



WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT

WIOA **PARTNERS'** MEETING

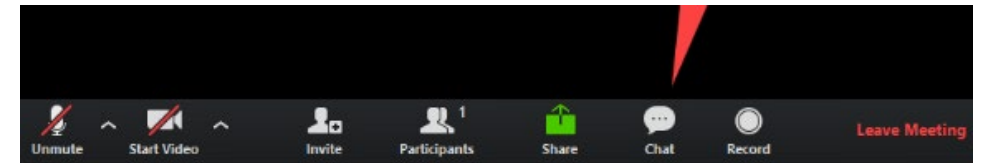
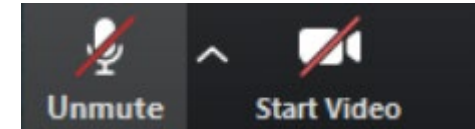


PARTNERS FOR A BETTER WORKFORCE
September 21, 2021
Day 1



VIRTUAL MEETING ETIQUETTE

- Please silence or turn off your cell phone.
- In Zoom, mute your sound and turn off your camera.
- Enter questions in the chat box or wait until the Q&A session at the end of the presentation.



MEETING ATTENDANCE ROSTER

<https://forms.office.com/g/iBTF4C6PWd>

(The link will be posted in the chat box.)



WELCOME

Eddie Thomas, Assistant Director
Office of Employment Assistance
Arkansas Division of Workforce Services



Introduction of Programs Under WIOA

Chad Brown

Arkansas Workforce Development Board Director
Arkansas Division of Workforce Services



WIOA

Employment Assistance

Shenaye Johns

ADWS Business Services / Discretionary Grants Manager

WIOA Title I

Adult, Dislocated Workers and Youth Programs



WIOA Title I: Adult Program



Basic Eligibility Requirements:

- An individual at least 18 years old and
- Meet the Common Eligibility Requirements



Common Eligibility Documentation Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) FORM WIOA I-B – 2.1 (3/22/21)

For Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth Programs



WIOA Title I: Dislocated Worker Program



Basic Eligibility Requirements:

- An individual at least 18 years old,
- Meet the Common Eligibility Requirements
- Who have lost jobs, through no fault of their own and



Common Eligibility Documentation
Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)
FORM WIOA I-B – 2.1 (3/22/21)

For Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth Programs



WIOA Title I: Dislocated Worker Program



Eligibility Requirements, Continue:

- Meets one of the Categories of Eligibility
 - Category A – Individual Lay-off.
 - Category B – Business closure or substantial layoff.
 - Category C – Self-employed individuals.
 - Category D – Displaced homemaker.
 - Category E – Spouse of an active-duty member of the Armed Forces



Barriers to Employment

- Displaced Homemakers
- Individuals with disabilities, both youth and adults
- English language learners (limited English proficient)
- Migrant and seasonal farmworkers
- Native Americans, Alaska and Hawaiian Natives
- Out-of-school youth
- Adult and youth ex-offenders (justice-involved)
- Public assistance recipients (TANF, SNAP, SSI, Medicaid, etc.)
- Youth in, or previously in, foster care
- Homeless individuals, both youth and adults
- Runaway youth
- Pregnant and parenting youth
- The long-term unemployed
- Low-income workers earning wages below self-sufficiency
- Basic skills deficient individuals
- The over 55 age group



Services for Adults and Dislocated Workers



■ What services are available?

- Career Services
- Training Services

■ How are these services provided?

- Through the One-Stop Delivery System in our Ten Local Workforce Development Areas.

