

WIOA

September - December 2022 ~ Activity/Status Report

January 26, 2023

There were Fourteen (26) placements for the months of September - December from students that were awarded WIOA classroom training 11

- Hixson Ford – Porter – 1 @ \$12.00 Hr.
- CarMichael’s Pharmacy – DME Insurance Tech – 1 @ \$ 15.00 Hr.
- Big M. Transportation – Driver – 1 @ \$ 11.00 Hr.
- McDonald’s – Crew Leader – 1 @ \$ 11.00 Hr.
- LCMH – Endoscopy Technician – 1 @ \$ 18.55 Hr.
- Imperial Health – Medical Assistant – 1 @ \$ 14.00 Hr.
- Compass Behavioral Center – Mental Health Tech. – 1 @ \$ 14.00 Hr.
- Boise Cascade – Green End Tech – 1 @ \$ 21.02 Hr.
- Christus Health – Phlebotomist – 1 @ \$ 15.00 Hr.
- Allen Parish Hospital – Medical Assistant – 1 @ \$ 12.00 Hr.
- SWLA Center for Health – Medical Assistant – 1 @ \$ 14.00 Hr.
- Fast Pace Medical Clinic – Medical Assistant – 1 @ \$ 13.25 Hr.
- Stine – Flooring Sales – 1 @ \$ 14.00 Hr.
- Lauberge Casino – Ticket Writer – 1 @ \$ 12.50 Hr.

Parish of Enrollment	September 2022	October 2022	November 2022	December 2022
Allen		2/1	1	
Beauregard	1/3	2/1	2/1	
Calcasieu	9/11	7/9	6/16	2/7
Jeff Davis				1
Vernon	1	2		2
TOTAL 54	11/14	11/13	9/17	2/10

Unless otherwise noted, the numbers in RED above represent September - December numbers for 2022.

Enrollments were at the following Campuses:

- Sowela Campuses (Main and Leesville) – CDL Truck Drivers, CCMA & LPN’s
- Coastal Truck Driving – CDL Truck Drivers

- CDL Mentors – CDL Truck Drivers
- Academy of Acadiana – CCMA, Phlebotomy & Dental Assistant

Program staff continue to facilitate informational meetings on an as needed basis to advise and educate individuals of the opportunities being offered through WIOA for center services and Educational and Work Experience opportunities.

RECRUITMENT AND PLACEMENT TEAM

There were 17 (9) hires for the month of September - December 2022:

- **Sasol – 2 Chemical Equipment Operators @ \$20.00 per hour, and 3 Chemical Equipment Operators @ \$26.75 per hour**
- **Mike Hook, Inc. – 1 Sailors and Marine Oilers @ \$14.14 per hour**
- **Sasol – 4 Chemical Plant and System Operators @ \$27.42 per hour**
- **Apex Alarms – 1 Installation, Maintenance, and Repair Worker @ \$16.50 per hour**
- **Martco Limited Partnership– 2 Millwrights @ \$31.30 per hour**
- **Roy O Martin Oakdale –4 Helpers – Production workers @ \$17.74per hour**

Sasol – American Job Center staff administered, proctored, and graded pre-employment testing sessions at the Center for Sasol for the months of September – December 2022. A total of 248 candidates attended a total of 35 testing sessions. Interview and hiring decisions are pending.

Veterans Hired

There were 2 veterans hired out of the 17 hires.

Registered Employers

Total number of new employers registered (30) (44). (9) (22) were staff registered.

Job Orders

Staff entered (79) (158) of that total of (2020) (2406) job orders

Hires Resulting from Staff Referrals

Total number of hires resulting from staff referrals (13) (5).

Services provided to employers

Direct staff assisted services were provided to (315) (301) employers resulting in (1226) (1720) services.

