

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, January 15, 2026 from 9:00-10:30 a.m.

In-person attendance is encouraged

Michigan Works! Service Center, 200 W Van Buren Street, Battle Creek, MI 49017

Public Access is available at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83568280285?pwd=k4sH0tRjLac7OecTTivW0Cr6cDhZab.1>

Meeting ID: 835 6828 0285 **Passcode:** 876926

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- I. CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS** Brian O'Donnell, Chair
- II. RECOGNITION**
 - A. MWSW Legislator of the Year Award
Julie Rogers Jakki Bungart-Bibb
- III. TRANSPARENCY & INTEGRITY OF WDB DECISIONS** Debbie Horn
- IV. PUBLIC TIME**
- V. MINUTES** (*Vote Required*)
 - A. November 20, 2025 WDB Quarterly Meeting Minutes (*Exhibit A*)
- VI. Dialog with Service Provider Staff** Ashley Iovieno
 - A. Business Solutions
 - 1. SAE 2023 Program Summary (*Exhibit B*)
- VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS** Darrin Adair
 - A. CEAC December 8, 2025
- VIII. NEW BUSINESS** (*Vote Required*)
 - A. Plans Amanda Rosenberg
 - 1. FY25 Going PRO Talent Fund (GPTF) Program Employer-Led Collaborative (ELC) (*Exhibit C*)
 - 2. Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) AY2024/FY2026 (*Exhibit D*)
 - 3. FY26 Going PRO Talent Fund (GPTF) Application Assistance (*Exhibit E*)
 - B. Plan Ratifications Amanda Rosenberg
 - 1. FY26 Partnership.Accountability.Training.Hope. (PATH) Employment-Related Supportive Services (ERSS) (*Exhibit F*)
 - 2. FY26 Partnership.Accountability.Training.Hope. (PATH) Program (*Exhibit G*)

3. FY26 Food Assistance Employment and Training (FAE&T) Program ([Exhibit H](#))
4. FY26 FAE&T Plus Program ([Exhibit I](#))
5. FY26 FAE&T Plus Expansion ([Exhibit J](#))

C. CEAC Action Items ([Vote Required](#))

Debbie Horn

1. CEAC 2026 Meeting Calendar ([Exhibit K](#))

IX. STAFF REPORTS

A. Business Solutions Update, Dashboard ([Exhibit L](#)) and
Lightcast Data Analytics ([Exhibit M](#))

Ashley Iovieno

B. Operations Update & Dashboard ([Exhibit N](#))

Amy Meyers

1. Annual Monitoring Outcomes

C. Directors' Report

Jakki Bungart-Bibb

X. OLD BUSINESS

XI. PUBLIC TIME

XII. MEMBERS' TIME

XIII. UPCOMING MEETINGS

- A. Full Workforce Development Board – Thursday, February 19, 2026 (9:00-10:30 am)
At the Career Connect Campus, 3500 Vanrick Drive, Kalamazoo, MI 49001
- B. Executive Committee – Thursday, April 16, 2026 (9:00-10:30 am)
At the Michigan Works! Service Center, 1601 S. Burdick Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49001
- C. Disability Awareness Resource Team (DART) – Thursday, March 12, 2026 (2:00-4:00 pm)
At Upjohn Institute, 300 S. Westnedge Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49007
- D. Career & Educational Advisory Council (CEAC) – Monday, March 16, 2026 (1:00-3:00 pm)
At Upjohn Institute, 300 S Westnedge Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49007

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Brian O'Donnell, Chair

**Workforce Development Board
 Quarterly Board Meeting Minutes
 November 20, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER: Workforce Development Board Chair Brian O'Donnell called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at Battle Creek Unlimited, 4950 W. Dickman Road, Battle Creek, Michigan.

INTRODUCTIONS: Individuals attending in-person and virtually introduced themselves.

WDB Members Present:

Darrin Adair (Educ)*	Jared Hoffmaster (PS) [∨]	David Stafford (PS)
Bobby Beauchamp, alt for	Karen Marcath (PAA)	Dr. Paul Watson (EDU)
Dr. Paul Watson (EDU)	Brian O'Donnell (PS)*	Frank Tecumseh (PS)*
Jill Bland (Econ Dev)	Jose Orozco (CBO)	
John Fiore (RA)	David Pawloski (Labor)	* Exec Committee
Randall Hazelbaker (PS)*	David Prellwitz (Labor)	[∨] Attended virtually

WDB Members Absent

Jonathan Current (Labor)	Lisa Johansen (OTH)	
Ross Daniels (PS)	Derek King (PS)	Liz Van Dussen (PS)
Jessica Eyster (PS)	David Maurer (PS)	Ken Willcutt (PS)
Jeff Heppler (PS)	Sabrina Radenovic (PS)	
Al Ives (PS)	Windy Rea (CBO)	

Center for Workforce Innovation and Solutions / Michigan Works! Southwest Staff Present:

Jakki Bungart-Bibb	Amy Meyers	Mark Waurio [∨]
Debbie Horn	Amanda Rosenberg	
Ashley Iovieno	Jennifer Teske	