■ Career Services

- Basic Career Services
- Individualized Career Services
- Follow-up Services

■ Training Services

- Occupational Skills Training (training from Eligible Training Providers)
- Work-Based Learning (On-the-Job Training (OJT), Registered Apprenticeship, Incumbent Worker, Customized Training)



WIOA Title I: Youth

YOUTH OF TODAY.....FUTURE OF TOMORROW

Two Categories:
In – School Youth
Out – of – School Youth



WIOA Title I: In-School Youth

YOUTH OF TODAY.....FUTURE OF TOMORROW



- Individuals not younger than 14 years old and not older than the age of 21
- Meet Common Eligibility Requirements
- Be Attending any school at the time of eligibility portion of enrollment
- Be a low-income individual and
- Have at least one barrier:
 - Basic Skills deficient
 - An English Language Learner
 - An offender
 - Homeless
 - A runaway
 - In foster care or has aged out of foster care
 - Pregnant or parenting youth
 - Have a disability
 - Requires additional assistance to complete an educational program or secure or hold employment



WIOA Title I: Out-of-School Youth



- Individuals not younger than 16 years old and not older than the age of 24
- Meet Common Eligibility Requirements
- Not attending any school at the time of enrollment and
- Have at least one barrier:
 - Be a school dropout
 - Within the age of compulsory school attendance but has not attended school for at least the most recent complete school year calendar quarter session
 - Individual who has a secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent, low-income and is also Basic Skills deficient or an English language learner
 - An offender
 - Homeless individual
 - A runaway
 - In foster care or has aged out of foster care
 - Pregnant or parenting youth
 - Have a disability
 - Low income and requires additional assistance to complete an educational program or secure or hold employment



Youth Services

- **PROGRAM ELEMENTS.**—In order to support youth with successful outcomes and goal attainment of major achievements such as; secondary school diploma or its recognized equivalent, entry into postsecondary education, and career readiness for participants.... Youth Services commonly known as Program Elements must be available to assist youth.



Youth Services – 14 Program Elements



Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services

Program Element

1. Tutoring, study skills training, instruction, and dropout prevention
2. Alternative secondary school services or dropout recovery services
3. Paid and unpaid work experiences
4. Occupational skill training
5. Education offered concurrently with workforce preparation for a specific occupation
6. Leadership development opportunities
7. Supportive services
8. Adult mentoring
9. Follow-up services
10. Comprehensive guidance and counseling
11. Financial literacy education
12. Entrepreneurial skills training
13. Services that provide labor market information
14. Post-secondary preparation and transition activities



Local Workforce Development Boards



Strength in Partnerships



- Best Practices
 - The Take Action Tuesday Segments for Little Rock have been a success. These occur live on Facebook, every Tuesday and spotlights all LRWDB programs as a means of educating the community, encouraging enrollment, outreach, training sessions, and providing partnering resources.
 - Together we can continue to enable Arkansas' workforce to compete in the global economy by linking a comprehensive array of services for employers and job seekers.



Success Stories

MICHAEL DUNN



In the United States, there are over a million of individuals who do not hold a high school diploma and who do not have access to a decent job that pays a self-sustaining living wage. Michael Dunn was one of those individuals until 2021.

After overcoming several obstacles that forced him to take time away from work, he was still unable to find employment. When he realized he could not meet the criteria for the jobs he had applied for because he did not have his GED Credential, he immediately contacted the University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton Adult Education Center in Faulkner County and pursued his dream of earning his GED.

While attending classes on a regular basis at the University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton Adult Education Center, Michael made several educational gains on his reading, math, and language assessments, completed all testing with passing scores, and in less than three (3) months, earned his GED on March 31, 2021.

As a partner in Workforce Delivery System, the University of Arkansas Community College of Morrilton Adult Education referred Michael to the WIOA Program at Arkansas Workforce Center in Conway. Coming into the Center as a Jobseeker, Michael was offered a position with Tru-Fab in Maumelle, Arkansas.

In the end, Michael achieved one of his most inspiring achievements, which is one milestone in his life that will open many doors for his future.



