

OJT partnerships add jobs to local economy

Training dollars provided through the On-the-Job Training (OJT) program helped businesses in 8 counties add to their workforce. OJT connects employers with workers who want to “earn as they learn.”

Employers develop a customized training plan to ensure employee competency during the training phase. Workers learn processes, work tasks, tools and methods of a specific job in the actual job setting. As a result, employees learn new skills, businesses grow and add to their bottom line. Reimbursement up to 75% of a new hire wages (depending upon the size of a company) is available to employers. To learn more about the program, contact your local Business Services Representative or visit www.swapte.org or www.joblink.alabama.gov.



“Partnering with SWAPTE’s On-the-Job Training Program (OJT) has helped us find qualified employees. This program is valuable, innovative and profitable.”

Lori Lipus, Human Resources Manager
Threaded Fasteners

My experience with SWAPTE and the OJT Program began in December of 2017. We have put close to 75 employees through this program. Our retention rate of the employees still working for Harrigan Lumber is in the high 90 percentile. Great people to work with. They are prompt and quick to aid their services. Keep up the great job.

Darrell McKinley, HR/EHS Manager
Harrigan Lumber Company



YOU HIRE.
YOU TRAIN.
WE PAY.

144 OJT
CONTRACTS

TRAINING DOLLARS
INVESTED
\$9,647,998

1170
TRAINING
SCHOLARSHIP
PARTICIPANTS



76,483
VISITORS TO THE
ALABAMA CAREER
CENTERS

6
CAREER
CENTERS

643 CLIENTS RECEIVED A CREDENTIAL

2
ITINERANT
CAREER
CENTERS

REGION 7 BY THE NUMBERS



CHOCTAW COUNTY CAREER
CENTER OPEN HOUSE



JACKSON CAREER CENTER
OPEN HOUSE



FLIGHT PATH 9



FLIGHT PATH 9 TRAINING
SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED: 13



Brewton and Monroe Career
Center staff assisted jobseekers with
their resumes and work search
practices at the Reid State Job Fair.

Marketing and Outreach

SWAPTE and the Alabama Career Center serve as the hub for providing training and employment services to job seekers, veterans, and businesses in Region 7. SWAPTE and the 8 Career Centers ramped up efforts to market the programs and services to the community through Facebook advertising and television, radio and newspaper ads.

Likewise, public relations efforts included speaking engagements with high schools and colleges, serving on advisory boards, providing tours of the Career Center and exhibiting at job fairs and community events.

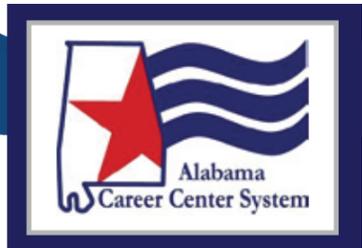


Employment Service and WIOA Staff share
information on programs and services with
displaced Virginia College students.



SOUTHWEST ALABAMA
PARTNERSHIP
for
TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT

REGION 7 Annual Report 2018-2019



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Southwest Alabama Partnership for Training and Employment is governed by a 36 member board from the business community and the public sector. The governing board oversees services to help area businesses increase their workforce and training programs for job seekers that will lead to employment. **Jerry Carl**, President, Mobile County Commission, Signatory Official; **Carol Statter**, Infirmary Health, Chairman; **Michael Hare**, Qwick Kurb, Vice-Chairman; **Ola Anise**, Azalea City Credit Union, Secretary; **John Clyde Riggs**, Alabama-Tombigbee Regional Commission, Treasurer.



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FINANCE

SWAPTE, in partnership with the Department of Labor and the Alabama Department of Commerce underwrites regional workforce development activities for Region 7 with funding provided via the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).

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Region 7 Report is published annually by Southwest Alabama Partnership for Training and Employment in partnership with the Alabama Career Center. Comments should be addressed to Pamela G. Ware, Director of Marketing/Public Relations c/o Alabama Career Center 515 Springhill Plaza Court, Mobile, AL 36608 or via email at pware@swapte.org.

Training scholarships position job seekers for success

Region 7 partnered with area educational and vocational training institutions to provide scholarships for skills training to 1,451 job seekers through funds provided under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Eligible job seekers received skills training in high wage, high growth jobs from ten training providers. Areas of focus included industries in aviation, maritime, transportation, health-care, technology, manufacturing, construction and materials handling.

