

October 19, 2023 - 2:30 P.M.

Hybrid Meeting - 13805 58<sup>th</sup> St. N.

Room 1-455

Clearwater, FL 33760

Zoom

\*Join via Zoom - Meeting ID: 338 034 9468

**Zoom Link** 

\*Dial In via Phone – Meeting ID: 338 034 9468

Phone: +1 646-558-8656

## **Workforce Solutions Committee**

Agenda

### **II. Public Comment**

Members of the public may raise their virtual hand during the Public Comment portion of the meeting. Members of the public who do so will be acknowledged by the Chair and provided up to three minutes to make public comment.

### III. Roll Call

### IV. Action/Discussion Items

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### V. Information Items

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3.	Performance Indicators	Page 65
4.	Letter Grades	Page 66
5.	Work-Based Learning Provider Spending through 8.31.2023.	Page 68
6.	Training Provider Spending through 8.31.2023	Page 69
7.	Key Performance Results	Page 70
8.	Training Provider Performance 3 year Q1	Page 73

### VI. Industry Insights

1.	Education	Committee Members
2.	Economic Development	Committee Members
	Healthcare	
4.	Other Industry Sector	Committee Members

### VII. Other Administrative Matters

(Items of urgency not meeting the seven-day guideline for review.)

### VIII. Open Discussion





### IX. Adjournment

### Next Workforce Solutions Committee - February 15, 2024 (2:30 pm - 3:30 pm)

\*All parties are advised that if you decide to appeal any decision made by the Board with respect to any matter considered at the meeting or hearing, you will need a record of the proceedings, and that, for such purpose, you may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based.

\*If you have a disability and need an accommodation in order to participate in this meeting, please contact the Executive Assistant at 727-608-2551 or <a href="mailto:admin@careersourcepinellas.com">admin@careersourcepinellas.com</a> at least two business days in advance of the meeting.



# ACTION ITEM 1 Approval of Minutes

In accordance with Article VII, Section 1(H), of the approved WorkNet Pinellas By-Laws: Minutes shall be kept of all Board and Committee meetings. Minutes shall be reviewed and approved at the next CareerSource Pinellas Board or Committee meeting as appropriate.

The official minutes of meetings of the Board and Committees of the Board are public record and shall be open to inspection by the public. They shall be kept on file by the Board Secretary at the administrative office of CareerSource Pinellas as the record of the official actions of the Board of Directors.

The draft minutes from the August 17, 2023 meeting of the Workforce Solutions Committee have been prepared and are enclosed.

### RECOMMENDATION

# CareerSource Pinellas Workforce Solutions Committee Minutes

**Date:** August 17, 2023, at 2:30pm

**Location:** Hybrid – 13805 58<sup>th</sup> St. N. Room 1-455, Clearwater, FL 33760/Zoom

#### Call to Order

Mark Hunt chaired the meeting because committee chair Dr. Rebecca Sarlo could not attend the meeting. Mark Hunt called the meeting to order at 2:30pm.

### **Members in Attendance**

Mark Hunt (In person), Ivonne Alvarez (Zoom), Bart Diebold (In person), Glenn Willocks (Zoom), Esther Matthews (Zoom), Elizabeth Siplin (Zoom), Denise Sanderson (Zoom), Anthony Chan (In person), Benjamin Friedman (In person), David Hill (Zoom)

#### **Members not in Attendance**

Dr. Rebecca Sarlo, Belinthia Berry, Michael Jalazo, Kevin Knutson, Candida Duff, Shawn McDonnell, Jenee Skipper, Eric McClendon

#### Staff

Steven Meier (In person), Jay Burkey (Zoom), Leah Geis (In person), Jason Druding (In person), Lysandra Montijo (In person), Michelle Moeller (In person)

### **ACTION ITEM 1 – Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the June 22, 2023, Workforce Solutions Committee meeting were presented for approval.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Approval of the draft minutes, to include any amendments necessary.

Motion:	Esther Matthews	
Second:	Ivonne Alvarez	

The minutes were approved as presented. The motion carried unanimously. There was no further discussion.

### **ACTION ITEM 2 – Training Provider Renewal - FleetForce**

CareerSource Pinellas enters into individual training provider agreements with each approved training provider. These agreements have previously been administered annually with a two year renewal period contingent upon Workforce Solutions Committee and Board of Directors approval.

FleetForce submitted all required documents for the two year renewal. FleetForce offers CDL Class A and CDL Class B training to eligible individuals.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Approval of a two year renewal for FleetForce (9/1/23-8/30/25). This training provider has completed the initial one year term and is in eligible status for the two year renewal.

**Discussion**: None

Motion:	Bart Diebold
Second:	Denise Sanderson

The Workforce Solutions Committee motioned for approval of a two year renewal for FleetForce (9/1/23-8/30/25). This training provider has completed the initial one year term and is in eligible status for the two year renewal. The motion carried unanimously.

### **ACTION ITEM 3 – New Training Provider – ATA Career Education College**

ATA Career Education College is seeking initial training provider approval. They are licensed by Commission for Independent Education by means of accreditation.

- · Years in operation: 11 years
- Total enrollments current year: 403
- 181 still in the programs
- Current approval from CareerSource Pasco/Hernando, CareerSource Polk, and CareerSource Citrus, Levy, Marion

#### RECOMMENDATION

Approval to add ATA Career Education College programs to the Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL).

### **Discussion:** None

Motion:	Esther Matthews	
Second:	Elizabeth Siplin	

The Workforce Solutions Committee motioned for approval to add ATA Career Education College programs to the Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL). The motion carried unanimously.

### **ACTION ITEM 4 – Related Party Contract – TSE Industries**

### INFORMATION ITEM 1 (TURNED INTO ACTION ITEM) -

Workforce Solutions Committee Duties, Responsibilities & Goals

After discussion amongst the committee, Ivonne Alvarez offered up a motion to accept and approve these goals for the Workforce Solutions Committee for this program year, 2023 – 2024.

Motion:	Ivonne Alvarez
Second:	Benjamin Friedman

The Workforce Solutions Committee members made a motion to accept and approve these duties, responsibilities and goals as official goals for the Workforce Solutions Committee for this program year, 2023 – 2024. The motion carried unanimously.

### **INFORMATION ITEM 2 – Crafting Local Talent**

A summary of the Crafting Local Talent report from Lightcast, as well as the report itself, was included in the packet for review.

### INFORMATION ITEM 3 - Work-Based Learning Provider Spending through 6.30.2023

The report was included in the packet.

### **INFORMATION ITEM 4 – Training Provider Spending through 6.30.2023**

The report was included in the packet.

### **INFORMATION ITEM 5 – Training Provider Performance 3 Year Q4**

The report was included in the packet.

<sup>\*</sup>This action item was no longer required, as Nikki Lezama no longer worked for TSE Industries as of the date of this meeting, so no related party contract was necessary.

### **INFORMATION ITEM 6 – Pinellas Economic Dashboard**

The report was included in the packet.

### **INFORMATION ITEM 7 - Goals**

The report was included in the packet.

**Industry Insights –** Some committee members gave updates about their respective sectors.

**Other Administrative Matters - None** 

**Open Discussion - None** 

Adjournment - Mark Hunt adjourned the meeting at 3:30pm.





### **ACTION ITEM 2**

# Policy Approval Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL)

The Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL) policy is to provide training providers guidance on how training programs are approved for inclusion on the ETPL.

WIOA and the ETPL emphasis informed customer choice, job-drive training, provider performance and continuous improvement. In administering the eligible training provider process CareerSource Pinellas works to ensure that qualified providers offer a wide variety of training programs.

The CareerSource Pinellas ETPL policy has been updated in order to remain in line and consistent with the CareerSource Florida ETPL policy.

### Highlighted Changes:

- The ETPL will include performance information.
- For a program to be approved for the ETPL there must be verification that the program leads to a credential on the Master Credential List (MCL).
- For a program to be approved for the ETPL proof the curriculum was approved by the Florida Department of Education (DOE) must be submitted.
- Defines approval process for out of state providers.



**LOP Number** WIOA 23-04

### **Policy**

Title:	Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL) Requirements		
Program:	Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)		
Effective:	06/26/2020	Revised:	11/15/2023

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose is to provide guidance to CareerSource Pinellas (CSP) staff, as well as post-secondary training providers of training services programs funded under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), regarding the Eligible Training Provider (ETP) requirements. The document provides guidelines for: the initial and subsequent determination of eligibility of training providers; the federal and state requirements for training providers; performance standards, the reporting of data and the removal provisions for training providers.

### **BACKGROUND**

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, at Section 122, WIOA, requires the Governor, through CareerSource Florida, to establish criteria, information requirements and procedures regarding the eligibility of providers of training services to receive funds provided under section 133(b), WIOA, for the provision of training services in local areas in the State.

This policy describes the process for determining eligible training providers for WIOA Title I-B adult, dislocated worker, and Youth training participants. The workforce development system established under WIOA emphasizes informed consumer choices, job-driven training, provider performance, and continuous improvement. The quality and selection of providers and training services programs is vital to achieving these core principles. The Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL) and the related eligibility procedures ensure the accountability, quality and labor-market relevance of training services programs that receive funds through WIOA title I-B. The ETPL is also a means for ensuring informed customer choice for individuals eligible for training. In administering the eligible training provider process CSP works to ensure that qualified providers offering a wide variety of job-driven training programs are available. The ETPL is updated throughout the year and is publicly available on the CSP website https://careersourcepinellas.com, The ETPL is easily available in an electronic format, and is accompanied by relevant information to maximize informed customer choice and serve all significant populations groups.

### **POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

Eligible providers of training services programs (ETP) are entities that are eligible to receive WIOA title I-B funds for adult and dislocated worker participants who enroll in training services programs through "Individual Training Accounts" (ITA). ITAs may also be used for WIOA Title I Youth funds to provide training to older, out-of-school youth, ages 18 to 24 and in-school youth, ages 16-21.

WIOA requires qualified providers offering a variety of job-driven training programs are available. A training provider must provide a program of study to be included on the ETPL.

### PROVIDER AND PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY UNDER WIOA

To be eligible to apply for inclusion on the ETPL and to receive training funds under WIOA Section 133(b), the training provider must be one of the following types of entities detailed in 20 CFR 680.410(d):

- 1. An institution of higher education such as universities, college, or other public or private institutions or higher education that provide programs that lead to a recognized postsecondary credential.
- 2. Registered Apprenticeships Programs (RAPs)
- 3. Other public or private providers of training services programs, which may include community-based organizations and joint labor-management organizations.
- 4. Eligible providers of adult education and literacy activities under WIOA Title II, if these activities are provided in combination with training services as described in 20 CFR 680.350
- 5. Except for training programs listed as a registered apprenticeship, all other training providers' programs shall be for training for occupations on the Targeted Occupation List (TOL) and the state Master Credentials List (MCL), current at the time of training, to be eligible to receive training funds under Section 133(b), WIOA.

Note: A public or private school district that maintains AdvancED/SACS accreditation and provides occupational skills training in combination with a high school diploma may be an eligible training provider.

### A. PROGRAM OF STUDY

A program of study is a course, class, or structured regimen that provides training leading to:

- 1. An industry-recognized postsecondary credential, a secondary school diploma, or equivalent;
- 2. Employment; or
- 3. Measurable skills gain leading to one of the above.

Training services may be delivered in person, online, or using a blended method or approach. Online training providers may apply and be considered for inclusion on the state and local ETPLs but are required to meet the same eligibility and performance criteria established for classroom-based instruction providers. Training programs must also be made physically and programmatically accessible for individuals who are employed and individuals with barriers to employment, such as persons with disabilities.

ETPs may offer programs of study that include:

- 1. Occupational skills training including training for non-traditional employment;
- 2. On-the-Job Training (OJT);
- 3. Incumbent Worker Training (IWT);
- 4. Programs that combine workplace training with related instruction, which may include cooperative education programs;
- Private-sector training programs;
- 6. Skill upgrading and retraining;
- 7. Entrepreneurial training;
- 8. Job readiness training provided in combination with training services or transitional jobs;
- 9. Adult education and literacy activities, including activities of English language acquisition and integrated education and training programs, provided concurrently or in combination with services provided in the programs listed in numbers 1. through 7., above; and
- 10. Customized training conducted with a commitment by an employer or group of employers to employ an individual upon successful completion of the training.

### **B. INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS TO ESTABLISH "INITIAL ELIGIBILITY"**

### 1. Initial Eligibility (Training Providers)

Providers of training programs seeking "Initial Eligibility" may receive "Initial Eligibility" for only one (1) full year, after which they may seek "Continued Eligibility." Training Providers submit detailed information regarding each program they are requesting to be included on the ETPL.

The ETPL may have identical training programs offered under different training providers. This encourages WIOA participants to make informed decisions.

Programs requested to be added to the ETPL following November 15, 2023, or at renewal must be part of the Department of Education (DOE) Approved curriculum under the provider's Florida Commission for Independent Education (CIE) license.

The provider shall supply verifiable program-specific performance information. Information submitted along with the application shall support the provider's ability to serve participants under section 122, WIOA. Such information shall include as a minimum, but is not limited to:

- a. A description of the training or educational institution including the provider's address, email, Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN), and the name of the contact person;
- Verification the provider is licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized under Florida law to provide training programs. (This applies to in-state and outof-state providers.)
- c. A detailed description of each training program the applicant intends to provide.
- d. Information on the cost of attendance, including, but not limited to, tuition and fees.
- e. Whether the training program leads to an industry-recognized credential, including recognized postsecondary credential, identifying that credential.
- f. Whether the credential can be stacked with other credentials as part of a sequence to move an individual along a career pathway or up a career ladder.
- g. Whether the provider has developed the training in partnership or collaboration with a business or industry (identifying the business or industry).
- h. Identify the in-demand industry sectors and occupations which best fit with the training program.
- i. A description of the prerequisites or skills and knowledge required prior to the commencement of training.
- j. Verification the training program is for an occupation on the Local Area TOL/MCL.
- k. Proof the training program is part of the DOE approved curriculum under the provider's CIE license.

### 2. Initial Eligibility (Programs of Study)

A training provider's request for an initial eligibility determination must be accompanied by a request for initial eligibility determination for at least one program of study. A training provider may request initial eligibility determinations for multiple programs of study, but each program of study is reviewed independently. When an ETP with continued eligibility for one or more programs of study requests that a new program of study be added to the ETPL, the new program of study will undergo an initial eligibility determination and may be approved or denied.

All eligibility determinations are made based on the review of required information.

Training providers seeking initial eligibility for a program of study should contact a LWDB in the local area or planning region in which they plan to operate.

### C. CONTINUED/SUBSEQUENT ELIGIBILITY

After a training provider has completed the one-year initial eligibility period, the training provider is required to apply for continued eligibility and recertify their program(s) of study every two years to maintain their eligibility for the ETPL. This process requires submission of performance and cost information for each program of study listed on the state ETPL.

Applications for continued eligibility must be submitted three months prior to the end of their current eligibility period.

Each training provider seeking continued eligibility must supply verification the provider is licensed, certified, or otherwise authorized under Florida law (if applicable) to be a provider of training services as required by 20 CFR 680.410. This requirement applies to in-state and out-of-state providers.

Information reported to state agencies on federal and state training programs other than WIOA Title I-B programs as listed below:

- a. The total number of persons enrolled in the program;
- b. The total number of WIOA participants enrolled in the program;
- c. The total number of persons completing the program;
- d. The total number of WIOA participants completing the program;
- e. Quality¹ of the program of study including a program that leads to a recognized postsecondary credential;
- f. Provider's ability to offer industry-recognized certificates and credentials:
- g. The total number of persons awarded a Recognized Postsecondary Credential (or other credential, if applicable);
- h. The total number of WIOA participants awarded a Recognized Postsecondary Credential (or other credential, if applicable);
- i. The total number of persons employed after completing the program;
- j. The total number of WIOA participants employed after completing the program;
- k. Data identifying the cost of attendance and costs of tuition and fees for WIOA participants completing the program;
- I. Information on recognized postsecondary credentials (or other credential, if applicable) received by WIOA participants;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Florida defines quality as training programs that meet the minimum criteria as defined in this policy as well as programs that develop skills valued by priority industry sectors.

