

LCWDB Talent Pipeline Committee Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, August 11, 2026, at 9:00 AM

Zoom

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83244123516?pwd=JglrajXbDLfEHb1k2EVP7hJBSUbw6r.1&from=addon>

- I. **Call to Order**
- II. **Public Comment**
- III. **Chair Report**
- IV. **Consent Agenda**
 - a. May 2026 Talent Pipeline Committee Meeting Minutes [Attachment A](#)
- V. **Regular Business**
 - a. Youth Serving Workforce Development System and Network
 - i. WIOA Funded Youth Network
 - ii. Summer Youth Employment
 - iii. System and Network Partners
 - b. Workforce Board Committee Governance and Membership
 - c. Career Services Team PY25 Fourth Quarter Report [Attachment B](#)
- VI. **Strategic Focus & Action Plan**
 - a. Build Earlier and Sustainable Career Pathways
 - i. Youth Voice in Program Design
 - ii. K-12 Aligned Work-Based Learning Opportunities
 - iii. Registered Apprenticeship Pathways and Emerging Skills
- VII. **Other Business / Updates**
 - a. IWDS 2.0 & Policy Updates
 - b. Job Center Partner Cross Training Event, Friday, August 14th at 10:00 AM
 - c. CEJA Job Fair & Panel Discussion on Friday, August 28th, at 8:30 AM
 - d. 8th Annual Disability Job Fair on Thursday, September 10th, at 12:00 PM
 - e. Hire Lake County Job Fair on Friday, October 2, at 11:00 AM
 - f. Illinois Workforce Association 1st Annual Conference on Tuesday, October 6th and Wednesday, October 7th
 - g. Navig8 Lake County on Tuesday, October 20th, at 7:30 AM

VIII. Member Time

IX. Adjournment

Upcoming Meetings:

LCWDB Employer Connections Committee Meeting

- Tuesday, August 18, 2026, at 9:00 AM

LCWD Board of Directors Meeting

- Thursday, September 24, 2026, at 8:00 AM

LCWDB Talent Pipeline Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 13, 2026, at 9:00 AM

College of Lake County – Lakeshore Campus

Eleanor Murkey Community Center

34 N Sheridan Rd, Waukegan, IL 60085

Present: *Elia Barrientos-Salazar, Carolyn Corcoran, Jennifer Everet, Christian Fernandez, Dr. Michael Karner, Amy Maksudian, Jennifer Serino, Amy Van Strien*

I. Call to Order..... Chairman, Dr. Michael Karner

The meeting was called to order on Wednesday, May 13, 2026, at 9:08 AM by Talent Pipeline Committee Chair Dr. Michael Karner.

II. Public Comment

*Lake County Workforce Development’s Jennifer Everett (Youth Services Coordinator) shared updates regarding the upcoming **Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP)**. Jennifer discussed ongoing planning efforts, employer engagement activities, and opportunities to provide meaningful work experiences for youth throughout the summer. She highlighted the importance of connecting young people to career exposure, skill development, and work-based learning opportunities that support future educational and employment success.*

III. Chair Report

*Chairman Dr. Michael Karner welcomed members and shared updates regarding this year’s **Navigate Lake** initiative. Dr. Karner discussed the continued importance of exposing students and young professionals to career pathways, educational opportunities, and workforce resources throughout Lake County. He emphasized the value of partnerships between workforce, education, and industry leaders in helping individuals navigate career exploration and long-term workforce success.*

IV. Consent Agenda

- a. October 2025 Joint Talent Pipeline and Employer Connections Committee Meeting Minutes*
- b. January 2026 Talent Pipeline Committee Meeting Minutes*
 - i. The consent agenda was tabled due to quorum.*

V. Regular Business (ACTION ITEMS)

No formal action items were brought forward during this meeting.

