



Innovative Workforce Solutions

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Santa Cruz County Workforce Development Board Agenda

Wednesday, September 14, 2022 / 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm
Quality Hotel Americana, Mayan Room
639 N. Grand Avenue, Nogales, AZ

- A. Call to Order**
- B. Pledge of Allegiance**
- C. Roll Call**
- D. Call to the Public**
- E. Adoption of Meeting Minutes – July 20, 2022**
- F. Budget Report – Finance Department**
- G. Action Items – Approval of 2022 updated Santa Cruz County Workforce Development Local Plan**
- H. Partner Reports**
 - a. Title I – Workforce Development
 - b. Title II – Adult Education & Literacy
 - c. Title III – Wagner-Peyser Act / Employment Services
 - d. Title IV – Vocational Rehabilitation Services
 - e. Directors Report - Irasema Olvera
- I. One-Stop Operator – Report**
- J. Board Reports**
- K. Next Meeting – Wednesday, November 14, 2022**
- L. Adjournment**

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LWDB Meeting for July 20, 2022

Partner Reports

Title I: Workforce Development

Traffic in our office has picked up extremely since the produce's season's recent end. We are currently averaging around 693 clients a week for the past two months compared to the average of 170 in previous months.

Our staff outreach activities have gone up from last quarter. The staff has been focusing on going out and presenting to local businesses, community agencies, and local schools to bring awareness to the community regarding WIOA services within Santa Cruz County. Because of this, we have seen growing interest in training opportunities. Staff attended both the Back to School Blitz and NUSD Back to School event and the Mariposa Health Fairs including presenting to Adult Education students what ARIZONA@WORK has to offer for them.

ARIZONA@WORK together with partners attended the Job Fair for the Santa Cruz Valley Hospital personnel that were laid off unexpectedly on July 22nd, before the official layoff day of August. The event took place at the hospital and had local companies from Santa Cruz County there to offer job openings and Rental and Utility Assistance. Mariposa Community Health Center, SEACAP, Carondelet Hospital, and CSL Plasma were a few that attended the event.

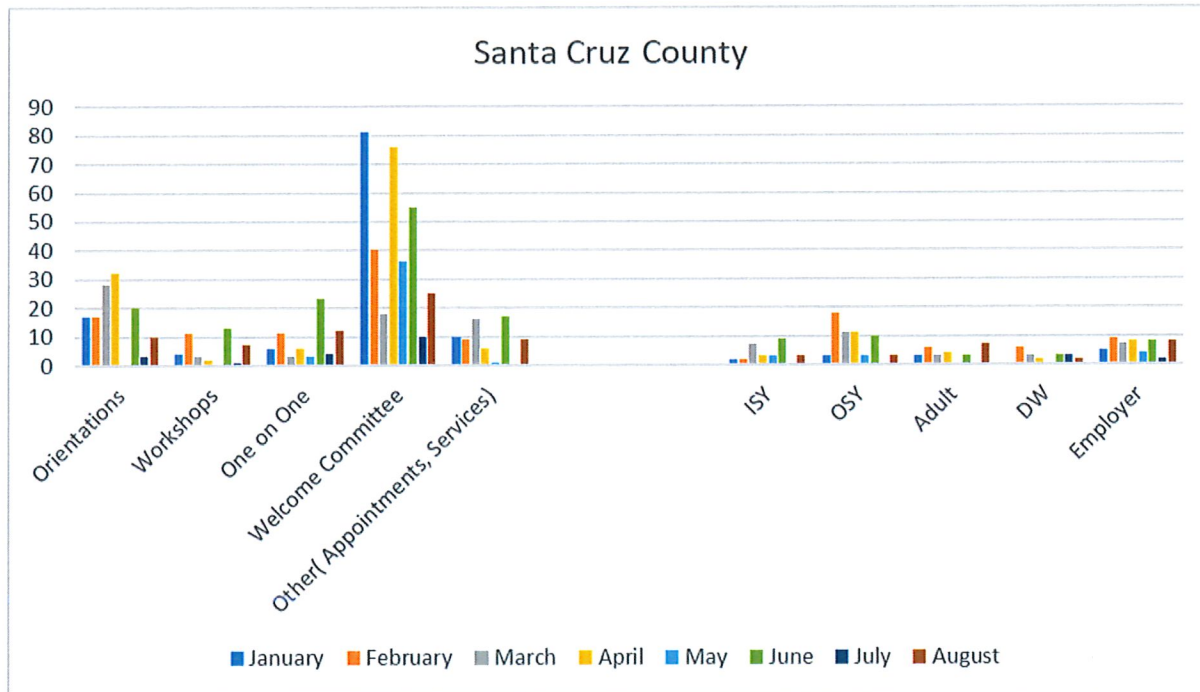
We are still attending various partner meetings, collaborating at local and state levels in an attempt to identify and address specific needs and or skills that employers are seeking with the ultimate vision of strengthening our local workforce and meeting all required objectives.



