

# **Youth Committee**

**August 1, 2025** 



**BUILDING BUSINESS • BUILDING CAREERS** 

# Meeting Minutes – April 11, 2025





# **Partner Updates**

Victoria Rodriguez, Director of Workforce Services



### Michelle Seward Davis, President, Associated Builders and Contractors, (ABC) South Texas Chapter



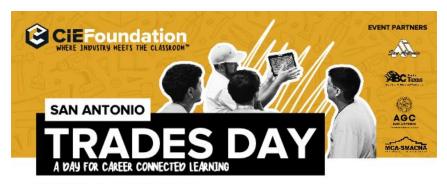


# WSA Youth Committee

August 1, 2025



# **ABC** Trades Day – October 8, 2025



#### **CONNECT STUDENTS TO CAREERS**

Engage students with hands-on activities—showcasing everything from

construction, engineering, design, technology, sustainability,

and more! Highlight real career paths across the built environment, from labor to leadership

#### COMMERCIAL BUILD TEAM COMPETITION

Show off your skills in Framing/Sheetrock, Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing a your team goes head-to-head with other schools in this 4-hour challenge. Teams of up to 4 students will be judged on skill, safety, planning, quality, and teamwork

OCTOBER 8, 2025 | 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

FREEMAN COLISEUM - EXPO HALL 3201 E HOUSTON ST. | SAN ANTONIO, TX



REGISTER NOW
TRADESDAY.ORG



9:00 AM - 11:00 AM 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Schools, youth groups & individual students are invited to register for a two-hour block starting from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Upon arrival, students will go through a safety tailgate talk before entering the exhibition halls.

\*Please note: student lunches are not included.

#### 2024 Highlights

- 70 Exhibitors: Construction Companies, Universities, Industry related organizations and partners
- 900+ Students
- 8 Student Competition Teams

#### 2025 Needs

- Sponsors: Levels (\$550 \$3,500)
- Exhibitors
- Volunteers
- Media Connections
- Dynamic Speaker
- Student Outreach



# Contractors Apprenticeship Trust & Education Programs

Building Skilled Careers, Empowering Communities



#### Program Overview & Industry Challenge

- ABC Contractors Apprenticeship Trust: DOL-registered 4year apprenticeship program – est. 1994
- 180+ apprentices in carpentry, electrical, pipefitting, plumbing, sheet metal – 2025/ 2026 School Year
- Critical skilled labor shortage in construction estimated 500,000+ nationwide
- ABC addresses this with structured training and credentialing



#### Program Features & Employer Benefits

- Structured NCCER curriculum, OSHA & technical skills
- On-the-job learning with sponsoring employers
- Journeyman certification & DOL credentials
- Diverse, inclusive, earn-while-you-learn model
- Employers benefit: lower turnover, skilled workforce, increased productivity



#### Facility Expansion & Pre-Apprenticeship Program

- Need for a 60,000+ sq. ft. training facility with labs/classrooms – seeking public/ private partners: renovate, repurpose, or build new facility
- High school workforce pathways with ISD partnerships
- New pre-apprenticeship program for high school students
- Credits apply to full apprenticeship program upon graduation



# Expansion of existing education programs – members and community outreach

- Current Programs: leadership forums, safety training, OSHA certifications, CPR & First Aid certification, blueprint reading, advanced communication for the field, monthly lunch & learns, focus driven topics for committees include safety, technology, soft skills, financial literacy, leadership, self-protection
- Future Programs: Spanish/ English language courses, public speaking training, NCCER foreman certification



# Questions





# **In Person Youth Success Story**

Victoria Rodriguez, Director of Workforce Services





# Jada Douglas — Follow-Up Success Story: Fueling Her Future, One Smile at a Time

- Program Start: Jada Douglas joined the Youth Empowerment Services
   (YES) Program in November 2023, with the homeless barrier
- Career Achievement: She now works full-time as a dental assistant at Sunshine Pediatric Dentistry and Orthodontics, providing care and comfort to young patients
- Professional Growth: Jada earned two advanced dental assistant certifications: Coronal Polishing and Monitoring of Nitrous Oxide Sedation, expanding her clinical skills and responsibilities
- Ongoing Support: She is receiving follow-up services phase of the YES Program and continues to receive assistance like fuel cards to support her commute
- Overcoming Adversity: Once facing homelessness, Jada has achieved career stability and independence through resilience and support



"I absolutely love what I get to do. Every day I get to help children feel safe, healthy, and confident. That means everything to me."



