



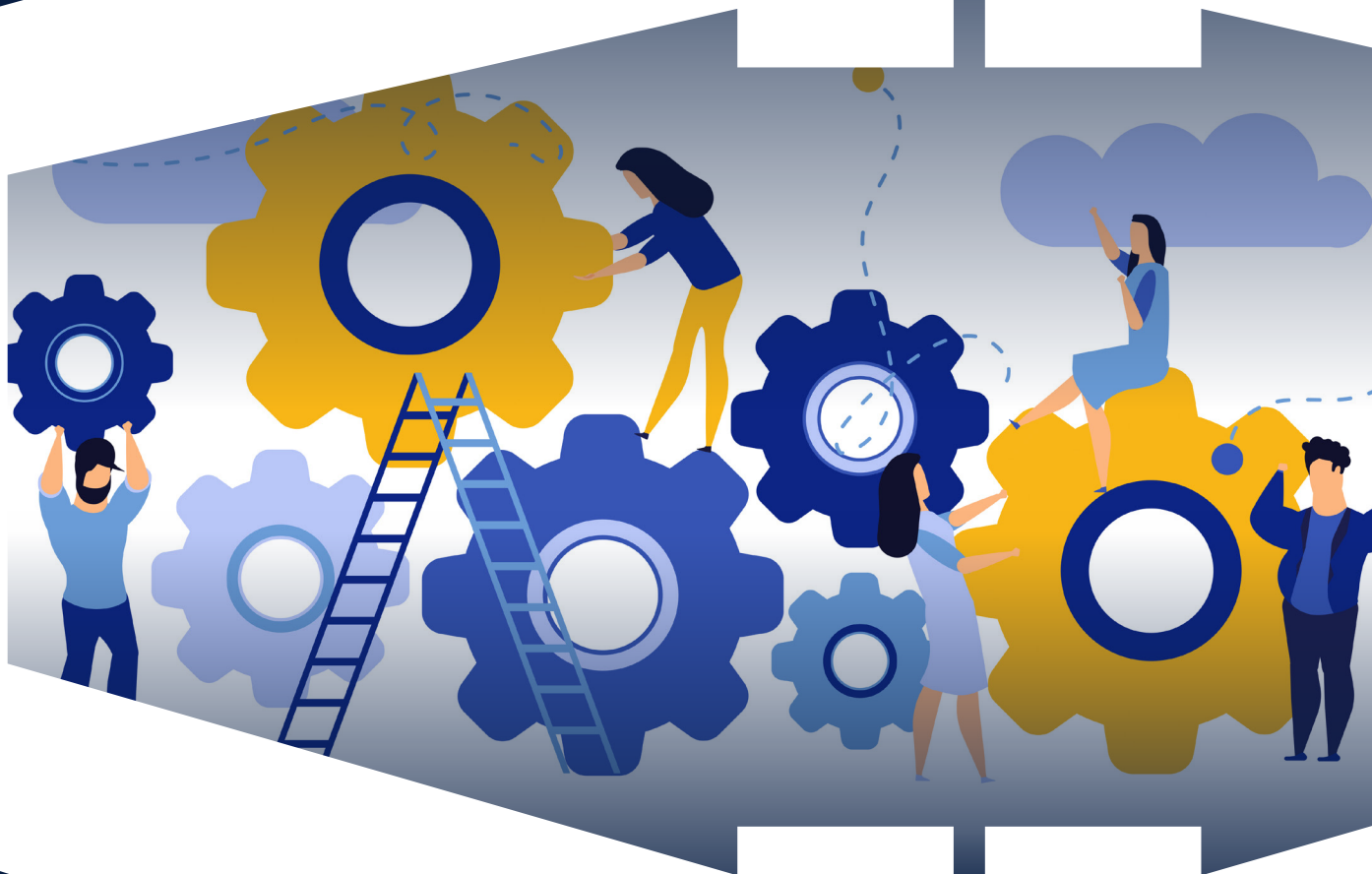
QUARTERLY REPORT

January to March, 2022

Division of Workforce Development | Seventh Planning District Consortium

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING | MARCH 18, 2022

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WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Chief Elected Official

The Honorable Ricky Sepulvado

Sabine Parish Police Jury

Appointments to the Workforce Development Board (WDB) are made by the area's Chief Elected Official from nominations submitted by all ten parishes. Membership and composition of the Workforce Development Board are then submitted to the Governor of Louisiana for certification.



Matt Wheeler
Chairperson
Workforce
Development Board



Bruce Roberts
Vice-Chairperson
Workforce
Development Board



Jack "Bump" Skaggs
President & CEO
The Coordinating &
Development
Corporation



Candle Sattler
**Director of Workforce
Development**
The Coordinating &
Development
Corporation

Board Members (Private)

Leighton Allen, Michael Barrett, Kirk Dickson, Mary Duncan, Eugene Fremaux II, Brandon Hillman, Shirley Marcus, Travis O'Brien, Amanda Simpson, Patricia Trim, Bruce Roberts, and Matt Wheeler.

Board Members (Public)

Julie Bass, Michael Chamlee, Teresa Hefner, Matt LaFisca, Brent Moreland, Joni Nelson, David "Rocky" Rockett Jr., Jayda Spillers, Clifton Starks, Fred Williams, and MarShette Williams.

Upcoming Board Meeting Dates

Friday, June 3, 2022 | Location: The Every Warrior Center

Friday, September 9, 2022 | Location: The Every Warrior Center

Friday, December 2, 2022 | Location: The Every Warrior Center

LWDA 70 Workforce Development Board Attendance

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LOUISIANA
WORKFORCE
COMMISSION
The Department of Labor

THE COORDINATOR & DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

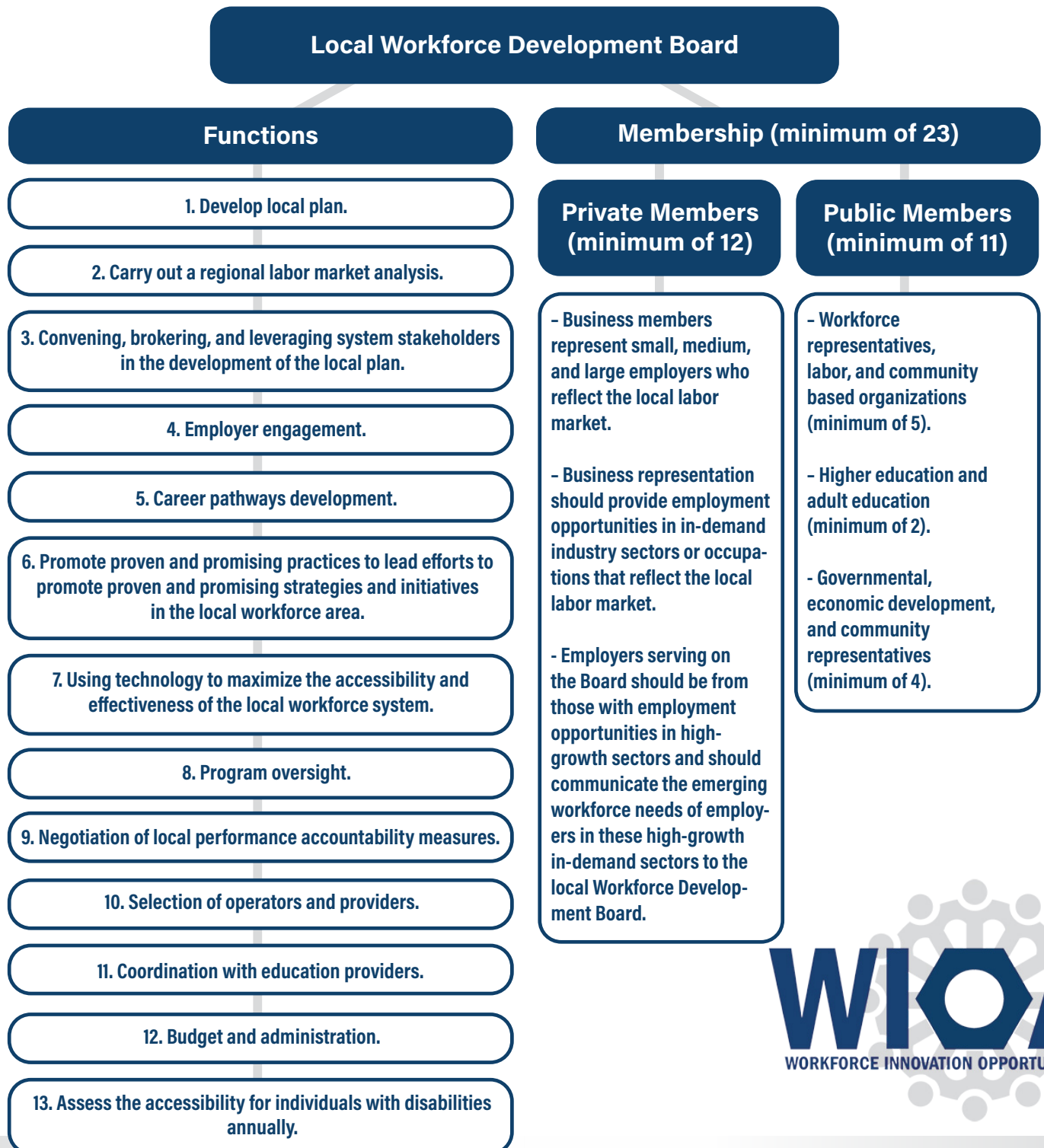
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM | AUXILIARY AIDS AND SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST TO INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES | TTY: 1-800-848-5277

