

WIOA

January – March 2023 ~ Activity/Status Report

April 27, 2023

There were Twenty-three (26) placements for the months of January - March from students that were awarded WIOA classroom training assistance.

- Acadia Rehab Hospital– LPN – 1 @ \$ 35.00 Hr.
- West Cal Cam Hospital – Medical Assistant – 1 @ \$ 15.00 Hr.
- Ochsner Clinic Foundation – Medical Assistant – 1 @ \$ 14.00 Hr.
- Christus Health – Phlebotomist – 1 @ \$ 15.00 Hr.
- Fast Pace Medical Clinic – Medical Assistant – 1 @ \$12.75 Hr.
- LCMH – Medical Assistant –4@ \$ 15.76 Hr.
- LCMH – Phlebotomist – 1 @ \$ 14.00 Hr.
- ETC – Youth Care Worker – 1 @ \$ 13.00 Hr.
- Peppermint Sage Dental – Dental Assistant – 1 @ \$ 14.00 Hr.
- CPSB – Tax Auditor – 1 @ \$ 29.56 Hr.
- City of Oakdale – Maintenance Worker – 1 @ \$10.00 Hr.
- T & T Tree Service – Truck Driver – 1 @ \$ 20.00 Hr.
- Werner Trucking – Truck Driver – 1 @ \$ 725.00 Week
- C & D Production – Operator– 1 @ \$ 26.00 Hr.
- DS Bus Lines – Bus Driver – 1 @ \$ 10.25 Hr.
- CFI Transports – Truck Driver – 1 @ .34 cents mile
- BCK Land Development – Truck Driver – 1 @ \$ 20.00 Hr.
- General Equipment and Supply – Truck Driver – 1 @ \$25.00 Hr.
- Bolton Ford – Parts Associate – 1 @ \$13.00 Hr.
- Turner Industries – Holewatch/Firewatch – 1 @ \$19.35 Hr.

Parish of Enrollment	January 2023	February 2023	March 2023
Allen	1/1	1/1	
Beauregard	7	4	3/3
Calcasieu	8/8	9/10	5/5
Jeff Davis			
Vernon	3/2	4	1/2
TOTAL 36	18/11	13/15	9/10

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, HVAC, 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 18 (11) hires for the month of January – March 2023:

- **Martco Limited Partnership** –1 Electricians @ \$32.36 per hour,
- **Ollie's Bargain Outlet** –3 Retail Salespersons @ \$11.00 per hour.
- **W R Grace** – 4 Laborers and Freight, Stock and Material Movers @ \$38.31 per hour.
- **Sasol** – 4 Chemical Plant and System Operators @ 27.42 per hour.
- **Infinity Staffing Solutions** – 2 Painter Helper @ \$15 per hour, 1 Shop Helper @ \$15 per hour, 3 Warehouse Technician @ \$14 per hour.
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Sasol – American Job Center staff administered, proctored, and graded pre-employment testing sessions at the Center for Sasol for the months of January - March 2023. A total of 90 candidates attended a total of 22 testing sessions. Interview and hiring decisions are pending.

Veterans Hired

There were 0 veterans hired out of the 18 hires.

Registered Employers

Total number of new employers registered (24) (37). (3) (6) were staff registered.

Job Orders

Staff entered (66) (89) of the total number of (1778) (1316) job orders entered.

Hires Resulting from Staff Referrals

Total number of hires resulting from staff referrals **(17) (7)**.

Services provided to employers

Direct staff assisted services were provided to **(423) (299)** employers resulting in **(2575) (1393)** 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** - Friday, January 6, 2023, at 9:00am. Guest speaker was Dorothy Iles Iles Medical Testing/TWIC. Five (5) attended the workshop.
- **Ollie's Bargain Outlet** – The American Job Center hosted an Orientation Hiring Event on January 10th and 11th, 2023. Total for the 2 days orientation attendance was fifty-two (52). Number employer's representative was present (3) and Ms Paula Devolcourt with Rapid Response, also assisted with the hiring event.
- **New Leaf** – The American Job Center hosted a Hiring Event on January 17, 2023. Total applicants that attended the hiring event was (52). Adults were (28), and youths were 24).
- **Goodwill Workplace Training and Assistance Center** – The American Job Center hosted on January 18, 2023, by Cassi Vincent with Goodwill discussing how to set SMART goals for the New Year! Three (3) employers were in attendance.
- **On Point Job Fair** – OnPoint held Hiring Job Fairs in Sulphur, LA. On January 9th – 10th. OnPoint were hiring for Safety Attendant Positions that required Twic/Safety Cards. Fire Watch, Hole Watch, Bottle Watch. Flyer was given to applicant to attend to obtain as a Letter of Intent.
- **Twic/Safety** – Business Services held four (4) Twic Card Orientation for the Month of January 2023, 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. Total (12)

attended for CSBG. One (1) was over income. Number of applicants that was turned away didn't have a Letter of Intent was twelve (12). Staff will do follow-up.

