The Power of Partnership: How CAAs and Workforce Boards Can Collaborate for Success

Tuesday February 25, 2025 | 1:00pm EST

National Community Action Partnership (NCAP)

National Association of Workforce Boards (NAWB)

KCEOC Community Action Agency

Eastern Kentucky Concentrated Employment Program, Inc. (EKCEP)

Agenda

Introduction to Workforce Boards & SNAP E&T

Mala Thakur, *National Association of Workforce Boards*

EKCEP and KCEOC: History of Partnership and Collaboration

Paul Dole, *KCEOC*; Alicia Hill, *KCEOC*; Becky Miller, *EKCEP*

Questions & Close

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National Association of Workforce Boards

The Power of Partnership: How CAAs and Workforce Boards Can Collaborate for Success

National Community Action Partnership Webinar

February 25, 2025

Mala B. Thakur
Senior Director, Programs

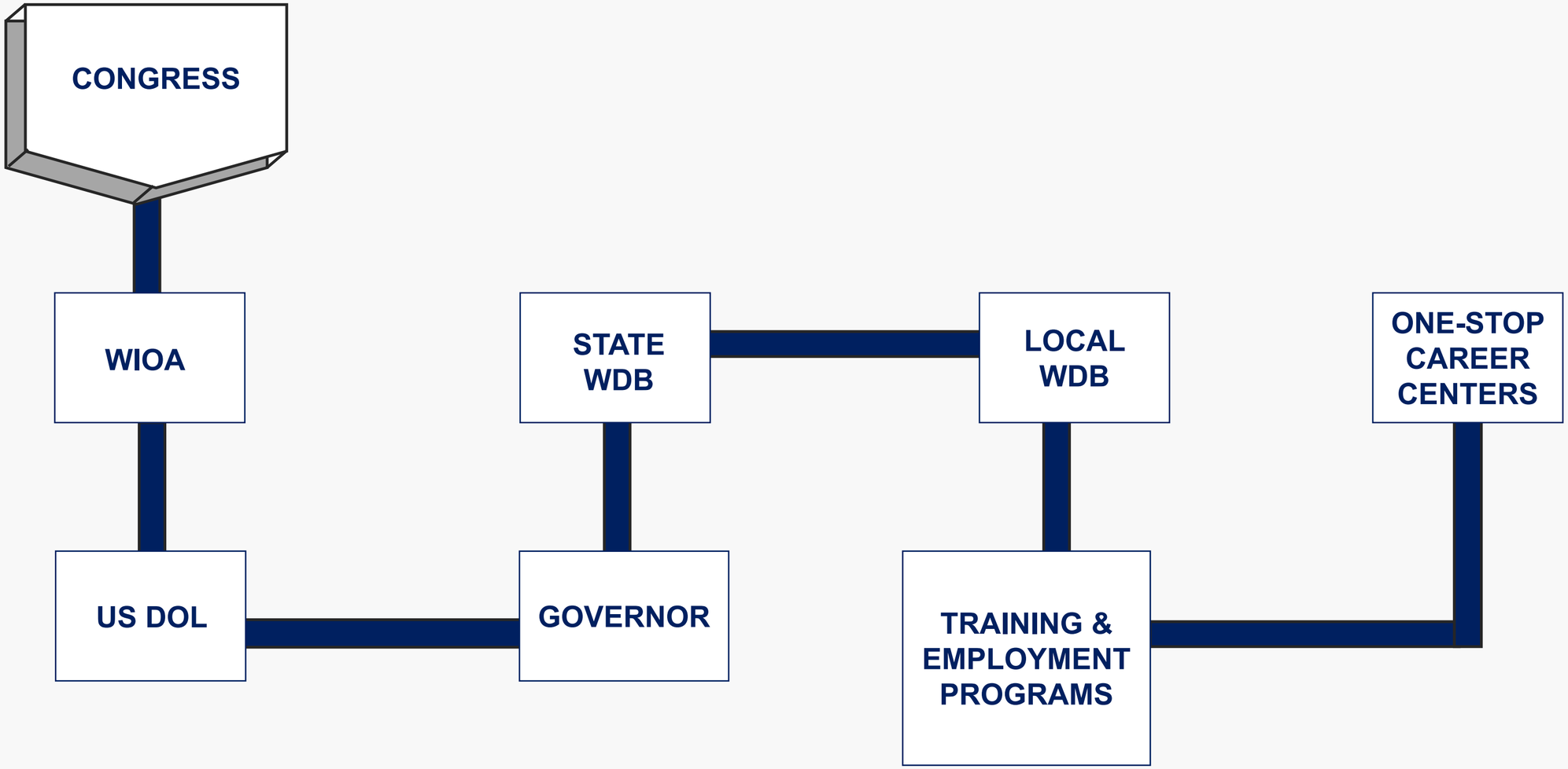
NAWB

Serves, supports and represents ~580 State and Local Workforce Development Boards (WDBs) and their 12,000+ business members

NAWB's Vision is accelerating the impact of workforce boards to **advance prosperity** for individuals, businesses, and communities.

NAWB's Mission is to effectively advocate and continuously **advance America's workforce system** by ensuring workforce boards have the expertise and capacity to meet the needs of business, job seekers, and communities.

The Public Workforce System



Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA)

- The purpose of WIOA is to better align the workforce system with education and economic development to create a collective response to economic and labor market challenges on the national, state, and local levels.
    - Prosperity of U.S. Economy
    - Improve ROI on Workforce Investment
    - Access and Opportunity
    - Support Alignment of Workforce System
    - Promote Improved Service Delivery
- Boards run the local “One Stop” or American Job Center

WIOA Titles

I. WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

Adults, Dislocated Workers, Youth
Provide jobseekers with career counseling, job search assistance, and job training.
National Programs: Native American, Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers, Veterans, Job Corps, YouthBuild

II. ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY

Assist adults who lack basic skills. Services assist with improving reading, writing, math, and English proficiency; attaining a high school diploma or equivalent; and transition to employment or postsecondary education/training

