



# WILLAMETTE WORKFORCE

PARTNERSHIP



## JULY 2024 – JUNE 2025 YEAR END REPORT

AUGUST 2025

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**Through collaboration, training, and outreach, Willamette Workforce Partnership effectively drives results that lead to a skilled workforce.**

Our vision is that the Willamette Valley has a vibrant economy and prosperous communities through a dynamic, engaged, and innovative workforce, and our goal is to cultivate a skilled workforce through collaboration, training, and outreach that drives measurable results.

# AT A GLANCE

From July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025, Willamette Workforce Partnership (WWP) invested in workforce programs across the Mid-Willamette Valley to support job seekers, youth, and employers. Through strategic partnerships and targeted funding, WWP provided services ranging from career coaching and skills training to GED preparation and re-entry support. A total of 985 individuals accessed workforce services during this period. Many of these projects remain active and continue enrolling participants through their scheduled end dates of June 2026.

**985  
SERVED**

**20  
CONTRACTS**

**\$5M  
DOLLARS**

## People Served

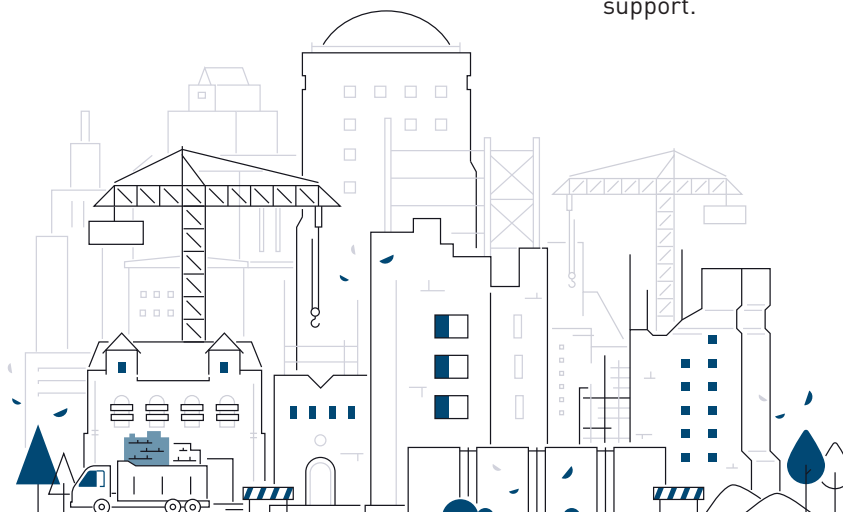
985 individuals received workforce services funded by WWP. This figure reflects participants served through WWP's core program portfolio and does not include those reached through separately managed initiatives such as the Youth Wage Grant or Incumbent Worker Training.

## Projects Initiated

WWP managed 20 contracts across core WIOA programs, youth employment initiatives, re-entry services, and Future Ready Oregon/Prosperity 10,000 funded training and coaching. Many of these contracts end on June 30, 2026.

## Investments in the Community

WWP's investments fund training programs, career services, and support systems that remove barriers to employment for all four counties. These dollars support local workforce programming through program contracts, paying participant wages during work experiences, covering educational costs, and providing wraparound support.



# KEY STRATEGIES

## **A** Invest in programs and partnerships that lead to a skilled workforce.

- Invest in workforce service delivery that maintains and enhances access to services for those in need in the Mid-Valley
- Enhance the workforce system's provision of skills training by connection to educational and training opportunities
- Expand the impact of training dollars through innovative partnerships

## **B** Offer workforce services that lead to a successful employer community.

- Engage with employers to identify needed skills
- Help employers develop strategies to recruit and retain a diverse workforce
- Develop solutions to employers' current workforce challenges including essential skills deficiencies, certification and training, advancement and retention
- Provide opportunities for employer-to-employer problem-solving discussions

## **C** Serve workforce needs that go beyond employment and training services and lead to thriving communities.

- Participate as a workforce advocate in community discussions that address housing, child care, transportation and internet access
- Promote opportunities for individuals to remove barriers in preparation for training and employment
- Provide workforce solutions for under-served, historically marginalized adult and youth populations

**Our Purpose:** Build a skilled workforce by supporting businesses with the talent they need for sustainable growth and connecting individuals with employment opportunities.