# Questions





# **Youth Updates**

Victoria Rodriguez, Director of Workforce Services



# **Youth Program Briefing and Performance**





# PLANNED PARTICIPANT SUMMARY

		NEW			VEAD END	YEAR END
PPS WIOA YOUTH 2024-2025	Q1 OCT- DEC'24	Q2 JAN- MAR'25	Q3 APR- JUN'25	Q4 JUL- SEP'25	GOAL	GOAL %
Urban Participants Planned	89	178	277		382	
Actual Participants Served	210	54	39		303	79%
Rural Participants Planned	52	105	172		244	
Actual Participants Served	96	21	30		147	60%
Work Experience Career Opportunities Planned	50	101	150		201	
Actual	60	40	76		176	88%
Education/Training Planned	15	29	43		57	
Actual	26	14	7		47	82%
Supportive Services Planned	67	135	202		269	
Actual	221	122	138		481	179%

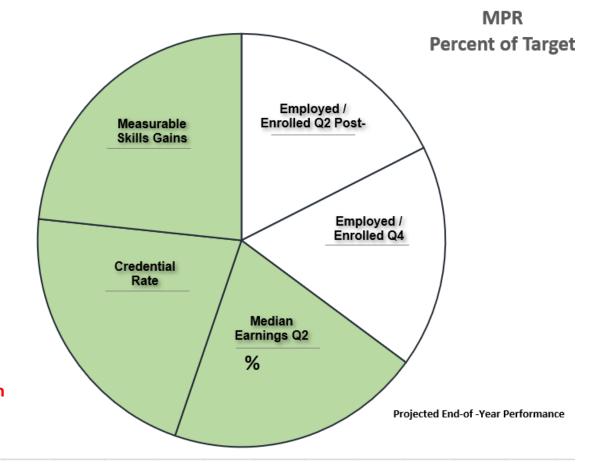
		Q1 OCT- DEC'24	Q2 JAN- MAR'25	Q3 APR- JUN'25	Q4 JUL- SEP'25
	ISY	9	12	13	
	OSY	28	42	26	
Urban	Total	37	54	39	
	ISY	11	8	20	
	OSY	12	13	10	
Rural	Total	23	21	30	
TOTAL		60	75	69	204





# **Performance Accountability**





\* TWC is currently developing youth measures data, which have not yet been included in this program year's MPR report.

#### WIOA YOUTH PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

Q2 & Q4 Employed/Enrolled: % of youth in education, training, or unsubsidized employment 2nd and 4th quarters after exit

Measurable Skill Gains: % of youth making progress toward a credential or employment during the program year

Median Earnings: Median wages of participants in unsubsidized employment after program exit

Credential Attainment: % earning a postsecondary diploma or equivalent during or within one year after program exit



# **Grants and Initiatives**

#### **Externship for Teachers**

The Externships for Teachers program provides middle and high school STEM, CTE, math, science teachers, counselors, and administrators with a five-day experience—both on-site and virtual—with local businesses in the Alamo region. Designed to strengthen educators' understanding of workforce needs and STEM career pathways, the program helps connect classroom learning to real-world applications. Educators receive a \$500 stipend upon successful completion.

# Teachers Enrolled in Cognito: 132

# Teachers that completed the cohorts: 93 # Districts
Participating:
17

# Schools Represented: 40 # Employers Participated: 21



#### **Industries:**

- Advanced Manufacturing
- Architecture
- Construction, and Engineering
- Health Sciences
- Aviation
- Culinary, Food Science



# **Grants and Initiatives**

### Summer Earn and Learn (SEAL)

No-cost program for students 16-22 with disabilities in the 13 County Workforce Solutions Alamo area. Offers paid, on-the-job, workplace readiness training, work experience, and transferable skills learning opportunities for students 5-8 weeks at \$13.50/hr.