BOARD MEMBERS	2022	2022	2022				2023			
PRIVATE SECTOR	Ethics Training	Financial Disclosure	MAR	JUN	SEP	DEC	MAR	JUN	SEP	DEC
Matt Wheeler										
Kirk Dickson										
Travis O'Brien										
Mary Duncan										
Eugene Fremoux										
Patricia Trim										
Bruce Roberts										
Brandon Hillman										
Michael Barrett										
Ananda Simpson										
Shirley Maracum										
Leighton Allen										
PUBLIC SECTOR	Ethics Training	Financial Disclosure	MAR	JUN	SEP	DEC	MAR	JUN	SEP	DEC
Clifton Starke										
Brent Moreland										
Matt LaFleur										
Julia Baum										
Fred Williams										
Jayda Spillers										
Joni Nelson										
David Rockett										
Marahetta Williams										
Taronee Hafner										
Michael Chambliss										

A - Absent

P - Present

Workforce Development Board Structure





**SEVENTH PLANNING DISTRICT CONSORTIUM
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

Friday, March 18, 2022, at 11:30 a.m. | The Every Warrior Center | Bossier City, LA

Call to Order, and Welcome	Matt Wheeler <i>Chairperson, Workforce Development Board</i>
Certification Pursuant to Gubernatorial Proclamation	Matt Wheeler
Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag	Brent Moreland <i>Business Manager, IBEW Local 194</i>
Invocation	Nicholas Olsen <i>Program Manager of WIOA, CDC</i>
Roll Call of Members and Introduction of Guests.....	Julie Moore <i>Operations/Communications Manager, CDC</i>
Approval of Minutes, December 4, 2021 Workforce Development Board Meeting	Matt Wheeler
Budget and Operating Statements	Candle Sattler <i>Director of Workforce Development, CDC</i>
Program Manager's Report.....	Nicholas Olsen
Assistant Program Manager's Report and WIOA Performance	Robin Dunlop <i>Assistant Program Manager of WIOA, CDC</i>
Business Services Report.....	Mark Colwick <i>Business Services Representative, CDC</i>
Monitor's Report.....	Craig Sheppert <i>Senior Program Monitor / EO Coordinator, CDC</i>
One-Stop Operator Report	Robin Berry <i>One Stop Operation Manager</i>
Presentation from Homeless 2 Homeownership	Christopher Occhipinti <i>Owner/Operator</i>
Personal Financial Disclosure and Ethics	Candle Sattler
Other Business.....	Matt Wheeler
Adjournment	Matt Wheeler

Next Workforce Development Board Meeting - Friday, June 3, 2022

Location: The Every Warrior Center

4000 Viking Drive, Suite A, Bossier City, LA 71111

QUORUM INFORMATION

SEVENTH PLANNING DISTRICT CONSORTIUM WORKFORCE BOARD LWDA 70, CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2020, the Governor of the State of Louisiana declared a Public Health Emergency due to the threat posed to public safety by the COVID-19 outbreak;

WHEREAS, on March 16, 2020, the Governor issued Proclamation JBE 2020-30, entitled Additional Measures for COVID-19 Public Health Emergency;

WHEREAS, the purpose of Proclamation JBE 2020-30 was to provide, in part, additional measures to be taken by governmental entities to help combat the spread of COVID-19;

WHEREAS, Section Four of Proclamation JBE 2020-30 authorizes all local political boards of the State to provide for attendances at essential governmental meetings via teleconference or video conference during the pendency of the emergency;

WHEREAS, Section Four of that Proclamation further mandates that, before invoking the authority of Section Four, the public entity is required to provide written certification that it will otherwise be unable to operate due to quorum requirements;

WHEREAS, the Seventh Planning District Consortium Workforce Development Board, needs to conduct essential business, but the Board consists of twenty-three (23) members;

WHEREAS, due to the size of the Board; Governor Edwards' restrictions on gatherings; and health concerns of several members of the Board that could be negatively affected by COVID-19, the Board is unable to obtain a quorum of the members; and

WHEREAS, the Board needs to implement the authorization located in Section Four of Proclamation JBE 2020-30.

NOW, THEREFORE, pursuant to the authority contained in Executive Proclamation 25 JBE 2020, Governor John Bel Edwards declared a state of emergency for Louisiana due to COVID-19. The state of emergency was extended in subsequent Executive Proclamations with the most recent extension in 80 JBE 2021 on April 27, 2021. The Seventh Planning District Consortium Workforce Development Board LWDA 70, hereby certifies on this 18th day of March 2022, that in order to protect the lives, property, health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Louisiana, it is necessary to conduct the Seventh Planning District Consortium Workforce Development Board Meeting on March 18, 2022 at 11:30 a.m. by teleconference (Interested individuals may call: 1 (346) 248-7799), video conference (Meeting ID: 849 9711 6208; Passcode: 875190) <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84991776208?pwd=VldXdUVOUVhodWlZdDdQb0NGRTN6dz09>, and in a physical in-person meeting located at 4000 Viking Drive, Suite A, Bossier City, LA 71111 in order to assure the presence of a quorum of the members.

The Seventh Planning District Consortium Workforce Development Board
Title: Matt Wheeler, Chairperson

Date

Candle Sattler, Director of Workforce Development

Date



SEVENTH PLANNING DISTRICT CONSORTIUM WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Friday, December 10, 2022 at 11:30 a.m.

The Warrior Network Center | Bossier City, LA

SUMMARY OF MINUTES.

DETAILED MINUTES WERE EMAILED TO BOARD MEMBERS.

I. Call to Order, Invocation, and Roll Call:

Mr. Matt Wheeler, Chairperson, of the Seventh Planning District Consortium Workforce Development Board called the quarterly meeting to order at 11:36 a.m.

Rev. Nicholas Olsen said the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and gave the invocation; Mrs. Julie Moore called roll; and Mrs. Randel Elliott operated and monitored the Zoom Teleconference.

Members in Attendance: Julie Bass, Michael Chamlee, Kirk Dickson, Mary Duncan, Ty Graham, Matt LaFisca, Shirley Marcus, Joni Nelson, Travis O'Brien, Bruce Roberts, David "Rocky" Rockett, Jayda Spillers, Clifton Starks, Matt Wheeler and Marshette Williams.

Members not in Attendance: Leighton Allen, Michael Barrett, Eugene Fremaux II, Brandon Hillman, Brent Moreland, Patricia Trim, and John "Chuck" Vaughan III.

Staff Attending: Nada Attaway, Mark Colwick, Robin Dunlop, Latosa Hall, Lloyd Jackson, Julie Moore, Nicholas Olsen, Candie Sattler, Craig Sheppert, and Chardia Veal.

Other Guest Attending: Tammy Aguilera, Veronica Bell, Robin Berry, Bruce Busada, Bridgette Clark, Randel Elliott, Jacques Lasseigne, Jr., and Elizabeth Williams.

Approval of Minutes from the September 24, 2021 Meeting: Chairperson Wheeler informed the Board that the minutes were emailed out to all the Board members to be reviewed before the meeting. Chairperson Wheeler asked if anyone had any questions or changes to bring forward and there were none. Mr. Clifton Starks made a motion to accept the September 24, 2021, Meeting Minutes, with a second by Chairperson Matt Wheeler. With no further discussion, the motion was called and approved unanimously by all the Board members. There were no abstentions or oppositions.