QUESTIONS



WIOA Title – I Employment Assistance

Email: ADWS.Info@arkansas.gov

Website: <https://www.dws.arkansas.gov/programs/workforce-innovation/>

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 2981
Little Rock, AR 72203

Telephone Number:

1-855-225-4440
501-682-2121



Q & A Session



Adult Education

Bridget Criner
Associate Director
Adult Education Section, ADWS



WIOA Title II Program: ADULT EDUCATION



Eligibility Requirements:

- 16 years of age or older;
- Not enrolled or required to be enrolled in secondary school under state law; and
 - Is basic skills deficient**;
 - Does not have a secondary school diploma or its equivalent; or
 - Is an English language learner

**Able to serve students with a high school diploma or college degree if they are basic skills deficient.



ADULT EDUCATION SERVICES (Free)

- Adult Basic Education (Pre-GED®)
- High School Equivalency (GED®)*
- English Language Acquisition
- Citizenship Classes
- College Preparation
- Financial Literacy
- Digital Literacy
- Family Literacy
- Job Preparation
- Workforce Training



GED®



Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services
Adult Education

100

145
Passing
Score

200

145

GED® Passing Score

The GED® test has a passing score of 145 for each test subject. To earn your high school equivalency, you'll need to score 145 or higher on all four subjects.

165 - 174

GED® College Ready

Scoring above 165 (on any test subject) means you have demonstrated you are ready to take college level courses and you may qualify for waivers from placement testing or developmental education requirements if you enroll in college.

175 - 200

GED® College Ready + Credit

Scoring above 175 (on any test subject) means you have demonstrated skills that could qualify for up to 10 college credit hours.





The Workforce Development Component of Adult Education

The Workforce Alliance for Growth in the Economy (WAGE™) program is designed to ensure that unemployed and underemployed Arkansans have the basic skills necessary to become employed and remain successful in the workplace.





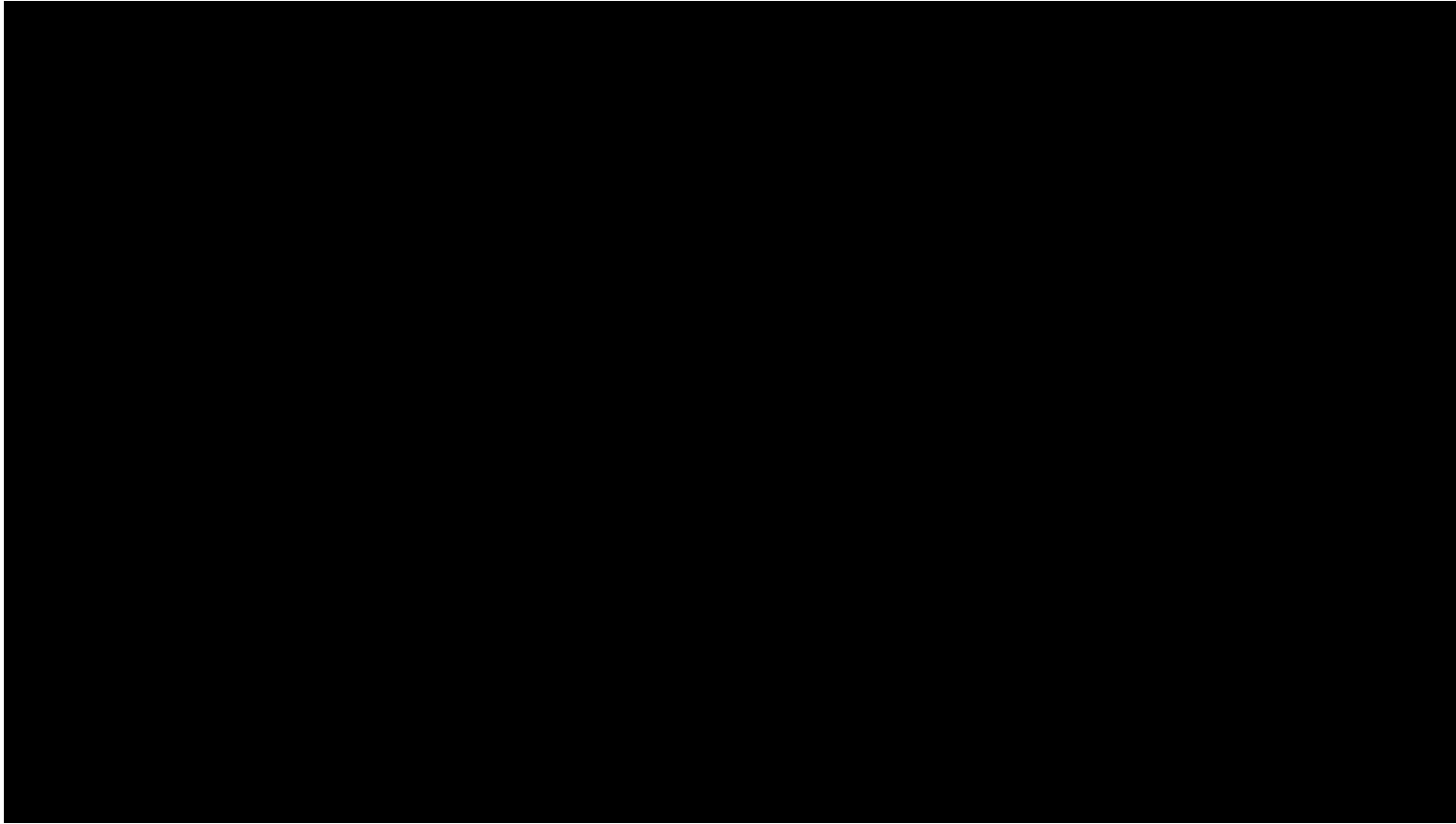
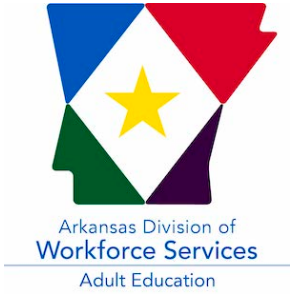
Hosted by
Dan Bingaman
and
Jon Lee

