

2019-2020



ANNUAL REPORT

HUDSON COUNTY/JERSEY CITY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

*The Hudson County Plaza
257 Cornelison Avenue
Jersey City, NJ 07302*

Phone: 201-420-3000 x 2636
Email: blopez@hcnj.us
Website: HCJCWDB.org



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

As we welcome the year 2021, I am excited and honored to serve as your Chairperson of the Hudson County/Jersey City Workforce Development Board.

As a member of the Board since 2015, the experience brought me a greater appreciation for what our community has to offer in workforce innovation. I consider this position a great privilege and I am proud to present our 2019-2020 Annual Report.

The WDB is committed to working with the One-Stop Career Centers, employers, and community partners as a business-driven workforce solution that supports economic vitality and sustainability of Hudson County and Jersey City. As the New Jersey economy reopens, with necessary adjustments due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the WDB will play a central role in convening industry, education and labor leaders around these unforeseen issues and find funding solutions that meet the needs of struggling workforce and small businesses. The past year has been one of rebuilding and planning, with modifications to the Local Area Plan and the launch of the Board's website. As the WDB Continues to grow, our strategy must be ambitious and resilient so that Hudson County and Jersey City's workforce services set the bar for forward-thinking in workforce development that sustains in any economic environment.

We hope you enjoy our Annual Report and we look forward to helping America's most diverse workforce.

**-Andrew Campbell, Eastern Millwork
HCJC WDB Chairperson**

Private Industry

Andrew Campbell, Eastern Millwork, **Chairperson**
Roger Jones, Jones & Associates Communications, **Vice-Chair**
Pavan Attur, Hudson Regional Hospital
Vid Bahadur, Hudson County SBDC
Beatriz Baldwin, Goodwill Industries-Greater NY & Northern NJ
Denise Wilkerson, Robert Scott PR
Deidra Viney, Express Employment Professionals
Lourdes Valdes, RWJ Barnabas
Jared Pulosio, Ankura Consulting Group
Jessica Ortiz, Liberty Science Center
Maria Nieves, Hudson County Chamber of Commerce
Dorota Mani, Café Peanut
Khoa Le, Kvibe Productions
George Blount, National Career Institute
Christian Bliss, PSE&G
Seth Kramer, Goldman Sachs Group

Economic Development

Florence Baron, Jersey City Economic Development Corporation
Michelle Richardson, Hudson County Economic Development

Labor

Peter Busacca, Hudson County Central Labor Council
Patrick Kelleher, Plumbers Local #24
Greg Hancox, International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees Local #59
Robert Garrison, Laborers International Union of North America Local 3

Community Based Organizations

Roseann Mazzeo, WomenRising
Elaine Dawson, Urban League of Hudson County
Rekha Nandwani, ISA AW
Courtney Madsen, Church World Service
Nikketta Pressley-Walsh, NJCU Youth Corps

Education

Esmeralda Doreste-Roman, Union City Board of Ed
Lori Margolin, Hudson County Community College
Amy Degise, Hudson County Schools of Technology
Jennifer Jones, New Jersey City University

Government Partners

Sharita Brown, JC One-Stop Career Center
William Schulz, DVRS
Randi Moore, HC Housing & Community Development
Robert Martinovich, HC Department of Family Services
Stacey Flanagan, JC Health & Human Services

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Program Year 2019-2020 has been an extraordinary year for the Hudson County/Jersey City Workforce Development Board. From the onset, the Board faced the challenges of staffing its operations, completing the modification of its Strategic Local Plan, and assembling the package and request for Board Certification by the NJ State Employment and Training Commission (NJSETC), and securing the IRS reinstatement of the Board's non-profit status. It is gratifying that we have met these challenges and completed those tasks.

Despite the success we have achieved, the year has been impacted by the traumatic experience of the **COVID-19** pandemic, which has affected the nation as a whole. The COVID-19 pandemic has played havoc with the U.S. Economy, and the health of the nation as a whole. Unemployment figures have risen to levels much higher than ever before. A close look at the chart below will show how the pandemic has affected the workforce during the past 5 months: **SEE CHART BELOW**

| CITY/LABOR AREA | FEB | MARCH | APRIL | MAY | JUNE |
|------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Hudson County, NJ | | | | | |
| Labor Force | 369,800 | 370,900 | 358,600 | 364,500 | N/A |
| Employment | 356,300 | 358,600 | 301,200 | 307,100 | N/A |
| Unemployment | 13,400 | 12,300 | 57,400 | 57,400 | N/A |
| Unemployment Rate (%) | 3.6 | 3.3 | 16.0 | 15.7 | N/A |
| New Jersey | | | | | |
| Labor Force | 4,582,200 | 4,565,500 | 4,454,500 | 4,505,900 | N/A |
| Employment | 4,390,600 | 4,396,600 | 3,744,200 | 3,832,700 | N/A |
| Unemployment | 191,600 | 169,000 | 710,300 | 673,200 | N/A |
| Unemployment Rate (%) | 4.2 | 3.7 | 15.9 | 14.9 | N/A |
| National | | | | | |
| Labor Force | 164,235,000 | 162,537,000 | 155,830,000 | 157,975,000 | 160,883,000 |
| Employment | 158,017,000 | 155,167,000 | 133,326,000 | 137,461,000 | 142,811,000 |
| Unemployment | 6,210,000 | 7,370,000 | 22,504,000 | 20,514,000 | 18,072,000 |
| Unemployment Rate (%) | 3.8 | 4.5 | 14.4 | 13.0 | 11.2 |

As the nation, state and local Workforce system grapples with the pandemic, we look forward to tackling the new challenges before us. Social distancing, the use of protective equipment to prevent contagion, and an awareness of the insidious nature of this epidemic on the social fabric and economy of our workforce has forced a new "normal" focus on how we do business. Our 2 One-Stop Centers will have to develop new continuity plans before re-engaging with the public seeking workforce development services. Business and Private Industry Partners will need to develop a strong relationship with the One-Stops to meet the needs of their workforce.