III. AMENDMENTS TO THE WAGNER-PEYSER ACT (EMPLOYMENT SERVICE)

A national system public employment offices, known as the Employment Service, with the purpose of matching job seekers, including Unemployment Insurance (UI) recipients, to employers seeking workers.

IV. AMENDMENTS TO THE REHABILITATION ACT (VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION)

Assist individuals with disabilities maximize their employability, independence, and integration into the workplace and society. Programs offer comprehensive and individualized services including vocational rehabilitation, occupational training, and assistive technologies.

V. GENERAL PROVISIONS

What Is a Local Workforce Development Board (WDB)

- 550 local areas nationwide
- Local areas are designated to receive WIOA funding
- WDB is an advisory board that provides strategic, fiscal, and performance oversight for the designated local areas.



What Are the Functions of WDB?

- Local/regional plans
- Program oversight/provider selection/Admin
- Workforce, research and labor market information (LMI)

- Convening, brokering, leveraging
- Engaging employers
- Developing career pathways

- Engaging in sector strategies
- Negotiating local performance
- Economic development



Options to Coordinate with a SNAP Agency

Examples:

- Intentional referral process connecting SNAP E&T participants with local workforce services including American Job Centers (AJC) and contracted workforce providers utilizing Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)
- Jointly serve and co-enroll participants in both WIOA and SNAP E&T services
- Contract with SNAP agency to operate as a SNAP E&T intermediary
- Contract with SNAP agency to operate as a SNAP E&T as third-party partners

Benefits of Partnership

- Potential to expand resources for supportive services such as childcare and transportation
- SNAP E&T providers can enhance WIOA funds
- Blending and leveraging funding sources to provide comprehensive services for employment and training

Resources

NAWB Community of Practice

SNAP E&T Community of Practice (nawb.org)

- SNAP E&T & Workforce Board Tools
- Case Studies, SNAP E&T and workforce board partnerships
- Webinars: SNAP E&T and workforce

Resources

Career One Stop: Find your local WDB

https://www.careeronestop.org/LocalHelp/WorkforceDevelopment/find-workforce-development-boards.aspx

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Thank you!

