



CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion
2703 NE 14th Street
Ocala, FL 34470

BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA

Wednesday, November 5, 2025 – 9:00 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88563404867>

Phone No: 1-646-558-8656 (EST) Meeting ID: 885 6340 4867

Call to Order	P. Beasley
Roll Call	C. Schnettler
Approval of Minutes, August 6, 2025	Pages 2 - 4 P. Beasley

DISCUSSION ITEMS

State Update	R. Skinner
Workforce Issues that are Important to Our Community	R. Skinner

PUBLIC COMMENT

ACTION ITEMS

WRA Grant	Pages 5 - 24
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PROJECT UPDATES

Economic Development Partner Reports	
Citrus	S. Baham
Levy	T. Whitehurst
Marion	H. Shubirg
MRMA	Pages 25 - 26 M. Toscano
Talent Center	Page 27 C. Wilkinson
Event Report	Page 28 M. Saco
Experiential Learning	Page 29 C. Weaver
Metrix Users Report	Page 30 C. Weaver
Grant Updates	Page 31 S. Crawford
YouthBuild	Page 32 S. Crawford
Contracts Reporting	Page 33 S. Crawford

MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR

ADJOURNMENT

2025 – 2026 MEETING SCHEDULE							
Performance/ Monitoring	Business and Economic Development	Career Center	Marketing / Outreach	Education and Industry Consortium	Executive	Full Board	
Unless noted otherwise all committee meetings are held at CareerSource CLM, 2703 NE 14 th Street, Ocala, FL 34470							
Tuesday 9:00 am	Wednesday 9:00 am	Thursday 9:30 am	Wednesday 9:00 am	Thursday 9:00 am	Wednesday 9:30 am	Wednesday, 11:30 am	
8/5/2025	8/6/2025	8/7/2025	8/13/2025	8/14/2025	8/27/2025	9/3/2025	CF Levy
11/4/2025	11/5/2025	10/30/2025	11/12/2025	11/13/2025	11/19/2025	12/10/2025	CF Ocala
2/3/2026	2/4/2026	2/5/2026	2/11/2026	2/12/2026	2/25/2026	3/4/2026	CF Lecanto
5/5/2026	5/6/2026	5/7/2026	5/13/2026	5/14/2026	5/27/2026	6/3/2026	CF Ocala

OUR VISION STATEMENT

To be known as the number one workforce resource in the state of Florida by providing constructive tools and professional supportive services that are reflected in the quality of our job candidates and meet the needs of the business community.



**CAREERSOURCE CITRUS LEVY MARION
Business and Economic Development Committee**

MINUTES

DATE: August 6, 2025
PLACE: CareerSource CLM
2703 NE 14th Street, Ocala, FL 34470
TIME: 9:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Ben Whitehouse
Edward Suor
Deb Stanley
Gary Smallridge
Jeff Chang
Kevin Cunningham
Mark Paugh
MJ Toscano
Phillip Geist
Tisha Whitehurst

MEMBERS ABSENT

Pete Beasley, Chair
Steven Baham

OTHER ATTENDEES

Rusty Skinner, CSCLM
Dale French, CSCLM
Cory Weaver, CSCLM
Melissa Saco, CSCLM

Chris Wilkinson, CSCLM
Sandra Crawford, CSCLM
Cira Schnettler, CSCLM
Heather Shubirg, Ocala CEP

CALL TO ORDER

In Pete Beasley's absence, the meeting was called to order by Jeff Chang, Committee Member, at 9:01 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Cira Schnettler called roll and a quorum was declared present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Phil Geist made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 7, 2025, meeting. Edward Suor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

State Update

Rusty Skinner updated the committee on the following items:

- CareerSource Florida will be holding their quarterly State meeting on August 20 and 21 at the World Equestrian Center. CLM management will be in attendance.

- The State is introducing detailed guidelines and policies to ensure consistency among the regions.

Workforce Issues that are Important to Our Community

No issues were presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ACTION ITEMS

None

PROJECT UPDATES

Economic Development Partner Reports

Citrus:

- Deb Stanley shared that Citrus County Schools will be submitting a request for a CAP grant to support upgrades to the Culinary Arts kitchens. Several community partners, including CareerSource CLM, have provided letters of support to strengthen the application. Cory Weaver stated that the State will be reviewing multiple culinary certifications for approval this week. If approved, the certifications would be added to the Master Credential List, which would enhance the competitiveness of the grant submission.

Levy:

- Tisha Whitehurst shared the below developments for Levy County:
 - The Florida Job Growth Grant will be providing support for improving infrastructure needs for a grocer project in Chiefland as well as an industrial project.
 - There are also discussions of positive activity that may enhance the Williston airport.

Marion

- Heather Shubirg shared that there are several projects in development:
 - There has been interest in larger vacant spaces that may see development within the next 6 months.
 - The CEP is partnering with MTC to kick off an aerial workforce program, which would complement the needs of the Williston airport.
 - The CEP is also partnering with Lake Weir on a construction academy.
 - The CEP will be hosting business workshops. Heather invited committee members to attend the workshops.

MRMA

MJ Toscano stated the fundraising Bowling Tournament was highly successful. Two new fundraisers will be added to support the scholarship program: 5K Walk/Run and Fishing Tournament. The Golf Tournament is scheduled for October 16. Joe Corley has retired from his employer and will now be an honorary member of MRMA. He will be providing support by serving on various boards and councils.

Talent Center

Chris Wilkinson reviewed the report provided in the packet. He also shared that the

Talent Connection virtual candidate showcases have been very successful. Talent Connection #4 and #5 are scheduled for August and September. The Talent Center team will also be holding a presentation on best practices for a developing a virtual fireside at the 2025 Workforce Summit.

Event Report

Melissa Saco highlighted items from the Event Report. She attributed much of the success of the job fairs to the ongoing partnerships with educational institutions. The next Paychecks for Patriots event has been scheduled for November 13. The Marion County Job Fair is scheduled for October 2.

Experiential Learning Contracts

Cory Weaver summarized each section of the report. Noting the successful completions that lead to employment. We are hopeful that healthcare and construction apprenticeships will be in development this year as well.

Metrix Users

Cory Weaver shared details from the report, noting the most popular pathways and courses. Program usage continues to grow. The link to the Metrix program can be found on the CLM website. Heather Shubirg asked if there were AI courses in the program. Cory Weaver responded that she would do further research in this area.

Contract Reports

Sandra Crawford reviewed the performance report for Citrus and Marion counties and the youth report. Overall, the partners did well. Levy County has an economic director in place. We will be collaborating with their representative on the 2025-2026 goals, which will be presented at the next meeting.

Grant Update

Sandra Crawford provided an overview of the grants. Both grants have had a high level of enrollments and engaged participants.

MATTERS FROM THE FLOOR

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:29 a.m.