Local Partnerships

- Black River Technical College works with the Black River Area Development Headstart/Early Headstart Program, referring students who need childcare.
- The programs are designed to give children a good academic and social foundation in preparation for elementary school.
- Located adjacent to the College, the services are convenient and free.



CLIENT SUCCESSES



ADULT EDUCATION SECTION

Bridget Criner
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Rachel Kilmer
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501-682-1970

<https://www.arcareereducation.org/about/adult-education>



Q & A Session



Employment Services (WIOA) Title III

Stephanie Robinson
Program Operations Manager
Employment Assistance, ADWS



Wagner - Peyser Act



- The Wagner – Peyser Act of 1933 established a nationwide system of public employment offices, known as the Employment Services
- The Wagner –Peyser Act was amended in 1998 to make the Employment Services part of the one-stop delivery system under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA)
- In 2014, the Wagner – Peyser Act was amended again under Title III of the Workforce and Opportunity Act (WIOA)



Local Workforce Offices

ADWS Delivers services through 30 local Workforce Centers open to the public

Services include:

Assessments

Resume Services

Registration in Arkansas JobLink (AJL)

Job Referrals

Initial Unemployment claims

Career Readiness Certificate (CRC)

Assistance to migrant seasonal farm workers

Case management services

Employer recruitment & screening services

Posting job orders

Business services teams

Veterans' Services



Arkansas JobLink (AJL)



- Arkansas's largest job bank
- Arkansas is a proud member of America's JobLink Alliance Technical Solutions (AJLA-TS)
- Provides easy-to-use tools that support a wide range of activities for job seekers, employers, training providers



Arkansas JobLink (AJL)



- Job Seekers – An array of services are available to individuals' seeking employment in Arkansas through the Arkansas JobLink (AJL) System. Services include searching for job opportunities, post resumes, research career information and much more.
- Arkansas Workforce Centers Offers Services on Three Levels
 - Self-Service through the Resource Center
 - One-to-one service for those needing personal assistance
 - Training for those qualified
- Employers – Can use the Arkansas JobLink System to search for qualified applicants, view resume, post job vacancies, and advertise Job Fairs.
- Arkansas JobLink is a Free Service for both job seekers and employers

