



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

OF SOUTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN

Hello!

September marks Workforce Development Month and we're grateful for the partnerships and collaborations that influence our work and champion our workforce.

This September, we're celebrating the participants, partnerships, grants and initiatives that support our communities and talent.

[Governor Tony Evers declared September Workforce Development Month](#) to acknowledge the importance of workforce strategies like apprenticeships and the [Worker Advancement Initiative](#), as well as recognizing the significance of American Job Centers as the cornerstone of the workforce development system.

Watch our social media throughout September for success stories, program highlights and more!

[Instagram](#) · [Facebook](#) · [Twitter](#) · [LinkedIn](#)

Here's a look back at our recent events and celebrations, including:

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- Graduations from community-based training collaboratives
- Summer job successes

Stay safe and stay involved.

Seth Lentz and the WDBSCW team



Worker Advancement Initiative Cohorts

We're helping participants build and maintain financial stability while training through the use of stipends/incentives, thanks to the Worker Advancement

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- **Bilingual Construction Cohort** with Latino Academy of Workforce Development and Stevens Construction Corp.
- **Caminos Progreso Finance Cohort** with Centro Hispano of Dane County
- **Carpentry Academy** with Madison College and the State of Wisconsin Department of Corrections
- **MC3 Construction Pre-Apprenticeship Training** with WRTP/BIG STEP
- **Welding Bootcamp** with Madison College - Portage Campus
- **Welding Bootcamp** with Moraine Park Technical College

Learn more about our WAI initiatives on our website.

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Exclusive Rapid Response Career Fair

Our Rapid Response team hosted a job fair to help workers laid off from NeuGen in July 2022 get back into the workforce. The 155 job seekers that

"The Workforce Development Board was immensely helpful with coordinating our onsite career fair in July 2022 to help our dislocated employees find future employment opportunities," said Tammy Wacek, NeuGen Director of Human Resources.

"We were told this event was extremely worthwhile for both [the companies and employees] and we have interest and are working on holding another career fair because we have many more employees that will be displaced later in the year. Several connections were made through this event which we are hopeful will turn into job opportunities for our employees. I would highly recommend working with the Workforce Development Board if your organization faces a layoff situation."

We wanted to extend a special thank you to the participating companies:

Agrace • Common Ground Healthcare Cooperative • Delta Dental • The Jacobson Group • M3 Insurance • Mercyhealth • Navitus • Network Health • Oakwood Village • Quartz • Spherion Staffing Services • SSM Health • Wisconsin Office of the Commissioner of Insurance

Do you know of someone facing a layoff or a company reducing its workforce? Connect them to our [Laid Off Workers](#) page or [Rapid Response](#) page.

Earning New Skills with Carpentry Essentials Academy, WAI

In July 2022, 9 participants celebrated their graduation from the Carpentry Techniques Academy. The goal of this training is to help incarcerated individuals acquire skills to support their reentry to their communities, while ultimately aiming to reduce recidivism.

with the WDBSCW/WorkSmart Network, Madison College, the State of Wisconsin Department of Corrections and the State of Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, and incorporates four different funding sources.



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STEPS Workshops

Our STEPS workshops continue to offer young adults services and resources that prepare them to live independently.

In May 2022, STEPS participants teamed up to explore culinary career paths and test their cooking skills using healthy, inexpensive ingredients. This workshop also let the young adults practice working as a team and financially plan for themselves and their families. Thank you to Operation Fresh Start for hosting this workshop in their Diane Ballweg Training Kitchen.

STEPS continued to provide learning opportunities for participants with an

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more about how they could bring their business ideas to life.

Learn more about STEPS and upcoming workshops on our website.

[Learn More](#)



Independent Living Program

Our Independent Living Program continues to help young adults who are aging out of foster care connect to the resources they need to live independently. In Program Year 2021, the grant supported 90 individuals in South Central Wisconsin on their pathway to success.

Youth @ Work

This summer, many of our young adult participants built their skills in work experiences and summer jobs.

Kian - Jung Garden Center

Kian connected with the WorkSmart Network in December 2021 for support through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). He enrolled in the STEPS Academy to prepare for the workforce with resume development, interview practice and career exploration.



In June 2022, Kian began a work experience as a WIOA In-School Youth Program participant at Jung Garden Center where he's gaining valuable workforce experience while earning a paycheck.

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Consortium in June 2022 to learn about the Youth Apprenticeship opportunities available to him. He enrolled in Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) programming for further assistance preparing to enter the workforce.

He was enthusiastic and engaged with his WIOA In-School Youth Career Planner to develop a resume to distribute at local job fairs. Two weeks later, Tristan interviewed with a general contractor and was hired shortly after as a youth apprentice. His goal is to continue building his skills to enter a masonry career pathway.

[Read More Stories](#)

In the News

Gov. Evers announced 14 new Youth Apprenticeship occupational pathways in August 2022 that will allow high school juniors and seniors the chance to get hands-on training before joining the workforce.

Dan Klecker, South Central Youth Apprenticeship Advisory Council member and State Education Director of the Foundation of the Wisconsin Automobile and Truck Dealers Association, offered his input on the additional offerings in Gov. Evers' press release. Read the full statement below.

[Read the Statement](#)

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South Central Wisconsin Job Fair

Tuesday, September 20, 2022

2:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Alliant Energy Center

1919 Alliant Energy Center Way, Madison

WDBSCW Full Board Meeting

Wednesday, September 21, 2022

10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Location TBD

South Central Wisconsin Manufacturing Councils' Annual Fall Conference

Thursday, October 6, 2022

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Madison College - Truax Campus

1701 Wright Street, Madison

[RSVP](#)

Stay safe and healthy!

P.S. We're Social! Come join us.



Our mission is to build public and private partnerships that support innovation and excellence in workforce development.

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Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). If you need assistance to access our services in a different language or need this material in an alternative format, contact us. Deaf, hard of hearing or speech impaired callers may reach us by using Wisconsin Relay Services at 711. Proud partners of the American Job Center network.

Our mailing address is:

3513 Anderson Street, Suite 104
Madison, WI 53704

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