

FEBRUARY 2024

SOUTHERN 14

NEWSLETTER



SUCCESS STORY

Jasmin Foster, age of 23, had gotten approved for WIOA in pursuing a license in the Truck Driving Program in Fall 2022 at Shawnee Community College. Jasmin chose this career path to pick herself up and do something productive to provide for her two little boys. The class being a short length of time with a great reward and pay also played a huge part in her decision.

Jasmin states, "The WIOA Program gave me an opportunity that I will never forget. Without this program, I would not have been able to attend Shawnee College and enroll in Truck Driving. I will forever be grateful for the program itself as well as the people who are a part of it." The program also helped her to focus on school and not worry about finances. Right after receiving her CDL Jasmin went to work for Ready Mix Solutions. Jasmin says that her work experience with Ready Mix Solutions is much more than just driving a truck. She is responsible for delivering and pouring a perishable item within a certain time frame. She has been able to apply her quick-thinking skills and professionalism as she works closely with contractors and civilians to complete jobs well and in a timely manner.

Jasmin states, "I still do receive SNAP benefits for my boys, but the amount has gone down significantly since starting my new profession. I am happy to say that at the rate I am moving, I will no longer need them in the near future." Jasmin also says, "I am indebted to the WIOA Program for helping me to get to where I am today. I am proud to say the I am thriving in a male dominated field and earning lots of respect along the way. I love my new career and I'm extremely happy with my choice to enroll in the Shawnee Community College Tuck Driving program". Jasmin also wants to extend her appreciation to the SDC WIOA Program in saying, "Thank You."

OFFICE NOTES:

- Upcoming Board Meeting: March 12, 2024
- Time: 7:00 pm
- Location: SIC Building G or Via Zoom

BOARD OFFICE:

- Open M-TR: 8-5
- PO BOX 186 Carmi, IL 62821
- Phone: 618-382-5024



WADI MONTHLY UPDATE

WADI is busy adding participants to the new QUEST grant. The spring semester is going well with one pharmacy tech student in training at SIC and this participant is also working at Beck's Drugs in Eldorado. One CDL student has obtained their license as well. Bonnie and Ryan T. attended the Jim Pott's training in Marion. This training is an excellent resource for eligibility and IWDS hands on experience. On March 8th, Ryan D and Ryan T will be attending the Harrisburg High School Job Fair to help spread the word about WIOA.

SDC MONTHLY UPDATE

SDC WIOA has enrolled 15 new participants for the spring semester and currently has a total of 36 enrolled in training services for the spring. They will be adding more truck drivers in March at SCC and SIC. SDC has 2 participants on the State Work Experience program and 1 on the Quest grant. Currently there is one in each of the following counties: Massac, Pope and Pulaski. They also have approximately 3 pending applications. In January & so far into February SDC has attended 2 webinars on the Quest grant and one on the State grant through So14 LWIB. Lisa Baker, the WEX Coordinator, attended WIOA training in Marion. DCEO monitors provided our monitoring visit on Feb. 13th. On March 18th the next Truck Driving class begins at SCC. There is an upcoming Job Fair at SCC on April 3rd that SDC plans to attend.

SOUTHERN 14 UPDATES

We are in the midst of the Regional and Local Plans that must be submitted every 4 years. This process has several steps but we are working with our partners and will be seeking board approval regarding our Local Plan at the next board meeting. The MOU is complete and ready for the Board to approve as well. We have submitted our Report of Outcomes and Draft Budget for review. Over the next two weeks we will host the Personnel, One Stop, Oversight, and Executive Committee meetings to be ready for our upcoming board meeting. Pam has been working diligently on several new Incumbent Worker Projects. In fact, we currently have 6 IWP occurring which is an excellent feat. In addition to those, we believe to add two more in the coming months. We have began enrolling participants in both the Quest and State Grants and are working closely with state officials to make sure we are completing all reporting and monitoring requirements.



CHANGES?

- Have you moved?
- Changed phone number?
- New email?
- Please notify the board office at boffice@so14lwib.com with any changes
- It is extremely important to let us know because of travel and communication!
Thanks!!