Guests Present

Jim Benton (KRESA)	Erin Dominianni (Upjohn)	Brett Moor (Ripple Effects)
Lisa M. Brown (Ripple Effects)	Blaine Farr (WDI)	Amanda Sutherland (KRESA)
Ashley Cantrell (Ripple Effects)	Tonya Forbes (KCC)	Kristine Stevens (GOCC)
Lauren Cavalli (Ripple Effects)	Peter Kalogiros [∨]	Irene Williams (MWSW/Hubs)
Paige Daniels (KRESA)	For Senator Elissa Slotkin	
Nicole DeWitt (Ripple Effects)	Imani Lewis (KRESA)	

ANNUAL AWARD CEREMONY

Jakki Bungart-Bibb commenced the awards ceremony by expressing gratitude to the Michigan Works! Southwest administrative staff for their dedicated efforts over the past year. Additionally, she extended her appreciation to the MWSW service providers who work diligently to deliver exceptional services to the MWSW customers, consistently surpassing performance standards and contributing to the success of MWSW as a high-performing Michigan Works! Agency. Specifically, Ms. Bungart-Bibb thanked the leaders from KRESA, WDI, and the Upjohn Institute for their invaluable efforts.

The following awards were also presented in recognition of the outstanding support and

commitment to enhancing the local communities exhibited by each specific awardee over the course of the past year:

- **Community Partner of the Year Award – Kellogg Community College (KCC)**
- **Volunteer of the Year Award – Brian O'Donnell**
- **Employer of the Year Award – Ripple Effects**
- **Legislator of the Year Award –Julie Rogers**

On behalf of KCC, Dr. Paul Watson acknowledged the exceptional contributions of his team, including Tonya Forbes and Bobby Beauchamp, who accompanied him. The team employs a three-pronged approach: being present, actively listening, and responding accordingly. Dr. Watson expressed his pride in his team's commitment to this methodology and their consistent execution.

Brian O'Donnell thanked the amazing staff at Michigan Works! Southwest, without their dedication, guidance, and leadership, none of this would be possible. He thanked the current and past board members, stating that their leadership, vision, and guidance influenced him to be proactive in the community and strive to serve its best interests.

On behalf of Ripple Effects, Lauren Cavalli stated it's been an incredible experience to work with Michigan Works! Southwest. The support Ripple Effects received in the development of their apprenticeship training programs has been amazing. They received grant awards through MISTAIRS, the Going PRO Talent Fund. They were also recognized at the Race to Talent event. Ms. Cavalli thanked the board for that recognition and recognized her staff from all five locations in Southwest Michigan, noting the hard work on this program, as they have fourteen apprentices. Additionally, they opened a non-profit community inclusion center in Portage. There are six apprentices there working as Direct Support Workers. Ms. Cavalli stated she really appreciates the support from Michigan Works! Southwest.

It was also noted that Julie Rogers was unable to attend the event but plans to receive her award at a later date.

PRESENTATION

2025 Annual Report

Jakki Bungart-Bibb directed the attention of the group to the 2025 Annual Report, which highlights MWSW's successes within four key priorities: Outreach, Integration, Innovation, and Impact. Highlights included over 181,000 visitors to the MWSW service centers over the past year. A 22% increase in training engagement and a 7 % rise in program participation. The MWSW Workforce Development Board's second year of receiving the Board of Excellence Award was also highlighted in the report, as well as the GoingPRO Talent Fund, which awarded nearly \$2.5 million to train new hires, upskill existing employees, and hire apprentices across 45 businesses over the course of the past year. Ms. Bungart-Bibb also thanked the board members, for whom MWSW is incredibly grateful, for their continued commitment and service.

RECOGNITIONS

MW! Southwest Shining Star Awards

August 2025 – Irene Williams has been recognized for her exceptional commitment to Michigan Works! Southwest as a Career Coach with the Neighborhood Employment HUB Program.

Ms. Williams expressed her gratitude to the group for acknowledging her nine years of dedicated service and the work she is passionate about.

September 2025 – Debbie Horn was recognized for her exceptional positivity, professionalism, and team-oriented mindset.

Debbie expressed her gratitude to the group for their recognition and conveyed her appreciation for the opportunity to work with such outstanding colleagues.

October 2025 – Imani Lewis was recognized for her exceptional commitment to youth development and community service.

Imani expressed her gratitude for the exceptional team she collaborates with at KRESA and Michigan Works! Southwest. She highlighted that individuals often visit the service centers during challenging times in their lives and emphasized that it is not only the customer service provided, but also the supportive environment created that makes a difference. She attributes this positive atmosphere to the dedication of her colleagues and is profoundly thankful for their collective efforts.

TRANSPARENCY & INTEGRITY OF WDB DECISIONS

Debbie Horn asked members present if there were any items on the agenda for which a conflict of interest or a potential conflict of interest exists; and if so, the conflict should be declared at this time. There were none.

PUBLIC TIME

Peter Kalogiros reported on behalf of U.S. Senator Elissa Slotkin, who expressed her gratitude to everyone for their contributions to the community, particularly during these difficult economic times. Senator. Slotkin is prioritizing key areas such as healthcare access and affordability, housing, and workforce development. Her goal is to foster an environment that is conducive to creating future job opportunities for the youth. Additionally, she is committed to attracting new industries to Michigan while sustaining the existing ones.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Exhibit A)

Motion made by Frank Tecumseh and supported by Dr. Paul Watson to approve the September 18, 2025, WDB Executive Committee meeting minutes. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

WDB Plans (Exhibits B, C, D, and E)

Amanda Rosenberg requested Board consideration and approval of the four workforce development plans included in the agenda packet. Details for each plan were described in the corresponding Exhibit and are listed below:

- PY2025 National Farmworker Jobs Program (NFJP)
- FY2026 Partnership. Accountability. Training. Hope (PATH) Transitional Support Services
- FY2026 Gain Employment. Maintain Support (GEMS) Program
- FY2026 Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Refugee Program

Motion made by Dr. Paul Watson and supported by John Fiore to approve the PY2025 National Farmworker Jobs Program (NFJP) Plan Instructions Plan as presented. Motion carried.