- m. Whether the credential can be used in conjunction with other credentials as part of a sequence to move an individual along a career pathway or up a career ladder;
- n. Description of how the provider will ensure access to programs of study throughout the state, including in rural areas, and using technology (as applicable);
- o. Description of provider's ability to provide trainings that are physically and programmatically accessible for individuals who are employed and individuals with barriers to employment, including individuals with disabilities;
- Information reported to state agencies with respect to federal and state programs of study (other than the program carried out under WIOA), including one-stop partner programs;
- q. Performance on WIOA performance indicators;
- r. The degree to which programs of study relate to in-demand industry sectors and occupations in the state;
- s. Timeliness and accuracy of ETP's performance reports; and
- t. Any additional factors that are determined appropriate within the parameters of WIOA and statutes.

### D. REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS

In accordance with the National Apprenticeship Act (NAA) (50 Stat. 664, chapter 663; 29 U.S.C. 50 et seq.), entities that carry out RAPs are exempt from the initial and continued eligibility requirements described in this policy. RAPs must be included and maintained on the ETPL until:

- The RAP notifies FloridaCommerce it no longer wants to be included on the list;
- 2. The program becomes deregistered under the National Apprenticeship Act;
- 3. The program is determined to have intentionally supplied inaccurate information: or
- A determination is made by FloridaCommerce that the RAP substantially violated any provision of Title I of WIOA or the WIOA regulations, including 29 CFR part 38.

Because RAPs are exempt from all initial and continued eligibility requirements, additional criteria may not be imposed or information requirements for RAP sponsors except as outlined in Training and Employment Guidance Letter Nos. 08-19 and 08-19, Change 1, and TEGL No. 13-16, Change 1.

A RAP is an ETP if it is registered with DOE, Office of Apprenticeship (OA), or any other state's State Apprenticeship Agency (SAA). Although they are automatically eligible for ETPL inclusion, RAP sponsors seeking to have their apprenticeship programs listed on the ETPL must still "opt-in" by informing the Florida Commerce at <a href="ETPL@commerce.fl.gov">ETPL@commerce.fl.gov</a>. If a RAP expresses interest in being on the ETPL, they must provide the following information:

- 1. Occupations included in the RAP;
- 2. The name and address of the RAP sponsor;
- 3. The name and address of the Related Technical Instruction provider and the location of instruction if different from the program sponsor's address;
- 4. The method and length of instruction; and
- 5. The number of active apprentices.

FloridaCommerce will regularly coordinate with USDOL, CareerSource Florida and DOE to ensure that necessary updates are made to any information previously provided by RAP sponsors or training providers. FloridaCommerce will also coordinate with DOE to ensure that RAPs registered with the DOE are made aware that they are eligible for placement on the ETPL, and that DOE is informed when a RAP that is registered with USDOL's OA or another state's SAA contacts FloridaCommerce to opt-in to inclusion on the ETPL.

Apprenticeship programs that are not registered with DOE, OA, or another state's SAA are not considered RAPs and must complete the initial eligibility and continued eligibility procedures. Pre-apprenticeships, including quality registered pre-apprenticeships leading to RAPs, are not automatically approved for inclusion on the ETPL and are not exempt from requirements outlined in this policy. Other programs of training services offered by a RAP sponsor or a RAP's provider of related instruction are likewise not automatically eligible.

- a. Except for registered apprenticeships, all applications for WIOA "Initial Eligibility" must be submitted to CSPIN. The training provider must specifically identify the program(s) it intends to provide.
- b. A provider that receives "Initial Eligibility" under this paragraph for any program shall be subject to all the requirements for that program even after such "Initial Eligibility" expires.
- c. Registered apprenticeship programs are not subject to the "Initial Eligibility" criteria or application requirements. While registered apprenticeships are automatically eligible, not all registered apprenticeship programs may want to be included on the list. Registered apprenticeship programs shall automatically be included on the State ETPL until such time as the program: 1) loses its registration; or 2) notifies Florida Commerce in writing that it wants to be removed from the ETPL.

### E. OUT-OF-LOCAL-AREA AND OUT-OF-STATE PROVIDERS

Out-of-state postsecondary institutions that are not operating within the State of Florida and are not required to be licensed by the Florida Commission of Independent Education (CIE) must provide the following information to CSP if it wishes to do business in this region:

- 1. Performance information for each program for which it seeks approval, AND
- Evidence that the institution (and applicable programs) is accredited by an accreditation agency approved by the United States Department of Education, AND
- Evidence that the institution meets the licensing requirements of its home state, AND
- 4. Evidence that the institution is on its state's ETPL, AND
- 5. Evidence that the specified training program is not available in the State of Florida.

### F. ANNUAL REPORTING

As required by FloridaCommerce training providers will submit or upload information into Employ Florida (EF). This will include information on enrolled and completer individuals for each program of study being considered for continued eligibility. The student data must be submitted each year for each program of study and must include social security numbers for performance to be calculated.

FETPIP reporting may also be used in place of the annual reporting.

# G. DENIAL, DEACTIVATION, REMOVAL, OR LOSS OF PROVIDER OR PROGRAM ELIGIBLITY

There are circumstances under which training providers may be denied, deactivated, removed, or lose their eligibility for inclusion the ETPL. Prior to approving an ITA for a WIOA-eligible individual, training providers and program of study must be included on the ETPL at the time the participant is enrolled in the program of study.

### Denial

A training provider will receive written notice if CSP does not approve the training provider or a program of study.

### **Deactivation**

Once an ETP or program of study is approved, it will remain on the ETPL through the continued eligibility period of two years unless removed by CSP for documented training provider and/or program of study violations.

Training providers or programs of study are subject to deactivation and removal from the ETPL if:

- CSP determines the training provider intentionally supplied inaccurate information or substantially violated any provision of Title I of WIOA regulations, including 29 CFR Part 38;
- 2. The program of study fails to meet the states' minimum performance levels as required in 20 CFR 680.460(g); or
- 3. The training provider loses its license or accreditation from its accrediting body.

### Loss of Eligibility and Removal

A program of study may be removed from the state ETPL if:

- 1. The training provider fails to supply participant data required for the performance review by the annual due date.
- 2. It is determined that the training provider intentionally supplied inaccurate information or substantially violated any provisions of Title I of WIOA or the WIOA regulations, including 29 CFR part 38.
- 3. It is determined that the provider is engaging in fraud or other criminal acts, incapacity, unfitness, neglect of duty, official incompetence, irresponsibility, misfeasance, malfeasance, gross mismanagement, waste, nonfeasance, or lack of performance.

### **Re-application**

Training Providers may reapply under the initial eligibility criteria once the reason for denial or removal has been resolved.

### H. APPEALS

For an appeal to any decision the appellant shall follow the appeals procedure established in the local plan.

### I. ETPL AND NON-ITA TRAINING SERVICES

There are exceptions to the required use of the ETPL for ITA-funded training. In the following situations covered by these exceptions, a contract for services between the CSP and the training provider may be attained and implemented to ensure services are provided instead of selecting a training provider from the state ETPL.

### **Work-Based Training**

WIOA supports training and work experience for job seekers through work-based training, which is coordinated by CSP through collaboration with local employers. Activities, like OJT, Customized Training, and IWT do not require inclusion on the ETPL, in accordance with 20 CFR 680.530. Please see Administrative Policy 100 for

additional information on work-based training.

### **Training Contract**

A program of study may be provided through training contracts instead of ITAs when there is not sufficient availability of eligible training providers in the area to accomplish the purpose of an ITA. These contracts may be used for cohort training, per TEGL 21-22, Attachment 1, or in one of the other situations prescribed in 20 CFR 680.320. Because training contracts do not use ITAs, the training provider is not required to be included on the state or local ETPL.

### Non-WIOA

The ETPL is a requirement of WIOA and only applies to programs that are supported by WIOA funding. Providers of training services that do not intend to seek WIOA funding do not need to request or pursue ETPL inclusion.

### J. DEFINITIONS

- 1. Continued Eligibility: "Continued Eligibility" or "Subsequent Eligibility" is the eligibility determination that allows training providers to remain on the ETPL until the next eligibility determination.
- 2. Credential: A WIOA indicator consisting of a recognized postsecondary credential (an industry-recognized certificate or certification, a certificate of completion of an apprenticeship, a license recognized by the state involved or federal government, or an associate or baccalaureate degree) or a secondary school diploma, or its recognized equivalent, during participation in or within one year after exit from the program. All credentials must be included on the Master Credentials List and a credential's inclusion on the Master Credentials List is sufficient to meet the WIOA definition of "credential."
- **3. Eligible Training Provider (ETP)**: A provider of training services or programs of study (as prescribed in 20 CFR 680.410) that has met the eligibility requirements to receive WIOA funds for providing training service programs to eligible individuals.
- **4. Eligible Training Provider List (ETPL):** A statewide or local compilation of ETPs (as prescribed in 20 CFR 680.410) and approved programs of training services or programs of study (as prescribed in 20 CFR 680.420).
- **5.** Individual Training Account (ITA): A payment agreement with an ETP established on behalf of a WIOA participant for a program of training services or programs of study as prescribed in WIOA section 134(c)(3).
- **6. Initial Eligibility:** The initial determination that allows a training provider and approved program of training services or programs of study onto the state or local ETPL for the first year. An established ETP may also request an initial eligibility determination for a new program of study.

- 7. Master Credentials List (MCL): Required by the Reimagining Education and Career Help (REACH) Act, the Master Credentials List is a comprehensive list of state-approved degree and non-degree credentials of value that prepare Floridians for in-demand occupations. Credentials on the list satisfy the criteria set forth by the Florida Credentials Review Committee in the Framework of Quality. Programs of study must be on the MCL to be on the state ETPL.
- **8.** Personally Identifiable Information (PII): Information used to distinguish or trace an individual's identity, either alone or when combined with other personal or identifying information, linked or linkable to a specific individual.
- 9. Program of Training Services: A "Program of Training Services" or "Program of Study" as prescribed in 20 CFR 680.420. Such a program consists of one or more courses or classes, or a structured regimen, leading to one or more of the following: A recognized postsecondary credential, secondary school diploma or its equivalent; employment; or a measurable skills gain toward such a credential or employment.
- **10.Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP):** A program that is registered with the USDOL Office of Apprenticeship (OA) or any State Apprenticeship Agency (SSA) as prescribed in 20 CFR 680.470(a). Florida's State Apprenticeship Agency is the Florida Department of Education's Office of Apprenticeship.
- **11.Sponsor** (of a Registered Apprenticeship Program): Any person, association, committee, or organization operating an apprenticeship program and in whose name the program is (or is to be) registered or approved.
- 12.Training Provider: A university, college, public or private technical or vocational training institution, a private training company or private instructor, or a company employee who is qualified to provide instruction that leads to a recognized postsecondary credential, license, secondary school diploma or equivalent.

### K. AUTHORITY

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, Public Law 113-128

<u>20 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 680.400 et seq., Subpart D – Eligible Training Providers</u>

<u>Training and Employment Guidance Letter (TEGL) No. 8-19 and TEGL No. 8-19, Change 1</u>

TEGL No. 13-16

**TEGL No. 3-18** 

TEGL No. 21-22

Section 445.003(7)(b), Florida Statutes (F.S.) Section 445.004(4)(h), F.S.

CareerSource Florida Administrative Policy 90: WIOA Eligibility Training Providers List



### **INFORMATION ITEM 1**

# Workforce Solutions Committee Duties, Responsibilities & Goals for PY'2023 - 2024

The following represents the Duties and Responsibilities of the Workforce Solutions Committee taken from the Organization's bylaws:

### SECTION 6 - Workforce Solutions Committee Membership, Duties and Responsibilities

The Workforce Solutions Committee shall be chaired by a Board member appointed by the Board Chair and shall consist of those members deemed appropriate and appointed to the Committee by the Workforce Solutions Committee Chair. The Workforce Solutions Committee shall be responsible for:

- Reviewing and recommending approval of the services and programs delivered to employers;
- Reviewing and recommending approval of training vendor applications and other actions pertaining to training vendors;
- Reviewing periodic training vendor performance reports;
- Reviewing the region's activities related to targeted industries;
- Creating and maintaining the regional targeted occupations list; and
- Reviewing and recommending approval of the Board's partnerships with economic development organizations and other business associations in accordance with the committee's annual strategic plan.



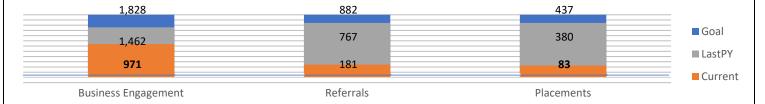
## **INFORMATION ITEM 1** (cont.)

# Workforce Solutions Committee Duties, Responsibilities & Goals for PY'2023 - 2024

Based upon the above bylaws, the Committee is being asked to develop Goals for 2023-2024. Some of the potential goals may be:

### 1. Services to Employers:

- a. Increase business engagement by 25% compared to program year 2022-2023
- **b.** Increase referral of qualified job seekers to open job orders by 15%
- **c.** Increase the number of Direct Placements and Obtained Employments entered in EF by 15%



### 2. Approval of Training Providers:

- **a.** Approve at least 4 new training providers during 2023-2024 to expand training options and customer choice.
  - ATA Career Education is a newly added training provider.
  - Dental Assistant Training School (DATS): The Tampa location is part of the approved training provider list. They were invited to begin the process of adding their Largo campus.
  - School of EMS is still waiting for their CEI license in order to complete the approval process.

### 3. Targeted Industries:

- **a.** Business Services to host Industry Roundtables, one per quarter minimum, for indemand industries aligned to Sector Strategies (e.g., Information Technology, Healthcare, Hospitality and Manufacturing) in compliance with REACH Act Industry Consortium requirements.
  - Staff attended a webinar with CareerSource Florida on Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>
    and will provide an update (info was unavailable at the time this packet was
    finalized)



# **INFORMATION ITEM 1** (cont.)

# Workforce Solutions Committee Duties, Responsibilities & Goals for PY'2023 - 2024

### 4. Regional Targeted Occupation List:

- a. New occupations will be reviewed and approved as need arises.
  - None at this time.

### 5. Economic Development Organizations and Business Associations:

- **a.** CareerSource Pinellas will present at least 4 times per quarter to various associations and Economic Development agencies.
  - Intent is to provide information on programs and services for businesses seeking assistance with job postings, recruitment of qualified candidates, labor market information, and training funding under WIOA.



# **INFORMATION ITEM 2**

## Nonprofit Workforce Survey Results

# 2023 Nonprofit Workforce Survey Results: Communities Suffer as the Nonprofit Workforce Shortage Crisis Continues

- Nearly three out of four nonprofits (74.6%) completing the survey reported job vacancies.
- More than half of nonprofits (51.7%) reported they have more vacancies now compared to before the COVID-19 pandemic, and nearly three out of ten (28.1%) have longer waiting lists for services.
- The nonprofit jobs most commonly unfilled are those that interact with the public the most.
- Almost three out of four respondents (74.0%) reported vacancies in their program and service delivery positions, and two out of five (41.1%) reported vacant entry-level positions.
- Almost three out of four respondents (72.2%) said salary competition affects their ability to recruit and retain employees, followed by budget constraints/insufficient funds (66.3%). Additional causes for nonprofit workforce shortages reported by nonprofits were stress and burnout (50.2%) and challenges caused by government grants and contracts (20.6%).