Approval of LDWA 70 WIOA Policies:

Chairperson Wheeler reminded the Board that there were four policies emailed out to everyone prior to the meeting. Chairperson Wheeler stated the four policies that needed to be voted on were the LWDA 70 Youth Incentives Policy, the revised Youth Policy, the revised Work Experience Policy, and the revised CDC Policies and Procedures Manual. Chairperson Wheeler stated that the Youth and Work Experience Policy was mostly adding State language to stay in compliance with the regulations. Chairperson Wheeler stated that the Youth Incentives Policy was new and clarified specific amounts of money that can be given to youths as incentives, which he was very happy to see. Chairperson Wheeler asked Mrs. Sattler to explain to the Board the changes that were made to the CDC Policies and Procedures Manual. Mrs. Sattler

stated that the main changes were changing a full-time employee as someone working at least 28 hours a week, a holiday was added, along with small HR changes, including having to have reimbursements turned in within 30 days, outlining the rules for using company vehicles, etc. Mr. Starks asked Mrs. Sattler what holiday was added. Mrs. Sattler answered that Juneteenth was added once it was declared a state holiday by the Governor. Mr. Starks stated that he read the policies and was very impressed with the youth policy, he stated it was very detailed and he agreed with it. Chairperson Wheeler asked if anyone else had any comments about the policies and no one did. Mr. Clifton Starks made a motion to approve the LWDA 70 Youth Incentives Policy, to approve the revised Youth Policy, approve the revised Work Experience Policy, and adopt the revised CDC Policies and Procedures Manual. Mr. Matt LaFisca seconded the motion and with no further discussion, the motion was called and approved unanimously by all the Board members. There were no abstentions or oppositions.

One-Stop Operator Report:

Chairperson Wheeler asked Mrs. Berry to give her One-Stop Operator Report. Mrs. Berry talked about how her goals the previous quarter was increasing collaboration of partners, obtaining additional partners, increasing services offered in the American Job Centers (AJC), and creation of standard operations procedure manual for the One-Stop Centers. Mrs. Berry stated they have increased referrals due to the increase in partner collaboration, including the collaboration with the Department of Children and Family Services. Mrs. Berry stated that they were currently modifying the MOU for the Infrastructure Agreement. Mrs. Berry explained that the Infrastructure Agreement is a document used to identify shared partner costs of the AJC. Mrs. Berry stated that invoicing for the costs would occur in the next quarter. Mrs. Berry continued to go over the trainings that they coordinated and delivered, and also events that they attended or coordinated. Mrs. Berry went over the One-Stops goals for the new year, including implement the Workforce Development Board strategic priorities and policy directive at the centers, further the interaction of community partners, and assist the Board's outreach efforts. Mrs. Berry asked if anyone had any questions, and no one did.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Mr. Wheeler adjourned the meeting at 1:11 p.m.

Certification:

I, Julie Moore, Operations & Communications Manager, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing are the Minutes of the Seventh Planning District Consortium Workforce Development Board dated December 10, 2021. A quorum of members was present.

BUDGET AND OPERATING STATEMENT

DIVISION OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT 2021-2022 BUDGET AS OF JANUARY 30, 2022

Revenue

	Budget	To Date	Balance
PY20/FY21	2,292,526	1,393,644	898,882
PY21/FY22	3,348,209	542,177	2,806,032
TOTAL	5,640,735	1,935,821	3,704,914

Expenditures

Personnel			
Salaries	1,274,992	586,168	688,824
Fringe	465,467	261,610	203,857
TOTAL	1,740,459	847,778	892,681
Operating			
One-Stop Operator	98,000	51,981	40,019
Office Rent & Maint.	197,818	108,550	89,268
Equipment	21,269	12,169	9,100
Furniture	19,154	0	9,154
Office Supplies	65,780	28,907	36,873
Printing, Postage, Phone	54,560	27,037	27,523
Travel	26,410	24,617	1,793
Advertising	4,000	0	4,000
Professional Fees	168,989	102,596	66,393
Professional Dev.	6,496	0	6,496
Professional Member	1,723	275	1,448
Miscellaneous	8,374	4,470	3,904
TOTAL	672,573	360,602	311,971
Training			
Classroom Training	1,916,531	559,519	1,357,012
Work Based Training	670,627	52,117	618,510
Youth Incentives	97,242	1,500	95,742
Support Services	543,303	44,275	499,028
TOTAL	3,227,703	657,411	2,570,292
GRAND TOTAL	5,640,735	1,865,791	3,774,944

BREAKDOWN ON TRAINING EXPENDITURES

DIVISION OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AS OF JANUARY 30, 2022

ADULT			
TRAINING	BUDGET	TO DATE	BALANCE
Classroom Training	754,481	373,845	380,636
On the Job Training/Apprenticeship	134,820	0	134,820
Support Services	119,436	19,312	100,124
Total	1,008,737	393,157	615,580

DISLOCATED WORKER			
TRAINING	BUDGET	TO DATE	BALANCE
Classroom Training	466,656	93,230	373,426
On the Job Training/Apprenticeship	65,750	0	65,750
Support Services	87,243	3,842	83,401
Total	619,649	97,072	522,577

YOUTH			
TRAINING	BUDGET	TO DATE	BALANCE
Classroom Training	695,394	92,444	602,950
Work Experience	470,057	52,117	417,940
Youth Incentives	97,242	1,500	95,742
Support Services	336,624	21,121	315,503
Total	1,599,317	167,182	1,432,135

PROGRAM MANAGER REPORT



WIOA Program Manager
Nicholas Olsen

Program Manager Report

This quarter we continued to reach out to different training partners to strengthen our communication and come to a better understanding of each other's needs. We had staff members from NLTCC and Durham Transport come talk with the management team about their CDL programs. Our staff also had the opportunity to hear about MedCerts new Online offerings and got a chance to ask questions about the different programs.

LWC responded favorably to our questions regarding (1) the status of when a youth becomes Out-of-School (OSY), when they graduate High School; and (2) whether or not we could write a contract with an organization to cover one parish, or if they would have to cover all ten as that is our covered area. Thank you Mr. Bruce Busada for your assistance in getting these questions resolved for us.

After reviewing our low enrollment numbers in the youth department and receiving feedback from partners and participants that having two case workers was too confusing; CDC management decided we had no choice but to restructure the department. There is one case manager (Youth Program Specialist), who recruits in the schools, enrolls, sets up work experience, and manages the case all together. Instead of two people being responsible for five parishes, five people are responsible for two parishes each. We unfortunately lost our original youth team in this transition. We currently have three of the five positions filled, one new hire who starts April 1st, and we continue to look to fill the DeSoto/Red River YPS position. Between the three YPS and Mrs. Robin Dunlop, Assistant Program Manager, they have worked hard to fill in the gaps in the two vacant YPS positions. Having just come out of training, the new structure seems to be moving in the right direction.

ASSISTANT PROGRAM MANAGER REPORT



WIOA Assistant Program Manager
Robin Dunlop

Case Managers:

Staffing – All Career Specialist positions are currently filled.

New Career Specialists:

Daniel Veuleman (Natchitoches/Sabine)

Zena Hansel (Lincoln/Bienville)

Mary Bedford (Webster/Claiborne).

Due to the high volume of participants in the Natchitoches/Sabine and Lincoln/Bienville areas, two additional Career Specialist positions were created and have been filled. These Career Specialists will work specifically with participants enrolled in or looking to enroll into CDL training. Mr. Brad Roberson will attend to CDL participants in Lincoln and Bienville Parishes and Mr. Daniel Veuleman will attend to those in Natchitoches and Sabine Parishes. Ms. Zena Hansel will manage the remainder of participants in the Lincoln/Bienville area. Ms. Terri Remedies and Ms. Syreetta Evans will continue to manage the remainder of participants in the Sabine and Natchitoches areas.

Eligibility:

Ms. Rachel Milner was hired as WIOA Youth Eligibility Coordinator on Dec. 16th, after the state released a waiver allowing up to 50% of youth participants to be ISY. Ms. Milner determines eligibility for youth applicants only, allowing a more centralized focus on the youth population. In addition, there is a statewide effort to address the national truck driver shortage. This has created a tremendous increase in applications within the Adult and Dislocated Worker populations. Ms. Jamie Brown, WIOA Central Eligibility Coordinator, can now apply her full focus on these and continue to work towards eliminating the backlog of applications.

Training:

All WIOA staff attend a weekly meeting via Microsoft Teams to discuss policies, procedures, and best practices. “Follow-up” training was conducted on Feb. 21st in the Bossier City office for all Career Specialists and Youth Program Specialists. Also, new hire office training has been taking place since Jan. 4th beginning with three Youth Program Specialists. Then, Career Specialist, Mr. Veuleman, completed his office training on March 8th and is now participating in hands-on training with Program Specialist, Ms. Remedies. Louisiana Workforce Development Specialist, Mrs. Sharon Lair, visited with the new Youth Program Specialists on March 9th to assist with opportunities to serve the ISY population. Career Specialists, Ms. Hansel and Ms. Mary Bedford, began their office training on March 16th.