Moving forward, the HCJC WDB will face other challenges in PY2020-2021. As we look ahead,

the first order of business is to coordinate with all the partners on the re-engagement services which will become the focus of the One-Stop delivery system for the immediate and ongoing future. Coupled with this challenge, the new funding formula which the NJDOL-WD has imposed on the HCJC WDB to allocate funds for the two workforce development areas within its jurisdiction will define service delivery for the future. In addition to these two major challenges the Board will be tasked with a new local strategic plan to guide the workforce system for the next four years. This will require that the staff be supplemented with a planner so that the coordination with the One-Stop Operators, Partners and work-group engaged in this development of the strategic plan occurs seamlessly. As other challenges and issues develop, we will prepare the Board and staff to meet and overcome them.



HUDSON COUNTY PERFORMANCE STANDARDS July 1, 2019 – May 12, 2020

| | Actual | LWDB Plan | % LWDB Achieved | # of Clients | |
|--------------------------|--------|-----------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|
| | | | | Numerator | Denominator |
| ADULT | | | | | |
| Employment Q2 Adult | 62.8% | 65.3% | 96.2% | 147 | 234 |
| Employment Q4 Adult | 67.1% | 72.4% | 92.7% | 302 | 450 |
| Credential Adult | 84.4% | 49.0% | 172.3% | 92 | 109 |
| Skill Gains Adult | 46.2% | 0.0% | Infinity | 6 | 13 |
| DISLOCATED WORKER | | | | | |
| Employment Q2 DW | 63.9% | 67.5% | 94.7% | 46 | 72 |
| Employment Q4 DW | 68.7% | 68.0% | 101.0% | 79 | 115 |
| Credential DW | 91.5% | 54.0% | 169.4% | 86 | 94 |
| Skill Gains DW | 23.8% | 0.0% | Infinity | 5 | 21 |
| YOUTH | | | | | |
| Employment Q2 Youth | 54.1% | 57.8% | 93.6% | 59 | 109 |
| Employment Q4 Youth | 55.1% | 54.0% | 102.0% | 49 | 89 |
| Credential Youth | 66.3% | 55.0% | 120.5% | 53 | 80 |
| Skill Gains Youth | 0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0 | 2 |

JERSEY CITY PERFORMANCE STANDARDS July 1, 2019 – May 12, 2020

| | Actual | LWDB Plan | % LWDB Achieved | # of Clients | |
|--------------------------|-------------|------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------|
| | | | | Numerator | Denominator |
| ADULT | | | | | |
| Employment Q2 Adult | 64.80% | 76.70% | 84.49% | 81 | 125 |
| Employment Q4 Adult | 66.42% | 75.10% | 88.45% | 91 | 137 |
| Credential Adult | 66.67% | 69.00% | 96.62% | 54 | 81 |
| Skill Gains Adult | 89.47% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 17 | 19 |
| Median Earnings | \$6,627.79 | \$5,625.00 | 117.83% | 81 | 0 |
| DISLOCATED WORKER | | | | | |
| Employment Q2 DW | 67.31% | 80.40% | 83.20% | 70 | 104 |
| Employment Q4 DW | 71.60% | 76.60% | 92.27% | 58 | 81 |
| Credential DW | 61.02% | 73.50% | 82.46% | 36 | 59 |
| Skill Gains DW | 69.23% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 9 | 13 |
| Median Earnings | \$10,127.42 | \$8,031.00 | 126.10% | 70 | 0 |
| YOUTH | | | | | |
| Employment Q2 Youth | 53.49% | 65.10% | 82.16% | 46 | 86 |
| Employment Q4 Youth | 59.26% | 49.00% | 120.94% | 48 | 81 |
| Credential Youth | 65.71% | 74% | 87.62% | 46 | 70 |
| Skill Gains Youth | 0% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0 | 1 |
| Median Earnings | \$2,358.26 | \$0.0 | 0.0% | 43 | 0 |

PROGRAM YEAR 2020-2021 FUNDING

• FY 20 • 13.24 reduction • FY 21 Allocation • Reduction for 2021

HUDSON COUNTY WIOA

| | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| • Adult | 804,004 | 106,551 | 697,453 | 106,551 |
| • Youth | 714,815 | 94,642 | 620,173 | 94,642 |
| | ----- | 0 | ----- | ----- |
| • Dislocated | 691,627 | 91,571 | 600,056 | 91,571 |
| • Learning Link | ----- | ----- | 71,000 | ----- |
| Total WIOA | 2,210,446 | 292,764 | 1,988,682 | (292,764) |

JERSEY CITY WIOA

| | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| • Adult | 669,913 | 88,696 | 581,217 | 88,696 |
| • Youth | 694,717 | 91,981 | 602,736 | 91,981 |
| • Dislocated | 491,766 | 65,110 | 426,656 | 65,110 |
| Total WIOA | 1,856,396 | 245,787 | 1,610,609 | (245,787) |