Some of the services included: Provided Direct Employer Visit, Capture of Spider Jobs, Job Order Assistance, Website Navigation, Recruitment Services, Refer Qualified Applicant to Employer Job Vacancies, Reviewed Resumes and Recommended Individuals, Provided Customized/Mass recruitment Services, Hosting Hiring Events, Hosting Interview Events, Hosting testing Events, Notification to Employer of Potential Applicant, Intensive Candidate Pre-Screening, Employer Based/Customized Training Consultation, Workers Comp/OSHA Training/Consultation.

Recruitment and Placement Hiring Events

- **Job Readiness Workshop** – American Job Center hosted a workshop on Friday, September 2, 2022. Guest speaker was Cassi Vincent/ Job Readiness/Computer Skills Specialist. Twenty-six (26) attended the workshop.
- **American Job Center Resource Fair** – American Job Center hosted the Resource Fair on Wednesday, September 7, 2022, at 2000 Moeling Street. Partners Included: Louisiana Rehabilitation Services, Literacy Council of SWLA, SNAP Education & Training, Housing Counseling Program, Li HEAP, WIOA, Emergency Rental Assistance Program. Twelve (12) attended the workshop.
- **On Point Job Fair** – OnPoint held (4) Hiring Job Fairs in Sulphur, LA. OnPoint were hiring for Safety Attendants, Fire Watch, Hole Watch, Bottle watch for the following dates. September 6-7, September 12-13, September 19-20, September 26-27.
- **Twic/Safety** – Business Services held four (4) Twic Card Orientation for the Month of September every Thursday morning from 8:15 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. set-up room for the Orientation, made copies to give to the CSBG, and Catholic Charities. Total sixty-six (66) attended, (16) sixteen for CSBG, (50) fifty for Catholic Charities.
- **Job Readiness Workshop** – American Job Center hosted a workshop on Friday, October 7, 2022. Guest speaker was Jennie Stevens/ Human

Resources Director- Oceans Resources of Lake Charles. Four (4) attended the workshop.

- **Twic/Safety Card** – Business Services held Orientation for Twic/Safety Card on October 13, 2022, nine (9) individuals were sent to Catholic Charities and October 20, 2022, eleven (11) individuals were sent to Catholic Charities. Business Services received eight packages that was returned from CSBG for the month of August. Out of the eight (8) five (5) Referrals was made to Catholic Charities.
- **Region V Quarterly Job Fair** – American Job Center hosted a Quarterly Job Fair on November 2, 2022, at the Lake Charles Civic Center. One hundred forty-five (145) job seekers were in attendance. Eighteen (18) veterans attended and was given priority of service. Veterans were allowed to enter the job fair at 8:30am and have exclusive access to employers until 9:00am. Thirty-one (31) youth attended, and ninety-six (96) adults attended. Twenty-eight (28) employers attended. Contact follow-up was made to participants who attended job fair. Hiring decisions are pending.
- **Job Readiness Workshop** - American Job Center hosted a workshop on Friday, November 4, 2022, at 9:00am. Guest speaker was Michelle Grimes Martell – Muddy Water Dredging, L.P. Four (4) attended the workshop.
- **Business Services OJT** – Contact was made to the City of Lake Charles for OJT program. **Outreach Direct Employer** visit was made to Mental Connections of SWLA with Rita Caesar-Richard, Manager. Staff did follow-up
- **Twic/Safety Card** – Business Services held Twic Orientation for Twic/Safety on November 17, 2022. One (1) person attended; one didn't have a Letter of Intent. Staff will do follow-up.
- **Job Readiness Workshop** - American Job Center hosted a workshop on Friday December 2, 2022. Guest speaker was Christina Joyce-Wilson Human Resources Director, and LaLita Skinner from CPPJ. Six attended the workshop.