# Nonprofits responding to the 2023 survey identified the following barriers to recruiting and retaining nonprofit staff:

- Salary competition was the most frequently cited challenge, having been identified by nearly three out of four respondents (72.2%).
- Two-thirds of those completing the survey (66.3%) named budget constraints/insufficient funds as a factor, which, of course, impacts salary competition.
- More than half (50.2%) pointed to stress and burnout.
- One out of five respondents (20.6%) identified challenges caused by government grants and contracts as a major cause of nonprofit workforce shortages.
- The lack of available, affordable childcare continues to be a major problem impacting recruitment and retention, according to 14.6% of respondents.



# INFORMATION ITEM 2 (cont.) Nonprofit Workforce Survey Results

The 2023 nonprofit survey invited nonprofits to elaborate on any challenges they face in addition to the ones identified in the survey document. One in five (20.3%) survey respondents chose this response option and provided insights.

- Some nonprofits shared that it is usually not just one thing, but the cumulative effect of multiple factors that cause employees to leave.
- "Losing institutional knowledge has created gaps in understanding and diminished the strength of relationships our organization has in the community."
- Some employees leave their jobs and move from the community because of the increased costs of housing as they search for more affordable housing options. This same barrier in turn prevents job candidates from accepting job offers and relocating.
- Hiring delays caused by nonprofits conducting background checks cause many impatient job candidates to take other positions rather than wait.
- Wage gaps are also a pay equity issue. As one nonprofit pointed out, since BIPOC staff
  "often do not have the financial support structures in place that white people do," and
  without more financial resources, many nonprofits cannot recruit a more diverse workforce.





# 2023

# Nonprofit Workforce Survey Results

Communities Suffer as the Nonprofit Workforce Shortage Crisis Continues

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# **Executive Summary**

An initial survey of nonprofit workforce shortages in late 2021 documented that the nonprofit sector was in crisis and that the individuals and communities served by charitable organizations were suffering as a result. The data from the survey, presented in Nonprofit Workforce Shortages: A Crisis that Affects Everyone, demonstrated that nonprofits were experiencing intolerably high job vacancy rates, resulting in growing waiting lists for services or the denial of services altogether. Nonprofits were clear on the causes for the job vacancies: salary competition from the for-profit and governmental sectors, the inability of potential job applicants to find child care, challenges caused by problems related to government grants and contracts, and stress and burnout. The news media and the public took notice of the nonprofit workforce crisis, and policymakers at the local, state, and federal levels, to their credit, adopted some reforms aimed at alleviating the pressures.

A second nationwide survey in Spring 2023 sought to determine whether the workforce shortages nonprofits had identified 18 months earlier were still at crisis level, had abated, or were morphing into new challenges. More than 1,600 nonprofit professionals from all 50 states and the District of Columbia completed the survey, providing both quantitative data as well as qualitative insights on their experiences, actions, and recommendations for alleviating the workforce challenges.

Collectively, the data confirm that nonprofits are still enduring a shortage of employees and, as a natural consequence, the public continues to suffer because fewer employees mean reduced capacity, longer waiting lists for services, reduced amounts and types of services provided, and sometimes a complete end of needed services.

# **Key Findings**

- Nearly three out of four nonprofits (74.6%) completing the survey reported job vacancies.
- More than half of nonprofits (51.7%) reported they have more vacancies now compared to before the COVID-19 pandemic, and nearly three out of ten (28.1%) have longer waiting lists for services.
- The nonprofit jobs most commonly unfilled are those that interact with the public the most. Almost three out of four respondents (74.0%) reported vacancies in their program and service delivery positions, and two out of five (41.1%) reported vacant entry-level positions.
- Almost three out of four respondents (72.2%) said salary competition affects their ability to recruit and retain employees, followed by budget constraints/insufficient funds (66.3%). Additional causes for nonprofit workforce shortages reported by nonprofits were stress and burnout (50.2%) and challenges caused by government grants and contracts (20.6%).

• Seven out of ten nonprofits (70.5%) anticipate charitable giving to decrease or remain flat in 2023, while 68.7% of nonprofits anticipate the number of donors to decrease or remain unchanged.

## Why It Matters: Consequences for the Public

When nonprofits cannot hire enough employees to provide vital services, the public suffers. Data from this survey and others show that along with increased demands for services, there are longer waiting lists, reduced services, and sometimes elimination of services. When any of those happen, the ripple effects cannot be ignored: communities lose access to food, shelter, mental health care, and other vital services on which people depend.

## **Barriers Creating Nonprofit Workforce Shortages**

Nonprofits responding to the 2023 survey identified the following barriers to recruiting and retaining nonprofit staff:

- Salary competition was the most frequently cited challenge, having been identified by nearly three out of four respondents (72.2%).
- Two-thirds of those completing the survey (66.3%) named budget constraints/insufficient funds as a factor, which, of course, impacts salary competition.
- More than half (50.2%) pointed to stress and burnout.
- One out of five respondents (20.6%) identified challenges caused by government grants and contracts as a major cause of nonprofit workforce shortages.
- The lack of available, affordable child care continues to be a major problem impacting recruitment and retention, according to 14.6% of respondents.

## **Practical and Public Policy Solutions**

Recognizing that the people leading, working in, and volunteering for charitable nonprofits are, by nature, problem solvers, the 2023 survey invited participants to share solutions they had utilized or identified to mitigate the nonprofit workforce shortages crisis. They provided ample examples of practical solutions they implemented or are considering, as well as pointed to public policy solutions of general applicability, especially essential reforms to government grants and contracting systems.

• Nearly two-thirds (66%) of nonprofits participating in the 2023 survey raised salaries, and more than half (57.7%) implemented a remote work policy in their organizations.

- Other frequently used strategies to retain employees, according to respondents, have been providing more benefits to their employees (40.9%), awarding one-time bonuses (39.3%), and implementing diversity, equity, and inclusion trainings and strategies (39.2%).
- Respondents identified other notable strategies, including offering career advancement opportunities, expanding mental health benefits and wellness programs, and notifying employees about their eligibility for the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program.
- Survey participants also recommended numerous systemic reforms that would help many
  organizations. These include adopting a focus on equity, expanding the professional pipeline
  through educational programs, confronting burnout through wellness programs, and
  encouraging funders to cover the full costs of programs.
- Public policy recommendations of general applicability call for expansion of student loan forgiveness and greater investment in affordable housing – two barriers that hinder the ability of workers to take jobs in the nonprofit sector.
- The most robust area of recommendations focuses on reforming the grantmaking and contracting systems of governments at all levels.

# Introduction

In late 2021, the National Council of Nonprofits' networks conducted a nationwide survey examining the impact of pandemic-related nonprofit workforce shortages. <u>A report analyzing responses</u> from more than 1,000 nonprofits from all 50 states revealed significant adverse consequences to the public and nonprofits alike. The report demonstrated that nonprofits were enduring intolerably high job vacancy rates, resulting in growing waiting lists for services or the denial of services altogether.

Nonprofits were clear on the causes for the job vacancies: salary competition from the for-profit and governmental sectors, the inability of potential job applicants to find child care, challenges caused by problems related to government grants and contracts, and stress and burnout. A human services provider in Vermont summarized the sector-wide workforce crisis by sharing their condition: "We are overworked, underpaid, and see no relief in sight. At this point, we're just hoping to survive."

The news media and the public took notice of the nonprofit workforce crisis, and policymakers at the local, state, and federal levels, to their credit, adopted some reforms aimed at alleviating the pressures.

That initial report proposed changes to public policies and identified practical mitigating steps for nonprofits to consider. An update in July 2022 highlighted some positive actions governments at all levels had taken to alleviate workforce shortages. It also underscored that for nonprofits to continue providing essential services to the public, they needed more resources and approaches to recruit and retain employees.

In April 2023, the networks of the National Council of Nonprofits conducted a second nationwide survey to secure the latest, comprehensive information about the nonprofit workforce. The following report analyzes the more than 1,600 responses collected from all 50 states and the District of Columbia. It also references data from reports by state associations of nonprofits and other charitable nonprofits to present the most current information on the challenges nonprofits face. Where appropriate, the report compares the 2023 survey data with results from the 2021 survey.

The first section of the report lays out the survey data on staff vacancies at charitable nonprofits. The next section explains why the data matter by analyzing the impact on those organizations' abilities to serve individuals in their communities and advance their missions. The third section identifies numerous factors leading to workforce shortages, including salary competition, stress and burnout, challenges caused by government grants and contracts, and other shortcomings such as a lack of available, affordable child care. A fourth section briefly addresses external factors such as natural disasters and the end of relief policies that affect nonprofit employment. The final section identifies a range of solutions that individual organizations, philanthropy, and policymakers can take to limit the

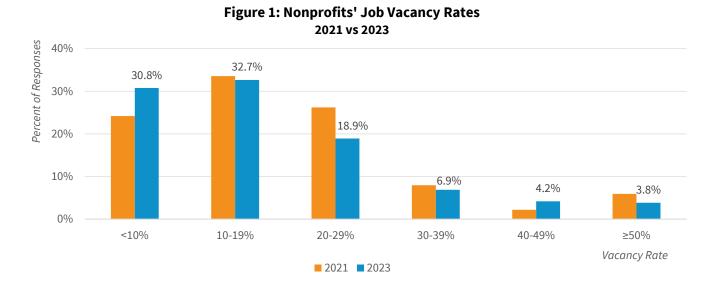
risks to the public when charitable organizations do not have adequate staffing. Throughout, the report presents comments from survey respondents – identified as "Data In Context – Insights from Frontline Nonprofits" – to tell the story beyond the data. In total, the data and comments present a compelling narrative on the state of nonprofit workforce recruitment and retention in the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The survey asked respondents to provide additional comments that would put their responses in context. The survey also gave participants the option of remaining anonymous or of having the name of their organization identified in this report. All quotes herein honor the respondents' selections; those requesting anonymity are identified only by state and subsector where appropriate.

# The Scope of the Problem

The challenge of nonprofit job vacancies is widespread and troublingly high, according to survey responses in both nationwide surveys. Three out of four respondents report job vacancies (74.6% in 2023, 76% in 2021). This finding in 2021 generated considerable attention from the news media, the public, and policymakers and resulted in greater awareness of the correlation between nonprofit staffing and wellbeing in communities.<sup>2</sup> By comparison, only a third (33.0%) of private businesses had job vacancies at any time between August 2021 and September 2022, according to U.S. Department of Labor data.<sup>3</sup>

The severity of the vacancy crisis at nonprofits appears to have ebbed slightly in the ensuing 18 months since the 2021 survey, yet a third (33.8%) of the responding nonprofits with vacancies reported 20% or more of their jobs were going unfilled. Nearly another third (32.7%) identified vacancy rates of between 10% and 19%.



The survey separately asked participants whether they were experiencing greater or fewer vacancies now compared to before the pandemic. More than half of the respondents (51.7%) reported experiencing more job vacancies, while only 6.5% indicated they had fewer vacancies (see Table 1, below on page 6).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> For the broader impact on communities, see <u>Nonprofit Workforce Shortages: A Crisis that Affects Everyone</u>, National Council of Nonprofits, July 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, "More than half of establishments with job vacancies in 2021–22 had fewer than 10 employees," <u>The Economics Daily</u>, Chart Data, Aug. 4, 2023.

The concerns about the widespread and high job vacancy rates are compounded when considering which jobs most frequently go unfilled. The data show that of the nonprofits reporting vacancies, nearly three out of four nonprofits (74.0%) identified program and service delivery positions as vacant, followed by entry-level positions at 41.1%. These positions are more likely to interact with the public the most and require in-person responsibilities, thus aggravating the challenges of providing services while navigating evolving work expectations.

**Program and Service Delivery** 74.0% Entry Level 41.1% Administration and Human Resources 31.7% Development and Fundraising 25.2% 12.5% Senior Management Communications 11.1% 0% 10% 20% 60% 70% 80% 30% 40% 50% Percent of Responses

Figure 2: Nonprofit Job Categories with Vacancies in April 2023

Number of Nonprofits that Identified Job Categories: 1,222

Nonprofits expressed concerns in their comments about specific unfilled direct services positions, including nurses, clinicians, social workers/counselors, and other healthcare staff. Nonprofit leaders also said they are short on specialists in finance and accounting, interns, maintenance staff, and grant writers.

# Why It Matters: The Consequences to People, Communities, and Missions

When nonprofits cannot secure the workforce needed to provide vital services, the public suffers. Data from this survey and others show that along with increased demands for services, there are longer waiting lists, reduced services, and sometimes elimination of services.<sup>4</sup> When any of these happen, the ripple effects cannot be ignored: communities lose access to food, shelter, mental health care, and other vital services on which people depend.

## **Delays in Services - Long Waiting Lists**

The 2023 survey asked nonprofits whether demand had outpaced their ability to immediately deliver services. One out of four respondents (24.4%) indicated they had waiting lists of more than a week, with 11.5% of all respondents reporting waiting lists of one to four weeks, and 12.9% with waiting

lists of more than a month long, some stretching out longer than a year. Another 20.7% reported that waiting lists vary by program, so they could not give a precise estimate. Those numbers represent some recovery from the troubling rates reported in the 2021 survey (e.g., 26% of responding organizations in 2021 reported having a waiting list that was more than a month long).

The survey sought to clarify the interplay between workforce shortages and length of waiting lists. It first

"Months long delays in receiving assessments and services can have a long-term negative impact on a child's developmental potential. This time cannot be 'made up.'"

Human services provider in Connecticut

asked whether the organization had either "more" or "fewer" job vacancies compared to before the pandemic. Next, the survey asked whether the organization's current waiting lists were "longer" or

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Other recent studies on the condition of the nonprofit workforce include <u>State of Nonprofits in 2023</u>; <u>What Funders Need to Know</u>, Center for Effective Philanthropy, June 22, 2023 (based on a Jan.-Feb. 2023 survey: "Almost half of nonprofit leaders said staff-related issues were the biggest challenge facing their organization. ... These issues included managing staff capacity and avoiding burnout, hiring and staffing, retaining staff, paying equitably, and raising salaries. The obstacles leaders face internally are connected with external factors, such as the economic outlook, lingering impacts of the pandemic, and demand for services"); *Salary & Benefits Survey, 2023*, Nonprofit Association of the Midlands (40% of nonprofits in Nebraska and western lowa responding to an early 2023 survey reported that their job vacancies lasted longer than two months and up to 12 months); *New Jersey Nonprofits – Trends and Outlook 2023*, New Jersey Center for Nonprofits (based on a Feb. 2023 survey: "The biggest obstacles to filling vacancies included difficulty offering competitive compensation due to budget constraints or lack of funding; trouble recruiting credentialed employees for positions that require them; and competition for employment from other sectors."); and *State of the Sector – 2023*; New York Council of Nonprofits (in responses to a Jan. 2023 survey, "61% of members identifying hiring as a challenge cite the primary reason as an inability to offer competitive salaries due to budget constraints. Some nonprofits, like those addressing food insecurity and substance abuse – have seen need for their services increase in the last two years, with no sign of subsiding.").

"shorter" compared to before the pandemic. The results reveal that nonprofits continue to experience the consequences of the dual health and economic emergencies caused by Covid-19. Greater than half (51.7%) of respondents reported experiencing more job vacancies, while only 6.5% reported fewer. The views on waiting lists were similarly dramatic: more than a quarter (28.1%) said their waiting lists had grown since March 2020, while only 2.4% reported shorter waiting lists.

Table 1: Vacancies and Waiting Lists in April 2023 Compared to March 2020

	Changes Observed in April 2023 vs. March 2020	Percent of Responses In 2023
Vacancies	More job vacancies	51.7%
	Fewer job vacancies	6.5%
	No change to vacancies	9.0%
Waiting	Longer waiting list for services	28.1%
List	Shorter waiting list for services	2.4%
	No change to waiting list	13.1%
Other	Other	5.1%
	Did not select an option	25.4%

The data in Table 1 reveal a strong correlation between the number of job vacancies and the length of the waiting lists, with more job vacancies connected to longer waiting lists and fewer vacancies linked to shorter waiting lists. The data reinforce common sense: if an entity does not have enough employees to meet the demand for goods or services, then its waiting list gets longer.