# Questions



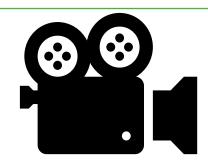
# **Career Exploration Events**





# Fiesta of Opportunities - April 25, 2025



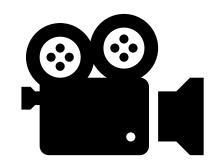


- 102 Youth Attendees
- 16 Employers & 9 Resources
- Work in Texas Registration
   Assistance
- YES! Program Presentation
- Career Fair
- Financial Wealth Session
- Mental Health Session



# World of Work Event - May 8th, 2025

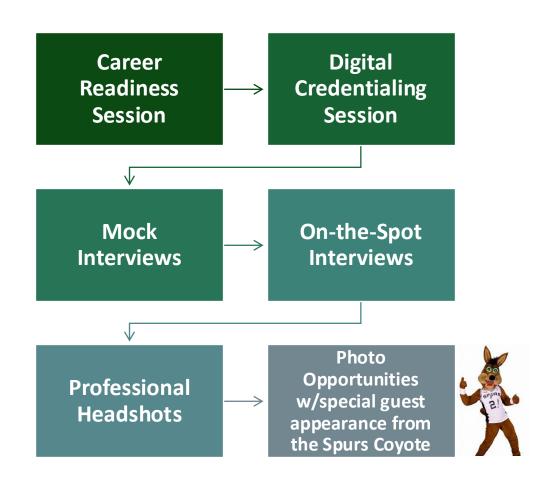




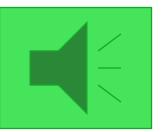
- 123 High School Students
  - Dilley High School,
  - Natalia High School,
  - Devine High School, and
  - Pearsall High School
- 10 Employers & 4 Resources
- TX Fame presentation
- HR Panel
- Youth Fashion Show



# **Intern Day SA!**







UPDATES FROM YESTERDAY'S SUCCESSFUL EVENT!

# **Youth Model Update**





## **KEY MESSAGE:**



Pathways. Opportunities. Possibilities.



<u>Pathways:</u> Explore multiple routes to success — from apprenticeships and internships to certifications and hands-on job training.

Opportunities: Connect with local employers, training providers, and mentors who are ready to invest in your future.

Possibilities: Discover careers you may not have known existed and envision a future full of promise.

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# **Tailored Presentations**

WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS ALAMO YOUTH MODEL



Presentation for Parents

WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS ALAMO YOUTH MODEL



Presentation for Schools

WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS ALAMO YOUTH MODEL



Presentation for Youth

WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS ALAMO YOUTH MODEL



Presentation for Community Organizations

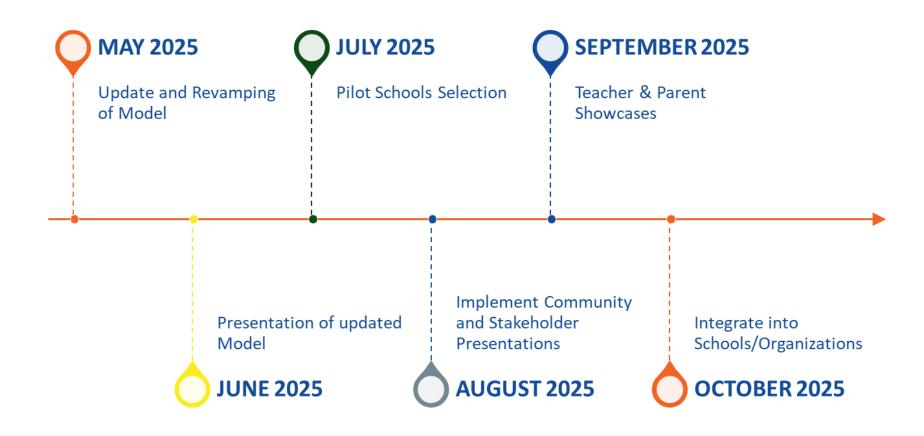
WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS ALAMO YOUTH MODEL