APPROVED:



RECORD OF ACTION/APPROVAL

Business and Economic Development Committee Wednesday, November 5, 2025

TOPIC/ISSUE:

Economic Development Support- Williston Regional Airport (WRA)

BACKGROUND:

We have been part of a workgroup in the initial phases of reviewing the WRA as a prospect to diversify the economy of Levy County. Participating organizations include, the City of Williston, WRA Manager, Levy County Economic Development Department, Levy County School Board and the North Florida Economic Development Partnership (NFEDP).

The U.S. Economic Development Administration has funding to assist rural counties impacted by natural disasters in their recovery. These grants require a 20% local (non-federal) match.

CareerSource Florida secured \$5 million in General Revenue (GR) to support workforce development in Florida's Rural Counties.

We submitted a request for \$150,000 to support this project through marketing new career opportunities through our Talent Pipeline videos, traditional print media, social media, and our project with the Levy County School Board and Career Expos. In addition, our proposal would allow us to provide funds to cover other costs related to the development of a strategic plan for the WRA.

The Levy County School Board and the College of Central Florida are reviewing training options that will support Maintenance Repair Operations (MRO), drone repair and training. The drone discussions include agricultural-related uses which may also open up entrepreneurial options.

Our plan is to use \$70,000 of the grant to develop the marketing and outreach elements and use \$80,000 to support the development of the strategic plan. Our \$80,000 will serve as a match for up to \$400,000.

Attached are rough drafts of the grant application for the City of Williston.

POINTS OF CONSIDERATION:

By accepting the GR grant, we will be able to promote aviation careers and training planned to begin at MTC in mid-2026, develop career information on MRO and drone careers and support recruitment efforts for CF and the Levy County School Board.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Staff recommendations:

- Accept the CSF GR grant
- Allow staff to move forward with finalizing contract(s) to support the development of the strategic plan (\$80,000); and,
- Develop the career path materials necessary to support training related to activities in the strategic plan (\$70,000)
- Authorize the Executive Committee to approve contracts between full Board meetings, with contracts presented at the next full board meeting.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

BOARD ACTION:

Impact and Engagement Narrative

I. Executive Summary

- a. **Project Title:** Strategic Economic Development Plan for Williston Regional Airport and Industrial Park (WRA)
- b. **Summary of the Project and Goals:** The City of Williston (Florida) is seeking to develop a comprehensive Strategic Economic Development and Disaster Resiliency Plan focused on optimizing two of the city's most critical, yet undeveloped and undercapitalized economic assets: the Williston Regional Airport and its industrial park. The project is seeking \$500,000 through the Readiness Path of the EDA's FY 2025 Disaster Supplemental Funding. The project is focused on securing a Strategy Development grant.

The request for funding is being pursued following unprecedented economic devastation in Levy County and the North Central Florida region produced from three (3) major hurricanes occurring between August 2023 and September 2024: Hurricane Idalia (Category 3, August 2023), Hurricane Debby (Category 1, August 2024), and Hurricane Helene (Category 4, September 2024). These disasters, covered under Federal Disaster Declarations DR-4734, DR-4806-FL, and DR-4834 respectively, have resulted in approximately \$178 million in direct economic losses across Levy County (including Williston) and its three primary economic sectors including agriculture (\$28.2 million), aquaculture (\$87 million), and damages attributed to tourism disruption (\$63.5 million). In addition, there was an SBA Administrative Disaster Declaration (FL-20026) and FL-20027) from a Tornado in October 2023. The severity and compressed timeframes of these disasters, with each subsequent storm affecting ongoing recovery efforts from previous storm events, has created a critical systemic economic disruption in the county and region overall.

The proposed project is essential for charting a more strategic, sustainable, and disaster-resilient economic future for Williston, Levy County, and the broader North Central Florida region. This project will result in a comprehensive, data-driven, feasible plan to both diversify the private sector economic employment base and develop strategies for pre- and post-storm event operations for future disaster response and recovery scenarios. A key element of this project is the optimization of undeveloped and/or underutilized property at WRA—approximately 1,000 acres. The ultimate outcomes of the project will lead to the creation of private sector, high-wage jobs and capital investment in targeted industries such as aviation-related manufacturing, maintenance and repair, and avionics; emerging technologies, testing, and manufacturing related to unmanned drones; and freight logistics and distribution, among others.

Proposed Geographic Region. Williston Regional Airport and Industrial Park are located at 1891 SW 18th Street, Williston Florida, and including the entirety of Levy County and the broader North Central Florida region.

Section 2. Strategic Positioning for Future Disaster Recovery and Economic Development Funding

This project can play a pivotal role in positioning the WRA, the City of Williston, Levy County, and a host of additional local and regional public and private entities for future disaster recovery and economic development funding through EDA and other federal agencies, and multiple Florida state government agencies including the Florida Department of Commerce, CareerSource Florida, the Florida Department of Transportation, and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, among others. This project may also open up private funding and investment opportunities for designated Opportunity Zones. Here's how this project can achieve that goal:

Improves Grant Competitiveness and Readiness

- **Strategic Alignment with EDA Priorities:** By creating a formalized strategic plan, the project will ensure alignment with EDA's investment priorities (e.g., economic recovery resilience, workforce development, critical infrastructure, innovation and entrepreneurship, and manufacturing).
- **Data-Driven Justification:** The plan will include comprehensive data collection, economic analysis, and risk assessments that support future EDA and other agency grant applications.
- **Shovel-Ready Projects Pipeline:** The strategic plan will identify and prioritize critical infrastructure and disaster recovery resource needs, enabling the community and region to be more agile and prepared in applying for time-sensitive federal and state grants.

Strengthens Disaster Resilience

- **Resiliency Planning:** Incorporating disaster vulnerability assessments into the plan will position the community and region for additional EDA Disaster Supplemental Funding (potentially Implementation Path) and other state and federal funding opportunities.
- **Infrastructure Resilience:** The strategic plan will focus on infrastructure needs at the WRA that could mitigate risks from hurricanes, flooding, or other natural disasters, and that can advance and serve economic development efforts for targeted and emerging industries.

Unlocks New and Diversified Economic Development Opportunities

- **Identifies Growth Sectors:** The plan will pinpoint high-potential industries (e.g., aviation, logistics and distribution, advanced manufacturing, agri-tech) suited to the community and region's assets and workforce and identify gaps in workforce skills needed to support targeted and emerging industries.
- **Business Attraction & Investment:** With a strategic roadmap in place, the community will proactively target industries aligned with the identified sectors for WRA.

- **Airport-Centric Development:** The WRA's role as a regional transportation asset will be leveraged for aviation-related economic clusters, skilled labor training centers, and/or logistics hubs.
- **Reduces Dependence on Legacy Industries:** Levy County and Williston will continue to support greatly the legacy businesses that have been so vital to the local/regional economy; however, this project will target private industries that broaden the local economic base beyond traditional sectors like agriculture and tourism including aviation-based industries, advanced manufacturing, and logistics among others.
- **Workforce Strategy:** The project will address local skills gaps and propose training initiatives in partnership with regional colleges, technical schools, and workforce development boards to support emerging industries.
- **Regional Collaboration:** The project will facilitate public-private partnerships and regional coordination, increasing competitiveness for multi-jurisdictional funding opportunities.