Motion made by Frank Tecumseh and supported by Jill Bland to approve the FY2026 Partnership. Accountability. Training. Hope (PATH) Transitional Support Services Funding Plan as presented. Motion carried.

Motion made by Randall Hazelbaker and supported by David Stafford to approve the FY2026 Gain Employment. Maintain Support (GEMS) Program Plan as presented. Motion carried.

Motion made by Frank Tecumseh and supported by John Fiore to approve the FY2026 Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Refugee Program Plan as presented. Motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS

Director Updates

Work Requirements - Jakki Bungart-Bibb reported that beginning December 1, 2025, work requirements for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) beneficiaries will be implemented, with early referrals already happening. Currently, there is no extra funding available to support these requirements, but the state is seeking solutions. Additionally, Ms. Bungart-Bibb reported that Medicaid work requirements begin in 2027, though states may commence in early 2026. Updates on both SNAP and Medicaid work requirements will be provided as more information becomes available.

State Budget Update – Jakki Bungart-Bibb reported that a state budget has been approved, but it poses challenges for workforce development, with significant cuts including a \$20 million reduction in the Going PRO Talent Fund (GPTF) and a \$500,000 cut to Jobs for Michigan Graduates (JMG), while funding specific to apprenticeships and barrier removal has been eliminated. Ms. Bungart-Bibb further reported that the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO) has also faced substantial cuts, though the full impact on our programs remains unclear. As many programs compete for limited funds, employers must advocate for workforce development initiatives. Continued support from stakeholders will be vital in the upcoming budget cycle to maintain these essential programs for job seekers and employers.

Federal Budget Update – Jakki Bungart-Bibb reported that the federal government's continuing resolution has temporarily funded programs, allowing some stability despite ongoing uncertainty about full-year funding. The national association for workforce boards conducted a survey revealing the difficulties local boards face due to the shutdown. Their findings highlight the strain on workforce systems and include four key recommendations for Congress aimed at improving and stabilizing the workforce framework. A follow-up report will be distributed after this meeting for further insights.

In closing, Ms. Bungart-Bibb reported that during a recent call with leaders from the U.S. Department of Labor, it was confirmed that the reauthorization of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) is still a priority and is actively being pursued. The leaders expressed their ongoing commitment to advancing the reauthorization process, indicating a desire to move forward and make it happen.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC TIME

None.

MEMBERS' TIME

Frank Tecumseh asked if the WDB is at full strength. Ms. Meyers mentioned that MWSW has achieved the composition required; however, additional representation from rural communities and an individual from the Healthcare sector is desired.

Brian O'Donnell took a moment to thank all the Michigan Works! staff, current board members, and all the members of the public for such a wonderful year. Mr. O'Donnell reported that it is a privilege to be the Chair of this board and to engage with all four counties.

Jill Bland reported that the auto industry is seeing a lack of retention. There are discussions going on about these challenges, with the modernization of facilities a topic of discussion to keep companies competitive.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Brian O'Donnell referred members to the list of upcoming WDB meetings that were listed on the agenda.

- Executive Committee meeting is Thursday, January 15, 2026, from 9:00-10:30 a.m. at the Calhoun County Michigan Works! Service Center, 200 W. Van Buren, Battle Creek, MI 49017.
- Career & Educational Advisory Council (CEAC) meeting is Monday, December 8, 2025, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at The Upjohn Institute, 300 S. Westnedge Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49007.
- Disability Awareness Resource Team (DART) meeting is Thursday, March 12, 2026, from 2:00-3:30 p.m. at the Upjohn Institute, 300 S. Westnedge Avenue, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other reports or business for the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:47 a.m. by Brian O'Donnell.

Debbie Horn

Date

Brian O'Donnell

Date

APPROVED

These minutes were approved on _____

SAE 2023

STATE APPRENTICESHIP EXPANSION 2023

MARCH 15, 2024 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

GRANT RECIPIENT

The **SAE 2023** grant was awarded by the State of Michigan to Michigan Works! Southwest.

PROGRAM FOCUS

The expansion of non-traditional Registered Apprenticeships (RA) and pathways into RAs. Locally, the program supports the development and implementation of a recruitment strategy to expand equitable access to the Child Development Associate (CDA) and Early Childhood (EC) RAP in Kalamazoo.

FUNDING SOURCE

Grant award from Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO) through State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF)

TARGETED POPULATION TO BE SERVED

Efforts will support those most severely impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic and those least often included in the benefits from RAPs, underrepresented populations, specifically women, people of color, individuals with disabilities, English language learners, and those without a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent. Recruitment efforts will focus on residents living in Eastside, Edison, and Northside neighborhoods in Kalamazoo.

