.nv.gov/</a>
- NPWR http://npwr.nv.gov/
- GOWINN Newsletter <a href="https://gowinn.nv.gov/OWINN/Newsletter/">https://gowinn.nv.gov/OWINN/Newsletter/</a>