A customer choice based strategy is utilized where individuals must first be accepted for training into their training program of choice. Once accepted by the school, WIOA eligibility is determined and eligible individuals are approved for a voucher which obligates a fixed cost for training.

1,451
number of
job seekers
receiving training
scholarships



Partnership helps job seekers
and businesses succeed

SWAPTE, the Alabama Department of Labor, the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services, Bishop State Adult Basic Education, and Telamon, co-located at One Stop Career Centers in Region 7 participated in a variety of projects, activities and programs during the program year. Career Center partners met quarterly to share information and stay abreast of job opportunities, community events, new programs, workforce directives, financial matters and strategies to better integrate services for job seekers and local businesses. In fact, 76,483 job seekers were served and increased activity with businesses utilizing the services of the Career Center was reported. Benefits of this partnership include:

- A comprehensive Career Center system of maximum flexibility with increased private sector involvement where access to WIOA training and eligibility determination are provided to assist individuals in returning to the workforce.
- Core and intensive services required by WIOA through Career Centers and a network of affiliated co-located partners are easily accessed within the same facility.
- Priority of service to Veterans assuring that all of the resources available at the Career Center and through WIOA are available to veterans seeking help with career advancement, re-entry into the job market upon returning home and assistance with overcoming barriers unique to those who have served in the military.
- Job readiness, financial literacy, basic computer skills, adult education for literacy and GED preparation and use of the resource room where resources including a fax machine, copier, phone and printed materials related to job seeking are provided. Access to computers for on-line job search is available.

WIOA Financial Summary July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019

FUNDING SOURCE	EXPENDITURES
ADMIN	\$597,402
ADULT	\$7,120,215
DISLOCATED	\$302,571
YOUTH	\$2,160,212
INCENTIVE	\$65,000
TOTAL	\$10,245,400

PROGRAM SUCCESSSES



Picture your success with a skills training scholarship

"Success stories" are an important marketing tool for promoting programs and services funded by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). It's an opportunity to provide prospective clients real-world examples of expectations, advantages and outcomes of successfully completing training programs. One thousand-four hundred and fifty-one job seekers enrolled in various training programs. 786 completed training and 643 received an industry credential. Below are snippets from clients sharing their experiences and results of their specific training program:

Tiffany Strickland was a stay at home mom. Due to a series of unfortunate circumstances, she had to find employment and needed to find a job that would provide a stable income. Strickland visited the Alabama Career Center and learned about the OJT program. She interviewed with Grelot Physical Therapy and was hired as a billing coordinator/receptionist trainee. "Thanks to the Alabama Career Center and SWAPTE, I'm on the road to a bright future. The OJT Program has been invaluable and has impacted my life," states Strickland. "I have a job and a promising career. The future looks bright for me and my family."

Ashley Austin found it difficult to find employment as a software developer. During her job search, she landed an interview with Rural Sourcing, Inc. (RSI). She interviewed for the position and learned via reverse referral about OJT. She was offered employment and qualified for the OJT program. She is thankful for the opportunity to work for RSI and the ability to enhance her skills as a software developer. "The software industry is forever changing, and you can't get stagnant," states Austin. "Software used in the 80's and 90's is non-existent. RSI encourages you to use their training to elevate your skill set and your career." Austin was also featured in a SWAPTE commercial that aired on local television stations.

Christopher Skelley, a veteran with the U. S. Army experienced some highs and lows in life. He completed the Alabama Teen Challenge program and sought help with employment from the Bay Minette Career Center. He connected with the local veterans representative to explore job and training opportunities. His tenacity and their assistance positioned him to be selected for the Austal Apprenticeship program.

Jasmine Martin's dream of being a nurse was almost derailed when she had to withdraw from school because she could not afford the tuition. She learned about the funding through WIOA for the practical nursing program at Reid State Technical College. She qualified for the program and started school within a month. Martin describes the program as being very intense. She learned clinical skills and other vital practices to fulfill the requirements of the program. She's thankful for the supportive staff and teachers that helped her through the process. Their encouragement allowed her to successfully complete the requirements for the program and she is now a practicing nurse at Palm Gardens Nursing Facility.