WIOA PERFORMANCE

LWDA 70 PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The WIOA indicators calculated through PY 21-Q2 are reflected in the performance report provided by LWC.

- LWDA 70 did not meet the Dislocated Worker and Youth Employment Rate 2nd Quarter After Exit measures for the Title 1 WIOA program.
- LWDA 70 did not meet the Dislocated Worker and Wagner Peyer Employment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit measures for the Title 1 WIOA program.
- LWDA 70 met all the Credential Attainment measures for the Title 1 WIOA program.
- LWDA 70 did not meet the Youth Measurable Skills Gains measure for the Title 1 WIOA program.
- LWDA 70 did not meet the Youth Median Earnings 2nd Quarter After Exit measure for the Title 1 WIOA program.

ADULT			
INDICATOR	ACTUAL	LWDB PLAN	% ACHIEVED
Employment Q2	75.6%	72.00%	60.3%
Employment Q4	75.2%	70.00%	60.3%
Credential	76.0%	67.50%	57.9%
Skill Gains	75.1%	60.00%	48.6%
Median Earnings	\$6,123	\$6,060.00	\$5,400
DISLOCATED WORKER			
INDICATOR	ACTUAL	LWDB PLAN	% ACHIEVED
Employment Q2	62.0%	78.00%	60.3%
Employment Q4	65.5%	75.00%	61.2%
Credential	84.3%	71.00%	63.5%
Skill Gains	84.1%	61.40%	53.1%
Median Earnings	\$9,260	\$7,800.00	\$7,020
YOUTH			
INDICATOR	ACTUAL	LWDB PLAN	% ACHIEVED
Employment Q2	68.0%	80.00%	66.2%
Employment Q4	73.9%	75.00%	64.8%
Credential	55.9%	60.00%	52.2%
Skill Gains	55.9%	45.00%	52.2%
Median Earnings	\$3,743	\$5,000.00	\$2,610
WAGNER-PEYSER			
INDICATOR	ACTUAL	LWDB PLAN	% ACHIEVED
Employment Q2	56.4%	61.00%	54.0%
Employment Q4	54.2%	63.00%	55.8%
Median Earnings	\$4,717	\$4,700.00	\$4,500

Number Served (Participants and Reportable Individuals): Individuals served between 01/01/2021 and 12/31/2021

Number Exited (Participants): Served Individuals who exited between 10/01/2020 and 09/30/2021

Employment Rate 2nd Quarter After Exit: Rate of employment for exiters between 01/01/2020 and 12/31/2020

Employment Rate 4th Quarter After Exit: Exiters between 07/01/2019 and 06/30/2020

Median Earnings 2nd Quarter After Exit: Median earnings by exiters between 01/01/2020 and 12/31/2020

Credential Attainment Rate: Exiters between 07/01/2019 and 06/30/2020

Measurable Skill Gains: Rate of measurable skill gains between 01/01/2021 and 12/31/2021

Did not Meet Goal - Less than 90% Achieved
Met the Negotiated Level
Exceeds the Negotiated Level - Greater than 100% Achieved

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

HiRE DATA
07/01/2021 - 03/11/2022

SUMMARY	TOTAL
INDIVIDUAL AND TOTAL SERVICES	
Individuals that Registered	1,832
Individuals that Logged In	19,021
Distinct Individuals Receiving Services	6,873
Services Provided to Individuals	56,793
Staff Assisted Referrals to Providers	14

LABOR EXCHANGE SERVICES	
Individuals Virtual Recruiters Created	1,039
Resumes Added	1,255
Internal Job Orders Created	3,314
Internal Job Referrals	8,687
External Job Referrals Created	18,851

EMPLOYER SERVICES	
Services Provided Employers	5,082

WAGNER PEYSER PROGRAMS (WP) INFORMATION	
WP - Completed Applications	3,421
WP - Participants	1,836
WP - Exited Cases	1,599

WORKFORCE INNOVATION & OPPORTUNITY ACT (WIOA) PROGRAM INFORMATION	
WIOA - Completed WIOA Applications	180
WIOA - Closed Never Enrolled Applications	71
WIOA - Participants	139
WIOA - Exited	184
TAA - Total Applications	5
TAA - Total Participants Created	3
TAA - Exits Created	7

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

CONTINUED

PY 20-21 NEW ENROLLMENTS

JULY 2020 - 13 | AUGUST 2020 - 23 | SEPTEMBER 2020 - 22 | OCTOBER 2020 - 32 | NOVEMBER 2020 - 24
 DECEMBER 2020 - 14 | JANUARY 2021 - 22 | FEBRUARY 2021 - 19 | MARCH 2021 - 28
 APRIL 2021 - 19 | MAY 2021 - 16 | JUNE 2021 - 30

PY 21-22 NEW ENROLLMENTS

JULY 2021 - 6 | AUGUST 2021 - 28 | SEPTEMBER 2020 - 10 | OCTOBER 2021 - 13 | NOVEMBER 2021 - 13
 DECEMBER 2021 - 12 | JANUARY 2022 - 25 | FEBRUARY 2022 - 5 | MARCH 2022 -

ACTIVE PARTICIPANT ENROLLMENTS IN LWDA 70 PY 20-21 AS OF DECEMBER 7, 2021

Bienville American Job Center (Satellite) - 16	Bossier American Job Center - 45	Balance of Caddo American Job Center - 16	DeSoto/Red River American Job Center - 52
Lincoln American Job Center - 46	Natchitoches American Job Center - 45	Sabine American Job Center - 27	Webster/Claiborne American Job Center - 31

SNAPSHOT OF LWDA 70 REGIONAL LABOR MARKET AREA AS OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2021

Jobs Available	Monthly Job Count	Candidates Available	Candidates Per Job
8,081	15,312	25,836	3.20

ADVERTISED JOB CERTIFICATIONS TABLE

Rank	Advertised Certification Group	Advertised Certification Sub-Category	Job Opening Match Count
1	AHACPR & First Aid Certifications	Nursing	3,700
2	Nursing Credentials and Certifications	Nursing	2,942
3	Commercial Driver's License (CDL)	Ground Transportation	915
4	Social Worker Credentials & Certifications	Social and Human Services	154
5	AICPA Certifications	Financial Specialists	126
6	NREMT	Fire Rescue	86
7	Doctor of Psychology (psyD)	Medical Professional	77
8	National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC)	Med. Treatment & Therapy	76
9	Insurance Agent Licenses	Insurance Service	75
10	State Licensed Counselors	Counseling	72

The table above shows the top advertised certification groups found in job openings advertised online in Seventh Planning District Consortium LWIA, LA in February 2022.

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

CONTINUED

EMPLOYERS BY NUMBER OF JOB OPENINGS TABLE

Rank	Employer Name	Job Openings
1	CHRISTUS Health	428
2	Willis-Knighton Health System	421
3	Caddo Parish School Board	197
4	Carrols Corporations	157
5	McDonald's Corporation	146
6	Oshsner Health System	142
7	Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center Shreveport	100
8	Dollar Tree, Inc.	87
9	Sonic Corp.	75
10	Louisiana Department of State Civil Service	73

The table below shows the employers with the highest number of job openings advertised online in Seventh Planning District Consortium LWIA, LA on March 10, 2022.

INDUSTRIES BY ADVERTISED JOBS TABLE

Rank	Industry	Job Openings
1	Health Care and Social Assistance	1,760
2	Accommodation and Food Services	759
3	Retail Trade	574
4	Educational Services	454
5	Admin. & Support and Waste Man. & Remediation Services	354
6	Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	298
7	Manufacturing	289
8	Wholesale Trade	224
9	Finance and Wholesale	175
10	Unclassified	2,235

The table above shows the industries with the highest job openings advertised online in Seventh Planning District Consortium LWIA, LA on March 10, 2022.

EMPLOYMENT WAGE STATISTICS

	Number of Employees	Average Hourly Wage	Average Weekly Wage	Average Annual Wage
LWDA 70	210,730	\$21.13	\$845	\$43,940
Louisiana	1,800,561	\$25.53	\$1,021	\$53,092

LABOR FORCE, EMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT DATA

	Civilian Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
LWDA 70	164,741	159,854	4,887	3.0%
Louisiana	2,057,188	1,980,077	77,111	3.7%

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

CONTINUED

LOUISIANA'S UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMS FOR WEEK ENDING 03/05/2022

The initial unemployment insurance claims for the week ending March 5, 2022, increase to 1,347 from the week ending February 26, 2022, total of 1,327. For a comparison, during the week ending March 6, 2021, 7,100 initial claims were filed.

The unemployment insurance continued claims for the week ending March 5, 2022, decrease to 12,871 from the week ending February 26, 2022, total of 13,085. For a comparison, during the week ending March 6, 2021, 48,016 initial claims were filed.