Just as the charitable nonprofit sector is not monolithic, the impact of nonprofit job vacancies on the public can vary by populations served:

- More than half of nonprofits primarily serving people with disabilities (56.1%) said they had more vacancies now than before the pandemic.
- More than half of nonprofits primarily serving people of color (53.1%) reported experiencing more job vacancies now compared to before the pandemic.
- Nearly half of nonprofits based in rural communities (47.1%) indicated more job vacancies now.
- For nonprofits primarily serving the LGBTQ+ community, almost half (44.8%) indicated having more vacancies now compared to before March 2020

Similarly, nonprofits primarily serving these distinct populations reported having longer waiting lists compared to before the pandemic:

- 40.2% of nonprofits primarily serving people with disabilities reported longer waiting lists.
- 29.1% of nonprofits primarily serving the LGBTQ+ community reported longer waiting lists.
- 28.8% of nonprofits primarily serving people of color reported longer waiting lists.

### DATA IN CONTEXT - NONPROFIT TESTIMONIALS

In response to the survey's open-ended questions, nonprofit professionals throughout the country expressed clear testimony on the adverse impact of the shortage of nonprofit employees on the people and communities they are dedicated to serving.

The Public Suffers Delays in Services Due to Waiting Lists

- A mental health provider in Oregon with a wait time for an initial assessment of four-to-five weeks painted a stark picture: "Individuals have to wait to get into services instead of being able to start services when they are ready. Weeks later, many are no longer ready to start services, or they may have relapsed, overdosed, or ended up in jail during that wait time."
- A New Hampshire healthcare provider lamented that having such a long waiting list is "essentially a refusal of services for mental health care."
- A human services provider in Minnesota shared that they have not had waiting lists in the past, but instead they are forced "to deny admissions to programs because we know we can't hire labor resources to provide the services."

The Public is Forced to Travel Further for Services

 To avoid resorting to a waiting list, a nonprofit professional in Virginia wrote they had to consolidate their service locations, but that change caused challenges for individuals furthest from those locations, which essentially denies services if someone cannot get to the alternative locations.

The Public Suffers Loss of Needed Services

- For Bridging the Gap in Oregon, workforce shortages mean that "thousands are without resources or left in dangerous situations (especially those who are in a [domestic violence] or sex trafficking situation) simply because we don't have the funds, capacity, or staff."
- A child care provider in Washington state reported it cannot open certain programs to "full capacity" because of a lack of staff, leaving working families with fewer options.

- An education nonprofit in Delaware had to cease their middle school and sports programs, leaving students without after school or summer school options.
- A heartbroken human services provider in California, recognizing that the action they needed
  to take would lead to a reduction in services, has been forced to refrain from seeking "new
  grant opportunities because we are not confident we can hire new staff to provide new
  services." For nonprofits with government grants and contracts as a significant part of their
  revenue, this puts their financial sustainability at risk.

# Barriers to Nonprofits Retaining and Recruiting Employees

When asked in the 2023 survey to identify the major factors affecting their ability to recruit and retain employees, most respondents selected these five factors:

- Salary competition is the most frequent factor limiting the nonprofit workforce, according to nearly three out of four respondents (72.2%).
- Two-thirds of the respondents (66.3%) identified budget constraints/insufficient funds, which, of course, is related to salary competition.
- More than half of the nonprofits responding (50.2%) pointed to stress and burnout.
- One out of five respondents (20.6%) said challenges caused by government grants and contracts were a major factor contributing to workforce shortages.
- The lack of available, affordable child care continues to be a major problem, according to 14.6% of respondents, although that's an improvement from 2021, when 23% identified it as a major impediment to nonprofit employment.

**Table 2: Factors Affecting Nonprofit Recruitment and Retention** 

Factor Affecting Recruitment and Retention	Number of Responses	Percent of Responses		
Salary competition	1,183	72.2%		
Budget constraints/insufficient funds	1,087	66.3%		
Stress/burnout	823	50.2%		
Challenges caused by government grants/contracts	338	20.6%		
Other	332	20.3%		
Lack of child care	239	14.6%		
Not Sure	166	10.1%		
COVID-19 and vaccinations	107	6.5%		

The following section of the report presents these five major factors affecting nonprofit retention and recruitment of employees, listed in descending order of frequency in which they were reported. It also puts the data in context by sharing insights provided by frontline nonprofits when they completed the survey. As will be shown, some factors are felt more acutely in some subsectors, as with the impact of government grants and contracts in the human services subsector, and in

individual states, such as where natural disasters have hit.<sup>5</sup> This section also presents additional key challenges that nonprofits identified that make it difficult for them to operate at full capacity.

# 1. Salary Competition

As with the 2021 survey, nonprofits reported that salary competition is the greatest factor affecting their recruitment and retention efforts. The 2023 survey results found that 72.2% of nonprofits confront this challenge. Breaking down the data further reveals:

- Smaller organizations face greater salary competition challenges: More than half (56.0%) of nonprofits with an annual operating budget of less than \$5 million which make up 97% of all charitable nonprofits<sup>7</sup> reported they struggle with salary competition, presumably because they are less likely to have the financial resources to offer more competitive salaries.
- **Subsector differences:** Providers of human services account for almost a third (30.1%) of all nonprofits reporting salary competition as a factor affecting recruitment and retention.
- **Service area differences:** More than one out of four (26.2%) nonprofits primarily serving rural communities identified salary competition as a challenge.
- **Geographic differences:** Looking at the responses by nonprofits in states that identified salary competition as a major challenge, nearly nine out of ten (88.6%) nonprofits in Connecticut are struggling with salary competition, followed by Pennsylvania (86.8%), New York (82.2%), North Carolina (81.0%), and Illinois (80.4%).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The National Council of Nonprofits has prepared state-specific reports for the 23 states with at least 25 survey responses. Links to these individual reports can be found in Appendix A.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See Nonprofit Workforce Shortages: A Crisis that Affects Everyone, National Council of Nonprofits, Dec. 13, 2021.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Nonprofit Impact Matters, National Council of Nonprofits, Fall 2019.

Table 3: States with the Highest Percentage of Nonprofits that Reported Salary Competition as a Factor Affecting Recruitment and Retention

Ranking	State	Percent of Nonprofits in the State That Reported This Factor
1	Connecticut	88.6%
2	Pennsylvania	86.8%
3	New York	82.2%
4	North Carolina	81.0%
5	Illinois	80.4%

### DATA IN CONTEXT - NONPROFIT TESTIMONIALS

- A human services provider in Illinois increased the starting salary for its direct service staff by 19% since 2020, but it is still having trouble with recruitment since "other organizations have been able to raise their starting salaries even more."
- For a mental health provider in Utah, grantmaking practices contribute to challenges offering
  higher salaries: "We need funders to relax on their expectations around salaries. Our case
  managers need to be paid more to make a living wage but ... funders don't think case
  managers should be making so much."
- An arts, culture, and humanities nonprofit in Minnesota said their biggest salary competition is
  from "larger nonprofits, the for-profit sector, and government." They explained that with their
  annual operating budget of \$1 million, the organization just "cannot compete," especially
  when "philanthropic dollars are not keeping pace with inflationary pressures."
- Of course, hiking pay to remain competitive with other sectors creates sustainability challenges for nonprofits. As a child care provider in Washington shared, recent salary increases, bonuses, and increased benefits for employees have impacted their unrestricted reserves, and this year they will operate at a loss, which has forced them to increase their fees by nearly 10%.

### 2. Budget Constraints

Budget constraints prevent two out of three nonprofits (66.3%) from raising salaries, hiring more staff, or upgrading equipment, according to survey responses. This all-too-common barrier limiting nonprofits from overcoming their staffing challenges becomes even more pronounced for certain nonprofits.

 Differences based on budget size: Lack of financial resources is an even more severe challenge for nonprofits with annual operating budgets between \$100,001 and \$500,000; nearly three out of four (73.2%) nonprofits in this category reported budget constraints as a factor affecting their recruitment and retention of employees.

- **Subsector differences:** Nearly four out of five respondents (78.6%) in arts, culture, and humanities said they struggle with budget constraints when it comes to employment, as do two out of three (66.9%) human services providers.
- **Geographic differences:** The greatest concentration of nonprofits identifying budget constraints as a factor in their workforce shortages were based in these states: Connecticut (84.1%), New Jersey (78.4%), Arizona (75.0%), Michigan (74.1%), and New York (73.8%).

Table 4: States with the Highest Percentage of Nonprofits that Reported Budget Constraints as a Factor Affecting Recruitment and Retention

Ranking	State	Percent of Nonprofits in the State That Reported This Factor
1	Connecticut	84.1%
2	New Jersey	78.4%
3	Arizona	75.0%
4	Michigan	74.1%
5	New York	73.8%

### DATA IN CONTEXT - NONPROFIT TESTIMONIALS

- A healthcare provider in Alaska cited "budgeting constraints" and "award stagnation" as
  factors. That organization reported having not seen funding increases in more than ten years,
  leaving them vulnerable to changes in wages and cost of living.
- A human services provider in Nebraska acknowledged that they do not have vacancies, but only because they were forced to eliminate staff positions they could not afford to pay.
- A human services provider in Oregon noted that budget constraints make it "difficult" to pay a
  competitive salary for the positions they need to operate, leaving staff feeling like they are
  "stretched too thin, not accomplishing all that they need to, etc." As will be seen, this challenge
  also leads to stress and burnout.
- In Illinois, a mental health provider recognized the need to provide even more services to the public, but they cannot add more staff due to budget constraints.

### 3. Stress and Burnout

In a vicious cycle, virtually all of the factors identified in the survey contribute to the stress and burnout of the nonprofit workforce that was reported by half of the survey respondents (50.2%) as contributing to difficulties in retaining and attracting employees. Not having enough resources for basic operations, let alone to offer competitive salaries, can be demoralizing. Challenges arising from government grants and contracts, discussed in the next section, typically extract a personal toll on employees because agreements to provide essential services to the public often do not pay the full costs to deliver those services, impose excessive bureaucratic burdens, and cause financial strains by delaying payments. But these factors are not the only sources of stress and burnout.

Workforce shortages themselves erode the nonprofit workforce as job vacancies shift workload burdens onto remaining staff. When an employee leaves, their responsibilities get transferred to at least one person, creating heavier loads that add stress, fueling further burnout. When nonprofits cannot hire employees soon enough, the onus on remaining employees makes it more likely that they, in turn, will leave the organization. These strains are especially heavy as the public's demand for more services continues to rise. The downward cycle of vacancies causing burnout/stress causing vacancies will continue until significant remedial action is taken – whether in the workplace or through policy changes.

- **Differences based on budget size**: Three out of ten nonprofits (30.6%) with annual operating budgets below \$1 million identified stress and burnout as a factor affecting their ability to retain and recruit employees.
- **Subsector differences**: The challenges of burnout and stress are particularly acute for nonprofit human services providers, which comprised 29.6% of all survey participants identifying stress and burnout as a factor.
- **Populations served**: Of the nonprofits reporting stress and burnout, 24.9% primarily served people with disabilities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See, for example, recent survey results in New Jersey, where "Nearly four-fifths (78%) of surveyed nonprofits reported that demand for services rose in 2022, but only 51% said that their funding increased in the same period." *New Jersey – Trends and Outlook 2023*, New Jersey Center for Nonprofits. The increased demands are, in fact, a nationwide phenomenon. A Federal Reserve survey in August 2022 found that about 70% of nonprofits reported an increase in demand for their services, with 43% noting a significant increase. See <u>Perspectives from Main Street: The Impact of COVID-19 on Low- to Moderate-Income Communities and the Entities Serving Them</u>, Nishesh Chalise, Violeta Gutkowski, and Heidi Kaplan, Federal Reserve, November 2022; see also <u>Federal Reserve Data Reveals Continuing Disruption from COVID-19 Pandemic Among Organizations and Communities</u>, Amy Silver O'Leary, National Council of Nonprofits, Nov. 19, 2022.

• **Geographic differences**: More than two out of three nonprofits responding in five states reported stress and burnout as a major cause of their workforce shortages: Connecticut (77.3%), Wyoming (67.6%), Alaska (66.0%), Oregon (63.4%), and Illinois (63%).

Table 5: States with the Highest Percentage of Nonprofits that Reported Stress/Burnout as a Factor Affecting Recruitment and Retention

Ranking	State	Percent of Nonprofits in the State That Reported This Factor
1	Connecticut	77.3%
2	Wyoming	67.6%
3	Alaska	66.0%
4	Oregon	63.4%
5	Illinois	63.0%

### DATA IN CONTEXT - NONPROFIT TESTIMONIALS9

- A nonprofit in New York reported that staff burnout is increasing since they have to "keep pace with the increase in referrals and the program capacity demands of our funders."
- A Montana nonprofit noted that the employees struggling the most with burnout due to their workloads are upper-level staff, while the greatest concentration of vacancies are entry-level positions, which makes it harder to operate than before the pandemic.
- A mental health provider in Utah observed a "trend of greater rates of existing burnout from new hires, presumably from world events."
- Swan Valley Connections in Montana shared an experience many nonprofits are also facing:
   "We just can't keep up with the need for fundraising, the increasing demands for our services and classes, the rate of pay that we need to pay people, and the cost of rent."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Other observers confirm the heavy toll on the nonprofit workforce. For instance, the President and CEO of the California Wellness Foundation recently shared her observations about the current condition of the nonprofit workforce: "Folks are exhausted and stretched as they strive to meet the needs of the communities they serve, while at the same time struggling with the day-to-day pressures on their teams and wondering how to keep their organizations and their people vibrant and strong." See *Funders Can Do More: 5 Next Best Practices*, Judy Belk, Center for Effective Philanthropy, July 11, 2023.

### 4. Government Grants and Contracting Challenges

Ineffective grantmaking and contracting systems by governments at all levels that impose inefficiencies, financial hardships, and operational instability have bedeviled charitable nonprofits for decades before the Covid-19 pandemic. Nationwide research has long documented multiple systemic and fundamental problems that charitable organizations routinely endure when performing services to the public on behalf of governments pursuant to written agreements. <sup>10</sup> Those challenges consistently fall into five categories:

- 1) failure to pay full costs,
- 2) needlessly complex application processes,
- 3) overly burdensome reporting requirements,
- 4) inappropriate mid-stream changes to grants and contracts, and
- 5) late payments.11

Charitable organizations continue to point to problems with government grants and contracting as exacerbating the nonprofit workforce shortage crisis.<sup>12</sup> This year, one out of five respondents (20.6%) identified challenges and limitations resulting from government grants and contracts as factors causing difficulty for nonprofits to retain and recruit staff.

Governments routinely set artificially low limits on how much they will reimburse nonprofits for salaries for employees doing the work governments have hired nonprofits to perform. These and other government-nonprofit grantmaking and contracting problems generate significant employment barriers for certain parts of the nonprofit community, according to survey responses, including:

• **Subsector differences:** Within the survey population, the subsector that most often contracts with governments to provide services – human service providers – represent 37.0% of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> See, e.g., research posted at <u>Government-Nonprofit Contracting Reform</u>, Council of Nonprofits website, updated June 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> These five challenges for nonprofits with government grants and contracts are not mutually exclusive and often overlap, as vividly shown by a recent survey of nonprofits in New York. The New York Council of Nonprofits (NYCON) surveyed its members in January 2023. Of the 67% of NYCON members reporting contracts or grants with the state government, "80% said New York State funding doesn't cover the cost of delivering the service or program expected by the state," while "62% of state-funded members said they experienced delays in payment from one month to more than a year," which forced 25% to use a line of credit due to a delay in receiving state funding. See *State of the Sector – 2023*, New York Council of Nonprofits.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> The eight examples presented in the 2021 report, <u>The Scope and Impact of Nonprofit Workforce Shortages</u>, are only a sampling of the scores of comments respondents submitted to the 2021 survey.

nonprofits that report a connection between government grant and contracting challenges and job vacancies.