ELIGIBILITY

Participants should be assessed to determine if they are suitable for the proposed training, and must:

- Be 16 years of age or older and not enrolled in an RAP at the time of the initial assistance.
- Be registered in a USDOL Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) between 7/1/23 and 9/30/26.
- Served with grant funds between 3/15/24 and 9/30/26



**SAE
2023**

STATE APPRENTICESHIP EXPANSION 2023
MARCH 15, 2024 – SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

SERVICES

Jobseeker recruitment, training, and supportive services to ensure successful entry into early childhood careers. Braided funding will support training costs and remove barriers, while ongoing employer partnerships will foster job retention and workforce development across the region.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM SPECIFICS

Program services are delivered in partnership with the Edison ECE Career Pathway TPM Employment Network, including YWCA Kalamazoo and the Kalamazoo Literacy Council (KLC).

Going PRO Talent Fund (Talent Fund) Program Administration Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 ELC (Employer Led Collaborative), the Period of April 23, 2025 through December 31, 2026

PI: 25-39

Background

The Going PRO Talent Fund FY 2025 Employer Led Collaborative (ELC) provides individuals with employment, industry recognized credentials, and strong wages through competitive awards to employers to assist in training, developing, and retaining new and current employees. The Talent Fund ELC is designed to create public-private partnerships with employers to develop training models that adapt in real time with changing employer demand. The Talent Fund helps to ensure Michigan's workers have the skills they need for in-demand jobs and employers have the talent they need to compete and grow.

Eligibility

MWAs receive an award of Talent Fund funding based on the total number of company applications approved for funding. Training must be completed within one year from the date of the award and lead to a credential for a skill that is transferable and recognized by industry. Employers who request funding must actively participate in the development of the training and must commit to retaining individuals at the completion of training.

Activities

Talent Fund-supported training expands and improves employees' skills and develops their opportunities for growth or promotion within the company and for economic advancement. Training funded by the Talent Fund must fill a demonstrated talent need experienced by an eligible participating employer. leading to a credential for a skill that is transferable and recognized by the industry. Allowable training includes:

- Classroom or customized training for new and current employees
- On-the-job training for new employees
- Apprenticeships for first-year United States Department of Labor (USDOL) Registered Apprentices (new and current employees)

Funding

Total Allocation	\$390,775.00
Award Amount	\$365,210.00
Administration	\$25,565.00

Source: PI: 25-39, 12/18/2025

**Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) Appropriation Year (AY) 2024/Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Allocations
for the Time Period of October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026,
TAA Plan and Merit Staffing Certification for FY 2026
PI: 25-38**

Background

TAA is a federal program that assists U.S. workers who have lost their jobs as a result of foreign trade. The program seeks to provide adversely affected workers with opportunities to obtain the skills, credentials, resources, and support necessary to become reemployed. The allocation of funding to support TAA program activities for the period October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026, for Michigan Works! Southwest is \$3,000. Additional allocations may be issued to MWAs if and when further TAA funding becomes available.

Eligibility

TAA is a federal program that assists workers, referred to as adversely affected workers, in the United States who have lost their jobs as a result of the impacts of foreign trade. The TAA program seeks to provide opportunities to obtain the skills, credentials, resources and support necessary to become reemployed. Workers who were certified and separated from their job on or before June 30, 2022, may be eligible for benefits and services. Since July 1, 2022, The TAA Program has been unable to certify new workers or serve workers separated after this date.

Activities

TAA program funds can be used to fund Classroom Training, On-the-Job Training, Customized Training, Registered Apprenticeship Training, Job Search Allowances and Relocation Allowances. Allowable Case Management activities include the provision of Comprehensive Assessments, Individual Service Strategies, Training Information, Financial Aid Information, Employability Skills Assistance, Career Counseling, Labor Market Information and Supportive Services Information.

Staff who make determinations of TAA program eligibility must meet the definition of a TAA Merit Staff employee.

Funding

FY2026 Allocation	\$3,000
Case Management	\$2,000
Administrative	\$1,000

Source: PI: 25-38, 12/04/2025

Going PRO Talent Fund Employer Application Assistance for FY2026 Cycle 1, Cycle 2, and ELC, for the Period of October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026

PI: 26-01

Background

The Talent Fund provides individuals with employment, industry recognized credentials, and strong wages through competitive awards to employers to assist in training, developing, and retaining new and current employees. The Going PRO Talent Fund Employer Application Assistance for FY 2026 allocates \$30,000 to Michigan Works! Southwest, for the time period covering October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026. This allocation has been allocated to support the MWA in providing employer application and award receipt technical assistance.

Activities

Costs related to assisting employers with Talent Fund applications and award management are allowable through this funding. Expenditure must be necessary, reasonable, and cost allocable to delivering Talent Fund employer application assistance.

Direct allowable costs/activities include:

- MWA staff costs assisting employers
- Employer information sessions
- Employer program technical assistance
- Employer fact-finding
- Application development and submission
- Grant modifications
- Performance outcome tracking
- Travel
- Grant close-out activities

This allocation can also support administration costs up to 8 percent of the award.

Funding

Total Allocation	\$30,000
Program Amount	\$27,600
Administration	\$2,400

Source: PI: 26-01, 1/12/2026

**Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Partnership. Accountability. Training. Hope. (PATH)
Employment Related Support Services
PI: 25-33**

Background

Michigan Works! Southwest has received an allocation of \$25,282 in Fiscal Year 2026 Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funding, for the time period of October 1, 2025, through August 31, 2026, to provide employment related support services.