WEEKLY CLAIMS DATA

	Current	Prior Week	Prior Year
Week Ending Dates	3/5/2022	2/26/2022	3/6/2021
UI Program			
Initial Claims	1,347	1,327	7,100
Continued Claims	12,871	13,085	48,016
Insured Unemployment Rate	0.9	0.9	3.4
UCFE Program			
Initial Claims	4	2	14
Continued Claims	49	50	97
UCX Program			
Initial Claims	0	4	6
Continued Claims	18	20	25
Total Claims, All Programs			
Initial Claims	1,351	1,333	7,120
Continued Claims	12,938	13,155	48,138

Definitions:

UI - Regular Unemployment Insurance applicable to unemployed workers in employment covered under the Louisiana employment security law.

UCFE - Unemployment Compensation for Federal Civilian Employees.

UCX - Unemployment Compensation for ex-service members.

Initial Claim - A new claim filed to open a claim for unemployment compensation.

Continued Claim - Each week claimed subsequent to the filing of the initial claim for a week of Unemployment Compensation.

Provided by Louisiana Workforce Commission

BUSINESS SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE REPORT



WIOA Business Service Representative
Mark Colwick

During this past quarter, Business Services began to implement its new strategy of matching current WIOA participants' job skill sets with hiring employers in an effort to better identify OJT possibilities. However, due to the fact that the majority (approximately 95-98%) of our participants are currently enrolled in educational programs listed on the Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL), this is a slow process which can only occur a few times throughout the year.

After additional research was conducted to seek more effective strategies, we discovered two trends that were emerging with OJT placement: (1) states and regions across the country are facing numerous, similar challenges to the successful implementation of OJT due in part to the "Great Resignation" as well as the desire for remote and flexible jobs among higher-skilled workers, but also attributable to the challenges facing front-line workers who are choosing to stay out of the workforce for a variety of reasons and (2) many of these states and regions have begun to combine other types of work-based training (such as registered apprenticeships and customized training models) to develop regional and industry sector partnerships in an effort to employ successful OJT programs.

Through regional and industry sector partnerships, local stakeholders – employers, colleges, education and training providers, labor representatives, and workforce development professionals – can be joined together to establish a shared table to address workforce and OJT program challenges and to develop education-to-employment talent pipelines. Through the collaboration of sector partnerships, these talent pipelines can create a steady stream of participants from traditional educational programs to OJT job placement.

While Business Services will continue utilizing its traditional marketing efforts by participating in career fairs and community events to promote our programs and services to employers, our primary goal for the next year will be to focus on developing sector partnerships, particularly in the most underserved areas of our region. In doing so, we feel that we can build long-term relationships with all local stakeholders that will not only accommodate employers' hiring needs but also provide a stable and sustainable supply of OJT job placement opportunities.

ACTIVE CONTRACTS				
PARISH	COMPANY	JOB TITLE	OJT POSITION	WAGE/HOUR
Caddo	Trust Technology Consultants, LLC	Technician 1	1	\$15.00
PROCESSING CONTRACTS				
PARISH	COMPANY	JOB TITLE	OJT POSITION	WAGE/HOUR
Caddo	Benteler Steel/Tube Manufacturing Corp.	ET Automation Technician	1	\$25.75

YOUTH PARTICIPANT SUMMARY

HIRE DATA
07/01/2021 – 03/11/2022

Participation Summary	Enrolled	Exited
A. Total Participants	64	24
Participants Carried In	49	21
New Participants	15	3
B. Eligible Youth 5% Exception		
Youth 5% Exception	0	0
C. In School / Out Of School Youth (Funding Definition)		
In School Youth	2	0
Out Of School Youth	61	23
D. Program Exit Information		
Entered Unsubsidized Employment		5
Training Related Employment		5
Entered Military Service		0
Entered Qualified Apprenticeship		0
Entered Post-Secondary Education		0
Entered Advanced Training		0
Individuals Attained Recognized Certificate/Diploma/Degree		10
Individuals Attained High School Diploma/GED		0
Returned to Secondary School		0
Exits Excluded from Performance		0
Other Exits		19

Participation Characteristics Summary	Enrolled	Exited
A. Gender		
Female	27	6
Male	36	17
B. Age		
14 - 18	12	4
19 - 21	30	12
22 - 24	22	8
25 - 34	0	0
35 - 44	0	0
45 - 54	0	0
55 - 64	0	0
65 and older	0	0

YOUTH PARTICIPANT SUMMARY

CONTINUED

	Enrolled	Exited
C. Race/Ethnicity		
Ethnicity Hispanic or Latino	0	0
American Indian / Alaskan Native	1	0
Asian	0	0
African American / Black	46	19
Hawaiian Native / Other Pacific Islander	0	0
White	17	5
Other	0	0
D. Veteran Status		
Total Veterans	0	0
Served Less than 181 Days	0	0
Eligible Veteran	0	0
Other Eligible Person	0	0
Campaign Veteran	0	0
Disabled Veteran	0	0
Special Disabled Veteran	0	0
Recently Separated Veteran	0	0
Transitioning Service Member	0	0
E. Labor Force Status		
Employed	16	4
Employed, but received notice of layoff or termination	0	0
Unemployed	48	20
F. School Status at Participation		
In School, High School or Less	0	0
In School, Alternative School	0	0
In School Attending Post High School	3	0
Out-of-School, High School Dropout	13	5
Out-of-School, High School Grad	44	18
Not Attending School, Within Age of Compulsory School Attendance	4	1
G. Unemployment Insurance Status		
Eligible Claimant, Referred by WPRS	0	0
Eligible Claimant, referred by REA/RESEA	0	0
Eligible Claimant, not referred by WPRS/RESEA	6	2
Exhaustee	0	0

YOUTH PARTICIPANT SUMMARY

CONTINUED

	Enrolled	Exited
H. Barriers		
Disabled	11	4
English Language Learner	0	0
Single Parent (including single pregnant women)	11	3
Displaced Homemaker	1	0
Offenders	3	1
Homeless	1	0
Runaway Youth	0	0
Pregnant / Parenting Youth	27	12
Youth Requires Additional Assistance	12	1
Youth Serious Barriers to Employment (WIA legacy)	0	0
Basic Literacy Skills Deficient	17	4
Youth in, or aged out of, Foster Care	1	0
Out of Home Placement	1	0
Eligible under Section 477 of the Social Security Act	0	0
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0	0
Hawaiian Native	0	0
Within 2 years of exhausting TANF lifetime eligibility	0	0
Facing Substantial Cultural Barriers	0	0
Eligible Migrant Seasonal Farmworkers as defined in WIOA Sec 167 (i)	0	0
Meets Governor's special barriers to employment	1	0
I. Income / Public Assistance		
Low Income	57	22
TANF	0	0
SSI	4	0
Receiving Social Security Disability Insurance Income (SSDI)	0	0
State or Local Income-Based Public Assistance (General Assistance)	0	0
Refugee Cash Assistance (WIA Legacy)	0	0
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	21	6
Foster Child (State or Local Payments are Made)	0	0
Youth living in the High-poverty Area	0	0
Youth Receives or is Eligible to Receive Free or Reduced Lunch	0	0

Understanding the importance of a diverse and inclusive workforce, LWDA 70 provides priority of services that may include financial assistance, case management, and training and supportive services to individuals who are considered a Priority Population as defined by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. Youth who face barriers to education, training, and employment can take advantage of the WIOA Youth program which focuses primarily on out-of-school youth (OSY). The chart below indicates the Youth in our Region with barriers enrolled in the WIOA Youth program.

WORK EXPERIENCE REPORT

Yasmine Ferguson

Parish: Webster

Employer: Community First High School

Start Date: July 12, 2021 / **End Date:** January 7, 2021 / **Extended End Date:** January 7, 2022

Hourly Wage: \$13 / **Hour/Week:** 40

YBC: LLoyd Jackson II

Status: Closed

Chloe Poore

Parish: Claiborne

Employer: Pelican Pediatrics

Start Date: July 12, 2021 / **End Date:** January 21, 2021 / **Extended End Date:** January 7, 2022

Hourly Wage: \$15 / **Hour/Week:** 40

YBC: LLoyd Jackson II

Status: Closed

Ranijah Goldsmith

Parish: Bienville

Employer: Humble Beginnings Counseling Agency

Start Date: April 19, 2021 / **End Date:** October 22, 2021

Hourly Wage: \$15 / **Hour/Week:** 40

YBC: LLoyd Jackson II

Status: Closed

Frederick Nash II

Parish: Natchitoches

Employer: Sodexo

Start Date: February 4, 2022 / **End Date:** August 2, 2022

Hourly Wage: \$8.50 / **Hour/Week:** 40

YPS: Morgan LaCaze

Status: Open

Terry McGrough

Parish: Sabine

Employer: Anderson Machine & Welding Inc.