- Populations served: Nearly four out of ten nonprofits (39.9%) that primarily serve Black,
  Indigenous, and People of Color communities reported problems resulting from government
  grants and contracts. Similarly, almost a third of nonprofits (30.5%) primarily serving people
  with disabilities point to problems with employee recruitment and retention caused largely by
  problems with government grants and contracts.
- **Geographic differences:** One out of three nonprofits operating in rural communities (33.7%) said government grantmaking and contracting challenges are responsible for their workforce challenges.

Nonprofits in certain states report greater strains causing workforce shortages due to challenges with government grants/contracting. The states with the highest percentage of nonprofits reporting workforce shortages attributed in part to government grants and contracting practices are Connecticut (40.9), New York (31.8%), Pennsylvania (30.2%), Vermont (26.9%), and New Jersey (24.3%). Recent research by the state associations of nonprofits in Oregon and Washington identify specific grantmaking and contracting challenges and offered important policy solutions.<sup>13</sup>

Table 6: States with the Highest Percentage of Nonprofits that Reported Government Grants and Contracting Challenges as a Factor Affecting Recruitment and Retention

	State	Percent of Nonprofits in the State That Reported This Factor
1	Connecticut	40.9%
2	New York	31.8%
3	Pennsylvania	30.2%
4	Vermont	26.9%
5	New Jersey	24.3%

### DATA IN CONTEXT - NONPROFIT TESTIMONIALS

 St. Paul's Center in New York reported that funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has not increased from their original agreement issued four years ago.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> See the Nonprofit Association of Oregon (<u>Services, Systems, and Solutions: A Study of Government to Nonprofit Contracts in Oregon</u>, 2022) and the Nonprofit Association of Washington (<u>2022 Government Contracting Report</u>).

- Another nonprofit in New York that primarily earns revenue performing services on behalf of
  governments stated that their main challenge is the grant timeline: "when grants are for only
  one year, more time is spent hiring and training than on the impact we are trying to make."
- For a mental health provider in Alaska, their grants "for the most part are flat once again, not even cost of living or inflationary adjustments in them." They concluded that the "continued 'do more for less' mantra is wearing quite thin."
- A Michigan human services provider found that one of the biggest barriers to hiring and retaining staff is the "complex compliance and reporting requirements" of government grants that leave staff overworked.
- In Connecticut, a nonprofit observed that government grants have "continuously" increased the amount and frequency of reporting.

"Staff said in exit interviews that burdensome data entry requirements of government contracts and high expectations from community members were the two most common factors leading to burnout/dissatisfaction with work."

Human services provider in Minnesota

- amount and frequency of reporting, but they are seeing "no increase" in funding to cover growing expenses to fulfill these administrative requirements.
- A mental health provider in Maryland found it difficult to raise wages to recruit and retain staff due to "budget constraints from Medicaid reimbursement by the government."
- A nonprofit in Oregon reports that one-year grants serve as disincentives for hiring because job
  candidates do not want to work for an organization with "insecure funding," and many funding
  regulations are "too restrictive" on administrative costs.

### 5. Child care

The 2021 survey found that nearly a quarter of respondents (23%) stated that the inability to find child care affected nonprofit employee recruitment and retention. Comments from the nonprofits completing the survey pointed to the two-pronged challenge related to child care. First, nonprofit child care providers expressed difficulty attracting and retaining staff. Second, parents who could not find available, affordable child care for their children were not able to take job offers from nonprofits.

Subsequent research confirmed these challenges. A February 2022 survey found that 39% of women caregivers had left the workforce or reduced their work hours since the pandemic began; 83% of

women in the survey said they could not afford to stop working. <sup>14</sup> Bureau of Labor Statistics data show that more than one child care worker in 10 had not returned to their pre-pandemic jobs by mid-2022, creating a shortage of nearly 100,000 workers. <sup>15</sup>

In response to the April 2023 nonprofit survey, 14.6% of nonprofits reported lack of child care as a factor affecting recruitment and retention of employees. While this response is less daunting than in the 2021 survey, the testimonials from child care providers and other nonprofits illustrate that significant challenges continue, reinforcing the importance of child care in the economy and communities.

- **Subsector differences:** Human services providers are also affected by a lack of child care and made up 32.6% of responses that point to a lack of child care as a factor.
- **Populations served:** For nonprofits primarily serving Black, Indigenous, and People of Color, access to child care is especially challenging: one-third (33.5%) of these nonprofits cited a lack of child care as a reason they cannot fill vacancies. Nonprofits primarily serving rural communities and people with disabilities reported similar rates of 31.4% and 30.5%, respectively.
- **Geographic differences:** Nonprofits in Alaska (35.8%), Oregon (27.7%), Maine (22.0%), Montana (20.6%), and Vermont (19.2%) posted the highest rates of nonprofits identifying child care access and affordability as a factor affecting their recruitment and retention of employees.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Forced Out of Work: The Pandemic's Persistent Effects on Women and Work, Fact Sheet, RAPID, Stanford University, June 30, 2022. See also, <u>Jobs Aplenty</u>, <u>but a Shortage of Care Keeps Many Women From Benefiting</u>, Lydia DePillis, Jeanna Smialek, and Ben Casselman, *New York Times*, July 7, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, <u>All Employees, Child Day Care Services</u> [CES6562440001], retrieved from FRED, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, July 8, 2022.

Table 7: States with the Highest Percentage of Nonprofits that Reported Child Care as a Factor Affecting Recruitment and Retention

Ranking	State	Percent of Nonprofits in the State That Reported This Factor
1	Alaska	35.8%
2	Oregon	27.7%
3	Maine	22.0%
4	Montana	20.6%
5	Vermont	19.2%

### DATA IN CONTEXT - NONPROFIT TESTIMONIALS

- Columbus Early Learning Centers in Ohio illustrated the challenge based on their experience:
   "Families cannot work without access to child care, and the young children are missing valuable pre-kindergarten education that is proven to foster school success, especially levelling the playing field for those born into generational poverty."
- A child care provider in Alaska summarized the challenge this way: child care shortages "further strain labor markets and economic recovery."
- A nonprofit child care provider in Texas said, "competition is tight," which is driven largely by salary competition. They explained, "it's challenging to compete if applicants can earn up to \$5 more an hour working in a field other than child care." But "increasing rates to cover salary increases results in making our services unaffordable."
- A child care provider in Oregon noted that if child care centers stop receiving subsidies, many will close, thereby creating a crisis in many communities. These providers called for funding to increase wages and cover operating costs without increasing tuition.

### **Other Factors**

The 2023 nonprofit survey invited nonprofits to elaborate on any challenges they face in addition to the ones identified in the survey document. One in five (20.3%) survey respondents chose this response option and provided insights. Here are a few of the challenges they expressed:

- Some nonprofits shared that it is usually not just one thing, but the cumulative effect of multiple factors that cause employees to leave.
- An arts nonprofit in Minnesota has seen turnover among long-serving employees as a greater issue and acknowledged that some employees who left had been "long overdue" for raises and adequate compensation. The nonprofit also shared the impact of those departures:

- "Losing institutional knowledge has created gaps in understanding and diminished the strength of relationships our organization has in the community."
- Some employees leave their jobs and move from the community because of the increased costs of housing as they search for more affordable housing options. This same barrier in turn prevents job candidates from accepting job offers and relocating.
- Hiring delays caused by nonprofits conducting background checks cause many impatient job candidates to take other positions rather than wait.
- There is also a shortage of bilingual employees, survey participants reported. APOYO in Washington elaborated on this challenge, noting that many of their bilingual employees attend university, and then leave the region after graduating.
- Wage gaps are also a pay equity issue. As one nonprofit pointed out, since BIPOC staff "often
  do not have the financial support structures in place that white people do," and without more
  financial resources, many nonprofits cannot recruit a more diverse workforce. A housing
  nonprofit in Oregon commented that pay equity has been cited as a reason for employees,
  specifically women, to find work elsewhere.

# **External Factors Impacting Nonprofits**

Going beyond the scope of the earlier survey, the 2023 nonprofit survey sought to quantify how much three external factors have impacted nonprofit employment challenges: 1) charitable giving; 2) natural disasters; and 3) the end of enhanced benefits provided during the declared public health emergency. The results vary widely depending on, among other things, the respondent's subsector, geographic location, and demographics of people served.

### 1. Charitable Giving

Charitable giving comprises only about a seventh (14%) of resources upon which the charitable sector relies, <sup>16</sup> yet rises and declines in giving can greatly affect whether individual organizations can expand to meet increased demand, maintain current programming, or reduce or shut down operations. Responses to the 2023 survey show that many nonprofits are seeing declines or the same rates of donations, which over time will make their ability to operate at full capacity more difficult. In survey responses, seven out of ten nonprofits (70.5%) anticipate charitable donations to decrease or remain flat in 2023. About the same number of nonprofit respondents (68.7%) anticipate the number of donors to decrease or remain flat.

Their anticipation is based on well-documented giving trends: last year, charitable giving by corporations, foundations, individuals, and bequests to support the work of nonprofits decreased by 3.4% in current dollars and 10.5% adjusted for inflation, according to the latest annual Giving USA report. Giving by individuals in 2022 fell by an astonishing rate of 13.4% after factoring in inflation, coinciding with federal government tax policies changes. This news is especially troubling considering the challenges nonprofits face with workforce shortages and decreasing revenue sources.

This survey finding also comes at a time when inflation has caused higher costs for services and demand for those services continues to rise. Also, according to the Nonprofit Finance Fund, between FY2019 and FY2021, demand for services significantly increased for 52% of nonprofits. As a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Nonprofit Impact Matters, National Council of Nonprofits, Fall 2019.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Giving USA: Total U.S. charitable giving declined in 2022 to \$499.33 billion following two years of record generosity, Giving USA news release, June 20, 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Inflation ate away 13.96% of buying power on a compounded basis the last two years (7% in 2021 and a further 6.5% in 2022), yet donations did not keep pace to cover those higher costs. See Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, The Economics Daily, <u>Consumer Price Index: 2022 in Review</u>, Jan. 17, 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> <u>2022 State of the Nonprofit Sector Survey</u>, Nonprofit Finance Fund, June 2022.

result, nonprofits expect giving to decline in real terms while the needs of residents remain high and are going up.

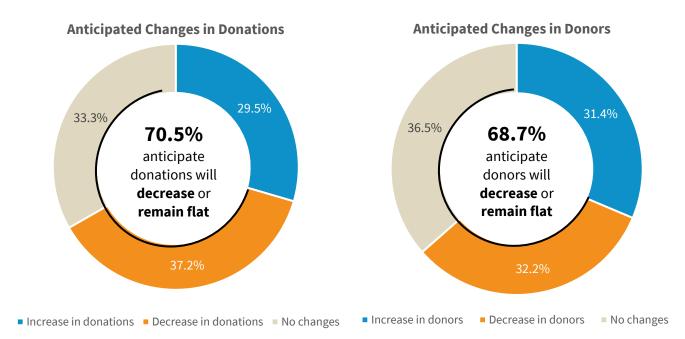


Figure 3: Nonprofits' Anticipated Changes in Donations and Donors for 2023

### DATA IN CONTEXT - NONPROFIT TESTIMONIALS

- A nonprofit in Florida noted that it's "hard to find donors due to competition, less gifts from donors, changing donor demographics and giving patterns."
- For a nonprofit in Tennessee, the donor and grant pool have "all dropped off the scale."
- A human services provider in Michigan has not been able to find funding for capital improvement projects, so they cannot afford "refurbishing or new construction" for muchneeded work on aging buildings.
- An Illinois nonprofit has launched an endowment-building campaign and is finding that many
  of their prospects are "reluctant to make significant pledges or gifts." This is causing a "longer
  and heavier fundraising lift" that decreases the organization's community work and
  programming.
- In Pennsylvania, a human services provider worries that donors are losing trust in the nonprofit sector.

# 2. Impact of Natural Disasters on Nonprofits and Community Service

Residents of communities suffering from natural disasters normally turn to charitable nonprofits for assistance. Too often, they find that the nonprofits where they seek relief are themselves experiencing disruptions while still trying to provide local relief – on top of struggling to recover from the significantly added workloads they endured throughout the pandemic. Natural disasters impact nonprofits in many ways, mainly in increased costs of providing services and higher demand for services, all while staff are impacted in their own lives.

The recent survey asked respondents to share their experiences in providing services during and in the aftermath of disasters and the toll on their operations. As was to be expected, the responses varied depending on where individual nonprofits operate and the frequency and impact of natural disasters in their regions. Overall, most nonprofits (63.0%) reported that the question did not apply to their organization. Among those experiencing an impact, and presumably operating in disaster zones, more than a fifth (21.8%) responded that they experienced increased costs of providing services, and 21.3% saw increased demand for services. One in ten nonprofits (10.4%) acknowledged that staff had been impacted by natural disasters.

**Table 8: Impact of Natural Disasters on Nonprofits** 

Impact of Natural Disasters	Number of Responses	Percent of Responses
Not applicable	1,032	63.0%
Increased costs of providing services/unbudgeted costs	354	21.8%
Increased demand for services	349	21.3%
Staff impacted by natural disasters	170	10.4%
Building/office damage	116	7.1%
Unable to provide services	86	5.2%
Other, please specify	50	3.1%

According to the Center for Disaster Philanthropy, there have been more than 1,028 tornadoes confirmed in the United States as of August 17, 2023, and the year is "stacking up to be one of the highest on record" in terms of fatalities.<sup>20</sup> During the first 32 weeks of 2023, FEMA issued 67 disaster declarations in the United States for natural disasters in **30 states** and more will be expected as hurricane season continues.<sup>21</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> 2023 U.S. Tornadoes, Center for Disaster Philanthropy, updated Aug. 17, 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Declared Disasters, FEMA, accessed August 13, 2023.

As the frequency of major natural disasters increases, so will the economic toll on communities, and the number of nonprofits that must adjust their operations to meet the needs in impacted areas. The three states with the most nonprofit survey responses noting that natural disasters affect their ability to retain and recruit employees – **Oregon**, **Washington**, and **Montana** – made up 23.6% of nonprofits that reported being impacted by natural disasters in some form. Half of Oregon's nonprofits reported at least one way in which their operations were impacted by natural disasters, some of which include wildfires and flooding, a trend that has continued for at least a decade.<sup>22</sup>

### DATA IN CONTEXT - NONPROFIT TESTIMONIALS

- The Canyon Crisis and Resource Center in Oregon reported that the area was "devastated" by wildfires, and the organization has seen an increase in unhoused clients with mental health needs, but not enough available shelters or shelter beds.
- To continue providing youth programs, a nonprofit in Arizona had to reduce their total number of days from May to June because of extreme heat and drought.
- A human services provider in Florida shared that insurance in their state does not cover much, leading to more financial strains.
- Nonprofits in other states are also seeing increases in insurance costs or a withdrawal of insurance providers from their states altogether.<sup>23</sup>

# 3. The End of the Pandemic Public Health Emergency

The survey was in the field in April 2023, shortly before the end of the national public health emergency declaration on May 11, 2023. After the public health emergency expired, many federal and state relief policies were phased out, terminating pandemic relief for tens of millions of people. Consequently, the loss of financial supports mean the public needs even more services as <a href="SNAP">SNAP</a> benefits have been reduced (affecting 30 million people), <a href="Medicaid">Medicaid</a> eligibility changed (cancelling health care insurance for as many as 15 million people), access to free over-the-counter COVID-19 tests for Medicare beneficiaries and no-cost coverage of COVID-19 testing under private insurance were eliminated, and <a href="child care">child care</a> support ends in September, "wiping out 3.2 million slots and \$9 billion in annual parent earnings."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Oregon has had a dozen weather disasters in the past decade, report finds, Drew Costley, Associated Press, Nov. 17, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> <u>State Farm decision to stop issuing homeowners insurance in California may drive up premiums</u>, Katie Nielsen, *CBS Bay Area*, May 30, 2023.