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Title II: Adult Education

SCCE has 173 current registered students.

We have contacted 36 ELAA students and 38 GED Students for registration.

SCCCE has had 27 completed registrations in 2 weeks for the upcoming October Cohort.

Our program has integrated the Remind App as a way to establish consistent and reliable communication with our students.

We have updated our registration process, effectively serving a larger amount of waitlisted students.

An additional amount of students will be contacted within the next 3 weeks – making us on track to surpass our existing registration goal.

Title III: DERS- Division of Employment and Rehabilitation Services

Below you will find a synopsis of our accomplishments: (July-August 2022), which will show a comparison from the previous year.

-Nogales has been able to provide 136 referrals /compared to 51 last year, and the staff has successfully placed 27 clients in meaningful employment compared to 26 last year.

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-Staff in Nogales have served approximately 166 clients compared to 99 from last year, which registered 59 in AJC compared to 57 from last year.

We are continuing within an office setting with multiple services, such as job search assistance, referrals to other partners for additional training, faxing, answering unemployment questions, and assisting with the ID ME process.

Title IV: Vocational Rehabilitation Services:

WIOA Title IV – Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Presented by: Maria 'Elizabeth' Kinder, MA – VR Supervisor (Nogales, Sierra Vista, Douglas)
FY 2022 – 2023

Data Search: 7/1/22 - 6/30/23

Referrals: 28

Eligibilities: 3

Individualized Plans for Employment: 5

Successful closures: 3

Note: The above numbers were generated from filtering VR's internal data management system and cross-checking internal tracking systems.

District 6 VR Office Updates:

Updates:

VR is using a hybrid model for delivering quality services to job seekers. VR staff are actively working in the community (field) and in the VR office each week meeting with clients in person or virtually depending on the client's choice. VR Counselors will be in the office two days per week and work in the field with clients, as well as the VR Supervisor will be visiting the office in person bi-weekly. Community outreach continues to be a primary focus at this time which has generated an influx of new referrals.

Regarding the Nogales VR office in Santa Cruz County:

- The Nogales team is comprised of two VR Counselors (VRCs) serving two distinct populations, aside from the General disability referrals from the greater Nogales region. A VRC serves the Severe Mentally Ill population, and another VRC serves the youth in High School who are needing Transition School to Work services.
- We lost our Rehab Tech for Nogales in August and will be looking at getting approval to replace that position soon. Until that time, we have other RTs in District 6 that are assisting.

- **Outreach Events:**

BH Clinic site visits – bi-weekly

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TSW meetings with High School staff and students - weekly
Pierson High School – Open House 08/25/22

- **VR Presentations:**
Health Fair @ Mariposa Clinic with ARIZONA@WORK - 08/11/22
- **Collaboration meetings:**
Retirement farewell luncheon with ARIZONA@WORK for Juan Gomez – 08/26/22
- **Cross referrals with ARIZONA@WORK (Titles):**
VRCs refer clients to ARIZONA@WORK at every single intake with new clients. Staff is utilizing a tracking system to capture the referrals shared between WIOA Titles.
- **Job Readiness Training (JRT):**
VR staff offer internal workshops (4) to prepare clients entering the workforce with job skills, resumes, AJC enrollment, master application, and 30-second elevator speech.
 - JRT Update: VR is launching two new JRT series this Fall in addition to the Regular JRT workshop. The two new JRT series will be gearing their curriculum to two unique populations: the first for the youth population heading into the workforce reinforcing soft skills and the second for job seekers with developmental disabilities with a less regimented curriculum.

