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Workforce Solutions Alamo Connects Students with Disabilities to Meaningful Paid Summer Employment Experience

Summer Earn and Learn program provides students with unique abilities opportunities to gain new skills, explore careers

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS - Workforce Solutions Alamo (WSA) is enrolling students with disabilities ages 16 to 22 in this year's **Summer Earn and Learn (SEAL) program**. The program provides students in the 13-County Alamo Region opportunities to gain new skills and explore careers during a five-week paid professional work experience.

Students participating in SEAL attend work readiness training to prepare for successful employment.

Employers participating in SEAL benefit from the addition of engaged and enthusiastic team members who bring problem-solving skills and new perspectives to the workplace.

SEAL, a partnership program between the Texas Workforce Commission, Texas Workforce Solutions-Vocational Rehabilitation Services (TWS-VRS), and Workforce Solutions Alamo, works with employers to provide students with practical work experiences that help them develop skill sets and build confidence to pursue their future career goals. The program also provides students with a sense of purpose and contribution.

"Individuals with disabilities have historically experienced high unemployment rates, yet represent the largest group of untapped talent especially in a tight labor market," said Adrian Lopez, CEO of Workforce Solutions Alamo. "We are committed to support students of ALL abilities by providing connections to work experiences and career exploration activities that can truly transform their lives while helping to strengthen our local economy."

Students will be placed in work experiences with employers located across the 13-County Alamo Region comprised of Atascosa, Bandera, Bexar, Comal, Frio, Gillespie, Guadalupe, Karnes, Kendall, Kerr, McMullen, Medina, and Wilson counties.

In 2022, 196 students participated in the program with 103 pledged employers including Sea World, Pearsall ISD, Tekgration, Nadler's Bakery & Deli along with many others. Positions included customer service representatives, IT specialists, and administrative assistants.

To enroll, interested students, parents, or caregivers should visit www.workforcesolutionsalamo.org/seal Spots are limited.

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For more information about Workforce Solutions Alamo and the organization's impact on the community, please visit workforcesolutionsalamo.org, or call **(210) 438-0581**.

Federal Funding Disclosure Statement: This program is financed with 100% Federal Funding. The dollar amount will be \$900,000.00. 0% and \$0 of the program will be financed by nongovernmental sources.

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About Workforce Solutions Alamo

The Workforce Solutions Alamo Board serves as the governing board for the regional workforce system, a network of service providers and contractors that brings people and jobs together. Workforce Solutions Alamo is composed of the 13-county Alamo region. Workforce Solutions Alamo membership reflects the diverse constituencies of the regional community: business, economic development, education, labor, community organizations, and government. For more information on available workforce programs and services, visit www.workforcesolutionsalamo.org or call **(210) 438-0581**.

Workforce Solutions Alamo is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. (Please request reasonable accommodations at least 48 hours in advance) Texas Relay Numbers: 1-800-735-2989 (TDD) or 1-800-735-2988 (Voice) or 711.