Presentation for Employers

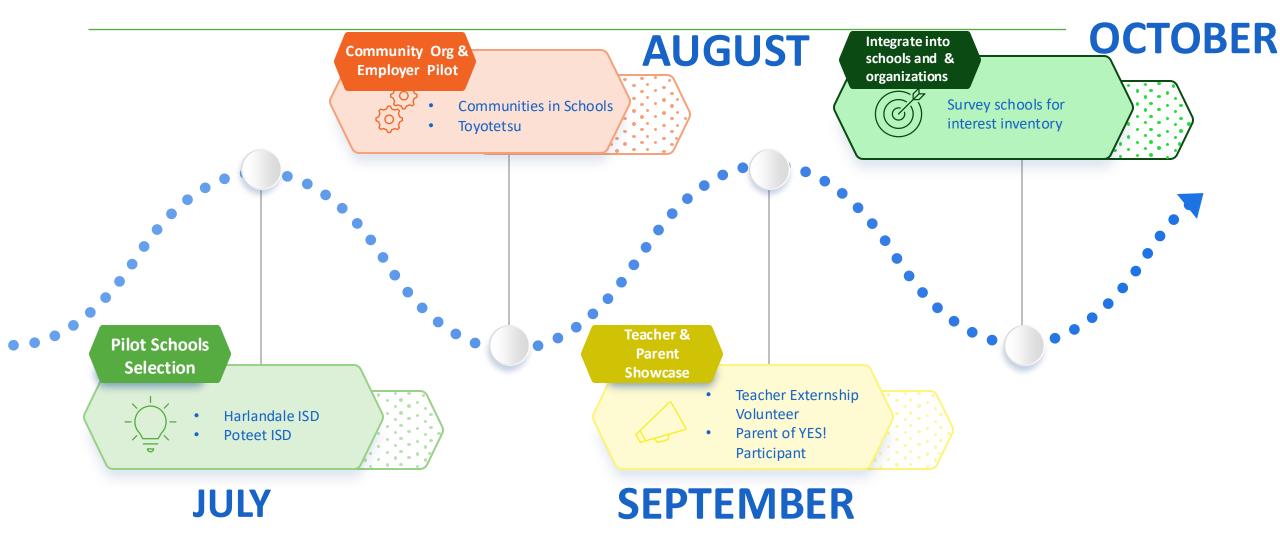


# **Timeline**





## **NEXT STEPS**





# Questions





## **CEO** Report

Adrian Lopez



**BUILDING BUSINESS • BUILDING CAREERS** 



# Highlights of 89<sup>th</sup> Legislature



## **Summary of Bills Passed**

House Bills: 2, 20, 120, 3260

Senate Bills: 1786, 1535





# Goals & Opportunities

- Expand career training to get 60% of working age
   Texas a postsecondary degree
- To understand changes and respond accordingly
  - Alignment (Youth Service Delivery Model)
  - Resource Investment
  - New initiatives



#### Workforce Pipeline & Career Readiness

 Creation of statewide credential inventory (WSA Local Plan could be a resource)

### Expanded advising and career preparation roles

- Mandates partnership between schools, higher ed, employers & workforce boards
- Advisors must be trained accordingly



#### Establishes the Applied Sciences Pathway

- 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> graders could earn HS diploma and industry recognized certificate
- Identifies 20 high-wage, high growth career fields
- Authorizes students to substitute a core academic course with a college level CTE course
- Aligns schools to meet skills gaps, increase employability of students and support economic vitality



#### **Expands Career & Technical Education Access**

- Universal CTE participation
- Integrates Junior ROTC as approved CTE

### **Enhanced Funding Mechanisms**

- R-PEP (Rural Pathway Excellence Partnership); increases funding for rural district partnerships
- Expands funding for P-TECH
- Allows districts to access funds for school upgrades for CTE



