

Dear Friends,

We are pleased to present our Denver Workforce Services (DWS) annual report for program year 2018. DWS serves as a comprehensive employment and training resource for jobseekers, employers, and youth. Through our three Workforce Centers across the City, jobseekers have access to programs and services designed to connect them with training and employment opportunities. Simultaneously, employers can access a free, custom menu of services designed to connect them with a qualified and skilled workforce.

Through the energetic leadership of Tony Anderson, Director of Denver Workforce Services, our division operates as an employer-driven system and keeps our fingers on the pulse of business needs by convening our key industry Sector Partnerships. Employers from the construction, healthcare, information technology, retail & hospitality, manufacturing, and early childhood education sectors provide direct insight and guidance that allows us to understand the workplace skills necessary to compete in the current and future talent marketplace. These partnerships, along with our workforce partner network, the Denver Workforce Integration Network (DWIN), allow us to increase the impact of our services by connecting employers and jobseekers directly to resources and training partners.

Thank you,



Deborah Cameron,
Chief Business Development Officer
DENVER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & OPPORTUNITY



Denver Workforce Services plays a critical role in creating an economy that works for everyone – an economy built on equity, and opportunity for every resident, every worker, and every family. It ensures training for anyone seeking a good-paying career in the industries and fields that will define the future.

Mayor Michael B. Hancock

CORE Goals

Denver Workforce Services assists employers to **hire, train** and **retain** a quality workforce while providing jobseekers the ability to **access, explore, prepare, learn** and **connect** to employment, training, and workforce development opportunities.

CORE Strategies

Denver Workforce Services is working to strengthen alignment between employer needs and community assets to expand the talent pipeline, while also focusing on increasing the access to and impact of our programs and services.



Access to labor is essential to economic development, and we're proud to have a workforce services team in place that is focused on building a stronger business environment that provides opportunity for our residents. This year we made great progress at further strengthening our employer-led approach to workforce services, while fully leveraging public investments to provide promising career opportunities.

Eric Hiraga, Executive Director
DENVER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & OPPORTUNITY

Denver Economic Development & Opportunity is a proud member of the Colorado Resource Partners (CORE) network who is responsible for presenting WORKNOW, a job recruitment, advancement and support platform for Denver area families living in neighborhoods directly affected by construction projects. This is Denver's first workforce development platform striving to equalize opportunities for all Coloradans by enabling inclusive, diverse, and skilled employment opportunities in construction.



On May 4, Denver Workforce Services led a Construction Career Workshop at the Denver Coliseum, in partnership with other city agencies, and community partners like WORKNOW. Don, a high school senior at Endeavor Academy High School, attended with his family to learn more about the opportunities in the construction industry. He has already been accepted in the Community College of Denver's Technical Design program and is excited about his future in the industry.

BY THE NUMBERS

3,325  **128,377**

EMPLOYERS SERVED

JOB OPENINGS POSTED

161 TOTAL RECRUITMENT EVENTS

22,323
PEOPLE SERVED

14,956 (67%) were employed
within six months of accessing services

6,019

jobseekers received a staff
assisted service

AND

5,236
(87%)

were
employed
within six
months of
accessing
services

\$7.36
 **MILLION**

in additional wages above
program expenditures,
participants' prior wages, and
federal income tax flowed into
the local economy