Eligibility

Eligible individuals include Financial Independence Program (FIP) recipients participating in the Partnership. Accountability. Training. Hope. (PATH) Program. Supportive services are to be provided, as appropriate, during the Application Eligibility Period while the FIP case is open and through the first 180 days of a participant's employment.

Activities

Supportive services may include, but are not limited to, clothing, transportation, and other one-time, non-continuing, work-related expenses.

Funding

Total Allocation	\$25,282
Program	\$25,282

Source: PI: 25-33: 11/20/2025

FY2026 Partnership. Accountability. Training. Hope. (PATH) Program Plan Instructions
Policy Issuance: 25-34

Background

Michigan Works! Southwest received notice of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 allocations for the Partnership. Accountability. Training. Hope. (PATH) program from the State of Michigan. The projected FY2026 allocation, totaling \$3,517,250, is supported with Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) federal funds and Penalty and Interest (P & I) state funds. The purpose of PATH is to assist Family Independence Program (FIP) recipients with their transition to self-sufficiency. The PATH program provides participants with employment-related services, training, work experience opportunities, and supportive services to help obtain and retain employment.

Eligibility

Individuals eligible for participation in the PATH program include Family Independence Program (cash assistance) recipients and applicants referred to Michigan Works!! Southwest by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Activities

FIP applicants begin with a 10-day Application Eligibility Period (AEP) where individuals work one-on-one with a PATH Career Coach to identify and address barriers to employment and connect applicants to resources addressing those challenges.

Funding Summary

FY2026 Allocation	\$3,517,250
TANF	\$3,243,604
P&I	\$273,646

Source: PI: 25-34, 11/21/2025

FY2026 Food Assistance Employment and Training Program

PI: 25-35

Background

For fiscal year 2026, October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026, \$115,903 has been allocated to Michigan Works! Southwest, by the Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO), for the Food Assistance Employment and Training (FAE&T) program. This is an increase from the \$114,984 allocation in FY2025. Allocations are based on the number of Food Assistance Program (FAP) cases by county. Michigan Works! Southwest will receive separate allocations for program delivery and supportive services.

Eligibility

The FAE&T Program is designed to establish a connection to the labor market for able-bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs), receiving Food Assistance, between the ages of 18 and 64, without minor dependents under the age of 14 on their Food Assistance Program (FAP) case. The FAE&T Program is also available to adult members of a FAP household with minor children under the age of 14, however, these individuals will not have to meet a work requirement.

Activities

The FAE&T funds may only be used to provide employment and training activities and supportive services to individuals referred to Michigan Works! by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS). Time Limited Food Assistance (TLFA) individuals must meet specific work requirements to receive Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits. Failure to do so limits the individual's FAP eligibility to three months within a 36-month period.

In addition to program delivery costs, program operations funds may be used for actual educational costs if no other source of financial assistance is available to the participant. Supportive service funds may be used for expenses incurred to assist participants in overcoming barriers that prevent them from engaging in employment and training activities. Job retention supportive services are also available and designed to assist participants in maintaining employment.

Funding

FY2026 Program Allocation	\$106,524
Program	\$95,872
Administration	\$10,652
 FY2026 Supportive Service Allocation	 \$9,379
Supportive Services	\$9,379

Source: PI: 25-35; 11/25/2025

FY2026 Food Assistance Employment and Training (FAE&T) Plus Program

PI: 25-27

Background

For fiscal year 2026, October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026, \$12,500 has been allocated to Michigan Works! Southwest to operate as a Plus Intermediary for the planning and implementation of an FAE&T Plus program, to receive a fifty percent reimbursement.

Eligibility

The FAE&T Plus program connects with third-party partners, known as Plus providers, that focus on employer demand while offering skills training and credentials required to obtain self-sustaining employment. The FAE&T and FAE&T Plus programs follow the same basic guidelines; however, there are differences.

Activities

Michigan Works! agencies (MWAs) play a vital role in the FAE&T Plus program as Intermediaries. As an Intermediary, MWAs provide support to the MDHHS and LEO-WD by centralizing and performing the administrative functions to subcontract with a variety of Plus providers in the service delivery area.

The role of an intermediary requires a strong knowledge of FAE&T policy and how E&T funding works. It is also necessary to be able to effectively work with partners in the local workforce development system.

Intermediary functions include the following:

- Identify suitable partners to become Plus providers.
- Subcontract with Plus providers.
- Onboard and train Plus providers.
- Facilitate reverse referrals.
- Review monthly invoices and process reimbursement payments.
- Monitor for programmatic and fiscal compliance.

Funding

Total Allocation	\$12,500
Program	\$12,500

Source: PI: 25-36: 11/26/2025

FY2026 Food Assistance Employment and Training (FAE&T) Plus Expansion

PI: 25-37

Background

For Fiscal Year 2026, October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026, \$25,000 has been allocated to Michigan Works! Southwest to expand operation as a Plus Intermediary for planning and implementation of the FAE&T Plus program and receive a fifty percent reimbursement. The FAE&T Plus Expansion helps Michigan Works! Southwest to support administrative functions necessary to expand the FAE&T Plus program and deliver intermediary services providing training and support for their Plus providers.