One-Stop Operator Report: Jim Mize

We worked on the IFA for Partners cost at the One Stop Center, during July and August. There were only a couple of comments from the Partners. The final version, to be signed by all the Partners was mailed out the last week of August.

There were lots of job fairs around the state. A lot of these job fairs are Veterans-oriented and public sector-type positions. The issue still remains that there are more job openings than there are for clients seeking employment.

The Santa Cruz General Hospital closing was announced. Santa Cruz One Stop and the Pima County One Stop are engaged in the Rapid Response effort. Over 600 employees were impacted.

We received a State Monitoring report, held in June, summarizing the results of the Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers (MSWF) annual review. Overall the location passed the annual assessment. There were a couple of small findings that will be resolved.



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Art Basurto (SER) is still trying to get students from the high schools engaged in the Automotive Apprenticeship program offered in Tucson. Transportation cost is provided. The Apprenticeship ends with an Associate's degree in Automotive technology. This program is through the Ford Access program.

PPEP is still offering an Aircraft Structures program with Bombardier located in Tucson. Participation has been slow. Irasema and I continue to talk with each other at least once a week.

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY
WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT
LOCAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING
VIA ZOOM MEETING**

July 20, 2022 Minutes

Board Members Present Via Zoom

Richard Brennan
Victor Cardenas
Nora Herrera
Dina Rojas-Sanchez
Karen King
Norma Lucero
Tom McAlpin
Maria E. Kinder

Board Members Absent

Olivia Ainza-Kramer
Christopher Young
Efrain Triguerras
Dan Doyle
Louie Doyle
Victor Hetherington

Staff and Guests Present:

Patricia Azcue
Irasema Olvera
Jim Mize
Miriam Cruz
David Howard VR
Jesus Garcia SCC IT
Javier de la Ossa SCC IT

- A. **Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order at 12:02 P.M. by D. Sanchez
- B. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- C. **Roll Call: Irasema Olvera** - Quorum was present at the start of the meeting.
- D. **Call to the Public** - None
- E. **Adoption of Meeting Minutes – May 11, 2022**
- Confirming all Board Members had read and reviewed the May 11, 2022 minutes. O. Kramer called to ask for a correction on minutes on J. Mize's report for One-Stop Operator. Mr. J Fanning's title is not School Superintendent it is Community Outreach Coordinator. A correction was made and corrected minutes were emailed to all board members prior to the meeting. K.King made a motion to approve the minutes as presented with N. Herrera seconding the motion. Minutes were unanimously approved by the board.
- F. **Budget Report – Patricia Azcue - SCC Finance Department**
- Patricia Azcue:** SCC LWDB Finance Director and WIOA assigned fiscal agent presented the Budget Report to LWDB. An updated spreadsheet with the WIOA budget up to June 2022 was provided to all LWDB members. D. Sanchez questioned what programs fall under Youth and what programs fall under Adult and Dislocated. How can the Board help on strategizing and coming up with ideas on how to spend that money so we would not have to return? From a Board standpoint, a Board Retreat and a Strategy session would be good to have to be able to review and learn about each program to be able to get these funds expended.