VI. Strategic Focus

a. Workforce Pathways in Action: Developing Talent from Entry to Career

i. Young Professionals Panel

- 1. The committee participated in a strategic discussion focused on workforce pathways and career development through a Young Professionals Panel discussion. The panel highlighted firsthand experiences related to education, career exploration, workforce readiness, and career advancement.*
- 2. Panelists discussed:***
 - a. Their personal career journeys and transitions into the workforce*
 - b. The importance of mentorship, guidance, and support systems*
 - c. Experiences with work-based learning opportunities, internships, and career exposure activities*
 - d. Challenges faced while navigating education and employment pathways*
 - e. The importance of transferable skills, communication, adaptability, and professionalism in today's workforce*
- 3. Committee members engaged panelists in discussion regarding:***
 - a. How employers and workforce organizations can better support young professionals*
 - b. Strategies to strengthen career awareness earlier in educational pathways*
 - c. The value of employer partnerships and hands-on learning opportunities*

- d. Barriers that young professionals may face when transitioning into employment*
- 4. The discussion reinforced the importance of creating accessible, clearly defined career pathways that connect individuals from education into sustainable employment opportunities. Members emphasized that workforce development efforts should continue prioritizing employer engagement, work-based learning, and equitable access to career opportunities.*
- 5. Additional discussion highlighted the importance of aligning training and education programs with labor market demand while ensuring young professionals are equipped with both technical and foundational workplace skills.*

VII. Other Business / Updates

- a. Staff provided updates regarding ongoing workforce initiatives, partner collaboration efforts, and upcoming Board and committee activities. Discussion included continued coordination between workforce, education, and employer partners to strengthen regional talent pipeline strategies.*

VIII. Member Time

- a. No announcements were brought to this meeting.*

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:19 AM.

Upcoming Meetings:

LCWDB Employer Connections Committee Meeting

- Tuesday, May 19, 2026, at 9:00 AM*

LCWD Board of Directors Meeting

- Thursday, June 25, 2026, at 8:00 AM*

LCWDB Talent Pipeline Committee Meeting

- Tuesday, August 11, 2026, at 9:00 AM*

Career Services Team Quarterly Impact Report

The Career Services Team provides comprehensive services to support both adults and young adults, offering career planning, education, and grant-funded training to help them gain in-demand skills, secure employment, and achieve sustainable career growth.

KEY METRICS (QUICK INSIGHTS):



2,306

Pre-Screening
Forms Received



410

Total
Enrollments



152

Adult
Enrollments



201

Dislocated
Enrollments



PROGRESS TOWARDS PY'25 BUDGET GOAL

1A (\$500,000.00)



1D (\$852,000.00)



1Y-OUT (\$102,000.00)



PY25 Funding Snapshot:

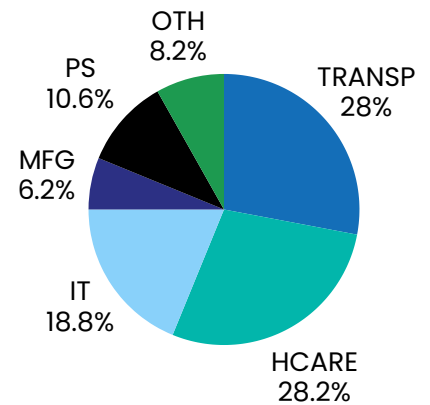
Grant	Targets	Obligated	Balance
1A	\$500,000.00	\$540,625.71	-\$40,625.71
1D	\$852,000.00	\$869,505.65	-\$17,505.65
1Y-OUT	\$102,000.00	\$96,128.95	\$5,871.05
QUEST	\$85,000.00	\$79,960.00	\$5,040.00
1E	\$102,000.00	\$49,660.00	\$52,340.00
ARPA	\$20,000.00	\$20,450.00	-\$450.00