www.arjoblink.arkansas.gov





Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services

Employment Assistance

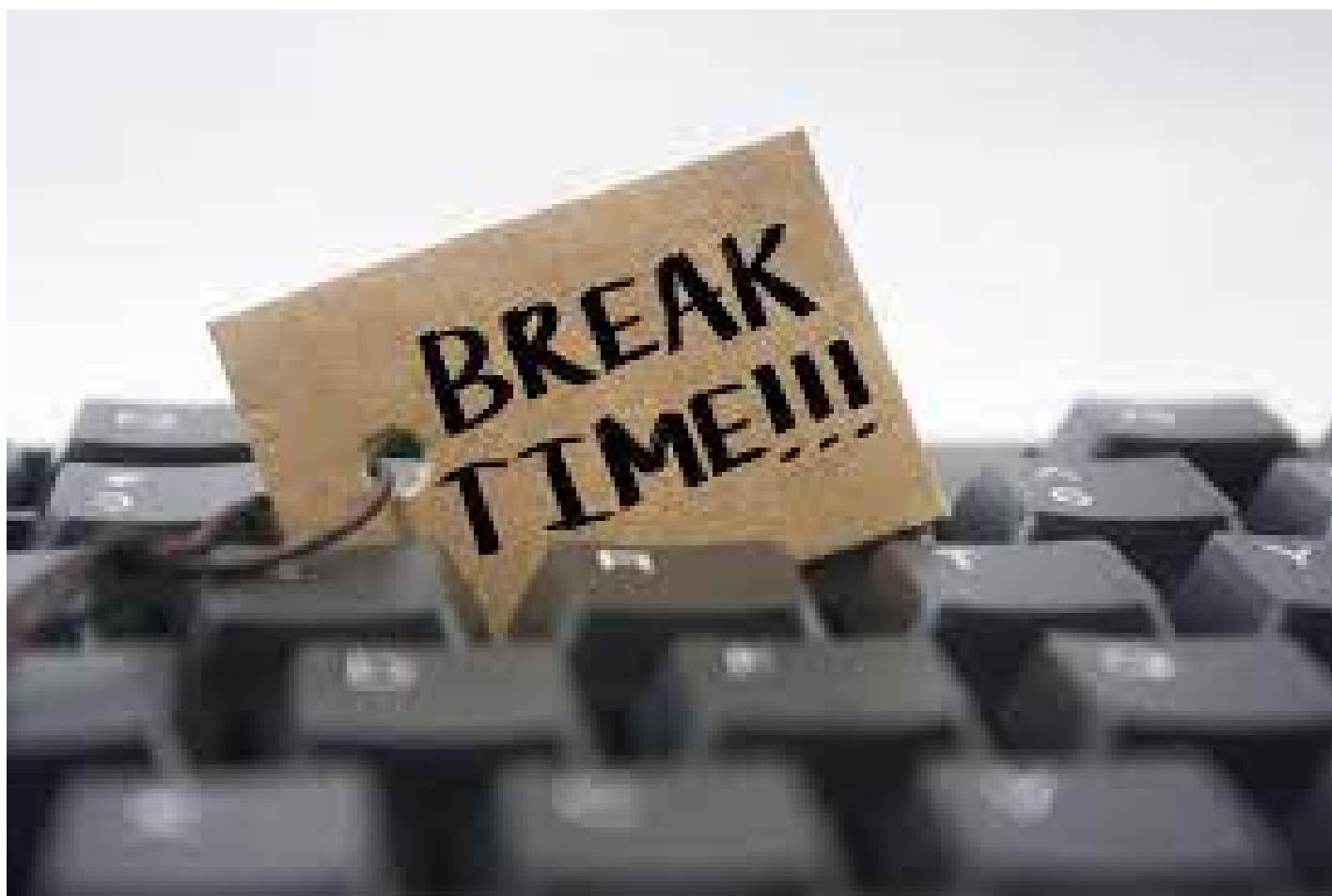
<https://www.arjoblink.arkansas.gov/>

ajl.help@arkansas.gov



Q & A Session





Arkansas Rehabilitation Services

Christy Lamas
Deputy Commissioner
ADWS-ARS

Mission: To prepare Arkansans with disabilities to work and lead productive and independent lives.