Start Date: October 22, 2021 / **End Date:** April 20, 2022

Hourly Wage: \$14 / **Hour/Week:** 40

YPS: Morgan LaCaze

Status: Open

Kobie Temple

Parish: Bossier

Employer: Kobus Technologies

Start Date: November 15, 2021 / **End Date:** January 14, 2022

Hourly Wage: \$13 / **Hour/Week:** 40

YBC: LLoyd Jackson II

Status: Closed

YOUTH PROGRAM SPECIALIST



Evis Everhart

WIOA Youth Program Specialist

Serving: Bossier and Caddo Parishes

Hello, I am Evis Everhart and I have the fortunate opportunity of being one of the new Youth Program Specialist. I am a northern Louisiana Native, born and raised in the inner city of Shreveport. I love painting with oils, finding my zen with Yoga, and I have a passion for cooking. My early youth was spent working in ministries of hospitality and community outreach. This shaped my desire to pursue a career in health in human services and provide much needed opportunities to those in need. While employed with the State of Nebraska, I assisted many individuals with gaining self-sufficiency and pride in their lives and developed the ability to assist with great empathy. I aim to carry these attributes and an eagerness to learn to improve the welfare of Louisiana's youth.

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Natalie O'Rourke

WIOA Youth Program Specialist

Serving: Bienville and Lincoln Parishes

Natalie O'Rourke is a Youth Program Specialist serving Lincoln and Bienville Parishes and joined the Coordinating and Development Corporation in 2021. A thirteen-year resident of Ruston, O'Rourke has enjoyed being a part of the community and watching it grow as a volunteer with North Central Louisiana Arts Council, Ruston Community Theatre and Ruston Parks and Recreation. She moved to Louisiana to study Business Administration at Louisiana Tech University and worked as a Recreation Therapist at the Louisiana Methodist Children's Home and a Ropes Course Facilitator at the Outdoor Wilderness Learning Center (OWL) for seven years. In those positions, O'Rourke created a library and garden for the youth as well encouraged young adults to step out of their comfort zones on the challenge course which emphasized team building and goal setting. At the children's home, she also introduced new teaching methods while leading company trainings on Communication and Cultural Diversity. Prior to moving to Louisiana, she worked and traveled nationally and internationally while working for the accelerated learning company Quantum Learning Network, that taught life, study and relationship skills to youth and adults. O'Rourke grew up in Sonoma, CA to a Social Worker mother and Sheriff Officer father, who encouraged her to be a public servant. They became Foster Parents when she was a young girl and that gave her an opportunity to learn of families that were not as fortunate as her own. She knew from a young age that she wanted to serve youth professionally one day. Working in different countries and states and with various cultures, O'Rourke has learned to meet people where they are and to appreciate the diverse backgrounds of colleagues and clients. She is very grateful to be a part of a new team with many chances to learn and grow while supporting our communities.

YOUTH PROGRAM SPECIALIST



LaShanta Bradford
WIOA Youth Program Specialist
Serving: Claiborne and Webster Parishes

LaShanta Bradford is excited to be the Youth Program Specialist for Webster and Claiborne parishes. She is a graduate of Grambling State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education. As a former educator, LaShanta has a decade of successful experiences. She served as a teacher leader who attended many trainings to implement educational strategies. She was chosen to be a member of the parish finance team. She also held a volunteer position as a coordinator for St. Jude fundraisers.

In addition, she has always been passionate about educating and helping others achieve their goals.

Outside of work, LaShanta enjoys working in her flower garden and spending time with her family playing board games and riding bikes.



Morgan LaCaze
WIOA Youth Program Specialist
Serving: Natchitoches and Sabine Parishes

My name is Morgan LaCaze and I am the new Youth Program Specialist for Natchitoches and Sabine parishes. I am so excited to be a part of this company and am looking forward to working with our Youth. I graduated from Northwestern State University in December of 2018 with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, worked in an accounting firm for almost a year and decided that my passion was in helping others. I then took a job teaching 7th grade math at my Alma Mater in Hemphill, Texas for a year. I got married in June of 2020, built a house in Natchitoches and accepted a teaching position at Marthaville Junior High teaching 5-8th Grade Science. While I loved teaching my students, I did not feel fulfilled in my career and began applying for jobs. When I interviewed for this position, I knew this is where I needed to be. I have been so welcomed and supported since beginning my career here and am excited to be able to continue to work with youth in a new way!

PROGRAM MONITOR REPORT



WIOA Senior Program Monitor
Craig Sheppert



WIOA Program Monitor
Linda Hines

Coastal Truck Driving School in Calhoun, Ouachita Parish – Monitoring Report Issued 1-19-2022

On January 12, 2022, a monitoring visit was conducted to Coastal Truck Driving School's training facility located in Calhoun, about fifteen miles west of Monroe in Ouachita Parish. Program Monitors met with Chrissy Powell, Admissions Representative to review the training completion and employment status of nineteen WIOA participants enrolled at the school since July of 2021. Ms. Powell confirmed that 13 of the 19 participants had successfully completed their training and obtained a Class A Commercial Driver's License while two participants were issued a diploma by the school but had failed to pass their on-campus driving test required to receive a Class A CDL from the Louisiana Office of Motor Vehicles. Four WIOA participants were still in the process of completing their training. Ms. Powell provided post-training employment information for eight participants, all employed in vehicle driving jobs requiring a CDL. Program Monitors interviewed two active WIOA participants and both reported that they had already received inquiries from trucking companies as to their interest in employment.

Fourteen Required Services for WIOA Youth Participants

The WIOA federal regulations require that fourteen (14) program services be made available to Youth participants. The services to be provided to a WIOA Youth participant are to be based on an assessment of their needs and the development of an Individual Service Strategy. All fourteen program services do not have to be provided to every Youth participant. In 2017, the Coordinating and Development Corporation developed a form to be used by case managers in identifying which of the fourteen program services are most appropriate to a Youth participant's needs. In February, Program Monitors examined the files for twelve Youth participants to evaluate the extent to which the form was being used by case managers. For six Youth participants, Program Monitors found that no program services had been recorded on the form. Program Monitors met with Candle Sattler, Nicholas Olsen, and Robin Dunlop to discuss the results of the participant file review and the continued use of the form by case managers to identify program services to be provided to each Youth participant. No formal monitoring report was issued.

PROGRAM MONITOR REPORT

CONTINUED

Monitoring Visit to Shreveport JATC – Monitoring Report Issued 3-2-2022

In 2016, the Coordinating and Development Corporation began working with the Shreveport Electrical Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee to provide financial assistance to apprentices eligible for the WIOA program. Currently, apprentices eligible for the WIOA program are provided with financial assistance for the purchase of required textbooks, a standard tool kit, and any supportive services needed for the first three years of the five year apprenticeship.

On February 24, 2022, a monitoring visit was conducted to Shreveport JATC's training facility located in Bossier City. Program Monitors met with Matt LaFisca, Training Director to review the training progress of six (6) WIOA participants active in Shreveport JATC's electrical apprenticeship program which is conducted in association with IBEW Local 194. Since this is an apprenticeship activity combining paid employment and classroom instruction, Program Monitors obtained from Matt LaFisca information on the WIOA participants' electrical contractor assignments, and how the classroom instruction is conducted for each of the apprenticeship years. Program Monitors conducted interviews with all six active WIOA participants. The participants reported being provided with full-time employment by their assigned contractors and all indicated they were pleased with their classroom instruction which is held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings of each week. For the current apprenticeship year, \$4,948 in WIOA funds has been spent for the six participants' training needs. A participant is exited from the WIOA program after they have successfully completed the first three years of the five year apprenticeship. For each of the first three years, WIOA participants receive a credential issued by the Louisiana Workforce Commission.



ONE-STOP OPERATOR REPORT



**One-Stop
Operations Manager**
Robin Berry

High priority goals this quarter included assisting the Board's outreach efforts and event coordination, furthering the interaction of community partners, and working to engage partners.