# OUR STORY

## WWP's expansion with Future Ready Oregon/Prosperity 10,000

WWP manages both traditional core programs and newer expansion initiatives. Our foundational programs, funded by the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), provide the essential workforce services to adults and youth through contractors like the Community Services Consortium (CSC). These services include career counseling, job search assistance, and occupational skills training. Complementing this, WWP also managed funding from Future Ready Oregon, a program passed in 2022 with a \$200 million investment to advance a more equitable workforce system. These funds expire June 30, 2026.

Using state and federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) resources, this expansion allowed WWP to offer initiatives like the "Prosperity 10,000" program, which provides career coaching and paid training in key sectors such as healthcare, manufacturing, and construction, and focusing on areas such as leadership as we expand our outreach.

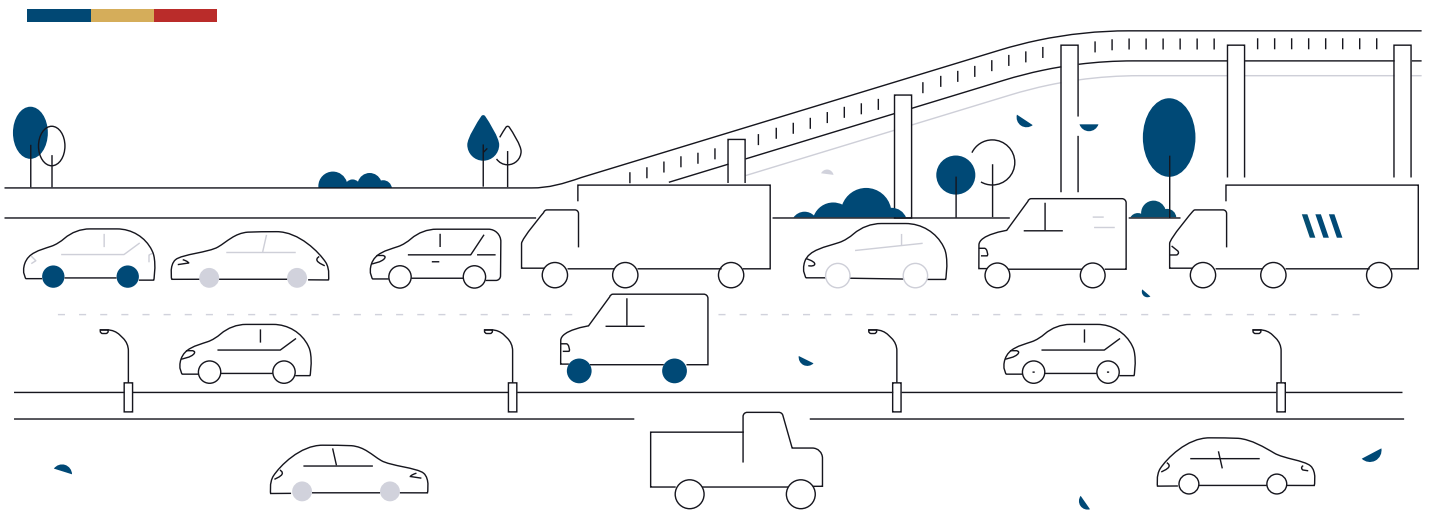
**Under Future Ready Oregon/Prosperity 10,000, two key segments of investments were created. One segment is dedicated to training and focuses on cohort-based industry skills training in areas like certified truck driving, welding, and Certified Nursing Assistant certifications, as well as leadership and supervisory programs. The other segment focused on community career coaching, where investments are made to ensure individuals understand how to navigate the public workforce system.**

757  
SERVED

428  
TRAINED

48%  
NEWLY  
REACHED

Impact of Future Ready Oregon  
July 1, 2022 to July 1, 2025



# CORE PROGRAMS

## Adults

WWP manages the Adult & Dislocated Worker funds (Title I) to operationalize WorkSource Oregon Centers, which are also known as American Job Centers. These centers are operated primarily in our region by the Oregon Employment Department and the Community Services Consortium (CSC) and provide a range of standard workforce services as mandated by the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).