According to survey responses, many nonprofits anticipated that the expiration of those supplemental programs would impact their operations. In fact, 69.1% of survey respondents shared what impact, if any, they expected:

- A human services provider in Washington expressed the worry that the lack of additional funds means "not replacing vacant staff positions, reductions in service, and more potential for staff burnout."
- A respondent in Minnesota anticipated grants challenges: "this will result in additional tracking to manage our grant award and an increased need for additional funds." The response continues, "We expect to see a higher demand for our services from the public when the national COVID-19 public health emergency declaration expires and upon which many federal and state support and relief programs rely because ending government programs doesn't end human needs."

Many nonprofit providers anticipate that Medicaid recipients will lose their insurance and no longer be able to access services.

- A mental health provider in Kentucky explained: "Medicare and Medicaid patients will become
  uninsured, at least for a period of time," and as a result, "they will not be able to receive
  treatment for behavioral, health, or dependency issues, they won't be able to afford COVID
  tests that were free, they may not receive booster vaccinations or a first vaccination if not
  already vaccinated."
- In Montana, access to child care remains a priority, and a provider noted the influx of funding child care received, and the subsequent loss of funding, will impact availability for working parents.

The overall end of relief programs is causing nonprofits further anxiety as they adjust to challenges that remain while supports are going away.

- The Studios of Key West in Florida said they will no longer benefit directly from relief programs, and "participation in our programs, especially by older audiences, appears to be permanently impacted."
- A shelter in Alaska stressed the importance of free COVID-19 testing to prevent outbreaks in their facility and disruptions to their services.
- For a nonprofit in Oregon, the "county and state losing funding has already resulted in cuts to contracts/services."

### **Additional External Challenges and Events**

Finally, the survey invited respondents to elaborate on other challenges and events that go beyond impacting workforce shortages. Many organizations underscored how inflation has affected their operating costs, specifically for utilities and supplies, leaving them with fewer financial resources.

- In Connecticut, a provider of residential programs reported experiencing increased housing costs.
- A housing nonprofit in Maine has seen rising costs of construction materials that directly impact their ability to build homes.
- A new issue for some nonprofits is cybersecurity. Yet, with smaller budgets nonprofits cannot find affordable products and services, much less hire the staff needed to protect their information.

For other nonprofits, legislative changes are making it increasingly difficult to recruit or retain a workforce and continue providing programs and services. Responses included:

- A nonprofit in Florida shared their experience with recent laws enacted in the state: "Our work
  is focused on helping the most vulnerable and on health equity, but the laws being passed
  against race education and the LGBTQIA population are actively challenging our work and the
  work of our partners and governments." They continued, "As a public health organization, the
  anti-science and disinformation campaigns even from our own state government has posed
  significant challenges to provide education and support."
- A Minnesota nonprofit expressed overall "fatigue, fear, and frustration" of and for their employees and the people they serve when it comes to their community's "racism" and "anti-LGBTQ" mentality. Some nonprofits also seek guidance on navigating the political landscape in their community to ensure they remain nonpartisan.

# **Solutions and Recommendations**

Recognizing that the people leading, working in, and volunteering for charitable nonprofits are, by nature, problem solvers, the 2023 survey invited participants to share the solutions they had already implemented or identified for addressing the nonprofit workforce shortages crisis. They provided ample practical solutions and proposed public policy solutions.

# **Practical Solutions Implemented by Nonprofits**

Charitable nonprofits have responded to the workforce shortages crisis by implementing new internal practices and policies to prevent turnover. Two-thirds (66%) of responding nonprofits had **raised salaries**, and more than half (57.7%) had adopted a **remote work** policy for their organizations. Two out of five respondents (40.9%) increased the benefits provided to their employees, more than a third (39.3%) reported paying **one-time bonuses**, and almost the same percentage (39.2%) indicated they had implemented **diversity, equity, and inclusion** trainings and strategies to address systemic issues in the nonprofit sector. Table 9, below, reveals the wide variety of actions nonprofit leaders have been deploying.

**Table 9: Practical Solutions Implemented by Nonprofits** 

Implemented Practices	Number of Responses	Percent of Responses
Salary increases	1,081	66.0%
Remote work options (hybrid, full-time, etc.)	945	57.7%
Benefits increased (health insurance, transportation, etc.)	670	40.9%
One-time bonuses	644	39.3%
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion trainings and strategies	643	39.2%
Career advancement opportunities (training, mentorship, etc.)	586	35.8%
Mental health (expanded benefits, counseling, etc.)	389	23.7%
Wellness programs (4-day workweek, additional time off, retreats, sabbaticals, etc.)	371	22.6%
Notified employees about their eligibility for Public Service Loan Forgiveness	349	21.3%

Implemented Practices	Number of Responses	Percent of Responses		
Signing bonus	271	16.5%		
Not applicable	151	9.2%		
Other	79	4.8%		

One approach used by one out of five nonprofits (21.3%) may be adopted by more charitable nonprofits. When the Supreme Court recently struck down the Biden Administration's plan to cancel up to \$20,000 in student loan debt for some borrowers, it kept the <a href="Public Service Loan Forgiveness">Public Service Loan Forgiveness</a> (PSLF) program intact. That program allows borrowers who work full-time for charitable nonprofits to earn federal student loan debt forgiveness after working 10 years for a charitable nonprofit or government and making 120 qualifying monthly payments under a qualifying repayment plan.

Nonprofits can use this program as a powerful inducement to attract employees and incentivize them to remain in the sector. 24

In their open-ended responses, survey participants identified other creative options they have utilized, including: an Employee of the Month bonus, quarterly retention bonuses instead of signing bonuses, student loan repayment assistance, expanded parental and family care paid leave, benefits like wellness and cell phone stipends, and transparency around salary ranges for "more equitable hiring and promotions." An environment and animal welfare nonprofit in North Carolina reported making "significant" changes to benefits and culture because they are "deeply committed to DEI and because we need to tool up for a new workforce reality."

Recognizing burnout and stress as key factors in employees leaving organizations, some nonprofits around the country have modeled creative approaches to ease stress and reduce burnout. For example, the Montana Nonprofit Association piloted a <u>four-day work week</u>, which it has since adopted, that maintains pay while promoting greater efficiency. This summer, Nonprofit New York hosted a training session, <u>Anti-Burnout Culture: Strategies to Prioritize Employee Wellbeing</u>. Learn more about creative approaches nonprofits across the country have been using to combat stress and burnout. On the property of the property of

**Impact of American Rescue Plan Act Funds:** The survey asked respondents to share their nonprofits' success in securing resources from state and local governments that were allocated \$350 billion through the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSLFRF) enacted as part of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> For more about how to use this benefit, see <u>The Public Service Loan Forgiveness program still solidly in place – and more valuable than ever to nonprofits and their employees</u>, Tiffany Gorley Carter and Amy Silver O'Leary, National Council of Nonprofits, July 19, 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> See <u>The Four-Day Work Week: one nonprofit's positive experience</u>, Allison Higgins and Amy Silver O'Leary, National Council of Nonprofits, June 22, 2023.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> See Creative Approaches to the Nonprofit Workforce Shortage, National Council of Nonprofits.

the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). More than three out of four (76.6%) nonprofits provided input on whether they have received ARPA dollars and how those dollars affected workforce challenges. Many nonprofits used funds they received to keep staff employed, provide salary increases and retention bonuses, close funding gaps amid inflation, and purchase personal protective equipment (PPE) to keep operating. Because most of these funds were used for one-time grants or contracts, there has been a concern about sustaining operations into the future.

### **Practical Solutions Proposed by Nonprofits**

As experts in their communities, nonprofits are aware of the challenges and some of the solutions that can be implemented or adjusted to reduce or eliminate their job vacancy rates. Here are several practical solutions proposed by survey participants:

**Covering Full Costs:** Many nonprofits called for more unrestricted funding opportunities that can cover the costs of administrative/development staff salaries, program staff salaries, and staff investments/benefits like professional development.

**Focus on Equity:** A human services provider in Minnesota believes there needs to be more support for nonprofit professionals, "especially those from marginalized communities, to reduce stress, build community, and advance their careers." From a Washington grantee's perspective, working with multiple funders can also lead to salary inequities: "With positions that are fully funded at a higher wage, it creates equity and retention issues because not all funders operate with this philosophy. As a result, two employees could be doing very similar jobs but have a huge discrepancy in their wages paid simply due to the difference in funders."

**Professional Pipeline:** For a human services provider in Kentucky, there are key solutions to increase the pipeline into the nonprofit sector: "For positions that require licensing or master's degrees, we need programs that will help to incentivize people to enter these fields (i.e., social work) and strengthen the pipeline of future professionals. There simply are not enough of them, which has exacerbated challenges." A child care provider in Nevada suggested adjusting requirements for college graduation that include internships at nonprofits, more coordinated industry-specific job fairs, and creating workforce development grants to relieve barriers to employment such as transportation and certifications.

**Small Size Matters:** A human services nonprofit in Nebraska called for a shift in funding philosophy: "Smaller nonprofits fill important gaps and, because of their agility, often can reach folks larger organizations cannot. Both are needed. The trend seems to be financial support heading to larger nonprofits. Smaller nonprofits need to be able to hire/retain high quality staff too."

# **Public Policy Solutions**

The Fall 2021 survey report identified numerous public policy solutions to the nonprofit workforce shortages crisis, including promoting sound investment of American Rescue Plan Act resources, extension of the federal Employee Retention Tax Credit, and expansion of student loan forgiveness, as well as several longstanding reform proposals related to government grants and contracts.<sup>27</sup> A July 2022 update to the initial analysis provided examples of actions taken at the local, state, and federal levels to advance some of those solutions.<sup>28</sup>

Responses to the April 2023 survey reaffirm the need for many of the previously recommended solutions and provide greater context and a sense of urgency given the ongoing crisis of nonprofit workforce shortages that affect everyone.

### **General Application**

- **Charitable Giving Incentives:** Many nonprofits called for Congress to restore the ability for all individuals to receive tax deductions for making charitable contributions.<sup>29</sup> A mental health provider in Kentucky recommended tax incentives for landlords leasing space to nonprofits in behavioral health services.
- Affordable Housing: Seeing how nonprofit employees are struggling, several nonprofits
  expressed support for more investments in affordable housing, "transit-oriented
  development," and legislation to prevent significant rent increases that force their staff and
  clients to leave their communities.

# **Reforming Government Grants and Contracting Systems**

Responses to this survey and many others demonstrate that systemic and fundamental problems embedded in federal, state, and local government grantmaking and contracting systems impose unnecessary inefficiencies, financial hardships, and operational instability on nonprofits that governments hire to deliver services to the public. Among the consequences, according to 20.6% of the survey respondents, is that problems related to government grants and contracts are responsible for creating or exacerbating the nonprofit workforce shortage crisis by making it difficult for nonprofits to retain and recruit staff.

The National Council of Nonprofits has determined from previous investigations that there is not one universal legislative or regulatory fix that will realign government-nonprofit grantmaking and contracting systems. We have found, and documented,<sup>30</sup> that almost all systems break down and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> The Scope and Impact of Nonprofit Workforce Shortages, National Council of Nonprofits, Dec. 13, 2021, pages 8-13.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Nonprofit Workforce Shortages: A Crisis that Affects Everyone, National Council of Nonprofits, July 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> See generally, Federal Charitable Giving Incentive, National Council of Nonprofits, updated regularly.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Towards Common Sense Contracting: What Taxpayers Deserve, National Council of Nonprofits, May 2014.

become dysfunctional over time. As a result, targeted reforms and adjustments are regularly needed. Below are specific reforms offered by nonprofits across the country in response to the 2023 survey. As in the earlier survey, challenges caused by government grants and contracts garnered a series of reform proposals worth advancing.

**Failure to Cover True Costs:** Perhaps the most common grievance of charitable nonprofits working pursuant to written agreements with governments is that governments – which cover the costs plus pay profits to for-profit entities – regularly fail to cover the costs nonprofits incur, whether those costs are called indirect costs, overhead, administrative costs, or in the next case, true costs. A large Kentucky human services provider explained that "grants and contracts should all pay the true cost of the service, including the cost of the critical infrastructure needed to run our businesses effectively." They stress that "pay sources must include consistent increases in reimbursement rates into the future to help organizations to have the opportunity to pay better wages," noting that "some of our reimbursements have not changed in 20 years."

Paperwork Burdens and Workforce Shortages: A Minnesota nonprofit with staffing vacancies shared that during exit interviews, departing staff cited "burdensome data entry requirements of government contracts [as one of] two most common factors leading to burnout/dissatisfaction with work." The correlation between burdensome and unnecessary paperwork and the workforce shortage is also explained eloquently by this Illinois nonprofit's comment: "Many staff say the requirements for the government grants (documentation, assessments, multiple systems to have to work in) is too much and too stressful." A New York nonprofit reported, "Monitoring of contracts with government is much more painful," warning that "unreasonable petty demands may result in organizations closing."

A small nonprofit providing crisis services in Connecticut revealed that "government grants have continuously increased the amount and frequency of reporting but provide no increase in grants to cover the increase in expenses to cover these tasks." A Maine nonprofit echoed this theme, writing: "We are being asked to provide more and more information related to our work by our grantors. Yet no one wants to pay for administrative costs. We cannot keep up the demand for all the administrative work that is being required of us without it being funded."

**Data Collection:** It's not unusual for any government grantee or contractor to point to data collection requirements as an example of excessive bureaucracy. A Connecticut nonprofit expressed their exasperation this way: "Don't gather data just to gather data." They encourage "streamlining data to key indicators and reduce the data that is not being used or interpreted." They also encourage governments to unify "expectations across all departments," pointing out that "interpretation of rules varies across state and federal departments." In addition to needed reforms and consolidation of federal grants portals and data collection requirements, frontline nonprofits recommend these two field-tested actions to reduce burdens and complexity:

- **Document Vault:** An Idaho nonprofit, that has as many as 20 federal and/or state grants at any one time, shared that most are for three years in length while one runs for five years. "All of the applications and continuation grants require many of the same organizational documents (501(c)(3) status, board list, assurances, audit, indirect rate)." That nonprofit's plea is compelling: "Couldn't all of these be uploaded to one place for our organization and updated annually rather than uploading them so many times?" The proposed solution utilization of a "document vault" is already in use by some governments.<sup>31</sup>
- Standardized and Coordinated Reporting: A nonprofit asked: "Across federal agencies, reporting varies considerably. Could semi-annual and annual or some other schedules be standardized for all federal grants?"

**Complexification**<sup>32</sup>: Grant applications can be extremely long and often require a great deal of redundancy (e.g., state & federal certifications, attestations, and other documents nonprofits must fill out a dozen times each year). Smaller organizations typically do not have the capacity to undertake the extensive effort to apply. A North Carolina nonprofit opined that it seems that duplicative forms could be filled out once per year and kept on file by governments. A small Vermont nonprofit explained that federal grants are simply too complex, stating, "The most recent application that we decided not to pursue is the Community Block Economic Development Program." The reason: "It was far too cumbersome and not nonprofit friendly."

Overly Prescriptive Grant Requirements: A small human services nonprofit in Washington State expressed frustration that grants tend to include seemingly arbitrary and costly service requirements that are not fully funded. The nonprofit professional completing the workforce shortages survey wrote, "Narrowly focused grant or contract requirements do not provide baseline support for nonprofit administration and operations." They go on to explain, "Nonprofits often know the community needs but fund[ing] sources dictate program design based on what they 'think' community needs." Their conclusion: "This seems backwards."