Events and outreach initiatives include:

- Job fair with EnviroVac
- Career and Resource Fair with Natchitoches Parish Technical & Career Center
- Job Fair with The Service Companies
- Ribbon Cutting of Louisiana Workforce Commission Mobile Command Center
- Region 7 Leadership Team Meeting
- Job Fair with ABM
- Teamsters Pipeline Job Fair
- LWDA 70 Community Partner Meeting
- YWCA Open House
- Junior Achievement of North Louisiana Student Mentor
- East 80 Program Bossier Parish Library Meeting
- Junior/Senior Day at Northwest Louisiana Technical Community College
- Fast Forward Technical Assistance Meeting with Louisiana Department of Education
- Ben D. Johnson Think Tank Meeting
- DeSoto Parish Library Initiative
- Project Ayuda Weekly Staff Training

Upcoming events this quarter include:

Fire Prevention Safety Training March 17th and Minden Job fair March 29th. Most events will be advertised on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/LWDA70> which I am an editor.

The Louisiana Workforce Commission will offer a Job/Career Fair on April 2st at the Ben D. Johnson Education Center wherein:

Regional employers will meet prospective applicants to discuss high demand positions/skills/vacancies/etc.

Workforce Commission/BPCC Adult Education will provide Career sessions in interview skills/mock interviews, resume writing, appropriate interview attire, and resources for interview attire.

Ben D. Johnson Education Center and BPCC will promote and recruit potential students to upcoming education/training opportunities at the center and [BPCC]Natchitoches/Sabine Valley campuses.

The interaction of our community partners has increased this quarter. Evidenced by the number of referrals sent and received. With each quarter passing, we are receiving more referrals from partners. The main producers of said referrals are Department of Children and Family Services, Louisiana Rehabilitation Services, and Bossier American Job Center front desk staff that includes The Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) Project Ayuda workers.

Goals for next quarter as the One-Stop Operator (OSO) include a series of Career/Resource Fairs in partnership with Louisiana Workforce Commission Business Service Team and Jobs for Veterans. The venues have been secured for several locations. The OSO will further the Boards outreach efforts by continuing interaction with area Jump Start programs, serve as a community liaison, attend community events, and generate invoices as applicable for One-Stop expenses.

RAPID RESPONSE SERVICES

Rapid Response is an early intervention outplacement service offered to workers affected by major layoffs and plant closings. Rapid Response provides early intervention seminars to inform affected employees on how to access a variety of valuable services. The goal of the program is to transition workers into re-employment as quickly as possible. These include reemployment services, retraining services, readjustment services, and other appropriate assistance to workers affected by layoffs. Rapid Response services are offered as a group activity at no cost to the employer or the participating employees.

For further information, you may contact the State Rapid Response Coordinator Andre France (225)342-2918, or Local Rapid Response Coordinator Steve Posey at 318-741-7193, or sposey@lwc.la.gov.

REGION 7 WARN NOTICES As of March 11, 2022

Company Name	Notice Date	Layoff Date	Employees Affected	Industry
Cleco Dolet Hills Power Station 963 Power Plant Rd. Mansfield, LA 71052	10/18/21	12/31/21	54	Utilities



WIOA SUCCESS STORIES



Joel Randolph

Mr. Randolph initially visited the office because he applied for WIOA assistance to attend training to obtain his CDL at Diesel Driving Academy. His decision for a career change from Medical Transport Driver was because of the uprising COVID numbers and concerns of he and his wife's safety while being a provider for his family.

Mr. Randolph's services after being deemed eligible as a WIOA Dislocated Worker included initial assessment; comprehensive assessment utilizing TABE; his active participation in developing his Individualized Employment Plan and his successful completion of training for his occupational skills training.

These services received made it possible for Mr. Randolph to attend training for 4 weeks at Diesel Driving Academy & gain his Class A CDL. Having the Class A CDL allowed him to become employed in the field as a truck driver and the ease from his concern of his health safety of working with large groups during COVID pandemic.

When Mr. Randolph was asked how the WIOA program has benefited him he stated, "The program helped me get a job that I'll be making more income than I ever have in my life."



LaShond Washington

Ms. Washington initially visited the office because she was deemed eligible for WIOA assistance to attend training to obtain her CDL at Diesel Driving Academy. This was a career change decision for her from her previous 10 years of being a cashier/waitress and goal to gain a higher income for her family.

Ms. Washington's services after eligibility determination as a WIOA Adult included initial assessment; comprehensive assessment utilizing TABE; active participation in developing her Individualized Employment Plan and successful completion of training for her occupational skills training.

Upon receiving the services through WIOA it allowed Ms. Washington to attend the 4 week training and obtain her Class A CDL. This license opened the doors for her to later obtain additional endorsements and gain employment as a truck driver and increase her income.

When Ms. Washington was asked how the WIOA program has benefited her, she stated that this opportunity has allowed her to be confident and proud of herself and she feels influential as a female truck driver.

WORKFORCE EVENTS AND AREA UPDATES

JOB FAIRS, RECRUITING EVENTS, AND OTHER UPDATES

Mobile Workforce Center Ribbon Cutting

The Louisiana Workforce Commission hosted a ribbon cutting event on January 20, 2022 from 1:00pm to 3:00pm at the Caddo American Job Center. The Louisiana Workforce Commission's Mobile Workforce Center delivers workforce resources and services to individuals and businesses throughout the state. The Mobile Workforce Center serves employers who have a training or hiring need, jobseekers in rural areas who may have challenges accessing workforce services, and partners who could use additional resources.

ABM Hiring Event

The Coordination & Development Corporation, Louisiana Workforce Commission, and ABM hosted a job fair at the Bossier American Job Center on January 26, 2022 from 9:00am to 12:00pm. ABM is a leading provider of facility solutions. ABM's comprehensive capabilities include janitorial and food and nutrition workers. Career opportunities include: Hospital Cleaners, Floor Technicians, Hospital Food Service Workers, Production Cooks, Grill Cooks, Dishwasher, Dietary Clerk, and Hostess/Tray Line.

Find a Career that Fits Webinar

The Louisiana Workforce Commission hosted a virtual webinar on February 1, 2022 from 11:00am to 12:00pm. The webinar discussed ways to research the career you want and explore occupations that fit your skillset. They discussed ways to utilize the Hope Central Career Planning and Recovery System to figure out their next career steps.

Remote Work Virtual Fair

The Louisiana Workforce Commission hosted a virtual webinar on February 16, 2022 from 9:00am to 12:00pm. The webinar discussed ways to help you if you are looking for a job that lets you work remotely. LWC's Remote Work Virtual Fair helped people to learn about opportunities from a variety of industries.

Critical Administrative Skills for Remote Work

The Louisiana Workforce Commission hosted a virtual webinar on March 7, 2022 from 11:00am to 12:00pm. The webinar went over how even if you do not work in an administrative role, you must gain vital skills to succeed in any position. They discussed the administrative skills needed to win the remote job. Also, how to find the best remote work for your skillset.

Pizza Hut Job Fair

The Louisiana Workforce Commission, The Coordinating & Development Corporation, and Pizza Hut hosted a Job Fair on March 8, 2022 from 10:00am to 2:00pm at 921 S. Pine St., Vivian, Louisiana. Pizza Hut was hiring for multiple positions.

Northwest Louisiana Technical Community College Job Fair

Louisiana Workforce Commission, and The Minden Chamber of Commerce is hosting a job fair at the Northwest Louisiana Technical Community College Campus on March 29, 2022 from 10:00am to 2:00pm. The Mobile Workforce Center is coming to the Northwest Louisiana Technical Community College Minden Campus for the job fair.

WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAMS

Adult and Dislocated Worker Program

CDC provides classroom training services for adults, youth, and dislocated workers through the American Job Centers located in each parish of our ten-parish area. Customers use an Individual Training Account (ITA) to determine the type training and which training provider best fits their needs. WIOA funds pay for all the costs associated with their training, including tuition, books, supplies, and uniforms.

Youth Program

The intent of the WIOA Youth Program is to coordinate and facilitate services for disadvantaged youth ages 17-24 to help them maximize their potential through education, leadership training, and work experience while also providing mentoring and follow-up services. We are currently focusing on our Youth Work Experience Program and serving youth who have dropped out of high school and that are unemployed. WIOA provides resources for these youth to complete the HiSET Program and obtain entry level employment.

On-the-Job Training Program

Region's 7's LWDA's utilize On-the-Job Training (OJT) program as the methods of service delivery to local businesses. The OJT Program addresses the needs of businesses for short-term experiential training. The Region 7 LWDA's also offer customized training tailored to specific industry requirements. Business Service Representatives are in contact with local businesses and is very familiar with the services offered through Region 7's LWDA's. The Business Representative is an excellent source of referral for WIOA clients for the OJT or customized training components. The region utilizes Workkeys and other interest and aptitude assessments as the common assessment instruments for WIOA clients. The region has attempted to make the assessment process as customer-friendly as possible by offering the assessment every day as needed. This allows the client to fit the process to their schedule thus making for an efficient and streamlined assessment. It assists an employee who may not possess the skills needed for a job with a chance to learn a new job while earning an income. It also allows an employer a chance to train an employee with less expense to the employer.