## Dislocated Workers

A Dislocated Worker is an individual who has lost their job due to layoffs, or other economic factors. The Dislocated Worker program, funded by WIOA, is designed to help these individuals re-enter the workforce as quickly as possible and overcome barriers to employment.

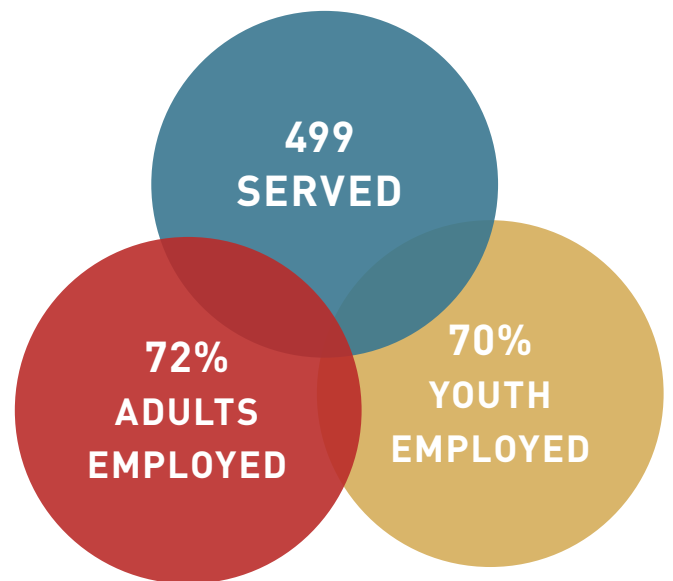
## Youth

WWP funds long-term Youth Services through the WIOA, supporting individuals ages 14 to 24 who face barriers to employment or education. Services were delivered by Community Services Consortium (Linn and Polk), ELY (Marion), and YOOP (Yamhill), and include GED support, career counseling, paid work experience, and training for out-of-school and under-served youth.

## What are Core Programs?

WWP's core programs are federally funded and available year-round through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Our core programs are designed to provide foundational support to individuals at different points in their employment journey. These programs ensure access to career services, skills training, and education pathways for adults, dislocated workers, and youth across the region.

This program year, WWP's core programs served 437 individuals across the four-county region. Community Services Consortium operated WorkSource Centers serving 238 adults and



\*Employment status measured six months after participants complete program services

dislocated workers with career counseling, job placement assistance, and skills training connections. Youth services reached 199 young people ages 14-24 through partnerships with Community Services Consortium, ELY, and YOOP, resulting in 44 participants earning their GED or high school diploma.

## Key Achievements:

- 238 adults and 261 youth served through comprehensive career services
- 107 credentials earned across both adult and youth programs
- 44 Youth earned a General Educational Development (GED) certificate

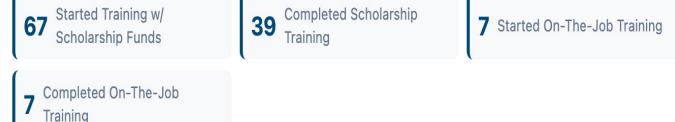
## Adults & Dislocated Workers (Title I)