G. Action Items: None

H. Partner Reports

1. Title I – Workforce Development- Irasema Olvera

- Traffic in our office has picked up extremely due to the produce's season's recent end. We are currently averaging around 365 clients a week in the last week, compared to the average of 170 in previous months.
- Our staff outreach activities have gone up from last quarter. The staff has been focusing on going out and presenting to local businesses, community agencies, and local schools to bring awareness to the community regarding WIOA services within Santa Cruz County. Because of this, we have seen growing interest in training opportunities.
- Title I and Title III Staff attended a Rapid Response event coordinated together with Pima County One Stop for the Santa Cruz Valley Hospital in Green Valley that has closed down. A total of 317 employees, 147 from Santa Cruz County will be affected. Staff from Administrative, Dr, RNs, Patient Care Technicians, Kitchen, and Maintenance staff have all gotten notice that their last day of work would be August 20th. The event took place on July 13th & 14th where staff from Santa Cruz and Pima County were present to inform people of our services through our Dislocated Workers funding to take advantage of training opportunities, Adult Education services, Vocational Rehab Services, and Employment Services who provided information on how to file for UI. The event was a success with a total of about 80 people seen by staff from both counties.
- Because of this, HR requested for both Pima and Santa Cruz County to work together and work on an in-person Job Fair for employers to attend with hopes of filling vacant job opportunities they may have. CSL Plasma from Nogales, Carondelet Hospital, SEACAP, and Mariposa Community Health Center have confirmed attendance. The event will take place on July 26th from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Our In-School Youth program for PY 21' ended on June 30th. Our staff has been currently working on closing out the year and has currently finished eligibility screening for our incoming In-School Youth program, which began July 1st. Our PY 22' participants have been placed on working sites within our community.
- We have also received a specific request from the Nogales Fire Department to assist potential eligible candidates with supportive services for their future Fire Academy. This is a result of our current partnership with Rio Rico Fire District, in which we currently have 5 participants who completed their EMT certifications and are now working on the Fire Science portion and hopefully get certified by the end of August.
- Santa Cruz County Workforce Development is currently working with our Local Workforce Development Board and partners on our Local Plan Modification which is due in September. We have currently submitted a working draft to our State partners and are awaiting feedback. During this time a draft will be posted for Public Notice and comments, which we will later on, depending on the feedback received from public comments we will go back and modify as necessary.
- I have been attending various partner meetings, collaborating at local and state levels in an attempt to identify and address specific needs and or skills that employers are seeking with the ultimate vision of strengthening our local workforce.

2. Title II – Adult Education & Literacy- Nora Herrera

Ending our FY 22:

10 Santa Cruz County students received their GED diplomas from our program
6 Students received their Integrated Education and Training (IET) Retail Industry Fundamental
Certificates from our advanced ELAA class
SCCCE has 182 current students registered

Entering FY 23:

Our goal is to reach 200 student registrations and increase the available IET classes we offer
The fall cohort will launch on August 2, 2022
Our program will be integrating the Remind App as a way to establish consistent and reliable
communication with our students
We have updated our registration process, effectively serving a larger amount of waitlisted
students
This updated system has resulted in: 39 new students have already completed the registration
process for our August classes, and an additional 20 more students will be contacted within the
next 2 weeks – making us on track to surpass our existing registration goal

3. Title III – Wagner-Peyser Act / Employment Service – Victor Cardenas

Below you will find a synopsis of our accomplishments: (May and June 2022), which will show a
comparison from the previous year.

- Nogales has been able to provide 13 referrals /compared to 16 last year, and the staff has
successfully placed 28 clients in meaningful employment compared to 19 last year.
- Nogales has had 39 job openings in AJC/compared to 136 last year.
- Staff in Nogales have served approximately 222 clients compared to 231 from last year,
which registered 64 in AJC compared to 98 from last year.
- -We have placed 18 job orders in AJC compared to 35 last year.
- We will be looking at developing an excel report to present to the board.
- We are revisiting our current business and potentially adjusting programs within our
department.

**4. Title IV – Vocational Rehabilitation Services – Ma. Elizabeth Kinder
District 6 VR Office Updates:**

Current data of Successful Closures (post placement - 90 days of employment)

Search criteria: July 01, 2021 – June 30, 2022

15 Successful Closures to date - 96% achievement (15 / 15.7 metric goal)

Comparison to last year's data of Successful Closures

Search criteria: July 01, 2020 - June 30, 2021

10 Successful Closures

Note: The above numbers are generated from filtering our internal data management system. VR Administration has not provided updated Placement and Closure report data for this FY.

Updates:

VR finalized a formal date to return to work in the VR office across the State which was July 5th, using a hybrid model. In the Nogales office, there have been some unanticipated barriers to this plan, including the VRS, getting COVID, one staff going on temporary approved medical leave through September and another staff person moving on to another opportunity very soon. This leaves one staff person in Nogales and the VR Supervisor, who is responsible for **three offices across three different regions within southern Arizona**.