Participant Overview

Participant Overview	
Active Participants	105
Exiters	89
Total Participants	194
Exit Information	
Exiters	89
Employed at Exit	39
Employed 2nd Quarter after Exit	9
Employed 4th Quarter after Exit	0
Employed in Training Related Job at Exit	28
Employed in Training Related Job 2nd Quarter after Exit	7
Employed in Training Related Job 4th Quarter after Exit	0



- Release date of January 25, 2024

INFORMATION:

- Each issue you will see rotating information and data to keep you all informed in different ways!
- Like to see something included in the monthly newsletter?
- Email boffice@so14lwib.com

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates (percent) for Local Counties and Areas

Labor Market Area	Dec 2023	Dec 2022	Over-the-Year Change
Carbondale-Marion MSA	4.2 %	3.5 %	0.7
Jackson County	4.1 %	3.4 %	0.7
Williamson County	4.2 %	3.6 %	0.6
Surrounding Counties			
Alexander County	5.6 %	5.0 %	0.6
Franklin County	5.4 %	4.8 %	0.6
Johnson County	5.5 %	5.1 %	0.4
Massac County	4.5 %	4.2 %	0.3
Perry County	5.0 %	4.3 %	0.7
Pulaski County	7.3 %	6.0 %	1.3
Randolph County	3.9 %	3.2 %	0.7
Union County	5.6 %	4.9 %	0.7
Harrisburg Area			
Gallatin County	5.0 %	4.3 %	0.7
Hamilton County	3.8 %	2.8 %	1.0
Hardin County	4.7 %	4.1 %	0.6
Pope County	3.8 %	3.6 %	0.2
Saline County	5.0 %	4.3 %	0.7
White County	3.6 %	3.3 %	0.3
Olney - Mt. Carmel Area			
Edwards County	5.0 %	3.6 %	1.4
Lawrence County	5.3 %	4.6 %	0.7
Richland County	4.1 %	3.1 %	1.0
Wabash County	3.0 %	2.7 %	0.3
Wayne County	4.4 %	3.3 %	1.1
Other Areas			
LWIA 23	4.2 %	3.4 %	0.8
LWIA 24	3.9 %	3.2 %	0.7
LWIA 25	4.4 %	3.8 %	0.6
LWIA 26	4.6 %	3.9 %	0.7
Southern EDR	4.5 %	3.9 %	0.6

Southern Illinois Highlights

Carbondale – Marion Area

The December 2023 unemployment rate was 4.2 percent. This was a +0.7 percentage point increase from the December 2022 rate of 3.5 percent. Total nonfarm employment increased by +800 jobs in December 2023 compared to December a year ago. Government payrolls increased over-the-year (+200).

Surrounding Counties

Total nonfarm payrolls increased by +400 jobs in December 2023 compared to a year ago.

Employment rose in Leisure and Hospitality (+250), Government (+200), Educational and Health Services (+75), Construction (+25), Financial Activities (+25) and Natural Resources and Mining (+25).

No change in employment was reported in the Information or Manufacturing industries.

Payrolls declined among employers in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (-100), Professional and Business Services (-50) and Other Services (-25).

Harrisburg Area

Total nonfarm employment increased by +450 jobs in December 2023 compared to December 2022.

Employment gains were posted in Government (+175), Financial Activities (+100), Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+50), Natural Resources and Mining (+50), Information (+50), Other Services (+25) and Educational and Health Services (+25).

No change was recorded in Leisure and Hospitality payrolls. Employment declined in Construction (-25), Manufacturing (-25) and Professional and Business Services (-25).

Olney – Mt. Carmel Area

Total nonfarm employment increased by +350 jobs in December 2023 compared to December 2022.

Payrolls increased in Government (+150), Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (+125), Educational and Health Services (+75), Leisure and Hospitality (+50), Other Services (+50), Natural Resources and Mining (+25), Information (+25) and Professional and Business Services (+25).

Payrolls were unchanged in Construction over-the-year. Payroll employment decreased in the Manufacturing (-100) and Financial Activities (-25) industries.