Industry Engaged

Percentage of enrollments by industry

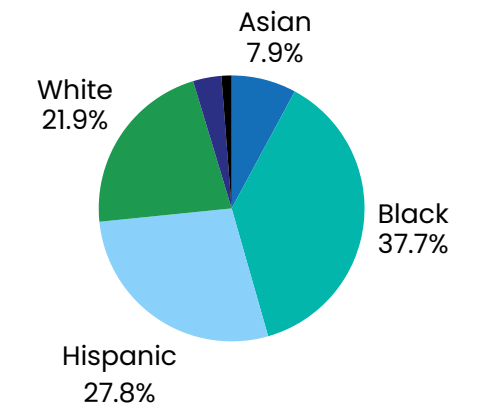


- Transportation (TRANSP): 113
- Healthcare (HCARE): 114
- Information Technology (IT): 76
- Manufacturing (MFG): 25
- Professional Services (PS): 43
- Other (OTH): 33

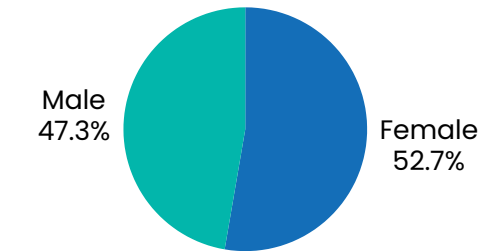


ENROLLMENT DEMOGRAPHICS

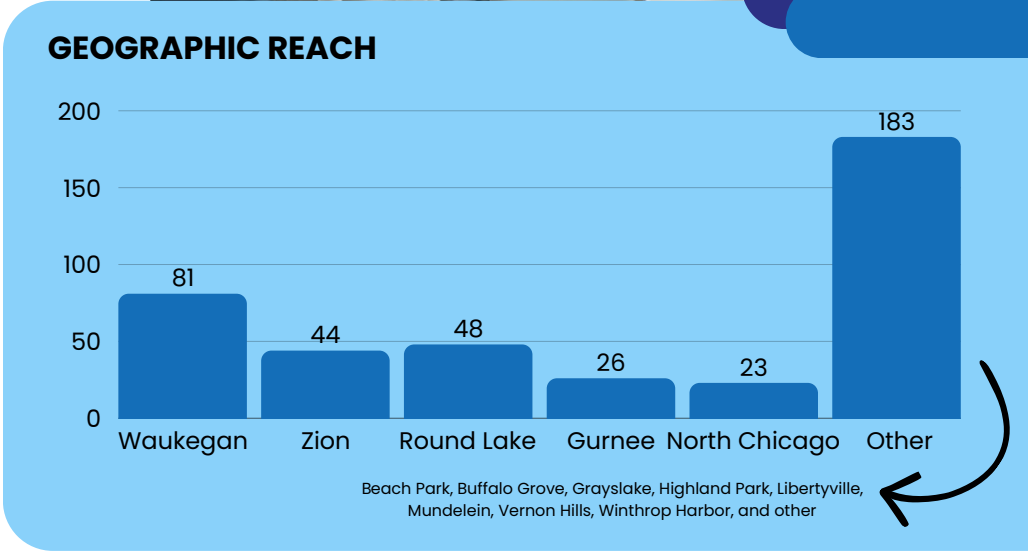
Race



Gender



GEOGRAPHIC REACH



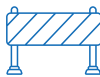
SUPPORT SERVICES:



\$9,312.25
Total obligated in transportation support



\$25,668.59
Total obligated in technology & internet support



\$10,00.00
Total obligated in barrier reduction support



\$14,282.47
Total obligated in class materials, test & exam fees, and other

Community Engagement



In June, our team supported the Hire Lake County Job Fair, where 37 employers connected with more than 400 job seekers. Staff coordinated employers, guided job seekers, and provided on-site support, helping create meaningful connections that led to interviews and job offers.

Success Snapshot



After being laid off from her role as a Benefits Administrator, Colleen came to the Job Center of Lake County to explore career options and learned she was eligible for grant-funded training. She pursued phlebotomy at the College of Lake County, completed her certificate in December 2025, and was hired in January 2026, where her compassionate patient care earned special recognition.

On the Horizon



As we enter PY26, our focus shifts toward implementing the new IWDS 2.0 system, continuing the manufacturing contract launched this program year, and strengthening customer-centered support through streamlined workshops and services. We will deepen partnerships with training providers and refine internal processes and workflows to enhance efficiency and improve the customer experience across all programs.