Arkansas Rehabilitation/ARS-Vocational Rehabilitation Services



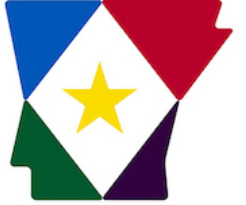
Eligibility Requirements:

- ✓ **Have a Disability** (learning, development, emotional, behavioral, or physical issue)
- ✓ **Have a Problem working** (mobility, communication, self-care, self-direction, work skills, work tolerance, or interpersonal skills)
- ✓ **Can benefit** (Is work the end goal? Send them to ARS!)
- ✓ **Preparation needed to prepare, enter, engage-in, or retain a career**

(ARS offers a variety of preparation services, see the next page)



SERVICES



Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services
Arkansas Rehabilitation Services



Tools & Equipment



Diagnosis and
evaluation of
capacities/limitations



Guidance and
counseling services



Pre-Employment
Transition Services



Post-Secondary
Education Assistance



Career and technical
education



Job placement



Physical and cognitive
restorative services



Assistive technology



On the job training



Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services



STATE INITIATIVES AND PARTNERSHIPS



Initiatives

- Apprenticeships
- Work-based Learning
- On-the-Job Training
- Supported Employment

Partners

- **DWS, Adult Ed., DSB, DESE, DYS**
- National Apprenticeship Foundation
- UAMS
- Children's, Mercy, St. Mary's and St. Bernard's Hospitals
- Access
- MedLink



CLIENT/PROGRAM SUCCESSES



Arkansas Division of
Workforce Services
Arkansas Rehabilitation Services



**Access through technology is a key to
independence!**



Arkansas Rehabilitation Services

Joseph Baxter
Commissioner

Joseph.Baxter@arkansas.gov

Christy Lamas
Deputy Commissioner

Christy.Lamas@arkansas.gov



Q & A Session



Division of Services for the Blind



Dr. Megan Lamb, Field Services Administrator



Eligibility Requirements for DSB Programs



- Require a visual disability to receive services
- Programs do not have any income requirement

- Total Blindness
 - Any permanent visual condition resulting in total loss of vision
- Legal Blindness
 - Visual Acuity for distance vision in best eye after correction of 20/200 or less
 - Widest diameter of visual field subtending an angle of less than 20 degrees
- Visual Impairment
 - Visual acuity of 20/50 in best eye after correction that is progressive
 - Progressive means a visual condition that is more likely than not to result in legal blindness
 - Imminent danger that the individual may become totally or legally blind within 6 months



Vocational Rehabilitation Program



- Eligibility is determined using 3 criteria
 - The individual has a visual impairment which for such individual constitutes, or results in, a substantial impediment to employment
 - The individual can benefit in terms of an employment outcome from vocational rehabilitation services.
 - The individual requires vocational rehabilitation services to prepare for, secure, retain, advance in, or regain employment.
 - Individuals must have the intention of entering competitive, integrated employment
- No residency requirement
 - DSB must not impose a residency requirement that excludes an applicant who is present in the state from receiving services



Vocational Rehabilitation Services



- Assessments for eligibility and determining VR needs
- Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling and Guidance
- Information and Referral
- Reader Services
- Rehabilitation Teaching Services
- Job Search and Placement Services
- Maintenance
- Training
 - Vocational, Post-Secondary, Disability Skills
- Physical and mental restoration services
- Personal Assistance Services
- Supported Employment Services
- Customized Employment Services
- Transportation
- Orientation and Mobility
- Occupational licenses, tools, and equipment
- Rehabilitation Technology
- Pre-Employment Transition Services
- Business Engagement Services
- Self-Employment

All VR services must relate directly to preparing the consumer for their specific employment goal



Older Individuals Who Are Blind



- Does not require an employment goal
 - Those seeking employment should be referred to VR
 - Empowers individuals to maximize their independence in the home and community
- At least 55 years of age, no upper limit on age may be set
- Vision loss must constitute a barrier to independent living
- Expectation that services will enable them to function more independently
- Individuals in residential care facilities are eligible to receive all services if other criteria are met