In retrospect, the VRS is utilizing communication tools between ARIZONA@WORK's LOC and the front desk, in order to share VR staff's work schedule with Google calendars to stay informed of VR staff's weekly schedules and office hours. VRS will be providing ongoing VR materials to hand clients and creating a virtual office procedural guide to help manage workflow. Unfortunately, there is no quick fix to these kinds of staffing problems, and flexibility with understanding will need to be implemented by all parties.

The VR team will continue to work closely and collaboratively within the community, with the local schools, Behavioral Health agencies, the Department of Developmental Disabilities, and with ARIZONA@WORK.

Additionally, we are actively looking for additional outreach opportunities to increase referrals.

Outreach Events:

June 10th – VRC attended Pima Career Fair - Nogales event

Cross referrals with ARIZONA@WORK (Titles):

Referrals received:

May – 4

June - 5

I. One-Stop Operator – Jim Mize

We are currently working on the Infrastructure Facility Agreement for the Partners housed at the One Stop. The staff, working with the County finance department, is gathering cost financial information. Once this information is obtained, the cost will be allocated, and we will be working with the Partners to get the IFA signed.

There were lots of job fairs around the state. A lot of these job fairs are Veterans-oriented and public sector-type positions. The issue still remains that there are more job openings than there are clients seeking employment.

The Santa Cruz General Hospital closing was announced at a weekly Business Services meeting hosted by Jalensky Irons regional Business Services Manager. Santa Cruz One Stop and the Pima County One Stop are engaged in the Rapid Response effort. Over 600 employees were impacted.

We received a State Monitoring report, held in June, summarizing the results of the Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers (MSWF) annual review. Overall the location passed the annual assessment. There were a couple of small findings that will be resolved.

Art Basurto (SER) is still trying to get students from the high schools engaged in the Automotive Apprenticeship program offered in Tucson. Transportation cost is provided. The Apprenticeship ends with an Associate's degree in Automotive technology. This program is through the Ford Access program.

J. Board Reports-

- **K. King:** 50 New apprenticeships available in Santa Cruz County. If interested can reach out to Pima County.

K. Next Meeting – September 14, 2022, at the Quality Inn Americana Hotel or via Zoom at 12:00 noon

L. Adjournment

- K. King motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by N. Herrera and unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 1:13 p.m.

WIOA Update up to August 2022/Summary version

9.6.22

Fund	Program	Awarded	Spent	Available	Starting date	Ending date
X727/X728	Youth (In and Out) PY21	426,548.00	40,525.00	386,023.00	4.1.21	6.30.23
	Total Youth	426,548.00	40,525.00	386,023.00		
X739	Adult PY21	65,763.00	20,287.00	45,476.00	7.1.21	6.30.23
	Adult FY22	309,950.00	-	309,950.00	10.1.21	6.30.23
	Total Adult	375,713.00	20,287.00	355,426.00		
X740	Dislocated Worker PY21	55,571.00	23,455.00	32,116.00	7.1.21	6.30.23
	Dislocated Worker FY22	236,458.00	-	236,458.00	10.1.21	6.30.23
	Total Dislocated Worker	292,029.00	23,455.00	268,574.00		
X741	Admin/Youth PY21	47,394.00	3,892.00	43,502.00	4.1.21	6.30.23
	Admin/Adult PY21	7,307.00		7,307.00	7.1.21	6.30.23
	Admin/Adult FY22	34,439.00		34,439.00	10.1.21	6.30.23
	Admin/Dislocated Worker PY21	6,175.00		6,175.00	7.1.21	6.30.23
	Admin/Dislocated Worker FY22	26,272.00		26,272.00	10.1.21	6.30.23
	Total Administration	121,587.00	3,892.00	117,695.00		
	Totals	1,215,877.00	88,159.00	1,127,718.00		Overall

Note:

PY/FY allocations are based on awards approved by the State according to Contract DI121-002288 A1