Community and Stakeholder Engagement

A major focus of the project is local and regional stakeholder engagement. Over the past 3 months, commitments have been garnered from a range of vital public and private stakeholders critical to the project's success. A Steering Committee has been informally created and designed to provide guidance and feedback on all elements of the project, and to participate in data collection and analysis, and policy formulation. Members for this Committee (to date) include legacy businesses operating at and/or near the airport, city and county elected officials, executive city and airport staff, contracted airport aviation engineers, local and regional economic development staff, regional planning council staff, regional college administrators and staff, regional CareerSource officials and staff (workforce development), School District Superintendent for K-12 schools and School District Career Technical Education (CTE) Director for Levy County, Director for Marion Technical College (adjacent county), Space Florida executives and staff in charge of Business/Industry Development, among others. This Committee has held two organizational meetings, and all are contributing toward the development of this application, are committed to the entirety of this project and all it will entail and have expressed their enthusiastic "buy-in" to this effort.

Section 3: Strategy Development

In summary, the project will produce a data-driven, feasible, and regionally aligned roadmap for addressing critical infrastructure priorities identified for the WRA, for assessing and developing strategies for addressing existing workforce development gaps and ensuring a sustainable pipeline of skilled workers for targeted and emerging industries, for prioritizing disaster resource recovery infrastructure and other needs based on identified vulnerabilities, and for positioning multiple local and regional entities with data and information to pursue additional federal and state funding opportunities (highlighted above). The goal of the project will be to pursue, attract, and sustain significant high-wage jobs for local and regional citizens, and high levels of private capital investment in the targeted area.

B.1: Scope of Work

Summary

The proposed Scope of Work (SOW) is designed to actively engage key stakeholders and organizations in developing a comprehensive **Strategic Economic Development Plan** for the Williston Regional Airport and Industrial Park (WRA). Central to this engagement is the formation of a **Steering Committee**, composed of public and private sector leaders, to provide expertise, guidance, and oversight in shaping strategies that align with the project's ultimate goal: attracting targeted private industry, increasing private investment, and generating high-wage, sustainable jobs for local and regional residents.

The project will be executed by an experienced **project management and technical team**, ensuring the completion of all objectives and deliverables. Strategies will be informed by extensive **data collection, benchmarking, and market assessments**, documenting current conditions and trends at the WRA, the City of Williston, and the broader North Central Florida region. This will include analysis of:

- **Physical assets** (developable property, site readiness, infrastructure capacity)
- **Workforce and talent** (current workforce, skills, educational and training programs)
- **Industry clusters** and regional economic development programs
- **Local and regional partnerships**, plans, and organizations

The resulting Strategic Plan will position the WRA and its partners to pursue additional federal, state, and local funding and outline actionable steps to maximize economic potential.

The SOW is organized into **Core Elements**, each with objectives and key tasks to achieve project outcomes.

Core Element A: Project Initiation, Management, and Oversight

Objective A1: Internal planning for project management, Steering Committee, and resources

Objective A2: Initiate project activities and conduct project kick-off

Key Tasks:

- **A1.1** Convene core leadership team (City Manager, Airport Director, Ad Hoc Working Group) to review scope, deliverables, in-house capabilities, and consultant needs.

- **A1.2** Establish a diverse Steering Committee to provide input on data, analysis, strategy development, and resource support; project manager to coordinate all activities.
- **A1.3** Secure lead project manager responsible for oversight, consultant management, financial reporting, and resource allocation.
- **A1.4** Identify required professional/technical consultants and develop selection and engagement processes.
- **A1.5** Determine technical expertise, personnel, and funding needs for successful project execution.
- **A2.1** Hold kick-off meeting with Steering Committee to define roles, responsibilities, engagement expectations, project milestones, and resources.
- **A2.2** Establish communication protocols and next-phase project activities.
- **A2.3** Conduct initial strategic visioning session to gather stakeholder insight, identify priorities, and discuss WRA strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT).

Core Element B: Baseline Inventory & Benchmarking

Objective B1: Develop a baseline of physical assets, workforce, education/training programs, and industry clusters.

Objective B2: Identify potential barriers to optimizing WRA assets.

Objective B3: Inventory current local and regional partnerships.

Objective B.4: Review, assess, and refine (where necessary) WRA disaster recovery operational and recovery plans.

Key Tasks:

- **B1.1** Compile WRA-specific data: land availability, runway capacity, hangars, current businesses, aircraft operations, and cargo/freight volumes.
- **B1.2** Assess infrastructure: utilities (water, electricity, wastewater, broadband, energy), transportation access (road, rail, air).
- **B1.3** Evaluate site readiness of all developable parcels, including zoning, permitting, and environmental considerations.
- **B1.4** Collect workforce and economic data: employment by industry, labor skills, unemployment, wage trends, educational attainment, population growth.

- **B1.5** Identify current industry clusters (e.g., manufacturing, logistics, aviation) and WRA's role within them.
- **B1.6** Inventory education and training assets, including post-secondary institutions, Career Technical Education (CTE), workforce training programs, dual enrollment opportunities, and private providers.
- **B2.1** Identify infrastructure gaps hindering business expansion.
- **B2.2** Highlight deficiencies in education/training programs for targeted industries.
- **B2.3** Identify environmental, regulatory, and land-use barriers to economic development.
- **B3.1** Inventory potential local, regional, and public/private partnerships for resource leveraging.
- **B3.2** Review existing economic development plans (CEDS, NFEDP, WRA Airport Master Plan, Workforce Development plans) to ensure alignment.
- **B4.1** Collect, review and analyze all disaster recovery operations and recovery plans.
- **B4.2** Identify any outdated and/or inadequate emergency management, hazard mitigation, or otherwise shortfalls in current plans that need to be addressed.

Core Element C: Market & Opportunity Assessment

Objective C1: Assess market demand and opportunities in target sectors.

Objective C2: Evaluate site readiness for targeted industries.

Objective C3: Conduct SWOT analysis for WRA economic development.

Key Tasks:

- **C1.1** Conduct market research to identify and analyze feasible industry targets: aviation/aerospace, manufacturing, logistics, equine-related sectors; assess growth trends, location drivers, site and workforce needs.
- **C1.2** Analyze regional and national supply chains to identify WRA's potential role as a node.
- **C2.1** Evaluate, rank, and develop site preparedness plan for WRA parcels; provide rough order of magnitude cost estimates for top properties.