# House Bill: 120 continued

#### **FAST Program Expansion**

 Boosts eligibility Financial Aid for Swift Transfer (FAST) increasing access to dual-credit, credential pathways in CTE

#### **Advising & Transition Supports**

 Introduces a High School Advising Program with funding to support counseling infrastructure on college, career and military readiness

### New Military Pathway Grant Program

• Establishes a state-funded \$50K Military Pathway Grant



# House Bill: 120 continued

### Accountability & Workforce Outcome Reporting

- Updated goal of that every high school graduate have the skills and credentials to immediately enter the state's workforce
- Requires TEA to publish de-identified postsecondary outcomes, including postsecondary outcomes including student employment status, industry, wage, and county



#### Expanded State Control and Independence

- Re-authorizes and expands Texas Industry-Recognized Apprenticeship Programs (IRAP)
- Transitioned oversight to Texas Workforce Commission rather than Department of Labor (grow independently)
- Authorizes state to set Texas-specific standards



### House Bill: 3260 continued

#### Performance-Based Employer Reimbursements

- TWC is permitted to provide partial reimbursements to employers for apprentices or trainees
- Creates performance-based disbursements

#### **Broader Qualification Criteria**

- Broadens definition of qualifying apprenticeship programs for IRAP
- No longer tied to federal definitions



## Senate Bill: 1786

#### Expanded Free Dual-Credit Access

 Broadens eligibility for tuition-free dual-credit courses under FAST (Financial Aid For Swift Transfer); now covering those identified as disadvantaged any time during current or previous four school years

#### Performance-Based Funding Aligned with Workforce Outcomes

- Refines community college funding under HB 8 outcomes-based model includes:
- Credential completions
- Student transfers to four-year institutions
- Completion of 15 semester hours of dual credit or dual credit



# Senate Bill: 1786 Continued

#### Emphasizes "credentials of value"

- Provide a positive return on investment (earnings exceed high school median wages)
- Lead toward self-sufficiency wages
- Address state labor market needs especially in health care and education

### **Enhanced Labor Market & Academic Efficiency Tools**

 Requires Texas Workforce Commission, in coordination with The Higher Education Coordinating Board, and Texas Education Agency to deliver county-and region-level labor market projections, enabling colleges to tailor programing to local industry demands



## Senate Bill: 1786 Continued

### Enhanced Labor Market & Academic Efficiency Tools

 Allows the Higher Education Coordinating Board to adopt policies or manuals by reference and use emergency rulemaking to better align funding with legislative appropriations



# Senate Bill: 1535

#### Advanced Nuclear Energy Workforce

- Creates an Advanced Nuclear Energy Workforce Development Program under Texas Workforce Commission
- Administered in coordination with the Texas Education Agency, Texas Higher Coordinating Board in consultation with the Public Utility Commission

### Strategic Planning & Public-Private Partnerships

 Texas Workforce Commission must develop a strategic plan addressing labor shortages and retention in nuclear energy, facilitate financial assistance via public-private partnerships



# Senate Bill: 1535 continued

#### Strategic Planning & Public-Private Partnerships

- To promote academic programs (colleges, technical institutes, universities)
- Research and leadership development at higher education level
- Outreach to raise awareness of nuclear career pathways among K-12 students

### Industry-Aligned Curriculum Development

 Requires Texas Workforce Commission to design standardized curriculum frameworks for degree and certificate programs targeting high wage occupations in:



# Senate Bill: 1535 continued

#### Industry-Aligned Curriculum Development

- Nuclear-grade welding
- Radiological monitoring/control
- Reactor operations
- Nuclear instrumentation & control
- Engineering Tracks (nuclear, electrical, chemical, civil, environmental)

### **Annual Legislative Reporting**

 Texas Workforce Commission is tasked with submitting annual report to legislative committees overseeing workforce development, higher ed and energy



# Questions





# **Chair Report**

Anthony Magaro, Committee Chair





# San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo

- Stock Show & Rodeo
- When: February 12 -March 1, 2026
- Where: Frost Bank Center, 723 Frost Bank Center Parkway, San Antonio, TX 78219







# Questions



# Thank you!