Eligibility

The FAE&T Plus program connects with third-party partners, known as Plus providers, that focus on employer demand while offering skills training and credentials required to obtain self-sustaining employment. The FAE&T and FAE&T Plus programs follow the same basic guidelines.

Activities

Michigan Works! agencies (MWAs) play a vital role in the FAE&T Plus program as Intermediaries. As an Intermediary, MWAs provide support to the MDHHS and LEO-WD by centralizing and performing the administrative functions to subcontract with a variety of Plus providers in their service delivery area.

The role of an intermediary requires a strong knowledge of FAE&T policy and how E&T funding works. It is also necessary to be able to effectively work with partners in the local workforce development system.

Intermediary functions include the following:

- Identify suitable partners to become Plus providers.
- Subcontract with Plus providers.
- Onboard and train Plus providers.
- Facilitate reverse referrals.
- Review monthly invoices and process reimbursement payments.
- Monitor for programmatic and fiscal compliance.

Funding

Total Allocation	\$25,000
Program	\$25,000

Source: PI: 25-37: 11/26/2025



Career & Educational Advisory Council

An Advisory Committee to the Workforce Development Board

300 S. Westnedge Ave, Kalamazoo MI 49007

TX: 269-349-1533 FAX: 269-349-5505

Dial 711 for Relay Center and TTY

www.michiganworkssouthwest.org

Career & Educational Advisory Council (CEAC) 2026 Meeting Schedule

DAY	DATE	TIME	PLACE
Monday	March 16, 2026	1:00-3:00 p.m.	Upjohn Institute 300 S. Westnedge Ave. Kalamazoo, MI 49007
Monday	May 11, 2026	1:00-3:00 p.m.	Upjohn Institute 300 S. Westnedge Ave. Kalamazoo MI 49007
Monday	September 14, 2026	1:00-3:00 p.m.	Upjohn Institute 300 S. Westnedge Ave. Kalamazoo MI 49007
Monday	December 7, 2026	1:00-3:00 p.m.	Upjohn Institute 300 S. Westnedge Ave. Kalamazoo MI 49007

Additional meetings may be required if initiatives are presented that require the attention of the CEAC.

A virtual link will also be provided for each meeting.

CEAC Agendas, Minutes, and Schedules will be posted on the Michigan Works! Southwest website at: <https://www.michiganworkssouthwest.org/workforce-development-board> Select the heading: Career Educational Advisory Council.

Business Solutions Summary Dashboard

December 2025



Business Solutions Services

Served 07/01/2025-12/31/2025

294 Employers Served

1345 Services Provided

Employer Resource Network®

10/01/2025-12/31/2025

492 Services Delivered

291 Unique employees served

21 Total Employers

Going PRO Talent Fund FY2026 Cycle 1

13	\$749,425.54	316	110	36
companies awarded	awarded to companies	individuals to be trained	Planned apprentices	Anticipated new hires

Going PRO Talent Fund FY2025 Cycle 2

5	\$164,251	70	28	6
companies awarded	awarded to companies	individuals to be trained	Planned apprentices	Anticipated new hires

Going PRO Talent Fund FY2025 ELC

*Six (6) additional employers outside of Michigan Works! Southwest's four-county area were awarded GPTF funding.

9*	\$365,210	252	0	0
companies awarded	awarded to companies	individuals to be trained	Planned apprentices	Anticipated new hires

Service Summary Dashboard

December 2025



Partnership. Accountability. Training. Hope.

