

# Workforce Development Outreach Update

July – September 2016

The Workforce Development Division is involved in nearly every aspect of workforce development in Utah. Sixteen Workforce Development Specialists on the ground in every part of the state organize job fairs and hiring events, work with industries to create educational and training pathways to skilled labor careers and coordinate with businesses to understand

and help them meet their workforce needs. They also have a special focus on communities in need, including veterans, single parents, people with disabilities and homeless individuals. Here are just a few highlights of the Workforce Development Division's accomplishments and ongoing projects over the past several months:

## EDUCATION & TRAINING

### UCAP Grants

More than \$3 million in grants were awarded to align industry needs with educational programs. From 2013 to date, over \$11 million in grant funds have been awarded to fund over 50 projects statewide. This year, Workforce Services also received \$1 million from USA Funds to expand and replicate successful career pathway programs. Funded programs included a mobile welding training center, Deisel Tech Pathway expansion, Aerospace Pathways expansion, STEM training for teachers, elementary school green houses, 3D printing, SheTech expansion and more. To learn more about the Utah Cluster Acceleration Partnership, visit [jobs.utah.gov/department/ucap.html](http://jobs.utah.gov/department/ucap.html).



Photo credit: Spenser Heaps, Daily Herald

### Make Manufacturing Your Future

The Utah Manufacturers Association was awarded a UCAP grant of \$250,000 to carry out a public image and awareness campaign to promote manufacturing as a viable career pathway. The group held a kick-off meeting in August to start the process of planning and branding the campaign. Objectives include increasing immediate recruitment and enrollment of adult learners and high school seniors in manufacturing-related programs, building a talent pipeline for Utah's manufacturing industry and supporting recruitment and completion for post-secondary technician level certifications.



### STEMMX

The STEM Mentor Exchange

(STEMMX) is a mobile app designed to connect Utah educators with industry mentors and resources. It is being developed by a team of engineers from Dell-EMC in Utah, with support from the STEM Utah Industry Coalition and in collaboration with the Utah Technology Council, the STEM action Center and the Utah State Board of Education. By building strong relationships between industry and education professionals, we can help students prepare for great jobs and careers being created in Utah.



## PATHWAYS

### Diesel Tech Pathways

The Diesel Tech Pathways program at Salt Lake Community College incorporated an adult component starting August 25. With the option of a one-year program with an Industry Recognized Certificate or a two-year program to earn an AAS degree. The program started at capacity, with 24 students and now has a waiting list for the next available enrollment period. Industry partners include Cummins Rocky Mountain, Komatsu Equipment, Wheeler Machinery, Peterbuilt, Kenworth Sales Company, Mountainwest Truck Center, Jackson Group and Utah Transit Authority (UTA). The High School Program is in partnership with Canyons and Jordan School Districts. More information can be found at [dieseltechpathways.com](http://dieseltechpathways.com).

### Medical Innovations Pathway Launch

On September 27, Governor Gary R. Herbert announced the launch of a new program to help Utah students get great local jobs after high school. The Medical Innovations Pathway prepares students for a career in biomedical manufacturing, creating devices

like catheters and valves used during heart surgery. In addition, students receive hands-on training through work-based learning opportunities. The adult learner component of this program is expected to begin late January 2017. Industry partners include Edwards Life Sciences, Nelson Labs, Merit Medical, Bard Medical, Biomerics, Stryker, Varian Medical, Sorenson Genomics, Biofire and GE Healthcare.



Photo credit: Francisco Kjolseth, The Salt Lake Tribune



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### Economic Development Tool

The Department of Workforce Services Economic Development Quick Facts tool visualizes demographic and labor market information in a user-friendly interface. It allows users to dynamically custom filter data and create images, spreadsheets or PDFs of the data sets. The tool can be used by new and existing businesses to understand and make well-informed decisions based on up-to-date demographic and labor market factors by area. Since its first draft in early 2016, the tool has been well-received by the Governor's Office of Economic Development, Economic Development Corporation Utah, the Governor's Rural Partnership Board and more.

### Rural Aerospace Tours

In August, some of Utah's major aerospace companies, including Lockheed Martin and ATK, toured Emery, Carbon, Duchesne and Uintah Counties to find vendors and suppliers in Utah's rural areas. This is part of a combined GOED and Workforce Services vision to connect rural businesses with the growing aerospace market. Both the aerospace companies and local suppliers saw great potential in future partnerships. High school and college students in each county also participated in the tours, with opportunities to work hands-on with simulators, drones and water rockets.





## JOB FAIRS



### Homeless Job Fairs

Three job fairs targeted to the homeless population were held at the Weigand Resource Center in Salt Lake City in July, August and September. Eleven different employers and 218 job seekers participated, and approximately 150 applications were submitted. There were also eight partners present to provide resources and answer questions including the Department of Workforce Services, Weigand Center, Road Home, Community Connection Center, HOST (Homeless Outreach Services Team) SLCPD officers, Downtown Alliance, UTA, and a representative from the Salt Lake City's Mayors Office.

## VETERANS & MILITARY



### Rapid Response

Workforce Services established a plan to connect Rapid Response (laid off) job seekers with opportunities at Hill Air Force Base (HAFB), which includes sending Rapid Response announcements from across the state to the northern region, sharing contact information for the impacted companies with HAFB, promoting openings for skilled trade announcements on USAJOBS through DWS employment counselors, community and education partners and on local job search pages on Facebook.

### Veterans Employment Training Conference

The annual veterans conference for Workforce Services convened on September 20. Nearly 100 staff and partners from around the state gathered to share experience and learn how to better meet the needs of Utah's veterans. Five Workforce Services employees were recognized as Eagle Award winners for their outstanding service to veterans over the past year.



### USAJOBS Life Raft Video

HAFB published the USAJOBS "Life Raft" Video to YouTube and it is now available for all job seekers and DWS partners. The video guides applicants through the federal application process and can also be viewed at [jobs.utah.gov/jobseeker/veteran.html](http://jobs.utah.gov/jobseeker/veteran.html).



## EX-OFFENDERS

### ASCENT

ASCENT (Achieving Success through Collaborative Engagement and Navigated Transition) was launched in August at a kick-off event with over 100 attendees. ASCENT brings together key agencies and partners to tackle obstacles that keep offenders from achieving success and rejoining our communities as law-abiding citizens. Workforce Development Director Stephen Lisonbee served on a four-member panel to discuss the collaboration between agencies to reduce recidivism during the event.



## PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES



### Employing & Retaining Individuals with Disabilities Workshop

Workforce Services participated in an employer workshop in partnership with USOR, Work Ability and the Governor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities. Attendees participated

in hands-on activities to better understand the capabilities of and work that can be performed by individuals with disabilities. The workshop included breakout sessions on addressing the stigma of mental illness in the workplace and reasons for hiring individuals with criminal backgrounds.



## WHAT'S NEXT

- Oct. 20 — Utah Alliance for Economic Development
- Oct. 24 — Utah Global Forum
- Nov. 1 — Ute Tribe Job Fair
- Nov. 7 — Northern Utah STEM Expo
- Nov. 14–20 — National Apprenticeship Week
- Nov. 15 — Utah Patriot Partnership Veterans Job Fair
- Jan. 19 — Talent Ready Utah
- Jan. 19–21 — Silicon Slopes Summit