- **The Service Companies** – American Job Center hosted a Hiring Event on February 1, 2023, from 9 am to 1 pm. Total applicant attended was two (2), and one employer representative were present.
- **Twic/Safety Orientation** – Business Services had four (4) Twic Card Orientation for the month of February 2023, held every Thursday morning from 8:15 am to 10:30 am. Set-up room for Twic, make copies of their documents, and copies to give to CSBG. Total 5 attended Twic Orientation, and 5 were turned away no Letter of Intent.
- **Job Readiness Workshop** – Friday, February 3, 2023, at 9:00 am. Guest speaker was Monica Winfrey, Expungement Processor.
- **Goodwill Workplace Training & Assistance** – American Job Center hosted on February 15, 2023, from 10 am to 12 pm, by Cassi Vincent with Goodwill Topic on Resume Workshop to create a resume to begin landing your next job.
- **Infinity Staffing Solutions** – American Job Center hosted a Hiring Event on February 24, 2023 from 9 am to 2 pm. The employer was interviewing on the spot. Total applicants that attended the hiring event was fifty (50). Two employer's representatives were present.
- **OJT Consultation** – Was provided during the month of February 2023 for the following employer:
 1. Iles Medical Testing
 2. **Job Readiness Workshop** – American Job Center hosted a Job Readiness workshop on Friday, March 3, 2023. The guest speaker was Gizzatta Cook SHRM – SCP Principal HR Business Partner. Ten (10) applicants attended the workshop.
 3. **Region V Quarterly Job Fair** – American Job Center hosted a Quarterly Job Fair on March 8, 2023, at the Lake Charles Civic Center. One hundred fifty-six (156) Job seekers were in attendance. Twelve (12) Veterans attended and were given priority of service. Veterans were allowed to enter the Job Fair at 8:30am and have exclusive access to employers until 9:00am. Forty-eight (48) youths attended, and ninety-five (95) adults. Thirty-seven seven (37) Employers attended. Hiring decisions are pending.
 4. **Infinity Staffing Solutions** – Infinity Staffing Solutions hiring event was held on February 24, 2023. Fifty-two (52) were in attendance.

From the hiring event the employer hired 6 job seekers. Job seekers started work on March 13, 2023.

5. Twic/Safety Orientation – Total of (11) received service with CSBG

March 2, 2023 - Six (6) were assisted, four (4) did not have letter of intent, two (2) did not have all the documents needed.

March 9, 2023 – Three came in no letter of intent.

March 23, 2023 – Eight (8) no letter of intent.

March 30, 2023 - Five (5) were assisted (2) had all documents, (1) no letter of intent, (2) over income.

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Northern Parish Recruitment and Placement Hiring Events

Business Outreach – Business Services staff met with Kylie Schmaltz, Business Developer, Sowela Technical Community College on January 23, 2023. The meeting was held at the American Job Center located at 1102 West First Street, DeRidder, Louisiana. We discussed the list of certifications offered to employers by Sowela. We discussed employers that could possibly benefit from these programs and how Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) program funds could possibly be used as well as Louisiana Workforce’s Incumbent Worker Training.

Skills Development – Business Services staff met with client on job opportunities in the local area on January 24, 2023. Client is schedule to graduate in Criminal Justice from Upper Iowa in May 2023. We discussed opportunities that she would like to pursue involving female youths. Staff reviewed and edited client’s resume. Client will provide staff with an updated resume.

Business Outreach – Business Services staff received updated resume from client soon to graduate in Criminal Justice. Staff contacted the Beauregard Parish Sheriff’s office to discuss possible Work Experience and/or On-the-Job Training positions on January 26, 2023. Sheriff Mark Hereford was unable to meet with staff but would like to schedule an appointment in February 2023. Staff will follow-up in February.

Skills Development - Business Services staff met with client for mock interviews on February 2, 2023, and February 3, 2023. Client has received many interviews, but to date has not procured employment in his selected field. He is from South

Africa and requested help with interviewing skills. He has an interview scheduled with BASF as Operator 1 on February 6, 2023. Staff had client research the company BASF and job duties of all Operator positions prior to the mock interviews. Client was greatly improved with his interview skills after the two (2) day sessions. Staff reminded client that he did not possess the required work experience for the position and questioned if his Associates Degree could substitute. He stated that in his first interview that topic was discussed.

Business Outreach – Business Services staff met with Ms. Denice Boudreaux, Re-Entry Program Manager, Lake Charles District on February 7, 2023. Second Chance Job Fair to be held in DeRidder, Louisiana is scheduled for April 10, 2023. Staff is working on area Second Chance employers and resource providers to invite to the Job Fair.

Business Outreach – Business Services staff met with Dr. Christina Lord, President, Vernon Chamber of Commerce and Mr. Logan Morris CEO, Vernon Chamber of Commerce on February 8, 2023. The meeting was held at the American Job Center located at 1102 West First Street, DeRidder, Louisiana. Staff discussed the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) programs as well as center services. The Chamber would like to schedule a “Lunch and Learn” for Vernon Parish employers in the near future.