Northern Parish Recruitment and Placement Hiring Events

Business Outreach/ OJT – Business Services staff visited Boise Cascade located at 140 Van Ply Road, Oakdale, Louisiana on September 6, 2022, to meet with possible applicants that would qualify for Region V Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funding. Boise Human Resources were conducting interviews for Entry Level/ Production Team Member positions. There were

eleven (11) applicants. Business Services staff met with the applicants and found that one (1) could possibly qualify under the (WIOA), Youth, On-the-Job Training (OJT) Program. Two (2) applicants could possibly qualify under the (WIOA) Adult, On-the-Job Training. Six (6) applicants did not reside in Region V. Two (2) applicants did not advance in the hiring process. Staff provided the Eligibility Form for documentation and requested that they contact me once the documentation had been collected. Staff will follow-up with applicant once the background check and physical have been completed. Staff referred youth applicants to Region V WIOA Youth Department.

Business Outreach – Business Services staff attended SKILLMILL presentation at the Beauregard Parish Library on September 7, 2022. The library is located at 205 S. Washington, DeRidder, La. The library is now offering online training for some skilled trades. Individuals enrolled in SKILLMILL can earn CEU's from NATE and IACET. The training is for apprentices, employers, and job/career path seekers. The training is taught by subject experts in short, video-based format. There are interactive activities and knowledge checks along the way. Beginner, Intermediate, and Advanced level classes include overview, installation, maintenance, and troubleshooting.

Networking – Business Services staff attended the Combined Board Meeting (Truancy Assessment and Service Center (TASC) Advisory Board, Children and Youth Services Planning Board, Families in Need of Services (FINS) Board and Children's Advocacy Panel 2022-2023 on September 8, 2022. Mr. Billy Clark, Program Director, Kingdom Center, a non-profit youth community center located at the former BeauCare building in DeRidder was presenter. He stated that he has 175 teens registered for afterschool programs. Ms. Caryn Ducote provided updates for Children and Youth Services and FINS. Ms. Laura Moses gave report for TASC. She stated that there was a 97% attendance for August. Mr. Tommy Edwards gave updates for Children's Advocacy Panel and CASA. He stated that there were fifty (50) children between Beauregard and Vernon parishes in Foster Care. Big Brothers/Big Sisters had a representative in attendance. She stated that they will have a Grand Opening on October 14, 2022. She stated that they had thirty (30) volunteers for enrollment. Representatives for Department of Children Family Services were in attendance. They stated that they will be offering Mandated Reporter Training soon.

Business Outreach/ OJT – Business Services staff visited Boise Cascade located at 140 Van Ply Road, Oakdale, Louisiana on September 13, 2022, to meet with possible applicants that would qualify for Region V Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funding. Boise Human Resources were conducting interviews for Entry Level/ Production Team Member positions. There were eight (8) applicants. Business Services staff met with the applicants and found that four (4) applicants could possibly qualify under the (WIOA) Adult, On-the-Job Training. Three (3) applicants did not reside in Region V. One (1) applicant did not advance in the hiring process. Staff provided the Eligibility Form for documentation and requested that they contact me once the documentation had been collected. Staff will follow-up with applicant once the background check and physical have been completed.

Business Outreach/ OJT – Business Services staff met with applicant for Boise Cascade On-the-Job Training, (OJT) for Entry Level/ Production Team Member position on September 21, 2022, to deem Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) eligibility. Participant is eligible for WIOA Adult funding; however, he did not provide all required documents. Staff notified Boise Human Resources Manager that WIOA enrollment is pending required documentation.

Business Outreach – Business Services staff spoke at the Beauregard Christian Women’s Job Corps (BCWJC) round table on September 26, 2022. The meeting was held at The First Presbyterian Church located at 202 N. Royal Street in DeRidder, Louisiana. There are four (4) students attending the twelve (12) week session, three (3) adults and five (5) youth. The organization provides two (2) twelve (12) - week programs at no cost each year to teach local women job and life skills. Ms. Peggy Renfrow, BCWJC Director said that the students also learn to manage conflict, improve their parenting as well as attend HiSET classes. All four (4) students are attending HiSET classes. They were all in attendance with their mentors. “Mentorship is an important part of any healthy organization and community” and the BCWJC recognizes the value of mentoring as a means of success. Staff shared our Workforce Innovative and Opportunity (WIOA) program information and referred the youth to our WIOA Youth Program. They were very interested in our program and will receive referral upon completion of HiSET.