- **C2.2** Conduct financial feasibility analysis for site development and tenant attraction.
 - **C3.1** Convene follow-up workshop with stakeholders, consultants, and industry experts to validate SWOT findings.
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Core Element D: Strategy Formulation & Economic Development Plan

- Objective D1:** Define priority strategic goals for WRA economic development.
Objective D2: Develop actionable strategies and initiatives.
Objective D3: Identify funding sources and local incentives to support strategies.
Objective D4: Prepare and adopt final Strategic Plan.
Objective D5: Determine a framework of “Next Steps” seeking realization of goals and strategies for the WRA Economic Development Plan.

Key Tasks:

- **D1.1** Formulate strategic goals based on project data, assessments, and stakeholder input.
- **D2.1** For each goal, develop 3–4 actionable, measurable strategies.
- **D3.1** Inventory potential federal, state, local, and private funding sources.
- **D3.2** Identify local incentives to attract private investment.
- **D4.1** Prepare Draft WRA Economic Development Strategic Plan incorporating all analyses and strategies.
- **D4.2** Circulate draft for review and comment by Steering Committee, project team, and stakeholders.
- **D4.3** Revise draft based on feedback.
- **D4.4** Present Final Strategic Plan for Steering Committee approval.
- **D5.1** Explore and determine potential governance structure (advisory or formal) designed to guide subsequent activities in realizing the goals/strategies for (WRA).
- **D5.2** Prioritize strategies for short-, mid-, and long-term action.
- **D5.3** Identify possible funding sources (federal, state, local and private) to assist in the addressing the strategies, especially shortfalls in physical infrastructure and workforce capacities.

- **D.5.3** Assign resources and capacity to pursue additional funding and partnerships to advance the priorities of the WRA Strategic Economic Development Plan.
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Core Element E: Project Close-Out

Objective E: Ensure completion and formal closure of all project elements.

Key Tasks:

- **E1.1** Confirm all deliverables accepted by EDA.
- **E1.2** Prepare final project close-out report.
- **E1.3** Archive documentation and establish plan review/update schedule (e.g., every 3 years).
- **E1.4** Conduct debrief with Steering Committee and project team; explore subsequent funding and transition to strategy implementation

B.2 Project Deliverables and Outcomes (WRA Economic Development Strategic Plan)

Summary

The project deliverables for the WRA Economic Development Strategic Plan collectively establish a structured, data-informed approach to regional economic development. Core Element A focuses on project initiation and management, resulting in a clear leadership structure, engaged stakeholders, defined roles, and a unified strategic vision. Core Element B delivers a comprehensive baseline of physical, workforce, and industry assets, identifies gaps and barriers, and validates data with stakeholders to support evidence-based planning and strengthen regional alignment.

Core Elements C and D build on this foundation, translating insights into actionable economic strategies. Market and opportunity assessments provide prioritized industry targets, site readiness evaluations, and financial feasibility analyses, guiding investment and development decisions. The Strategy Formulation and Economic Development Plan synthesizes findings into strategic goals, measurable initiatives, funding strategies, and a final, consensus-based plan, ensuring a practical roadmap for sustainable growth, stakeholder collaboration, and regional economic vitality.

This plan will be of immense value and benefit a range of stakeholders but most important will be local and regional residents of all ages seeking better, high wage paying jobs and employment. As companies are attracted to the WRA, there will be long-term, sustainable industry jobs and also a high impact with construction employment as facilities and infrastructure is built out. Other beneficiaries will undoubtedly be the City and Airport with more diversified revenue sources to reinvest in the airport and community abroad, local and regional education and technical skill training institutions as they see higher enrollments and emerging industries for additional programs, and the North Central Florida region overall as other private investment is likely to grow.

Deliverables and Anticipated Outcomes

Core Element A: Project Initiation, Management, and Oversight

Objective A1: Internal Discussions and Planning

Objective A2: Initiate Project Activities and Kick-Off

Deliverable	Description of Outcome
A1.1 Leadership Team Convened & Planning Framework Established	Formation of core leadership, review of project scope, assignment of responsibilities, and initial project timeframes.

Deliverable	Description of Outcome
A1.2 Steering Committee Established	Appointment of public/private stakeholders to provide strategic guidance and ensure alignment with the WRA Strategic Plan.
A1.3 Lead Project Manager Selection Process Defined	Approved process to identify, select, and onboard a project manager responsible for coordination, oversight, and deliverables.
A1.4 Consultant Procurement Process & Schedule	Plan and timeline for selecting professional/technical consultants, including scopes, advertising, and evaluation criteria.
A1.5 Technical Resource Assessment Report	Identification of required technical expertise, personnel, and funding; highlights gaps and strategies to secure needed resources.
A2.1 Project Kick-Off Meeting Held	Convening of Steering Committee to confirm roles, responsibilities, milestones, and communication expectations; documented outcomes.
A2.2 Communication & Coordination Protocols Established	Framework for meetings, reporting, and decision-making to ensure effective collaboration.
A2.3 Strategic Visioning Session & SWOT Summary Prepared	Facilitated session to identify priorities, critical assets, and SWOT insights to guide future project phases.

Summary Outcomes for Core Element A

- Clear management structure
- Defined project leadership and management processes
- Formalizes and details stakeholders' engagement
- Produces a unified vision guiding subsequent project elements.

Core Element B: Baseline Inventory & Benchmarking

Deliverable	Description	Outcome
B1. Comprehensive Asset & Infrastructure Inventory	Documentation of land, facilities, utilities, transportation access, and site readiness.	Establishes a complete baseline of WRA's physical and operational assets.
B2. Workforce, Education & Economic Profile	Analysis of regional labor, demographics, wages, and training assets.	Provides insight into workforce capacity, skills gaps, and talent pipeline opportunities.
B3. Regional Industry & Cluster Analysis	Assessment of existing/emerging industry clusters and WRA's regional role.	Clarifies competitive positioning and strategic growth opportunities.
B4. Barrier, Gap & Partnership Assessment	Evaluation of infrastructure, workforce, regulatory, and environmental challenges; partner alignment.	Identifies constraints and collaboration opportunities for regional economic initiatives.

Summary Outcomes for Core Element B: Comprehensive understanding of current conditions, identification of barriers and gaps, enhanced strategic alignment with regional/state plans, foundation for evidence-based planning, improved funding competitiveness, informed stakeholder collaboration.

Core Element C: Market & Opportunity Assessment

Deliverable	Description	Outcome
C1. Market Research & Industry Target Report	Analysis of target industries, growth trends, competitive positioning, and infrastructure/workforce needs.	Identifies priority industries and supports strategic investment decisions.

Deliverable	Description	Outcome
C2. Supply Chain & Airport Integration Assessment	Review of supply chain dynamics and airport-linked business opportunities.	Defines niche market roles and partnership strategies.
C3. Site Readiness Evaluation & Preparedness Plan	Technical assessment of parcels, readiness ranking, infrastructure gaps, and ROM cost estimates.	Prioritized list of sites and actionable roadmap for development.
C4. Financial Feasibility & Development Screening	Preliminary financial analysis of site development opportunities, costs, and incentives.	Provides framework for pursuing federal and state funding, public-private partnerships and investment strategies.
C5. SWOT Workshop & Strategic Findings Summary	Stakeholder-driven SWOT analysis; synthesis of findings.	Consensus-based understanding of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats, and strategic priorities.