Business Outreach – Business Services staff met with Ms. Jenna Taylor, Louisiana Workforce Commission (LWC), Executive Director, LHRDI, Rapid Response Unit on February 27, 2023. Staff discussed Job Readiness Workshops to be scheduled for Vernon Parish in March, April, and May. The Workshop Topics will be Interest Profiler, Occupational Research, Writing a Resume, Pursuing Advertised Vacancies, Building your Network, and Interviewing Tips. LWC and the AJC are also planning a Hiring Event for Vernon Parish scheduled for April 11, 2023.

Business Outreach – Business Services staff spoke at the Beauregard Christian Women’s Job Corps (BCWJC) round table on March 6, 2023. The meeting was held at The First Presbyterian Church located at 202 N. Royal Street in DeRidder, Louisiana. There are three (3) students attending the twelve (12) week session, two (2) adults and one (1) 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 three (3) 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.

Training – Business Services staff attended Office of Workforce Development (OWD) zoom meeting on March 9, 2023. The meeting was held from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The presentation was Employment Services Complaint System and Reports.

Business Outreach – Business Services staff attended Ms. Janna Taylor, Executive Director, LHRDI Rapid Response Unit zoom meeting on March 13, 2023. The meeting was to discuss the upcoming Job Fair being held on April 11, 2023, at the Vernon Parish Library located at 1401 Nolan Trace, Leesville, Louisiana.

Business Outreach – Business Services staff attended the Spring Job Readiness Workshop on March 21, 2023. The Louisiana Workforce Commission has partnered with the Vernon American Job Center in offering these workshops. The future scheduled workshop dates are April 4, 2023, April 18, 2023, May 2, 2023, and May 16, 2023. The topics being discussed are Interest Profiler, Occupational Research, Writing a Resume, Pursuing Advertised Vacancies, Building Your Network, and Interviewing Tips. There were no participants in attendance as one arrived at 12:00 noon. We asked her to join us on April 4, 2023.

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 on March 30, 2023. Mr. Tommy Edwards gave updates for the Children’s Advocacy Panel and CASA. He stated that there were sixty (60) children between Beauregard and Vernon parishes in Foster Care. He stated that there is a need for fifty-two (52) volunteers to become Child Advocates. The next CASA training will start on May 16, 2023. John Jaramillo, Program Supervisor, Big Brothers/Big Sisters was in attendance. He spoke on the “Choose a Program for Your Child”. Community-Based Program is adult “Bigs”, age 18 or older, are matched with “Littles” in a one-to-one mentoring relationship and spend time together participating in community activities a minimum of two (2) hours

twice a month. The School-Based Program is adult “Bigs”, provide “Littles” between K-5th grades with one-to-one time and attention in local schools during the child’s lunch break or enrichment hour with one to one virtual or in-person weekly mentoring sessions for educational success. MENTORU Program is youth ages 12-15 will be matched with a Big Mentor and participate in curriculum-based group mentoring and one-to-one mentoring program. “Bigs” and “Littles” will attend monthly group mentoring sessions and one-to-one mentoring twice a month. To include emotional health, life skills, educational activities, and positive connection mentoring. Representatives from the Louisiana National Guard, Youth Challenge Program (YCP) were in attendance. Ms. DeCantic Lemott, Recruiter spoke on the application process and stated that the next YCP-Camp Beauregard will be held on July 9, 2023. Mr. Andy Williams, Recovery Coordinator, Crossties Freedom Ministry spoke on their Long-Term, Faith-Based Recovery Programs and sober living houses. He stated that they currently have fifty-nine (59) recovering addicts and suicide prevention enrolled in their programs.

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 **Thirteen** workshops for the month January - March 2023. There were **17 (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.

Success Story Form

Author Name/Title: Date:

Phone: Email:

Participant Name: Participants' Age:

Begin Date of Services: Last Activity Date of Services:

Office/Location:

Please answer the following questions in the third person.

What prompted the participant to visit the American Job Center office?

Oscar Frank decided he was ready to take action towards his dream of becoming a truck driver. He walked into the American Job Center knowing he was ready for the educational journey to achieve his goal of obtaining a CDL.

What services were received by the participant? (Include all relevant WIOA services.)

Oscar received payment of his tuition and mileage assistance. Oscar completed an Eligibility appointment, CASAS Reading Assessment, and a Case Management appointment in order to receive assistance. Oscar was deemed Basic Skills Deficient through the CASAS test scores, which granted eligibility for WIOA assistance.

In what ways did the services help the participant achieve success? (Please be specific.)

WIOA's service of tuition and mileage assistance allowed Oscar to attend class which was not financially obtainable before. Prior to the beginning of CDL training, Oscar was provided with an IEP, which gave step by step instructions for the best method of obtaining his training goal with objectives for success. He was able to complete the CDL training course and spare the expense of gas while traveling to and from school weekly. Once training was completed, another IEP was set in place for an employment goal which he excelled.

Oscar Frank has benefited immensely from the American Job Center. Due to the services provided by WIOA, he is now employed in the CDL job title of his dreams. He has completed his educational and employment goals with the foundational structure of success provided by The American Job Center. He now has a credential that allows for long term employment opportunities and financial stability. Oscar Frank is employed as a Trainee Driver by CFI Transports of Joplin, Missouri earning \$14.02 an hour as a full-time employee. He would like to thank everyone at The American Job Center for their hard work and dedication towards his success.