



**Santa Cruz County Partner Reports  
September 29, 2025, LWDB Meeting**

**Title I: WIOA**

***July – September 2025***

Currently, 5 in training (Dental Assistant, Veterinary Technician, HVAC Technician, Paralegal, CDL).  
19 graduated/ completed certification (EMT, Veterinary Assistant, Police Academy, Medical Assistant, LPN, Nursing, Billing & Coding, Court Interpreter, CDL). We continue to conduct outreach during community events and school events.

**Business Services**

**Promotive Initiatives:**

Jump Back 2 School Blitz – SCVUSD#35 & NUSD#1  
Fresh Produce Association of the Americas Business Services Presentation  
Rio Rico Fire & Medical EMT Graduation (Success of the SCC Healthcare Forum)  
NAWDP – Business Services Academy – Denver, CO.  
2025 Volunteer for the Santa Cruz County Fair

**Rapid Response:**

N/A

**Hiring Events**

Bath & Body Works  
AAA Landscape

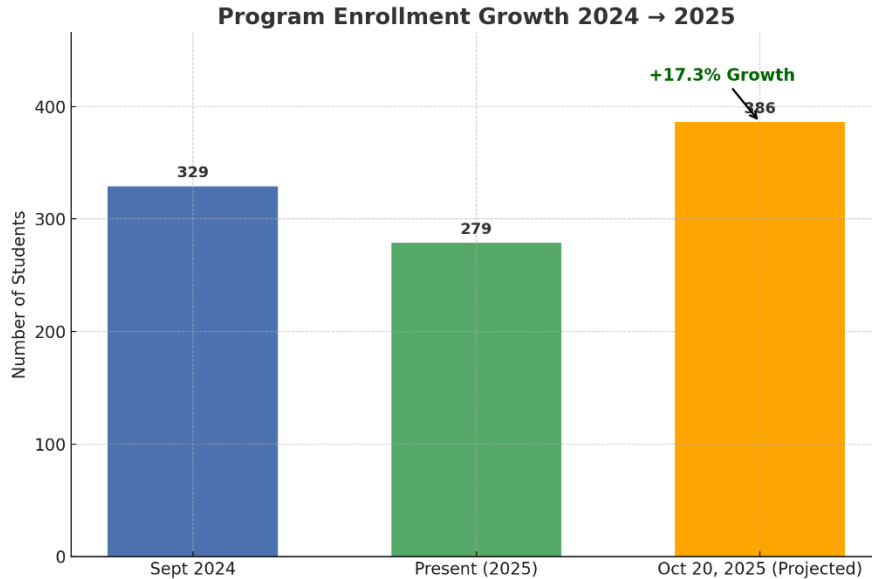
**Sectors of Service:**

Agriculture, Food Service, Retail, Logistics, Utilities, government, industrial, transportation, healthcare,  
Construction

**Total Job Openings: 133**

**Hires: 72**

## Title II: Adult Education



In September 2024, our program served 329 students. Current enrollment is 279, with 107 new students joining the next cohort on October 20, 2025, for a total of 386 a 17.3% increase over the previous year. Despite being defunded in July 2025 and then refunded by September of that same year, the program successfully repopulated its program with new students. Additionally, a supplemental grant received from the state, made possible by the Santa Cruz County Superintendent's Office of Education, will support expansion of the Integrated English Literacy & Civics Education and Training (IELCE+T) pathway. This pathway will combine an HSE/GED course, English language acquisition in concert with the Digital/Computer Literacy Boot Camp, targeting HSE/GED/ ELLA job-seeking adults registered with ARIZONA@WORK – Santa Cruz County, prioritizing those with limited education, long-term unemployment, or low digital skills. Open to both DES/WIOA-enrolled and non-enrolled job seekers, including One-Stop referrals, the program ensures access through bilingual delivery (English/Spanish), ADA-compliant materials, and assistive technologies. Over the 6–8 weeks, participants will gain essential digital skills to improve employability and advance career opportunities.