Served 10/01/2025-12/31/2025

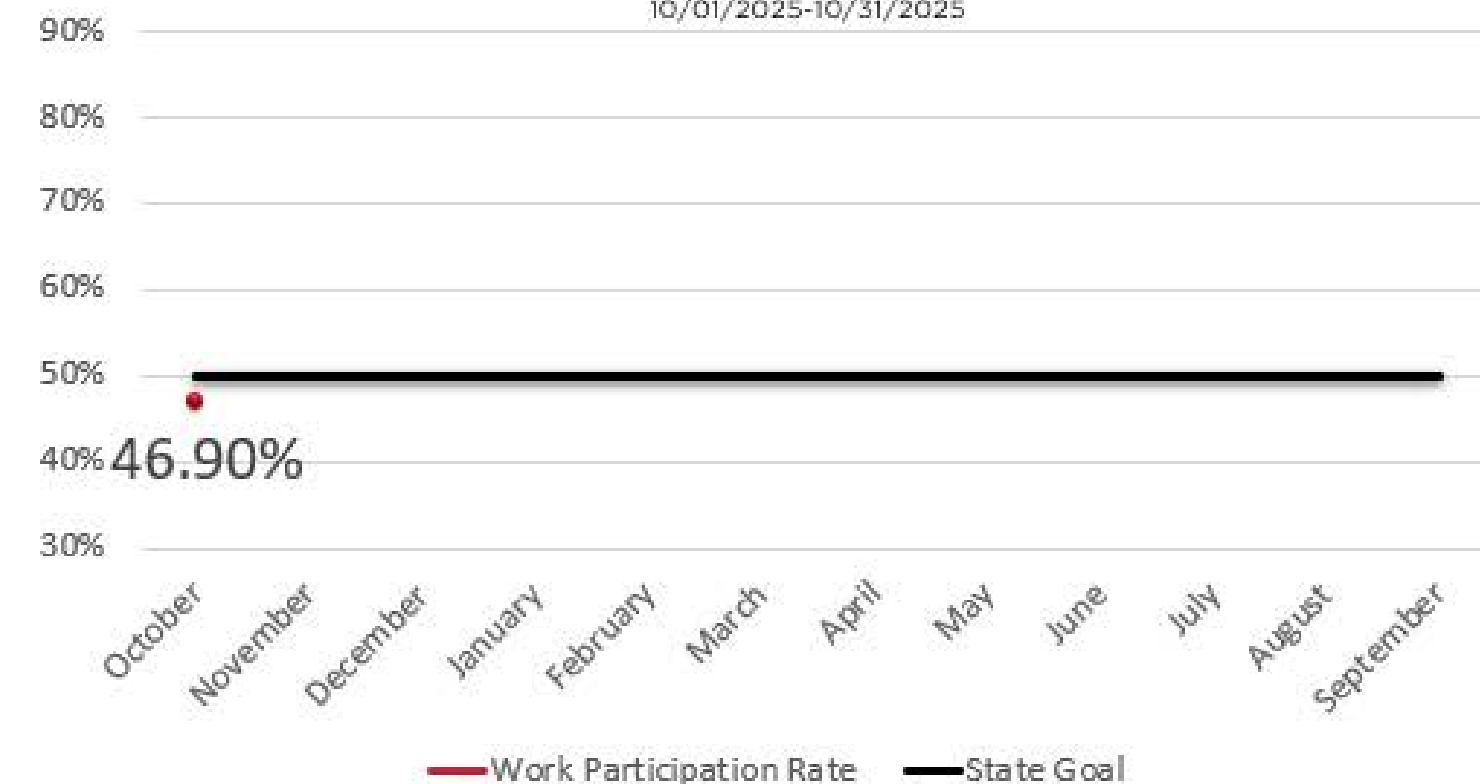
517 Participants

41.7% Employment Rate

\$15.48 Average Wage

FY2026 Work Participation Rate **46.9%***

10/01/2025-10/31/2025



*Source: OSMIS QG163

Gain Employment. Maintain Support.

Served 10/01/2025-12/31/2025

82 Participants

50.0% Employment Rate

\$16.55 Average Wage

WIOA & Wagner-Peyser Performance Summary

PY2025 (07/01/2025-06/30/2026); Data Pull 01/07/2026

	WIOA ADULT		WIOA DISLOCATED WORKER		WIOA YOUTH		WAGNER-PEYSER	
	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual	Target	Actual
Employment 2nd Quarter After Exit	88.6%	93.1%	88.0%	97.8%	79.0%	65.5%	70%	73.1%
Employment 4th Quarter After Exit	84.0%	93.5%	85.0%	95.2%	79.0%	73.5%	67%	71.4%
Median Earnings 2nd Quarter After Exit	\$8,500	\$8,858	\$9,100	\$11,437	\$4,600	\$2,843	\$8,000	\$8,841
Credential Attainment Rate	83.5%	88.0%	83.0%	87.5%	64.7%	58.3%	N/A	N/A
Measurable Skill Gains	66.0%	42.6%	67.6%	45.8%	48.7%	6.3%	N/A	N/A

Annual Outcomes

FY2025 (10/01/2024-09/30/2025)

Source: WF770



Partnership. Accountability. Training. Hope. (PATH)

425 Participants in Unsubsidized Employment

40.1% Employment Rate

\$15.16 Average Wage

Gain Employment. Maintain Support. (GEMS)