Older Blind Services



- Vision Assessments for Eligibility
- Low Vision Assessments
- Surgical or Therapeutic Treatments
 - Prevent, correct, or modify disabling eye conditions
- Assistive Technology
 - Devices, Evaluations, and Training
- Orientation and Mobility Services
- Reader Services
- Interpreter Services
- Personal Attendant Services
- Communication Skills
- Daily Living Skills
- Transportation
 - To enable a consumer to participate in services
- Advocacy Training and Support
- Counseling
 - Peer, Individual, and Group
- Information, Referral, and Community Integration Services
- Community Awareness Activities



Independent Living Items

- Individuals with visual impairments who need assistance
- DSB keeps stock items on hand to distribute
- Consumers who need training, multiple items, or are eligible for other programs will be referred to the appropriate program
- Can provide magnifiers, kitchen items, signature guides, talking watches/clocks, talking health care items
- No age limit or employment requirement



Division of Services for the Blind

Megan Lamb

Megan.Lamb@arkansas.gov

To make a referral for any DSB programs contact us at:

501-682-5463 or 1-800-960-9270

<https://arcareereducation.org/services/division-of-services-for-the-blind>



Q & A Session



Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

Franklin Holbrook
TANF Division Manager
TANF, ADWS



TANF Overview

Purpose

- Provide assistance to needy families so that children can be cared for in their homes or in the homes of their relatives;
- End the dependency of needy parents by promoting job preparation, work and marriage;
- Prevent and reduce the incidence of out-of-wedlock pregnancies
- Encourage the formation and maintenance of two-parent families



TANF Programs for the whole family

- Transitional Employment Assistance (TEA) operated by ADWS in partnership with ADHS
- Work Pays operated by ADWS
- Career Pathways Initiative (CPI) – an education and training program operated in partnership with ADHE and the two-year college system
- TANF-Career Connect – a subsidized employment program operated through a network of partners including DWS sister sections, directly with employers, and other strategic partners



Typical eligibility criteria for enrolling in a TANF funded service (program)

- Household Income Levels should meet the standards of a “low income and needy family”
- Assistance unit should typically have an adult taking care of a dependent child less than 18 years
- Arkansas Resident
- U.S. Citizenship or legal resident / appropriate immigration status
- Personal Responsibility Agreement and Demonstrated Need



Certain services could have customized eligibility requirements



Need based Services for specific needs of targeted populations

- Domestic Violence
- One-off apprenticeships, and specialized short term training programs
- Child Welfare Services through Child Advocacy Centers and the Emergency Assessment programs through ADHS
- Special programs (ex: after school care, summer programs for youth) for children and youth