**Grant Duration:** The shorter the length of a grant, the less likely small or new organizations will seek to access the funding opportunity. "When grants are for only one year," a small New York nonprofit explained, "more time is spent hiring and training than on the impact we are trying to make." A North Carolina nonprofit focusing on substance abuse prevention observed that all the federal grants they have require reapplication each year, even when the grant award is a multi-year award. For example, for the DFC grant, "we were awarded our initial grant in 2016 and it was a 10-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> See <u>Toward Common Sense Contracting: What Taxpayers Deserve</u>, National Council of Nonprofits, May 2014, for more information.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> See <u>Costs, Complexification, and Crisis: Government's Human Services Contracting "System" Hurts Everyone,</u> National Council of Nonprofits, October 2010.

year award," yet, "each year [we] had to submit a 'non-competing application,' which is just as long but is generally just a formality."

The rationale for supporting grants that extend beyond one year should be self-evident. Multi-year grants promote access for smaller organizations, reduce administrative costs for applicants and governments alike, and enable governments and nonprofits to evaluate progress and, when done right, adjust over time.

**Reimbursable Grants vs. Up-Front Payments:** The fact that most government grants for services are paid on a reimbursement basis is a significant challenge that charitable organizations are seeking to overcome. "Government grants and contracts are often approved on a reimbursement basis, and they do not always cover our program and/or admin costs," wrote a large Oregon human services provider. In that state, and several others across the country, pending legislation would flip the practice and mandate lump-sum or partially pre-paid grants in many circumstances. This approach would make grants more accessible, and improve planning for nonprofits, enabling them to staff up and provide ongoing training to ensure both performance and accountability.

The system of requiring performance first and seeking reimbursement later imposes a burden on service providers to essentially front the governments' start-up costs and trust that the government program management and accounts payable processes are properly functioning. The culture in government of only paying on a reimbursement basis is so prevalent that the U.S. Treasury Department had to expressly override it last year when instructing state and local governments on the rules governing spending of Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds allocated under the American Rescue Plan Act.<sup>33</sup> In fact, the practice of reimbursement-only grants is so destructive that nonprofits are actively seeking reforms at the state level to ensure that grants to charitable nonprofits include an up-front expenditure component.<sup>34</sup>

At a minimum, nonprofits believe Congress and state lawmakers should mandate that government departments and agencies cover the start-up costs and early operational expenses that charitable nonprofits reasonably incur in performing services on behalf of governments. The mandate should extend to the use of federal funds by pass-through entities like state and local governments.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> The "[Treasury] Department does not require or have a preference as to the payment structure for recipients that transfer funds to subrecipients (e.g., advance payments, reimbursement basis, etc.). Ultimately, recipients must comply with the eligible use requirements and any other applicable laws or requirements and are responsible for the actions of their subrecipients or beneficiaries." <u>Final Rule for the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds</u>, Treasury Department, Jan. 27, 2022, 87 Fed. Reg. at 4379, footnote 230. Elsewhere, the ARPA Final Rule states, "Recipients may transfer funds to subrecipients in several ways, including advance payments and on a reimbursement basis." Final Rule, Treasury Department, Jan. 27, 2022, 87 Fed. Reg. at 4380.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> See **California** A.B. 590 (stipulating an advance payment structure and request process); **North Carolina** H.B. 259 (requiring full or quarterly disbursement of grant funds); and **Oregon** S.B. 606 (restricting use of reimbursement as a mechanism for grant payments except in limited circumstances).

**Funding Capacity Building:** Frontline nonprofits report the recurring challenge of performing services on behalf of governments based on reimbursement rates that do not permit use of funds to build or maintain the required internal capacity. A very small Tennessee human services provider explained: "Most funders want to support programming, but programs don't manage themselves. There have to be people to lead, manage, report, and oversee those programs." (Emphasis added.) Both as a practice that promotes access to federal grantmaking and as a way to ensure better outcomes, policymakers can improve outcomes and help overcome the nonprofit workforce shortages crisis by expressly funding capacity building programs such as grants management and reporting.

# **Profiles of Nonprofits Completing the Survey**

This report is based primarily on responses to an online survey the National Council of Nonprofits developed and distributed electronically through its networks and newsletters in April 2023. The survey was open to all charitable nonprofits. More than 1,600 people from all 50 states and D.C. submitted responses to the survey. NCN staff collected the responses, analyzed the data, and wrote this report.

# Who completed the survey - by budget size

Although workforce shortages impact nonprofits from all sectors and budgets, smaller nonprofits presumably feel the impact more. Nonprofits with annual operating budgets below \$1 million make up nearly four out of ten (38.9%) respondents, and 56.0% of them reported vacancies. Those with budgets of between \$1 million and \$3 million represent an estimated one out of four (26.4%) survey responses, and 79.9% indicated that their nonprofit had vacancies. Another 23.9% of nonprofits reported an annual operating budget greater than \$5 million, and 93.0% of nonprofits with that budget size reported vacancies.

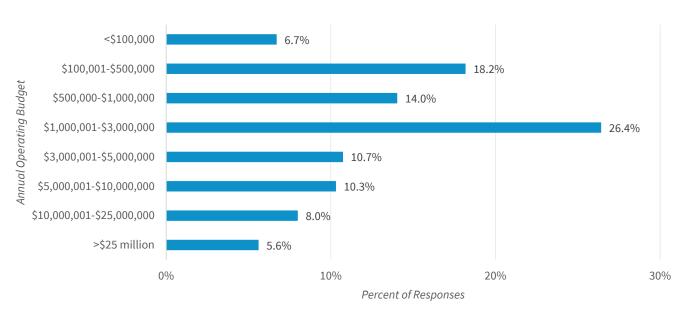


Figure 4: Nonprofits' Annual Operating Budget

# Who completed the survey - by the primary communities the nonprofit serves

**Table 10: Communities Primarily Served by Nonprofits** 

Communities Primarily Served	Number of Responses	Percent of Responses
American Indian or Alaskan Native, Asian, Black, Native		
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, Middle Eastern/North African,	490	29.9%
Hispanic/Latino/Latina/Latinx, or multi-racial/multi-ethnic		
People living in rural communities	456	27.8%
People with disabilities	358	21.8%
People who identify as LGBTQ+	134	8.2%
None of the above	574	35.0%

# Who completed the survey - by subsector

Nearly three out of ten responses came from the human services sector. Respondents that selected "other" elaborated that they worked in advocacy, agriculture, community development, economic development, legal aid, workforce development, and youth services.

Table 11: Responses to the Nonprofit Workforce Shortages Survey by Subsector

Subsector	Number of Responses	Percent of Responses
Human Services	465	28.4%
Other	244	14.9%
Arts, Culture, and Humanities	154	9.4%
Education (excluding higher education)	137	8.4%
Public/Societal Benefit	105	6.4%
Community/Civic Engagement	103	6.3%
Healthcare	88	5.4%
Housing	71	4.3%
Mental Health	65	4.0%
Multiple Subsectors	60	3.7%
Environment and Animal Welfare	56	3.4%
Child Care	55	3.4%
Research	12	0.7%
Religion	11	0.7%
Higher Education	7	0.4%
International	4	0.2%
Hospitals	2	0.1%

# **Appendix: State Reports**

The National Council of Nonprofits has prepared state-specific reports in the 23 states with at least 25 survey responses.

- Alaska
- <u>Arizona</u>
- <u>California</u>
- Connecticut
- <u>Florida</u>
- <u>Illinois</u>
- Kentucky
- <u>Maine</u>
- <u>Maryland</u>
- <u>Michigan</u>
- Minnesota
- <u>Montana</u>
- <u>Nebraska</u>
- New Jersey
- New York
- North Carolina
- Oregon
- <u>Pennsylvania</u>
- South Carolina
- <u>Tennessee</u>
- <u>Vermont</u>
- Washington
- Wyoming



# **INFORMATION ITEM 3**

#### LWDB 14

Measures	PY2021-2022 4th Quarter Performance	PY2021-2022 % of Performance Goal Met For Q4	PY2021-2022 Performance Goals	PY2022-2023 1st Quarter Performance	PY2022-2023 % of Performance Goal Met For Q1	PY2022-2023 2nd Quarter Performance	PY2022-2023 % of Performance Goal Met For Q2	PY2022-2023 3rd Quarter Performance	PY2022-2023 % of Performance Goal Met For Q3	PY2022-2023 4th Quarter Performance	PY2022-2023 % of Performance Goal Met For Q4	PY2022-2023 Performance Goals
Adults:												
Employed 2nd Qtr After Exit	82.60	91.78	90.00	81.80	88.91	75.80	82.39	80.10	87.07	82.90	90.11	92.00
Median Wage 2nd Quarter After Exit	\$11,068	153.72	\$7,200	\$10,506.00	97.82	\$10,619.00	98.87	\$10,506	97.82	\$9,755	90.83	\$10,740
Employed 4th Qtr After Exit	92.90	108.65	85.50	90.60	100.44	75.40	83.59	82.80	91.80	83.60	92.68	90.20
Credential Attainment Rate	86.90	120.69	72.00	80.40	92.41	67.10	77.13	67.20	77.24	63.90	73.45	87.00
Measurable Skill Gains	66.20	135.10	49.00	58.30	89.69	56.60	87.08	56.30	86.62	65.10	100.15	65.00
Dislocated Workers:												
Employed 2nd Qtr After Exit	80.30	89.22	90.00	78.60	89.32	71.80	8159.09%	73.20	83.18	80.50	91.48	88.00
Median Wage 2nd Quarter After Exit	\$12,112	170.59	\$7,100	\$11,409.00	121.77	\$11,667.00	124.53	\$11,667	124.53	\$12,574	134.20	\$9,369
Employed 4th Qtr After Exit	87.50	102.70	85.20	90.40	107.36	77.20	91.69	79.30	94.18	76.80	91.21	84.20
Credential Attainment Rate	93.30	133.29	70.00	93.50	108.09	86.90	100.46	87.30	100.92	82.50	95.38	86.50
Measurable Skill Gains	57.50	117.35	49.00	45.00	69.23	39.20	60.31	39.80	61.23	55.60	85.54	65.00
Youth:												
Employed 2nd Qtr After Exit	83.50	98.82	84.50	82.30	98.56	81.00	97.01	82,20	98.44	88.60	106.11	83.50
Median Wage 2nd Quarter After Exit	\$4,726	147.69	\$3,200	\$4,866.00	103.58	\$4,965	105.68	\$5,282	112.42	\$6,019	128.12	\$4,698
Employed 4th Qtr After Exit	86.00	110.26	78.00	86.40	106.67	77.00	95.06	82.00	101.23	82.60	101.98	81.00
Credential Attainment Rate	82.90	96.06	86.30	79.80	94.89	80.30	95.48	81.50	96.91	80.70	95.96	84.10
Measurable Skill Gains	69.20	141.22	49.00	55.70	85.69	50.70	78.00	52.60	80.92	74.80	115.08	65.00
Wagner Peyser:												
Employed 2nd Qtr After Exit	59.60	91.69	65.00	60.90	96.36	60.20	95.25	65.60	103.80	65.60	103.80	63.20
Median Wage 2nd Quarter After Exit	\$6,686	133.72	\$5,000	\$6,839.00	104.97	\$6,808.00	104.50	\$7,421	113.91	\$7,552	115.92	\$6,515
Employed 4th Qtr After Exit	60.40	94.08	64.20	63.60	100.63	61.40	97.15	66.40	105.06	67.20	106.33	63.20

Not Met (less than 90% of negotiated)

Met (90-100% of negotiated)

Exceeded (greater than 100% of negotiated)



# INFORMATION ITEM 4 REACH Act Letter Grades For the Year Ended June 30, 2023

Under the 2021 Reimagining Education and Career Help (REACH) Act, the Governor's REACH Office developed the criteria for the letter grades in collaboration with stakeholders including leaders from CareerSource Florida, the Department of Economic Opportunity, the Department of Education and local workforce development boards. Those criteria include:

- How well boards are meeting federal accountability measures.
- How many job seekers served receive work-related training.
- How many participants earn more in the second quarter after receiving workforce services.
- A reduction in the number of participants on long-term public assistance.
- How many employers are return customers for business services.

CareerSource Florida assigns the grades and makes them public annually. Local workforce development boards will review the data used by the REACH Office to determine the letter grades to help strengthen services for job seekers, workers and businesses.

Of the 24 local workforce development boards, 19 boards received 'A's and 5 boards received 'B's. No board received a C, D or F. Local workforce development boards will use these letter grades to further their goals of elevating Florida's workforce and upskilling Floridians to help achieve self-sufficiency, connecting Floridians to jobs through training and placement, and expanding accountability and transparency of these critical missions.

The criteria for the base-line letter grades were set in 2022 and were determined retroactively, based upon data from the 2021-2022 fiscal year. Grades were released Oct. 12, 2023, on the current year's performance that ended June 30, 2023, and will be released annually thereafter.



# INFORMATION ITEM 4 (cont.) REACH Act Letter Grades For the Year Ended June 30, 2023

Local Workforce Development Board	Annual Score (%)	Letter Grade
01 - CareerSource Escarosa	94.76	Α
02 - CareerSource Okaloosa Walton	89.18	B+
03 - CareerSource Chipola	98.51	A+
04 - CareerSource Gulf Coast	93.14	Α
05 - CareerSource Capital Region	89.51	B+
06 - CareerSource North Florida	91.76	A-
07 - CareerSource Florida Crown	85.5	В
08 - CareerSource Northeast Florida	103.36	A+
09 - CareerSource North Central Florida	85.98	В
10 - CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion	93.92	Α
11 - CareerSource Flagler Volusia	102.41	A+
12 - CareerSource Central Florida	99.97	A+
13 - CareerSource Brevard	88.5	B+
14 - CareerSource Pinellas	96.73	Α
15 - CareerSource Tampa Bay	95.91	Α
16 - CareerSource Pasco Hernando	92.66	A-
17 - CareerSource Polk	95.4	Α
18 - CareerSource Suncoast	92.5	A-
19 - CareerSource Heartland	99.56	A+
20 - CareerSource Research Coast	90.58	A-
21 - CareerSource Palm Beach County	95.16	Α
22 - CareerSource Broward	96.85	Α
23 - CareerSource South Florida	97.02	A+
24 - CareerSource Southwest Florida	98.61	A+

### **Letter Grades Scale:**

A+: ≥ 97 A: 93 to < 97 A-: 90 to < 93 B+: 87 to < 90 B: 83 to < 87 B-: 80 to < 83 C+: 77 to < 80 C: 73 to < 77 C-: 70 to < 73 D: 60 to < 70 F: < 60



# **INFORMATION ITEM 5**

# Work-based Learning Spending For the period July 1, 2023 - August 31, 2023

OJT Provider	Le	rk-based earning pending	Approved Spending (if required)	Remaining	# of Participants	Avg./ Per Part
Badaro Group	\$	-			-	
Bert Smith Oldsmobile, Inc.	\$	-			-	
Catalyst QLM LLC	\$	-			-	
HHC Holdings LLC	\$	-			-	
Manpower	\$	361,954			213	\$ 1,699
Mechanical A/C Designs LLC	\$	-				
Universal Life and Health Insurance	\$	-			-	
Veterans Metal LLC dba DHS	\$	-				
Total	\$ :	361,954			213	\$ 1,699

Prior Year for Same Period	\$ 245,972
Variance	\$ 115,981

124	\$ 1,984	4
89	\$ (284	4)

Manpower Breakout	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Participant</u>	<u>Av</u>	g/Per Part
WIOA Adult On-the-Job Training	6,962	4	\$	1,741
WIOA Youth Paid-Work- Experience	61,286	37	\$	1,656
Summer PAYS - TANF	293,706	172	\$	1,708
	\$ 361,954	213	\$	1,699