75 Participants in Unsubsidized Employment

40.3% Employment Rate

\$16.20 Average Wage

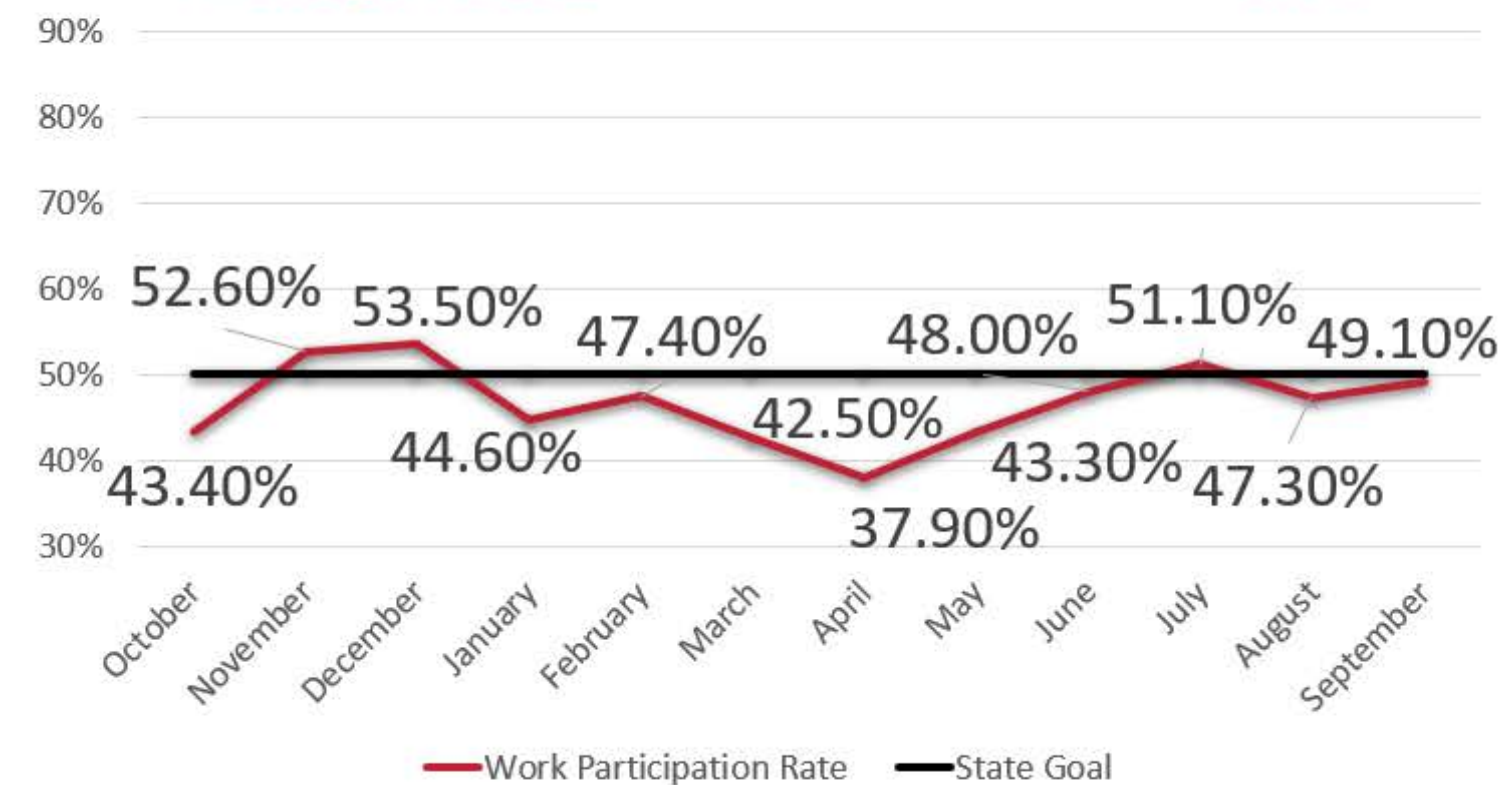
Food Assistance, Employment & Training (FAE&T)

13 Participants in Unsubsidized Employment

33.3% Employment Rate

\$15.96 Average Wage

Average FY2025 Work Participation Rate: 46.7%*



*Source: OSMIS QG163

Annual Demographic Outcomes

FY2025 (10/01/2024-09/30/2025)

Source: WF770



PATH

	Branch	Calhoun		Kalamazoo	St. Joseph	Total	Percent of Total
		Battle Creek	Albion				
Participants	124	257	87	528	64	1060	
Female	89	224	74	457	53	897	84.6%
Race/Ethnicity							
White	67	120	48	204	52	491	46.3%
African American	56	131	36	310	11	544	51.3%
Hispanic Latino	19	13	3	33	9	77	7.3%
American Indian	0	2	3	7	1	13	1.2%
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	0	0	2	0	2	0.2%
Asian	1	4	0	24	0	29	2.7%
Education							
Below 12 th	31	56	26	118	13	244	23.1%
Highest 12 th	77	125	27	254	31	514	48.5%
Highest above 12 th	16	76	34	156	20	302	28.5%

FAE&T

	Branch	Calhoun		Kalamazoo	St. Joseph	Total	Percent of Total
		Battle Creek	Albion				
Participants	3	11	0	24	1	39	
Female	1	6	0	15	0	22	56.4%
Race/Ethnicity							
White	3	3	0	5	1	12	30.8%
African American	0	8	0	18	0	26	66.7%
Hispanic Latino	0	0	0	2	0	2	5.1%
American Indian	0	0	0	1	0	1	2.6%
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A
Asian	0	0	0	0	0	0	N/A
Education							
Below 12 th	0	2	0	1	0	3	7.7%
Highest 12 th	3	3	0	11	1	18	46.2%
Highest above 12 th	0	6	0	12	0	18	46.2%

Annual Demographic Outcomes

FY2025 (10/01/2024-09/30/2025)



GEMS

	Branch	Calhoun	Kalamazoo	St. Joseph	Total	Percent of Total
Participants	31	119	25	11	186	
Female	7	18	7	0	32	17.2%
White	30	46	16	10	102	54.8%
African American	1	73	9	1	84	45.2%
Hispanic Latino	0	3	0	0	3	1.6%
American Indian	0	1	0	0	1	0.5%
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0	N/A
Asian	0	0	0	0	0	N/A
Below 12 th	17	76	14	8	115	61.8%
Highest 12 th	14	33	11	3	61	32.8%
Highest above 12 th	0	10	0	0	10	5.4%

Source: WF770

Trade Adjustment Assistance

	Branch	Calhoun	Kalamazoo	St. Joseph	Total	Percent of Total
Participants	0	3	2	0	5	
Female	0	2	2	0	4	80.0%
White	0	3	1	0	4	80.0%
African American	0	0	0	0	0	N/A
Hispanic Latino	0	0	1	0	1	20.0%
American Indian	0	0	0	0	0	N/A
Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0	0	N/A
Asian	0	0	0	0	0	N/A
Below 12 th	0	1	0	0	1	20.0%
Highest 12 th	0	0	1	0	1	20.0%
Highest above 12 th	0	2	1	0	3	60.0%

Source: TAA770