Reinvesting In Arkansas Families

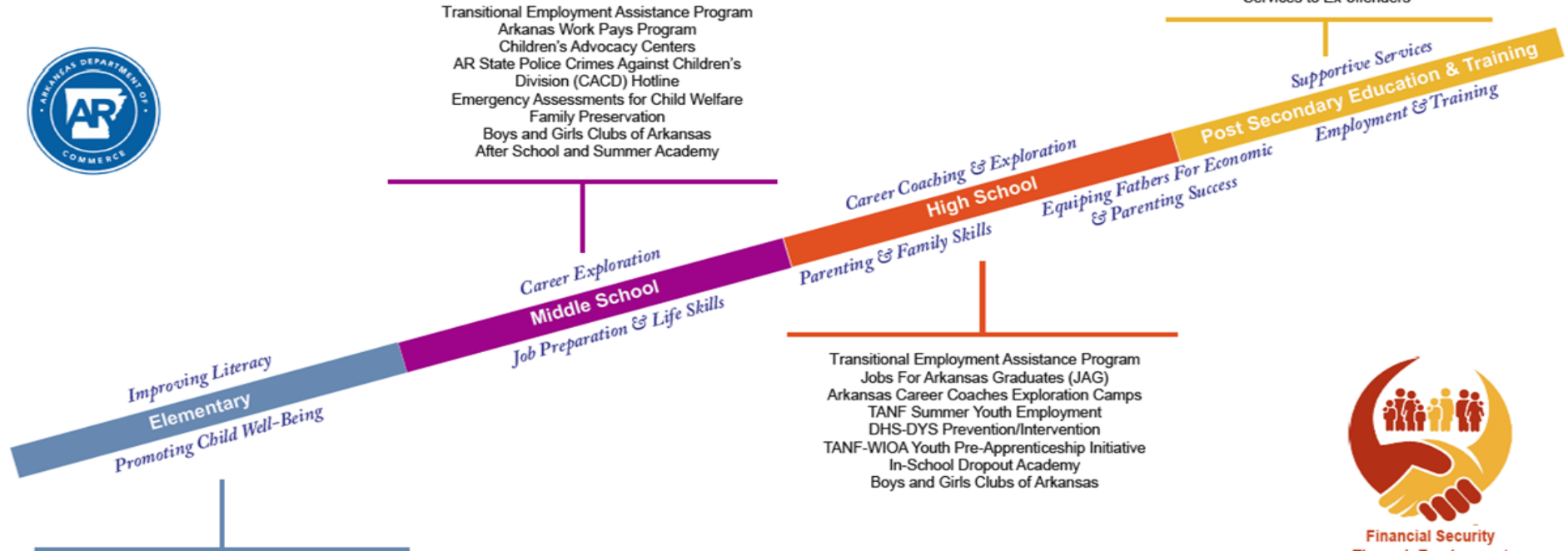


– Reinvesting In Arkansas Families –

These Division of Workforce Services Programs and Services are Available Across Arkansas.

Transitional Employment Assistance Program
Arkansas Work Pays Program
Children's Advocacy Centers
AR State Police Crimes Against Children's Division (CACD) Hotline
Emergency Assessments for Child Welfare
Family Preservation
Boys and Girls Clubs of Arkansas
After School and Summer Academy

Transitional Employment Assistance Program
Arkansas Work Pays Program
Career Pathways Initiative
Adult Education Services
AR Rehabilitation Services
TANF-WIOA Adult Pre-Apprenticeship Initiative
High Demand Workforce Development & Training
Our House Homelessness Pipeline to Employment
Arkansas Better Dads Fatherhood Initiative
Career Connect Subsidized Employment
Services to Ex-offenders



Transitional Employment Assistance Program
Jobs For Arkansas Graduates (JAG)
Arkansas Career Coaches Exploration Camps
TANF Summer Youth Employment
DHS-DYS Prevention/Intervention
TANF-WIOA Youth Pre-Apprenticeship Initiative
In-School Dropout Academy
Boys and Girls Clubs of Arkansas



Financial Security
Through Employment



Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
Arkansas Division of Workforce Services

Transitional Employment Assistance Program
Arkansas Work Pays Program
Arkansas Better Chance (ABC)
Children's Advocacy Centers
AR State Police Crimes Against Children's Division (CACD) Hotline
Emergency Assessments for Child Welfare
Family Preservation
Boys and Girls Clubs of Arkansas
After School and Summer Academy



TANF Success Story

EMPLOYMENT SUCCESS OUR HOUSE – DAUNTE BROWN

After spending his entire 20s in prison, Daunte Brown was released in February 2018. He was able to find employment as a dishwasher at Whole Hog Café at \$9.75 per hour. Daunte heard about Our House in May 2018, and was excited about the possibility of improving his employment situation. He quickly became involved in our Career Center employment outcomes.

Through his work with Our House, Daunte applied for CDL School, and worked hard to graduate. Upon completion, he acquired employment with State Transport at \$13.00 an hour, a 33% increase in income. Mr. Brown is now employed in a growing field and has a more stable financial future. Daunte is better equipped to support his long term education plans to finish his Associates degree.

Daunte says that, “his children are his motivation to be successful. His work with Our House stands as an example of how our clients can collaborate with our programs and with employers to achieve greater employment outcomes.”



Daunte is proudly displaying his new CDL Certification



Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

Franklin Holbrook

Division Manager

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, ADWS

franklin.holbrook@arkansas.gov

501-683-5310

Phil Harris

Assistant Director

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, ADWS

phil.harris@arkansas.gov

501-683-5363



Q & A Session



Closing Remarks

Dr. Trenia Miles

Director

Adult Education Section

Arkansas Division of Workforce Services