Summary Outcome Core Element C: Data-driven market and opportunity portfolio to guide site development, investment attraction, and sustainable economic growth.

Core Element D: Strategy Formulation & Economic Development Plan

Deliverable	Description	Outcome
D1. Strategic Goals Framework	4–6 concise, data-driven strategic goals aligned with WRA’s vision and market opportunities.	Clear, unified direction for future growth with stakeholder consensus.
D2. Actionable Strategies & Initiatives Matrix	3–4 measurable strategies per goal, including responsible parties, metrics, and timelines.	Practical roadmap for advancing economic priorities, investment, and job creation.

Deliverable	Description	Outcome
D3. Funding & Incentives Inventory	Analysis of potential federal, state, local, and private funding; recommended incentives.	Initial funding strategies to finance strategic projects and catalyze growth.
D4. WRA Economic Development Strategic Plan	Draft plan with goals, strategies, funding, implementation framework; stakeholder review and final adoption.	Fully integrated, actionable, and consensus-based plan guiding investment, partnerships, and policy decisions.

Summary Outcome Core Element D: Comprehensive Economic Development Strategic Plan translating data into clear priorities, measurable actions, potential sustainable funding strategies, and a unified path toward regional economic diversification and growth.

Williston Regional Airport Strategic Economic Development Plan

18-Month Project Timeline with Milestones

Month	Core Element	Key Tasks	Milestones / Deliverables
1–2	A. Project Initiation, Management & Oversight	A1.1–A1.5, A2.1–A2.3	- Core leadership team convened - Steering Committee established - Project manager secured - Kick-off meeting conducted - Initial strategic visioning session completed
3–6	B. Baseline Inventory & Benchmarking	B1.1–B1.6, B2.1–B2.3, B3.1–B3.2	- Comprehensive baseline data collected (assets, workforce, clusters) - Site readiness assessments completed - Inventory of partnerships and existing plans compiled
5–8	C. Market & Opportunity Assessment (Phase 1)	C1.1–C1.2	- Market research report on target sectors - Supply chain and regional role analysis completed
8–11	C. Market & Opportunity Assessment (Phase 2)	C2.1–C2.2	- Site preparedness and development feasibility analysis completed - Rough order of magnitude cost estimates provided
11–12	C. Market & Opportunity Assessment (Phase 3)	C3.1	- SWOT validation workshop with stakeholders and experts conducted - Draft SWOT summary report completed

Month	Core Element	Key Tasks	Milestones / Deliverables
12–13	D. Strategy Formulation & Economic Development Plan (Phase 1)	D1.1, D2.1	- Strategic goals defined - Actionable strategies developed (3–4 per goal) - Strategy framework draft completed
14–15	D. Strategy Formulation & Economic Development Plan (Phase 2)	D3.1–D3.2, D4.1	- Funding sources and incentives identified - Draft Strategic Plan prepared incorporating assessments, SWOT, and strategies
16	D. Strategy Formulation & Economic Development Plan (Phase 3)	D4.2–D4.3	- Draft circulated to Steering Committee and stakeholders for review - Feedback incorporated into revised draft
17	D. Strategy Formulation & Economic Development Plan (Phase 4)	D4.4	- Final Strategic Plan presented and approved by Steering Committee
18	E. Project Close-Out	E1.1–E1.4	- All deliverables accepted by EDA - Final close-out report prepared - Documentation archived - Debrief and transition to implementation completed

B4 Alignment of WRA Economic Development Plan with EDA Investment Priorities

The proposed Scope of Work (SOW) for the Williston Regional Airport (WRA) Economic Development Plan is closely aligned with multiple U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) investment priorities, including critical infrastructure, workforce development, innovation and entrepreneurship, economic recovery and resilience, and manufacturing. The project's structured, multi-phase approach ensures that strategies and recommendations will directly support the growth of the regional economy, leveraging both existing and potential assets.

1. Critical Infrastructure

The SOW emphasizes a thorough assessment of physical assets, utilities, transportation access, and site readiness through Core Elements B (Baseline Inventory & Benchmarking) and C (Market & Opportunity Assessment). Specifically:

- **Inventory and Assessment:** B1.1–B1.3 assess developable parcels, airport facilities, runway capacity, utilities (water, electricity, broadband), and transportation connectivity (road, rail, air).
- **Gap Analysis and Recommendations:** B2.1 identifies deficiencies in infrastructure that may hinder private investment, while C2.1–C2.2 provide site preparedness plans with preliminary cost estimates to address infrastructure gaps. By identifying, prioritizing, and recommending infrastructure improvements, the project directly supports EDA's priority to enhance regional capacity to attract private investment and facilitate high-wage job growth.

2. Workforce Development

The SOW addresses workforce readiness and talent alignment with targeted industries through:

- **Workforce Assessment:** B1.4–B1.6 collects data on labor skills, educational attainment, training programs, and industry needs.
- **Gap Identification:** B2.2 identifies gaps in education and training that may impede economic development.
- **Strategy Formulation:** D2.1–D5.3 integrates workforce strategies into the final economic development plan, including recommendations for aligning local training programs with industry demand. This ensures that the region's workforce is prepared to meet the labor requirements of high-growth sectors, a core EDA investment priority.

3. Innovation and Entrepreneurship

The project actively promotes innovation and entrepreneurship by identifying sector-specific growth opportunities and fostering partnerships:

- **Targeted Industry Assessment:** C1.1–C1.2 evaluates emerging sectors such as aviation/aerospace, manufacturing, logistics, and equine-related industries.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Core Elements A and D facilitate collaboration with public-private partners, enabling entrepreneurship and innovation ecosystems.
- **Strategic Goal Development:** D1.1–D2.1 formulates actionable strategies that may include incubator development, supply chain integration, or specialized business services to catalyze innovation.
These activities support EDA’s priority of strengthening regional entrepreneurship, fostering new business formation, and supporting innovation clusters.

4. Economic Recovery and Resilience

The SOW integrates resilience planning to support economic stability and recovery from potential disruptions:

- **Disaster Preparedness Review:** B4.1–B4.2 reviews WRA disaster recovery and operational plans, identifying areas for improvement.
- **Strategic Planning for Recovery:** D2.1–D5.3 ensures that economic strategies are resilient, factoring in infrastructure, workforce, and market vulnerabilities.
By embedding resilience into planning, the project aligns with EDA’s priority of enhancing regional capacity to withstand economic shocks and natural hazards.