\$6.97

 **return on investment**
for every \$1 spent

1,182

individuals enrolled into
Workforce Innovation
Opportunity Act (WIOA) programs

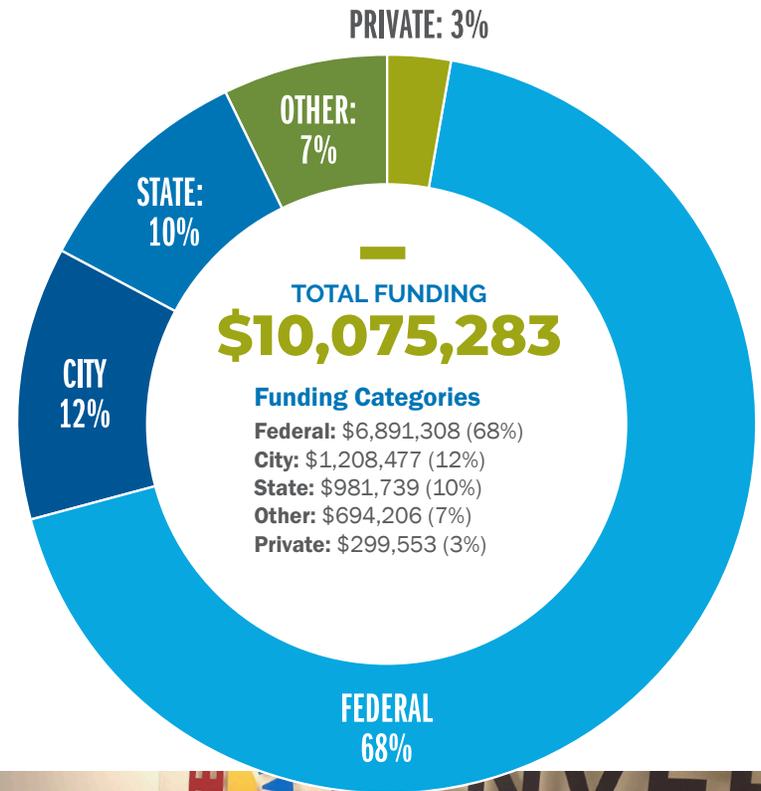


Image: Montbello Workforce Center team!

After being laid off from his management job in the transportation sector, Randy, a Denver resident, was referred to the Montbello Workforce Center through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. Despite his years of experience and diligence in applying for up to 20 jobs each week, he had no success in landing a new job. At the workforce center, Denver Workforce staff helped Randy with his job search, résumé, interview skills, confidence and even getting new clothes for networking and interviewing. During this time, he also earned his Commercial Driver's License—a skill required for many management jobs in the transportation sector. **With our support, Randy landed a job as a Production Manager at a northeast Denver manufacturing facility.**

KEY

Accomplishments

Denver Construction Career Pilot

- Launched the Denver Construction Career Pilot to focus on connecting residents to employment opportunities on over \$900 million of city construction projects, while also supporting the WORKNOW employment platform
- Created and implemented processes including workforce contract language development, proposal evaluation tools, contractor resource guides, evaluation methodology, corrective action plans, and reporting templates

Technology Employment in Colorado Partnership

- Closed out the final year of a five-year, \$6.17 million U.S. Department of Labor Ready to Work grant focused on workforce development activities in the information technology and advanced manufacturing industries
- Served 674 total people throughout the metro Denver region with 542 receiving training, resulting in an average wage at exit of \$80,589

Disability Employment Initiative

- Secured funding through the Disability Employment Initiative grant to provide additional employment and training opportunities to individuals with disabilities
- Improved accessibility at all three Workforce Centers

Mayor's Summer Youth Programs

- Supported a variety of youth programs including the Summer Youth Employment Program, My Brother's Keeper, CareerConnect, Summer Coding Camps, and the Governor's Summer Job Hunt
- Enrolled 762 youth in summer programs with 600 receiving paid internships, and the other 162 receiving job readiness training and career exploration

Employer Services

- Convened and/or participated in six sector partnerships including construction, healthcare, information technology, retail & hospitality, manufacturing, and early childhood education
- Assisted in the launch of five new registered apprenticeship programs in retail & hospitality, information technology, and healthcare

Veterans Service to Career

- Awarded a two-year \$350,000 Veterans Service to Career grant to support workforce development activities for veterans with significant barriers to employment
- Partnered with the Volunteers of America Bill Daniels Veterans Service Center to incorporate workforce services into their one-stop approach to serving veterans

ReImagine Retail

- Awarded a two-year \$850,000 grant from the Chicago Cook Partnership and the Walmart Foundation to focus on workforce development activities in the retail & hospitality industry
- Served more than 500 participants through a combination of job readiness training, skills upgrades, industry recognized certifications, and employment placement support



As the proud Chair of Denver's Workforce Development Board, and as a member of the private sector, I have witnessed first-hand the positive impact that Denver Workforce Services has on the community. Their work plays a critical role in strengthening the workforce, and connecting employers to a skilled and qualified talent pipeline in Denver.

**Maggie Bolden, Director of Client Relations,
Palace Construction**

CHAIR, DENVER WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Denver Workforce Services would like to thank the Denver Workforce Development Board and our PY18 contracted partners, ResCare Workforce Services and Denver Public Schools, for their commitment and dedication to building and sustaining a vibrant talent pool in Denver.

ResCare



FAMILY AND COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT
DENVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

americanjobcenter[®]

Equal Opportunity Is the Law

Denver Workforce Services and its contractors are an Equal Opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available on request to individuals with disabilities. Please dial 7-1-1 or 1.800.659.2656 to use the TTY service Relay Colorado. Accommodations through the Denver Workforce Centers can be requested by calling 720.930.4331 or 720.930.4063.



DENVER
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
& OPPORTUNITY

Denver Workforce Services is a division within Denver Economic Development & Opportunity.

Denver Economic Development & Opportunity is leading an inclusive and innovative economy for all Denver residents, businesses, and neighborhoods. By supporting local and global business development, affordable housing programs, and stabilization efforts in Denver's diverse neighborhoods, we are creating opportunity for everyone to make a home, get a job, and build a future.

For more information about our programs and services, please visit

WWW.DENVERGOV.ORG/WORKFORCE