WorkKeys Summit – Business Services staff the National WorkKeys Summit in New Orleans, Louisiana on October 3 through October 5, 2022. Staff attended Plenary 1: WORK SMARTER FOR PROSPERITY Session on October 3, 2022. Staff also attended The Care and Feeding of Work Ready Communities Workshop. Discussed was how companies and communities have implemented ACT WorkKeys solutions to close the skills gap among workers and job seekers and build a productive workforce. On October 4, 2022, staff attended Plenary 2: FRED TALKS. Staff attended the morning LIFE-CHANGING SOLUTIONS TO WORK SMARTER IN ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING Workshop. Discussed economic gardening, talent gardening, stackable credentials and outreach and fulfillment. They work with Drug Courts to establish an eighteen (18) to twenty-four (24) months Individualized Plan to achieve stability in the workforce for the offender and a custom package of solutions for each employer. Staff also attended EVERYBODY WINS! COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS FOR THE CLASSROOM Workshop. Discussed community collaboration, what we've learned from Covid, and Workforce Readiness trends. Staff attended Plenary 3: ACT WORK READY COMMUNITIES KEYNOTE AND AWARDS LUNCHEON. Beauregard parish received an award for maintaining it's ACT Work Ready Community 2022. After lunch, staff attended PIVEN WORK-BASED MODELS IN RURAL COMMUNITIES Workshop. Discussed was the federally mandated "Voluntary Partnership" for all manufacturing to develop industry led standards, assessments, and certification for front-line workers (entry level) through front-line supervisors. Staff also attended OUTREACH and RECRUITMENT STRATEGIES-BRIDGE BUILDING Workshop. Discussed was How to Build Partnerships, Create a One-Stop Approach, and Marketing and Networking Strategies. October 5, 2022, staff attended Plenary 4: ACCELERATING CREDENTIALS AND EQUITY FOR LIFE-CHANGING PATHWAYS. Staff also attended WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ECOSYSTEM: STUDENT SUCCESS TO GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT Workshop. This presentation was Nevada's adoption of a workforce development ecosystem led to a collaboration of education institutions, employers, and funding sources supporting student success. The presentation addressed the collaboration process, single application for students, short-term training (credit and non-credit), and support for student success. We were shown how to identify the process for developing and maintaining statewide workforce ecosystem and mitigate barriers to student success from financial solutions to career exploration to gainful employment.

Business Outreach – Business Services staff was a guest speaker for the Beauregard Parish Library’s Quarterly Staff Meeting on October 10, 2022. Staff discussed the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Program and the services provided by the American Job Center. Staff shared the requirements for Youth, Adult and Dislocated Worker funding. Staff discussed post-secondary education and how to locate approved Training and Providers in HiRE. Staff discussed Work Experience (WE) and On-the-Job Training (OJT). Staff shared information about our One-Stop partners and supplied appropriate business cards for follow-up.

Business Outreach – Business Services staff met with Melissa Winegate, Director, Beauregard Community Action Agency on October 12, 2022. We discussed the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Program and the services provided by the American Job Center. Staff shared the requirements for Youth, Adult and Dislocated Worker funding. Staff discussed post-secondary education and how to locate approved Training and Providers in HiRE. Staff discussed Work Experience (WE) and On-the-Job Training (OJT). Staff shared information about our One-Stop partners and supplied appropriate business cards for follow-up. Melissa shared the funding that she had available and requested referrals for her various programs. She is very interested in a Work Experience participant. Staff provided the Work Experience Work Sheet. She stated she would complete and will refer possible candidates.