### **Title III: Employment Services**

<b>Services provided for July – Sep 2025</b>	
<b>Staff assisted with Registration</b>	299
<b>Average Age</b>	46
<b>Total Services Provided</b>	1,750
<b>Job Referrals</b>	92
<b>WIOA Referrals to Title I</b>	15
<b>Job Placements</b>	57

### **Portable Practical Educational Preparation (PPEP) / National Farmworker Jobs Program**

With the start of the new fiscal year, PPEP's National Farmworker Jobs Program (NFJP) is beginning with renewed energy and focus. In Santa Cruz County, we continue to strengthen outreach through active participation in partner meetings and targeted presentations, expanding awareness and connecting with more community members. The second round of On-the-Job Training (OJT) with Wholesum Foods is underway, with intake and eligibility verification in progress. Wholesum Foods is refining its training curriculum to maximize participant benefits. We are optimistic that Fiscal Year 2025–2026 will bring significant growth and expanded outreach opportunities. With the experience gained, we are well-positioned for continued success and a meaningful impact in the communities we serve.

# of enrollments - 0 # of participants in training - 0 # of participants received certification - 0 Type of training (CDL, Electrical, HVAC) - 0 On the Job Training – 0 Job Placements - 1

**Fred G. Acosta Job Corps**

Location	Arrival	Program	Status	Placement
Nogales	9.24.2024	Med. Adm. Asst.	Admin. Leave	Did not Return
Rio Rico	9.3.2024	HVAC	Admin. Leave	Did not Return
Nogales	8.6.2024	Clinical Med Asst.	Active Enrolled	
Rio Rico	9.26.2023	Plumbing	Admin. Leave	Did not Return
Rio Rico	8.20.2024	HVAC	Admin. Leave	Did not Return
Rio Rico	1.7.2025	Material Handling	Admin. Leave	Did not Return
Rio Rico	6.24.2024	Auto Tech	Ordinary Separation	KIA Dealer
Nogales	10.1.2024	Auto Tech	Medical Leave	Did not Return
Nogales	11.5.2024	Material Handling	Ordinary Separation	Enrolled in Pearson HS

**One Stop Operator**

Zaida and I continue to talk on a regular basis.

I attended three of the Business Services Reps' weekly meetings.

Manufacturing continued to be the highlighted sector of the month.

There are basically two categories in manufacturing: durable goods and non-durable goods. There were 1100 net manufacturing jobs from July to August.

Year over year, manufacturing lost 4,300 jobs; however, there is an expectation of a gain of 979 jobs annually.

Employment is positive after training.

Danny Howe with the reentry program for the state reported that the Second Chance Summit in held in Tucson on August 7th was well attended with over 40 employers attending. The job fair was held at the Tucson Convention Center.

Rapid response reported no new WARNS for the week of August 6th through the 12th.

Joe Throneberry is moving to the private sector. Lauren McGregor will be replacing him

It was also reported that there is a WDS opening in Flagstaff.

On August 20th it was reported that one new WARN was placed. The company is Zeco Systems. The date of separation is 12-31-2025.

On the 25th, we held the Santa Cruz Partner meeting. It was one of the best-attended meetings in a long time. I asked the group if they had any recommendations on how to hold future meetings. None was provided.

Christine Nelson from PPEP introduced a new staff member, Ailen Moerena. Deseree Galaz works with the three Southeastern Counties. She reported working with a high volume of unemployment clients.

Lisa Verduga with RESEA reported a full staff and is currently working with clients from Pima, Santa Cruz and Southeastern AZ @ Work counties.

Patty Molina from Mariposa Health Center reported on a couple of openings for Medical Assistants.

Kerry Munoz, who is with the County School Superintendents' office, reported she is still running the Gear Up program. She also reported on Project Shield, which is a drug awareness program for 7th graders.