5. Manufacturing and Industry Cluster Development

The SOW directly targets industrial and manufacturing growth by:

- **Cluster Analysis:** B1.5 evaluates current industry clusters, including manufacturing and logistics, and WRA’s role in regional economic activity.
- **Market Opportunity Assessment:** C1.1 identifies feasible manufacturing and aerospace industry targets, assesses growth trends, and determines location and workforce needs.
- **Strategy Formulation:** D1.1–D2.1 develops strategies to attract, retain, and expand manufacturing and related industries, supporting high-wage employment.
These actions reinforce EDA’s priority to support advanced manufacturing and cluster-based economic development.

Summary:

Through its systematic approach to data collection, stakeholder engagement, site and workforce assessment, and strategy formulation, the WRA Economic Development Plan directly supports multiple EDA investment priorities. The project strengthens critical infrastructure, develops a skilled workforce, fosters innovation and entrepreneurship, enhances regional resilience, and promotes industrial growth—positioning WRA and the broader North Central Florida region for sustainable economic growth and increased private investment

MRMA Executive Director Report

Mj Toscano

August 1, 2025 – October 31, 2025

Operations

- **Strategic Planning & Goals** – Committees are meeting and working on the one, three, and five-year goals as outlined during the strategic planning meetings. Adding additional fundraisers is being re-evaluated.
- **Prospecting & New Members** – Ongoing in conjunction with Membership Committee Chairperson. New Members this quarter: Manufacturers: MedX, DSM Trailers; Strategic Partners: Creative Springs, Federated Insurance
- **MRMA Board Member Updates**
 - **Board Member Resignations (1)** – August 18, 2025: Stephen Santa Fe (Hale) personal reasons/attending school
 - **New Board Members (2)** – September 11, 2025: Stephen Bagby (Monterey / Blackfin Boats); October 9, 2025 – Lauren Debick (Creative Springs).
- **21st Annual MRMA Golf Tournament** October 16, 2025 @ Ocala Golf Course – the sole purpose of this event is to raise funds for educational awareness and to support programs related to manufacturing, engineering, distribution, logistics and supply chain management. The majority of the past three months have been devoted to the preparation for this event. The event was sold out and raised \$29,795 before expenses; accounting is still in process. Final net proceeds to be set aside for distribution through funding requests will be updated at the next meeting.
- **Funding Requests** issued utilizing earmarked funds from the Bowling and Golf Tournaments:
 - **Ocala Civic Theatre - \$875** (Pending) Towards purchase of new 3D printer – used by students to build theatre sets/props.

Events

- **ExCEptional Mornings and CEP After Hours** monthly meetings to maintain awareness of community changes/events, promote MRMA, and make connections/networking.
- **SHRM Greater Ocala** – Monthly Board and General Meetings
- **SHRM FL** - Committee Member @ HR Florida 2025 Annual Conference – August 23-27, 2025)
- **Sumter County Economic Development (SCED) Round Table** – October 1, 2025
- **CEP Industry Insider** – October 8, 2025 @ Artemis Plastics (MRMA Member/Board Member)
- **Santa Fe College, Gainesville** – September
- **Best Practice Quarterly Meeting/Bay Area Manufacturers Association (BAMA)** – October 24, 2025
- **MRMA Board & General Meetings / Events Attended (August – October 2025):**
 - August 7, 2025 – MRMA Board Meeting

- August 14, 2025 – General Meeting & Tour – Cardinal LG
- August 19, 2025 – Ribbon Cutting @ Institute for Skilled Trades and Advanced Manufacturing @ Santa Fe College, Gainesville
- August 20, 2025 – MRMA Forum (Leadership)
- September 11, 2025 – MRMA Board Meeting
- September 17, 2025 – MRMA Forum (Safety)
- September 18, 2025 – Learning Series: “Unlocking AI in Manufacturing”
- October 9, 2025 – MRMA Board Meeting
- October 15, 2025 – Sumter County Workforce Summit
- October 16, 2025 – 21st Annual MRMA Golf Tournament
- October 22, 2025 – MRMA Forum (Quality)
- **MRMA Board & General Meetings / Events Planned (November 2025 – January 2026):**
 - November 6, 2025 – MRMA Board Meeting
 - November 13, 2025 – Learning Series: "Human Value is Your Competitive Advantage in Finding and Keeping Talent")
 - November 18, 2025 – James Moore Seminar: How the One Big Beautiful Bill Act Impacts Manufacturers: What You Need to Know
 - November 19, 2025 – MRMA Forum (Leadership)
 - December 4, 2025 – MRMA Board Meeting
 - December 17, 2025 – MRMA Forum (Safety)
 - December 18, 2025 – MRMA Annual Meeting and Holiday Social @ Golden Ocala
 - January 8, 2026 – MRMA Board Meeting
 - January 15, 2026 – General Meeting & Manufacturing Tour (TBD)
 - January 21, 2026 – MRMA Forum (Quality)

REPORTING PERIOD: JUL 2025 – SEP 2025

ALL CENTER TRAFFIC – 287

One-on-one Appointments Total – 160

Professionals – 124
Students – 36

In Person – 86%
Virtual – 14%

WORKSHOPS CONDUCTED – 3

Healthcare – 1
Information Technology – 2
COOP –
STEM –
TC III –

First Year Seminar –
Early Childhood Education –
Community Outreach –
Agriculture & Equestrian –
High School –

TOTAL ATTENDANCE FOR WORKSHOPS – 87

Resumes reviewed and feedback provided – 117

CANDIDATE OUTREACH: STUDENTS AND PROFESSIONALS

6 Events – Total attendance for events – 1689

TC Open House – 1
Round Table Sessions –
CF Career & Colleges Expo – 2

Talent Connection – 2
CF Webinar –
OEP Faculty Meeting –

CF Resource Fair – 1
CASA House –
Job Fair –

CONFIRMED HIRES

7

WAGE RANGE

\$13.71 - \$36.06

AVERAGE WAGE

\$20.77

TESTIMONIALS FROM STUDENTS & PROFESSIONALS

- The encouragement and advice I got whenever I visit was life to me. It propels me to continue to advance against all odds.
- Christopher Wilkinson put my mind at ease by walking me through the steps to improve my resume, enhancing my LinkedIn and exploring several career platforms.
- She (Sophia) has a follow-up encouraging principles. She never gives up on you. She is very optimistic that success will eventually come, and it does.