OTHER WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAMS



Region 7 and Shreveport Area Electrical JATC Apprenticeship Program:

In 2015, both Local Workforce Development Areas in Region 7 began discussions with staff from Shreveport's JATC Electrical Apprenticeship Program (IBEW Local 194) on how WIOA funds might be used to help pay the training expenses of new apprentices. After several meetings, a coordination plan was developed that was successfully implemented. A WIOA eligibility pre-screening form was developed by LWDA 70 and LWDA 71 and was made available to applicants accepted for the Electrical Apprenticeship program. Completed pre-screening forms were forwarded to the administrative offices of LWDA 70 and 71. Through this process, new apprentices were identified as being eligible for WIOA adult and dislocated worker training services. WIOA funds have been used to purchase standard tool kits, textbooks, personal protective equipment, and workbooks for these apprentices at a cost of approximately \$1,000 each. WIOA funds will also be used to reimburse the new apprentices for the purchase of work boots needed for when they complete the classroom component of their training and begin their jobs as apprentice electricians. Through the work of staff from LWDA 70, LWDA 71, and the Shreveport Area Electrical JATC, WIOA participants are being prepared to enter careers as electricians, a demand occupation in Region 7 offering an average income of \$42,000 a year.

Legacy Youth Workforce Development Program:

Ben D. Johnson Education Center Legacy Youth Workforce Development Program in Natchitoches conducts a 12-week program with 4-week externship that provides classroom learning and hands-on training. To qualify for the program, youth must be between the ages of 17-24, and are out-of-school. The program provides stipends for participation and breakfast and lunch are served daily. The training includes culinary skills, SERV Safe certification, customer service, job readiness, and support and referrals, to resources to help youth overcome barriers to employment.

Incumbent Worker Training Program (IWTP):

The Incumbent Worker Training Program (IWTP) is a partnership between the Louisiana Workforce Commission (LWC), business and industry, and training providers. It is designed to benefit business and industry by assisting in the skill development of existing employees and thereby increasing employee productivity and growth within the company. These improvements are expected to result in the creation of new jobs, the retention of jobs that otherwise may have been eliminated, and an increase in wages for trained workers. The program is funded by unemployment insurance tax contributions.

ANNUAL PERSONAL FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

General Information:

You are required to file a Tier 2.1 Personal Financial Disclosure Statement if you are a member (or designee) of a board or commission that has the authority to expend, disburse, or invest \$10,000 or more of funds in a fiscal year, members of the State Civil Service Commission and the Louisiana Stadium and Exposition District Board of Commissioners, and the executive director or person holding the equivalent position of each state and statewide retirement system.

Board or Commission shall mean:

- A board or commission (and like entity) created by law or executive order that is made a part of the executive branch, or that is placed in an executive branch department or in the office to the governor or lieutenant governor by law or executive order.
- A board, commission (and like entity) created by the constitution, by law, by a political subdivision, or jointly by two or more political subdivisions as a governing authority of a political subdivision within the state or local government.

Board or Commission shall not mean:

- The governing authority of a parish.
- Any board or commission that governs a political subdivision created by a single parish governing authority of a parish with a population of 200,000 or less, or any sub-district of such a political subdivision.
- The governing authority of a municipality.
- Any board or commission that governs a political subdivision created by a single municipal governing authority of a municipality with a population of 25,000 or less, or any sub-district of such a political subdivision.
- A board of directors of a private nonprofit corporation that is not created by law.

You are required to file a financial disclosure statement on or before **May 15** of each year, you hold office, AND by **May 15** of the year following the termination of the holding of such office. You are only required to complete schedules that are applicable to your personal financial status. If additional copies of the schedules are needed, copies are available at www.ethics.la.gov.

If you hold another office that requires you to file a financial disclosure statement, you are only required to file one financial disclosure statement. The financial disclosure statement shall be filed under the highest tier. Tier levels (highest to lowest): Tier 1, Tier 2, Tier 2.1, Tier 3. You may not request an extension to file your personal financial disclosure statement. If your holding of office ends in January, you may file your “final” personal financial disclosure statement for the days served in January, if the disclosure statement is filed on or before May 15 of the year in which your service ends. By filing this “final” personal financial disclosure statement, you are not required to file the year following the termination of the holding of such office.

Louisiana Board of Ethics:

Post Office Box: 4368 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821
For additional information, call our office at (225) 219-5600 or visit our website <http://www.ethics.la.gov/>, and view the *Disclosure-Frequently Asked Questions* section or the information sheets provided under *General Information – Publications*.

Acceptable methods for filing a personal financial disclosure statement:

Fax: (225) 381-7271

Mail: Board of Ethics, Post Office Box 4368, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70821

Commercial or Hand-delivery: 617 North Third Street, LaSalle Building, Suite 1036, Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Upload via agency website: www.ethics.la.gov (PDF file format only)

Electronic Filing: Instructions for electronic filing are on the agency website: <http://www.ethics.la.gov/>

To print a copy of The Personal Financial Disclosure Form go to: <http://ethics.la.gov/Pub/FinDiscl/F417f.pdf>

END OF YEAR - ETHICS TRAINING

Beginning January 1, 2012, anyone deemed a “public servant” will be required, on an annual basis, to receive an hour of education and training on the ethics codes. Local Workforce Development Board members are public servants.

As a Workforce Development Board Member, you are required by law to take the ethics training on-line by December 31, 2022.

Ethics training seminars have been established online. For those needing to complete ethics code training, you can go to: laethics.net/EthicsTraining/login.aspx, and watch three 20-minute sessions on Louisiana ethics laws.

This is very important and failure to comply with the training could result in a serious fine up to \$1,500.



REGIONAL REPORT

LWC offers truck driver training grant to help Louisianians “Drive Your Future”

BATON ROUGE, La. – The Louisiana Workforce Commission is helping ease the truck driver shortage across the state by offering a truck driver training grant to qualified applicants. The program, “Drive Your Future,” was spurred by the truck driver shortage and the supply chain crisis the country is facing right now.

“From food to furniture, truck drivers help keep Louisiana’s economy moving,” said LWC Secretary Ava Cates. “The pandemic dealt a blow to the truck driving industry, one critical to our state. This program will help get a new crop of drivers on the road and help keep goods flowing.”

The “Drive Your Future” program will pay for qualifying students across the state to attend certain accredited truck driving schools and earn their Commercial Driver’s License. Focusing on veterans and the underemployed, the program’s goal is to get Louisianians on the road to a new career.

The American Trucking Association (ATA) estimates that about 72% of America’s freight transport moves by trucks. The ATA also estimates that the shortage of truck drivers could be as high as 80,000, and that number is expected to grow for a number of reasons:

- High average age of current drivers, which leads to a high number of retirements;
- Women making up only 7% of all drivers, well below their representation in the total workforce
- Infrastructure and other issues, like a lack of truck parking spots, which causes drivers to stop driving earlier than they need to so they can get a spot for the night, and congestion which limits drivers’ ability to safely and efficiently make deliveries

“The truck driver shortage isn’t going away anytime soon, and we have a responsibility to get goods and services to Louisianians in a timely fashion,” said Cates. “The most impactful way LWC can deliver is to get people trained and get drivers behind the wheel.”

LWC will partner with Diesel Driving Academy, Coastal Driving Academy and South Louisiana Community College to train drivers. People interested in the training and a career in truck driving can [click here](#) to apply. The first classes are expected to start later this month.

Unemployment rate down in all 9 MSA’s

BATON ROUGE, La. –Louisiana’s not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for December 2021 is 3.7 percent, a decrease of 3.6 percentage points from the December 2020 rate of 7.3 percent. The rate also shows a decrease of 0.4 percentage points from the November 2021 revised rate of 4.1 percent. The rate is tied for the 3rd lowest of all time for the state.

The not seasonally adjusted preliminary unemployment rate dropped over the month in all nine of Louisiana’s Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA’s) for the third consecutive month. The rates in all nine MSA’s also decreased over the year for the ninth consecutive month. Among the MSA’s, Lake Charles showed the largest unemployment rate decline from December 2020, dropping by 4.6 percentage points.

Since November 2021, the number of not seasonally adjusted employed individuals decreased by 4,934 from 1,985,011 to 1,980,077 in December 2021. When compared to December 2020, the number of not seasonally adjusted employed individuals increased by 48,094.

Since November 2021, the number of not seasonally adjusted unemployed individuals decreased by 6,686 from 83,797 to 77,111 in December 2021. When compared to December 2020, the number of not seasonally adjusted unemployed individuals decreased by 74,067.

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For education, employers, employees, economic development, private and public sectors, and our community!

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