Business Outreach/Canfor Southern Pines Job Fair – Business Services staff attended the Canfor Southern Pines Job Fair on November 15, 2022, from 4:00 P.M. till 7:00 P.M. The Job Fair was held at the Beauregard Parish Fair Exhibit Hall located at 506 West Drive, DeRidder, Louisiana. There were two hundred and forty-seven (247) job seekers in attendance. We had forty-four (44) visit the American Job Center’s table. Of the 44, there was 1 veteran, 19 youths, 24 adults. There were 16 are on Medicaid and WIOA eligible. There were 14 that were either over-income or a Texas resident. The balance to be determined.

Business Outreach/Canfor Southern Pines Job Fair – Business Services staff attended the Canfor Southern Pines Job Fair on November 16, 2022, from 9:00 A.M. till 5:00 P.M. The Job Fair was held at the Beauregard Parish Fair Exhibit Hall located at 506 West Drive, DeRidder, Louisiana. There were two hundred thirty-four (234) job seekers in attendance on 11/16/2022. We had 46 visit the

American Job Center's table. Of the 46, there were 5 veterans, 24 youths, 17 adults. There were 17 on Medicaid and WIOA eligible. There were 4 that were over-income. The balance to be determined. The total Job Seekers that were interviewed was four hundred and eighty-one (481). Business Services staff met with Ms. Julie Roberson, Regional HR Manager and Mr. Hans Pedersen, Plant Manager. They are very interested in an On-the-Job Training (OJT) for Entry/ New Hire Green General Laborer. These positions will be hired either the latter part of January or February. Business Services staff would also like to mention that State of the Art equipment will be used and individuals that have previously worked in sawmills might also be eligible for funding as no one has ever worked with this type of equipment. Business Services staff will meet with Ms. Roberson and Mr. Pedersen sometime in December or early January.

Staff Referrals – Business Services staff received notification from Ms. Laretta McMillan, Roy O. Martin Human Resource Assistant. She stated that four (4) Business Services staff referred candidates for Job Order (JO) # 1374035, Production Team Member have successfully completed the WorkKeys requirements, invited and received a special interview session and were hired on December 5, 2022, at \$17.74 hourly wage rate.

Staff Referrals – Business Services staff received notification from Ms. Laretta McMillan, Roy O. Martin Human Resource Assistant. She stated that one (1) Business Services staff referred candidate for Job Order (JO) # 1378033, Construction Millwright has successfully completed the WorkKeys requirements, invited and received a special interview session and was hired on December 05, 2022, at \$31.30 hourly wage rate.

Staff Referrals – Business Services staff received notification from Ms. Laretta McMillan, Roy O. Martin Human Resource Assistant. She stated that one (1) Business Services staff referred candidate for Job Order (JO) # 1378033, Construction Millwright has successfully completed the WorkKeys requirements, invited and received a special interview session and was hired on December 12, 2022, at \$26.25 hourly wage rate.

Staff Referrals – Business Services staff received notification from Ms. Laretta McMillan, Roy O. Martin Human Resource Assistant. She stated that one (1) Business Services staff referred candidate for Job Order (JO) # 1381877,

Electrician has successfully completed the WorkKeys requirements, invited and received a special interview session and was hired on December 19, 2022, at \$32.36 hourly wage rate.

JUDICIAL CORE OPPORTUNITY REFERRAL FOR EMPLOYMENT (J-Core)

The purpose of the J-Core Program is to assist Ex-Offenders that face many challenges after their release from prison. It also, provides career counseling, training, and job placement services to ex-offenders, to help them secure meaningful and gainful employment that pays a decent wage. This component is intended to help curtail the revolving door of recidivism.

The Business Services Specialist (BSS) scheduled **Five** workshops for the month September – December 2022. There were **11 (3)** attendants for J-Core/Re-Entry Program for the Hard-To-Employ. The J-Core Job Readiness Workshop are held the 1st Tuesday of the month.