PY 25 - 26 Individual Events

**Total Events: 31
Attendees: 1334
Reported Hires: 182**

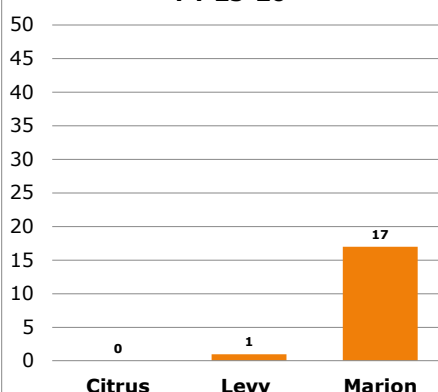
PY 25 - 26 Job Fairs

**Attendees: 555
Businesses: 44**

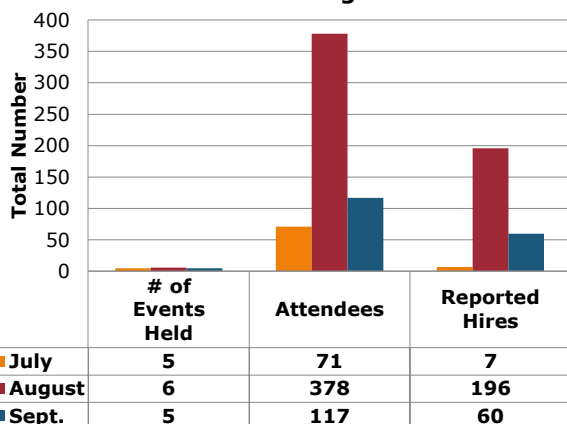
Upcoming Events

November 13 Paychecks for Patriots

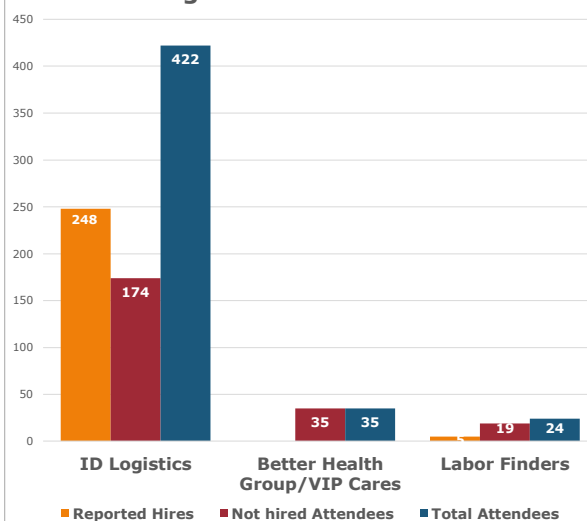
**Job Fair and
Hiring Events by County
PY 25-26**



Individual Hiring Events



**Top 3 Hiring Events
Program Year 2025-2026**



Other Individual Hiring Events 7/2025 - 9/2025

Event Date	Event Name	Event Location	County
7/10	Village Golf Cart	14th Street	Marion
7/14	Preferred Materials	14th Street	Marion
7/23	Florida Department of Agriculture	Chiefland	Levy
7/29	Heart of Florida Health Center	Heart of Florida Health Center	Marion
8/14 & 8/15	Captain D's Seafood	14th Street	Marion
9/9	Wire 3	14th Street	Marion
9/11	XPEL Technologies	14th Street	Marion
9/16	Avante of Ocala	14th Street	Marion
9/24	Hydro Power Florida	14th Street	Marion

"I think this was the best career fair we have attended, loved the location and felt like a great turnout. Hoping to fill our open positions with attendees from this event. Thank you for all of your hard work, as always!"

Business Response from Marion County Job Fair Survey



Experiential Learning Contracts

PY2025-2026

Customized Training

Business	Industry	Total Trained	Employer Contribution	CareerSource Reimbursement	Begin	End Date	Status
F&H Contractors	Construction	1	\$1,813.00	\$1,813.00	6/30/2025	7/30/2025	Completed - Retained
Levy County BOCC	Construction	5	\$17,475.00	\$17,475.00	6/30/2025	8/29/2025	Completed - Retained
HCA Florida West Marion Hospital	Healthcare	5	\$10,314.00	\$7,054.25	7/15/2025	10/10/2025	In Progress
F&H Contractors	Construction	2	\$3,786.00	\$3,786.00	8/11/2025	9/9/2025	In Progress
Lockheed Martin Corporation	Manufacturing	1	\$1,670.00	\$1,407.60	9/8/2025	9/12/2025	Completed - Retained
Lockheed Martin Corporation	Manufacturing	2	\$3,343.00	\$3,252.00	9/8/2025	9/12/2025	Completed - Retained
Lockheed Martin Corporation	Manufacturing	3	\$3,604.75	\$3,604.75	9/22/2025	9/26/2025	Completed - Retained
Lockheed Martin Corporation	Manufacturing	1	\$1,852.50	\$1,852.50	9/29/2025	10/3/2025	In Progress
F&H Contractors	Construction	3	\$5,631.00	\$5,631.00	10/6/2025	10/31/2025	In Progress
BB Graphics	Other	1	\$1,650.00	\$1,650.00	10/6/2025	10/10/2025	Successfully Completed
Quick Care Med	Healthcare	1	\$551.38	\$551.37	10/6/2025	3/7/2025	In Progress
Lockheed Martin Corporation	Manufacturing	1	\$1,225.80	\$1,225.80	10/13/2025	10/17/2025	In Progress

On the Job Training

Business	Industry	Total Trained	Employer Contribution	CareerSource Reimbursement	Begin	End Date	Status
Echo Technologies	Broadband	1	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	5/5/2025	8/29/2025	In Progress
Echo Technologies	Broadband	1	\$6,000.00	\$6,000.00	5/5/2025	8/29/2025	Unsuccessful Completion
Verteks Consulting, Inc.	Professional	1	\$3,135.00	\$3,135.00	5/12/2025	7/18/2025	Completed - Retained
Echo Technologies	Broadband	1	\$7,200.00	\$7,200.00	7/14/2025	12/12/2025	In Progress
LLC	Construction	1	\$4000.00	\$4000.00	7/21/2025	10/10/2025	In Progress
Always a Sweep	Construction	1	\$4000.00	\$4000.00	8/11/2025	10/10/2025	In Progress
CHAMPS Software, Inc	Professional	1	\$3996.00	\$3996.00	8/25/2025	11/14/2025	In Progress

Paid Work Experience

Business	Industry	Total Trained	Wage	Begin	Status
Champs Software, Inc.	Professional/IT	1	\$16.20	6/11/2025	Completed - Retained
Central Florida Broadband	Broadband	1	\$15.30	6/30/2025	In Progress
Central Florida Broadband	Broadband	1	\$15.30	10/3/2025	In Progress
Central Florida Broadband	Broadband	1	\$15.30	10/3/2025	In Progress
Mark's Miracle Plumbing	Construction	1	\$18.00	10/9/2025	In Progress
Life Line Institute of Ocala	Education	1	\$15.30	11/7/2025	In Progress
Rush Hour Printing and Graphix, LLC	Retail	1	\$14.40	11/28/2025	In Progress
Central Florida Electric Cooperative, Inc.	Broadband	1	\$23.62	11/14/2025	In Progress
PedIM Healthcare	Healthcare	1	\$14.40	11/28/2025	Not Started

Internships

Business	Industry	Total Trained	Wage	Begin	Status
Artemis Plastics	Manufacturing	1	\$18.00	5/19/2025	Successfully Completed
Novari Care, LLC	Healthcare	1	\$16.65	9/2/2025	In Progress