### 2024 Core Program Results

#### Program Enrollment



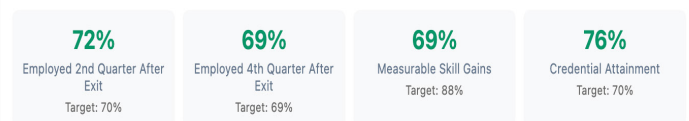
#### Training & Employment



#### Career Services Overview

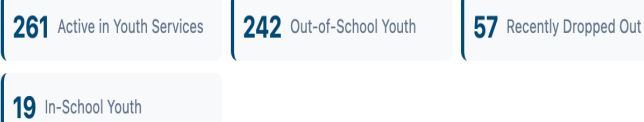


#### Federal Performance Rate - Adults

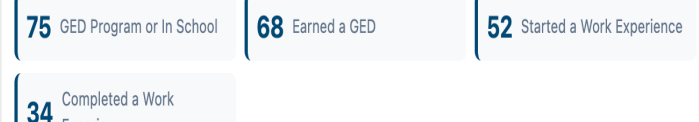


## Youth

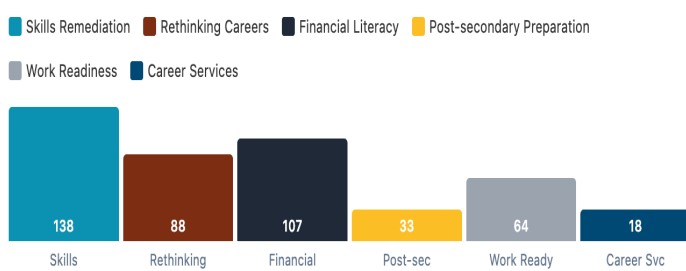
#### Youth Served



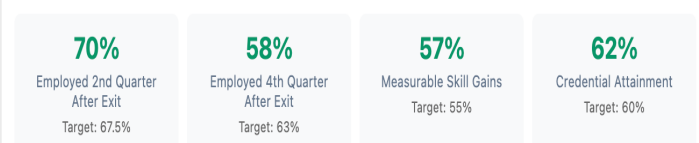
#### Education & Work Experience



#### Career Services Overview - Youth



#### Federal Performance Rate - Youth



## worksource | OREGON

There are six WorkSource Centers in the Mid-Willamette Valley, serving Linn, Marion, Polk, and Yamhill counties. These centers are part of Oregon's statewide WorkSource network and provide no-cost employment and training services to job seekers and businesses. Operated by the Oregon Employment Department and the Community Services Consortium (CSC), the centers offer career counseling, skills training, job placement support, and access to workforce resources tailored to regional needs.

# NEW INITIATIVES

## Traditional Occupational Training

Short, intensive programs that prepare participants for high-demand jobs in healthcare, manufacturing, transportation, warehousing, distribution, and construction. These trainings often include industry-recognized credentials, tuition coverage, stipends, and supportive services to remove barriers to completion.

## Leadership Training

Cohort-based training that provides current and emerging supervisors with practical leadership and management skills. This approach was prioritized after a regional employer survey highlighted supervisory capacity as a key workforce gap.

## Community Expansion

Place-based strategies that bring workforce services into new neighborhoods and partner locations, with a focus on connecting residents to opportunities in healthcare, manufacturing, transportation and warehousing, distribution, and construction. These efforts are designed to meet people where they are, reduce access barriers, and increase participation in sector-aligned training and employment.



## Short-Term, High-Impact

In addition to the core programs, WWP invests in short-term initiatives designed to respond quickly to emerging workforce needs and expand access to opportunity. These efforts include targeted occupational training to fill urgent labor market gaps, leadership development programs that strengthen industry capacity, and community expansion projects that bring career services into new neighborhoods and partner locations. While time-limited, these initiatives are built to deliver measurable impact, address pressing skills shortages, and pilot approaches that can inform future system-wide strategies.

# 159

### Received Training

across occupational skills  
and leadership programs  
this program year

# 317

### Served through Expansion

into new locations outside  
of the physical WorkSource  
centers.

## Traditional Occupational Training



In the past year, WWP's contracted training providers delivered targeted, high-demand programs that directly connect participants to good jobs.

- Chemeketa Community College advanced 44 participants toward their Commercial Driver's Licenses (CDL) through a certified truck driving program.
- Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency Re-Entry Services, in partnership with Chemeketa Community College, provided welding training to 27 participants with criminal backgrounds. MIG welding is a widely used welding method in manufacturing and construction, valued for its speed, precision, and versatility.
- Medical Training Academy prepared 18 students to become Certified Nursing Assistants, so they can provide basic patient care in settings like hospitals, long-term care facilities, assisted living, and home health.