### **INFORMATION ITEM 6**

Training Provider Spending For the period July 1, 2023 - August 31, 2023

Tasining Bassidan		ustomer	Approved Spending (if	Domeinion	# of		g/ Per
Training Provider		Training	required)	Remaining	Participants		Part
Academy for Dental Assistants, (Pinellas)	-	2,885			1		2,885
Access Computer Training, (Hillsborough)		25,000			4		6,250
American Manufacturing Skills Initiative (AmSkills)							
BizTech Learning Centers, Inc., ( Pinellas)	-	-					
Center for Technology Training		19,480			4		4,870
Central Florida Heat and Frost Insulators J.A.C. (RA)							
Champion Truck Driving School		31,200			6		5,200
CodeBoxx Technology Corporation		15,000			2		7,500
Computer Coach IT Training Solutions		-					
Concorde Career Institute, (Hillsborough)		-					
Connecticut School of Broadcasting, (Hillsborough)							
Florida Technical College							
Galen College of Nursing, (Pinellas)		88,244			28		3,152
Gold Coast Professional Schools							
Hillsborough Community College							
IEC- Independent Electrical Contractors, FAAC							
International Union of Operating Engineers (RA)							
Ironworkers (RA)							
JATC - Tampa Area Electrical JATC, (Hillsborough), FAAC (RA)		1,622			2		811
Jersey College, (Largo Campus)		7,500			1		7,500
Keiser University		,					
Masonry (RA)	1						
National Aviation Academy	1	6,146			2		3,073
Net Synergy Virtual Solutions LLC		-,					-,
New Horizon Computer Learning Center, (Hillsborough)		43,435			8		5.429
Pinellas Technical College Education Centers *		10,896	300,000	289.104	13		838
Plumbers and Pipefitters and HVAC, local union 123 (RA) *		10,000					
R.V. Training Center							
Rasmussen College						#1	DIV/0!
Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Contractors (RACCA) (RA)						".	51170.
Roadmaster Drivers School, Inc., (Hillsborough)							
Schiller International University, (Pinellas)	+						
Southern Technical Institute, Pinellas Park, (Pinellas)						#1	DIV/0!
St. Petersburg College *		16,033	500,000	483,967	17	πι	943
Superior Aviation Gate	1	10,033	300,000	403,907	17		343
Tampa Bay Aviation	1					#1	DIV/0!
Tampa Truck Driving School, Inc.	-						DIV/0!
·	-	25 514	250,000	214,486	9	#1	3,946
Ultimate Medical Academy (Pinellas) *	+-	35,514	250,000	Z 14,400	9	<del>                                     </del>	3,940
Ultimate Medical Academy (Online)	+	1 205			4	-	1 205
University of South Florida / Innovative Education, SACS	1	1,395			1	-	1,395
Veritas Nursing Academy	1					<u> </u>	
Webster University	+_	004.40:					0.400
Total	\$	301,464			97	\$	3,108
Prior Year for Same Period	\$	243,231			79	\$	3,079
Variance	\$	58,233			18	\$	29
		24%			23%		1%

### RELATED PARTY CONTRACTS (with multiple components)

	Spending	Amount	Remaining	Component
Pinellas Technical Education Centers *	10,896	300,000	289,104	Training (ITA)
	20,672	130,000	109,328	Leases
	31,567	430,000	398,433	-
St. Petersburg College *	16.033	500.000	483.967	Training (ITA)
ot. I eteraburg conege	19,930	160,000	160,000	0 ( )
	4,000	60,000	56,000	Contracts
	39,964	720,000	699,967	- =
Ultimate Medical Academy (Pinellas) *	35,514	250,000	214,486	Training (ITA)
	-	100,000	100,000	OJT
	35,514	350,000	314,486	_
* Contracts required two third board entraval		•	-	=

<sup>\*</sup> Contracts required two-third board approval.

# Key Performance Report 1 - Develop Robust Partnerships with Employers

- Objective 1: Utilize and partner with existing business group that convene employers regularly to understand immediate and future needs.
- Objective 2: Develop and execute a marketing strategy to build awareness with businesses about engagement and services available.
- Objective 3: Increase services to incumbent workers and underemployed workers.
- Objective 4: Develop methods that help businesses navigate the workforce system's services and that connect them with qualified applicants.

# **11** Business Group Partners

BAMA (Bay Area Manufacturing Association)

Central Pinellas Chamber

Greater Seminole Chamber of Commerce

Pinellas Economic Development

Recruiter Networking Group

St. Petersburg Area Econ. Development Corp

St. Petersburg Chamber

Tampa Bay Beaches Chamber

Tampa Bay Tech

Upper Tampa Bay Chamber

Volunteers of Active Disaster (VOAD)

**Employers Served** 

734

**Job Orders Posted** 

2707

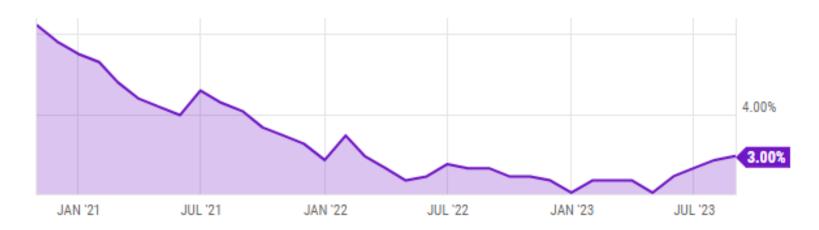
**Newly Registered Employers** 

69

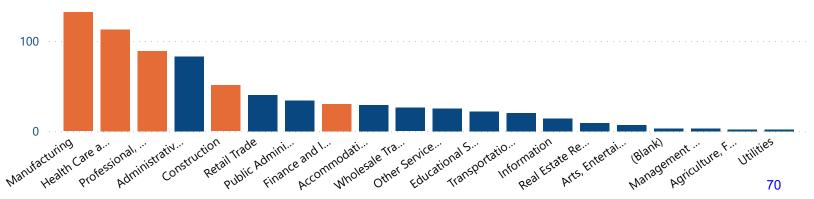
Services Provided by Staff

2743

The unemployment rate in the CareerSource Pinellas region (Pinellas County) was 3.0 percent in August 2023. This rate was 0.3 percentage point higher than the region's year ago rate of 2.7 percent. The region's August 2023 unemployment rate was 0.3 percentage point higher than the state rate of 2.7 percent.



### **Employer Industries Represented**



# Key Performance Report 2 - Expand Outreach to Jobseekers

- Objective 1: Target outreach efforts based on areas of opportunity.
- Objective 2: Expand the virtual delivery of service system currently in place.
- Objective 3: Conduct analysis of existing asset mapping to identify local community-based organizations and resource assets that might assist with outreach and service delivery.
- Objective 4: Conduct a gap analysis through engagement with priority customers and key stakeholders to assess what services may be missing and/or what changes are needed in how services are delivered to ensure participation.
- Objective 5: Support individuals to gain employment through a system of wraparound services that is responsive to their diverse experience and needs.
- Objective 6: Develop a Regional Targeted Occupations List.

**175** Employers participated in **5** career fairs with **617** job

2405 Placements Recorded 408 seekers attending.

### **Professional Networking Group**

The Professional Networking Group is a specialty service available for individuals who meet specific criteria and typically command a higher wage at placement. Currently, Business Services staff host a monthly. Orientation session to provide information on what job seekers can expect from the group and provide an overview of available services and programs. After attending Orientation, job seekers are next invited to attend weekly meetings which feature a mix of presentations, activities, and quest speakers.

**Website Statistics** Jul 1 - September 30, 2023



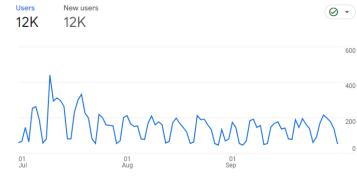
### Focus on service

The Business Services team has focused heavily on partnership development with employers and community-based organizations to ensure that the needs of the business community are being met while also focusing efforts on targeted outreach to socio-economically challenged communities who are the most in need of support. Through these efforts, the team has reignited our presence across Pinellas County which has resulted in a reestablishment of trust within the community.

4968

Job Seekers during PY

Services Provided



as of 09/30/2023

	Session default channel group 🔻 🕂	↓ Users	Sessions	Engaged sessions	Average engagement time per session	Engaged sessions per user	Events per session	Engagement rate	Event count All events ▼
		12,305	16,959	6,764	0m 00s	0.55	3.72	39.88%	63,169
		100% of total	100% of total	100% of total	Avg 0%	Avg 0%	Avg 0%	Avg 0%	100% of total
1	Organic Search	5,032	7,388	3,833	0m 00s	0.76	4.07	51.88%	30,040
2	Direct	4,065	5,400	1,825	0m 00s	0.45	3.57	33.8%	19,289
3	Referral	2,175	2,707	823	0m 00s	0.38	3.52	30.4%	9,523
4	Organic Social	961	1,134	235	0m 00s	0.24	3.30	20.72%	3,744
5	Paid Search	124	144	29	0m 00s	0.23	3.27	20.14%	471
6	Unassigned	60	60	0	0m 00s	0.00	1.20	0%	72
7	Organic Video	9	9	1	0m 00s	0.11	3.33	11.11%	71 30

# Key Performance Report 3 - Build Organizational Capacity; Promote Change and Transformation of CareerSource Pinellas

- **Objective 1:** Present a positive message of the organization to include all that is currently being done and what will be done based on the strategic plan.
- Objective 2: Update talking points for use by board members and staff as part of the awareness campaign.
- **Objective 3:** Continue to improve and enhance the technology infrastructure both internally for staff to be more efficient and for communication among the system's partners and to increase user friendly access for customers.
- **Objective 4:** Ensure compliance and work with/train on the new ways of doing business that are in compliance while reducing the burden on customers through streamlined compliant processes.
- Objective 5: Develop methods to regularly listen to customers to test new processes before implementing them permanently.

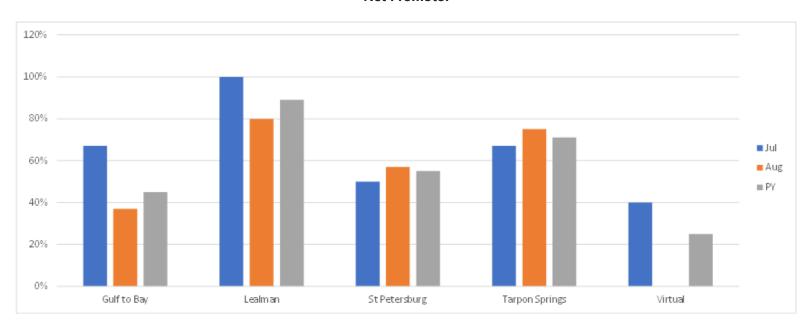
### Strategy

Utilizing a robust and concerted effort focusing on Servant Leadership, Trust, Transparency, Employee Engagement, Training, and Development the Leadership team has fostered an environment that has led to a culture of learning as well as achievement of positive outcomes for all stakeholders.

### **Awareness**

Our internal marketing team and Tucker Hall, Public Relations Firm, are actively working to assist with strategic communications and to amplify our voice in the Tampa Bay area.

#### **Net Promotor**



Services Accessed by Month													
Service	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total
Appointment with Staff	36.11%	33.77%											
Live or Recorded Online	30.56%	42.000/											
Workshops		42.80%											
Recruitment Event	0.00%	9.09%											
Reemployment Assistance	69.44%	61.04%											
Use of Computer Lab	11.11%	10.39%											
Workforce Program Services (Job	10.440/	35.06%											
Search/WIOA/WTP/SNAP)	19.44%	30.00%											
Other	5.56%	9.09%											

### PY20/21 - thru 09/30/2023

				0/21 till a 05/50/				
Provider	Enrolled	# that Exited Training	Exited after Completing Training	No job at the point of training completion	# that obtained a job whether they completed training or not	Training Completion Rate	Job Placement Rate	Average Wage at Job Placement
PY23/24	193	63	46	31	23	73.0%	32.6%	\$19.94
PY22/23	394	231	159	38	165	68.8%	76.1%	\$32.93
PY21/22	413	253	186	31	214	73.5%	83.3%	\$24.53
<b>Grand Total</b>	1000	547	391	100	402	71.5%	74.4%	\$27.85
Academy for Applied Technology	0	0	0	0	0			
Academy for Dental Assistants	12	9	3	1	4	33.3%	66.7%	\$14.75
Access Computer Training	10	4	1	0	1	25.0%	100.0%	\$25.00
Aguilas International Technical Institute	0	0	0	0	0			
ATA Career Education	0	0	0	0	0			
Career Tech, LLC	0	0	0	0	0			
Center for Technology Training	10	6	2	1	3	33.3%	50.0%	\$24.15
Champion Truck Driving School	54	50	50	24	26	100.0%	52.0%	\$74.51
CNA Training Institute	0	0	0	0	0			
Codeboxx Technology School	0	0	0	0	0			
Computer Coach IT training solutions	26	23	17	5	16	73.9%	70.6%	\$32.50
Concorde Institute	3	1	1	0	2	100.0%	100.0%	\$20.00
DATS of Florida, Inc	0	0	0	0	0			
Finlay Institute of Nursing	0	0	0	0	0			
FleetForce Truck Driving School	2	2	2	0	2	100.0%	100.0%	\$18.78

Florida Career College	0	0	0	0	0			
Florida Technical College	0	0	0	0	0			
Florida Trade Academy	0	0	0	0	0			
Galen College of Nursing, (Sarasota)	0	0	0	0	0			
Galen Health Institute, Inc.	171	65	38	7	54	58.5%	81.6%	\$22.80
Genuine Healthcare Institute, LLC	0	0	0	0	0			
Herzing University	0	0	0	0	0			
Hillsborough Community College	1	1	1	0	1	100.0%	100.0%	\$20.00
Hillsborough County School Board	0	0	0	0	0			
Jersey College	30	16	6	0	16	37.5%	100.0%	\$24.08
JobWorks dba JobWorks Education and Training Systems	0	0	0	0	0			
Keiser University	2	0	0	0	0			
Learning Alliance Corp	0	0	0	0	0			
National Aviation Academy	60	38	29	6	29	76.3%	79.3%	\$23.75
Net Synergy Pre- Apprenticeship LT3 Academy	0	0	0	0	0			
New Horizons Computer Learning Center of Tampa Bay	117	90	70	20	63	77.8%	71.4%	\$33.70
Palm Beach Code School	0	0	0	0	0			
Pinellas County Schools	102	52	35	5	44	67.3%	85.7%	\$19.98
Rasmussen University	14	7	5	1	4	71.4%	80.0%	\$24.46

Roadmaster Driver's	1	1	1	1	0	100.0%	0.0%	
School, Inc.	1	1	1	0	1	100.0%	100.0%	
RV Training Center, Inc.		1	1	U	1	100.0%	100.0%	
Southern Technical	12	11	10	0	11	90.9%	100.0%	\$14.57
Institute	12		10	J		30.370	100.070	Ş14.57
St. Petersburg College	162	85	48	12	59	56.5%	75.0%	\$20.44
Suncoast Career Academy	0	0	0	0	0			
Tampa Area Electrical JATC (partnership between IBEW and NECA)	122	33	26	1	32	78.8%	96.2%	
Tampa Bay Aviation	3	0	0	0	0			
Tampa Medical College	0	0	0	0	0			
Tampa Truck Driving School	21	21	19	2	18	90.5%	89.5%	\$22.00
Tampa Vocational Institute	0	0	0	0	0			
Ultimate Medical Academy - Online	0	0	0	0	0			
Ultimate Medical Academy, Inc.	39	17	15	8	10	88.2%	46.7%	\$15.14
University of South Florida	25	14	11	6	6	78.6%	45.5%	\$26.16
<b>Grand Total</b>	1000	547	391	100	402	71.5%	74.4%	\$27.85