Apprenticeship

Business	Industry	Occupation	Total Trained	Begin	Status
Lockheed Martin	Manufacturing	Electronic Assembler	4	Spring 2020	2 Hired PY20-21, 2 Hired PY 21-22

SKILL UP USERS

LOCATION	PY 20-21	PY 21-22	PY 22-23	PY 23-24	PY 24-25	PY 2025			PY 25-26	Total
						Jul-25	Aug-25	Sep-25		
Citrus	86	32	24	47	48	0	0	0	0	237
Citrus - CF	30	7	11	2	8	0	0	0	0	58
Levy	22	6	7	20	14	0	0	0	0	69
Levy - CF	16	3	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	24
Marion	140	53	55	176	151	3	3	2	8	583
Marion - CF	100	24	37	47	62	0	0	0	0	270
TOTAL	394	125	138	292	284	3	3	2	8	1241

Popular Pathways

1. Business (Administrative/Management)
2. Healthcare
3. Information Technology
4. Entry Level Pathway - General
5. Government/Public Sector

Popular Courses

1. The Art and Science of Communication
2. Using Business Etiquette to Increase Your Professionalism
3. Being an Effective Team Member
4. Communicating Effectively with Customers
5. Establishing Self-confidence for Life
6. Interacting with Customers
7. How Culture Impacts Communication
8. Creating Well-constructed Sentences
9. Writing Effective E-mails and Instant Messages
10. Procrastination: Admitting it is the First Step
11. Abbreviating, Capitalizing, and Using Numbers
12. Becoming More Professional through Business Etiquette
13. Difficult People: Can't Change Them, so Change Yourself
14. Getting the Details Right: Spelling Basics
15. Be a Better Listener



Creating Connections

DOL Broadband Grant

The Creating Connections Broadband Grant helps to recruit and train talent that will support the scope of the broadband expansion efforts in rural Northwest Florida.

The Northwest Florida expansion project seeks to provide fiber-optic access to approximately 70,000 residents and businesses in the rural counties of Levy, Dixie, Gilchrist, Suwanee, Union, Lafayette, Hamilton, Taylor, Madison and Columbia.

TOTAL AWARD AMOUNT

\$1.73 million

TOTAL PARTICIPANTS TO DATE

53

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

28

CERTIFICATIONS EARNED

116

TOTAL EMPLOYED TO DATE

36

PARTICIPANT COUNTY BREAKDOWN

Columbia	4
Dixie	11
Gilchrist	4
Lafayette	3
Levy	25
Suwanee	5
Taylor	1

EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT

- Blue Stream Fiber
- Wifiber Corporation
- SAS Electronics
- Benton Technical Services
- Echo Technologies, LLC
- Central Florida Broadband
- City of Williston
- CFEC/Fiber by Central Florida
- RoamR
- SVEC- Suwannee Valley Electric Coop
- Wire3



Phoenix Rising YOUTHBUILD

The Phoenix Rising YouthBuild program has been helping improve the lives of at-risk young adults since 2011. The program is designed to teach youth valuable work skills while providing on the job experience as well as fostering a sense of community and leadership skills. As a result of their hard work, homes are built for families in need. The Phoenix Rising YouthBuild began as a locally-funded pilot in 2011, and our first federal grant was awarded in 2013. We have been awarded 5 grants total, in 2013, 2017, 2019, 2021 and 2025. These grants are the result of a collaboration between several local agencies, including:

- CareerSource Citrus Levy Marion
- Habitat for Humanity (Marion and Citrus Counties)
- Ocala Police Department
- Eckerd Youth Alternatives
- Marion County Housing and Finance Authority
- Neighborhood Housing and Development Corporation
- College of Central Florida
- Silver River Mentoring & Instruction
- City of Ocala
- Marion County Sheriff's Department
- Marion County Board of County Commissioners
- Florida State Housing Initiative Partnership (SHIP)

TOTAL AWARD AMOUNT

\$4,532,728

HOMES BUILT

17

TOTAL YOUTH SERVED

250

OBTAINED HS DIPLOMA

132

CREDENTIALS EARNED

1,235

ENTERED EMPLOYMENT/EDU

165

- Home Builders Institute Pre-Apprenticeship
- OSHA-10
- National Retail Federation
- Warehouse Certification
- FL DBPR Safe Staff Food Handler
- High School Diploma
- American Hotel and Lodging Association Front Desk
- American Hotel and Lodging Association Guestroom
- American Hotel and Lodging Association Restaurant
- American Hotel and Lodging Association Maintenance

SUCCESS STORIES

Micah A. was basic skills deficient in Math and came from a low-income family when he began the program. While enrolled, he attained proficiency in Math and earned his Home Builders Institute certification. After completing the program, Micah traveled to France to assist in the construction of kennels for a dog breeding facility. He has since returned and is now employed with Citrus County Habitat for Humanity as a construction worker.

Derek T. did so well in YouthBuild that he received a job offer from Mid-State Electric before graduating. They paid to send him through an electrical apprenticeship program and since being hired he has received a \$2.00/hour raise.



	Q1 PY25-26			Q2 PY25-26			Q3 PY25-26			Q4 PY25-26			ANNUAL		
County Chamber/EDC	Goal	Goals Met	Rate	Goal	Goals Met	Rate	Goal	Goals Met	Rate	Goal	Goals Met	Rate	Goal	Goals Met	Rate
CITRUS (Citrus Chamber)	4	2	50.00%	4			4			4			16		
MARION (CEP)	4	4	100.00%	4			4			4			16		
Levy (BOCC)	4	4	100.00%												

Quarterly Goals - Partner Chambers

Conduct 1 quarterly meeting with assigned CSCLM staff to discuss business needs/challenges - **All**

Conduct joint business and retention visits - **All**

Monthly meetings with key business staff to maintain communication of new and existing projects as well as current business needs - **Marion Only**

Provide business referrals to CSCLM for workforce services - **All**

Provide business/professional referrals to Talent Center - **Marion/Citrus Only**

Provide assistance in planning and staff for the Youth Career Expos - **Marion/Citrus Only**

	Q1 PY25-26			Q2 PY25-26			Q3 PY25-26			Q4 PY25-26			ANNUAL		
Eckerd Youth Connects	Goal	Actual Performance	Payment	Goal	Actual Performance	Payment	Goal	Actual Performance	Payment	Goal	Actual Performance	Payment	Goal	Actual Performance	Payment
Enrollments	25		\$1,864.99	30			30			20			105		
Measureable Skills Gains	83%			83%			83%			83%			83%		
Employment/Education Retention Rate 2nd Quarter After Exit	71%			71%			71%			71%			71%		
Employment/Education Retention Rate 4thd Quarter After Exit	69%			69%			69%			69%			69%		
Credential Attainment Rate	78%			78%			78%			78%			78%		
Median Wages	\$3,384			\$3,384			\$3,384			\$3,384			\$3,384		