## Leadership Training



WWP partnered with specialized providers to equip participants with the leadership and supervisory skills needed to guide teams and projects effectively.

- Chemeketa Community College offered an 18-hour, three-level leadership program with certificates, stackable credentials, and career supports with 28 completing so far.
- Exit Bliss Consulting delivered a two-day "Fast-Track Project Management" course preparing participants for Project Management Professional (PMP) certificate, covering 10 PMP domains and practical leadership tools for 18 professionals.
- Knife River Training Institute delivered a Supervising for Success workshop for new and seasoned leaders. 24 individuals learned practical skills in communication, feedback, time management, and team leadership.

## Community Expansion



WWP expanded career service access by funding community-based contracts in rural and underserved areas, helping people navigate the public workforce system and connect with training or jobs.

- Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency Rentry Services served 113 participants with criminal histories, providing career coaching, workforce navigation, and support. In addition to welding training, they began monthly expungement clinics in July 2025 to improve employment prospects.
- Easter Seals served 72 participants, focusing on Hispanic and Latino communities with culturally responsive career services and workforce navigation support.
- Community Services Consortium served 81 individuals by expanding outreach and career services to rural Sweet Home and working with Chemeketa Community College to deliver re-entry services for individuals leaving Oregon's state prisons.
- Chemeketa Community College assisted 51 individuals through its student-facing career counseling centers. The program helps individuals navigate the public workforce system, identify employment opportunities, and connect with the supports needed to pursue their career goals.

WWP's Re-Entry initiative, **funded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Pathway Home Grant**, expands community access by delivering WIOA-aligned career services inside Oregon state prisons. Through our contract with Chemeketa Community College, 54 individuals received career counseling, job readiness training, and basic skills development to support successful reintegration into the workforce.

# INDUSTRY RESPONSE

## 35 EMPLOYEES

### Incumbent Worker Training

Incumbent Worker Training helps employers train their existing staff to move up and stay on the job. It is a cost-shared program focused on productivity, retention, and wage gains. This year three Incumbent Worker Training grants supported 35 employees.

## 32 FIRST-HIRES

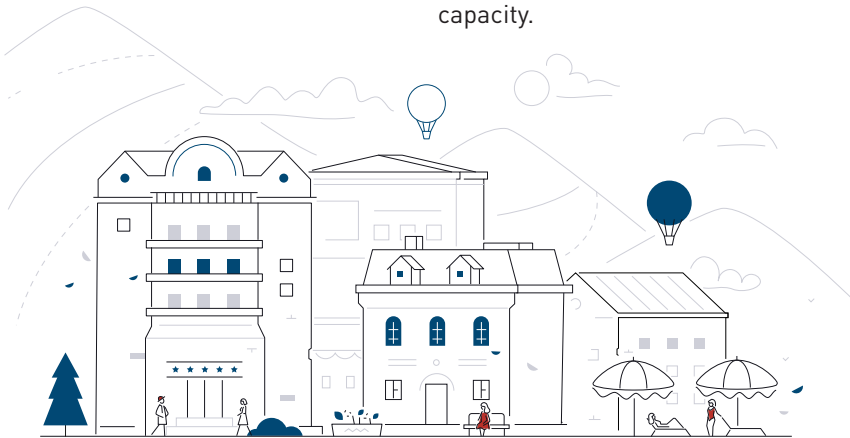
### Youth Wage Grant

To encourage youth employment, WWP partnered with and were funded by Marion County so that 13 employers could hire 32 youth through the Youth Wage Grant, reimbursing \$28,896.90 for eligible wages and costs to expand early work experience and employer capacity.

## 36 COUNSELORS

### Behavioral Health

WWP convenes the regional behavioral health consortium, where employers identified severe counselor shortages. In response, WWP partnered with Chemeketa Community College to launch two Certified Drug and Alcohol Counselor (CADC) cohorts. Eighteen participants completed the program. WWP also collaborated with Yamhill Community Cares Organization (YCCO), which awarded funding to emerging behavioral health professionals. In total, 18 applicants received \$34,000 to advance their education and practice.



## Consortiums

WWP convenes two employer-led industry consortia in priority sectors. Each brings employers, educators, and partners together to define skills, co-design training, and align hiring.

- **Mid-Valley Behavioral Health Consortium-Willamette Care Connects** is a regional partnership of behavioral health employers and education partners. It identifies shared staffing needs and organizes training cohorts and placements to grow and diversify the local provider workforce.
- **Mid-Willamette High Performance Manufacturing Consortium** is an employer-led group of Mid-Willamette manufacturers, educators, and service partners that coordinates practical workforce and operations improvements in the manufacturing sector. It provides a forum for member collaboration and learning, connects companies to training and growth resources, sets and supports continuous-improvement benchmarks.

146  
CONSORTIA  
MEMBERS

## Joint Apprenticeship Training Programs

The Early Learning Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP), coordinated by the Willamette Valley Early Learning JATC through the Child Care Resource & Referral (CCRR) of Marion, Polk, and Yamhill Counties, is designed to address Oregon's severe shortage of qualified early childhood educators. Oregon is one of only 11 states where more than 60 percent of residents live in "child care deserts," and the program's service area faces significant gaps in both infant/toddler and preschool care.

WWP's investment in the Early Learning JATC includes funding 20 apprentices, who began their training in June 2025. This work is significant for WWP in two ways. First, it directly strengthens the region's early learning workforce, helping alleviate the child care shortages that keep many parents from fully participating in the labor force. Second, it aligns WWP with the national expansion of apprenticeships as a model for building workforce pipelines. By supporting an apprenticeship pathway in childcare, WWP is addressing a pressing community challenge while also positioning the region to benefit from the rising momentum and resources dedicated to apprenticeship programs nationwide.

20  
APPRENTICES



# IN SCHOOL YOUTH

## Career Connections

Hosted by WWP and the Inspire Foundation, the most recent Career Connections event was held on April 4, 2024. More than 600 high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors participated, each completing two to three interviews. The event was supported by title sponsor Maps Community Foundation and engaged employers representing a broad range of industries, including law enforcement, healthcare, nonprofit, education, finance, insurance, manufacturing, fire and emergency services, hospitality, tourism, food and events, human resources, military, transportation, and construction.

600+  
STUDENTS



## Ignite

In partnership with Salem-Keizer School District, United Way, and the South Metro STEM Hub, 40 students from Salem-Keizer gained direct exposure to healthcare careers through internships in clinical and administrative settings. Each participant completed 12 hours of healthcare career exploration and 3 hours of work readiness training, totaling 15 instructional hours. Through Ignite, students completed 1,275 hours of paid work experience in local healthcare facilities, earning more than \$24,000 collectively while building career skills and professional confidence.

# NEXT STEPS

## Looking Ahead

WWP is ready to build on the momentum created in recent years. Programming now reaches more individuals and organizations, while sector partnerships deepen and the organization's role as a trusted workforce leader across the Mid-Valley grows stronger. With a solid foundation, WWP is positioned to continue delivering responsive, community-centered solutions in an evolving economic and workforce landscape.

Technologies such as artificial intelligence and automation are reshaping how people live, work, and connect. While the future workforce cannot be fully predicted, one certainty remains: **communities that are agile, innovative, and collaborative will not only adapt to these changes but will lead them.**

This next year demands focus, adaptability, and swift response. Several of WWP's current funding streams will sunset by June 2026, and questions remain about the long-term direction of WIOA at the federal level. WWP approaches this moment with strong partnerships, proven outcomes, and transparent communication which all offer a steady compass. At the same time, thoughtful planning and strategic forecasting is essential.

The priority is clear: protect what works, anticipate what is shifting, and lead with both innovation and financial discipline. By doing so, WWP will continue leading through workforce challenges and opportunities with resilience and foresight.





WWP is an equal-opportunity employer. Language assistance is available to individuals with limited English proficiency free of cost. Auxiliary aids or services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Oregon Relay 1-800-735-2900.



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