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Contact Information

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About EKCEP

EKCEP is the workforce development agency for 23 counties in Eastern Kentucky, with additional services available across the Commonwealth. EKCEP helps job seekers connect with training and job placement opportunities, and assists employers with staffing needs and recruitment.

In PY2023, EKCEP programs served more than 15,000 Kentuckians with critical workforce support.



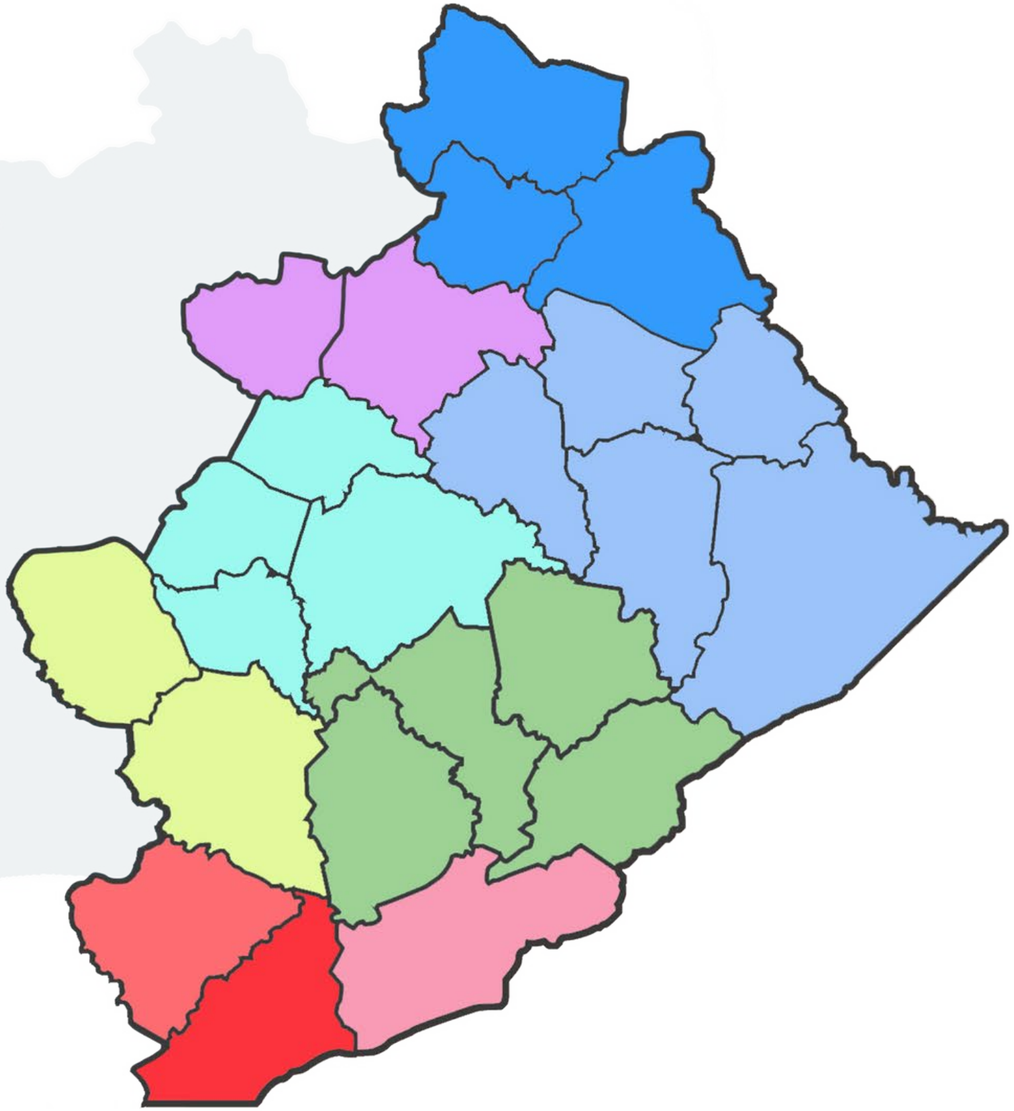
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PARTNERSHIPS

EKCEP partners with 9 Community Action agencies within its core service area.

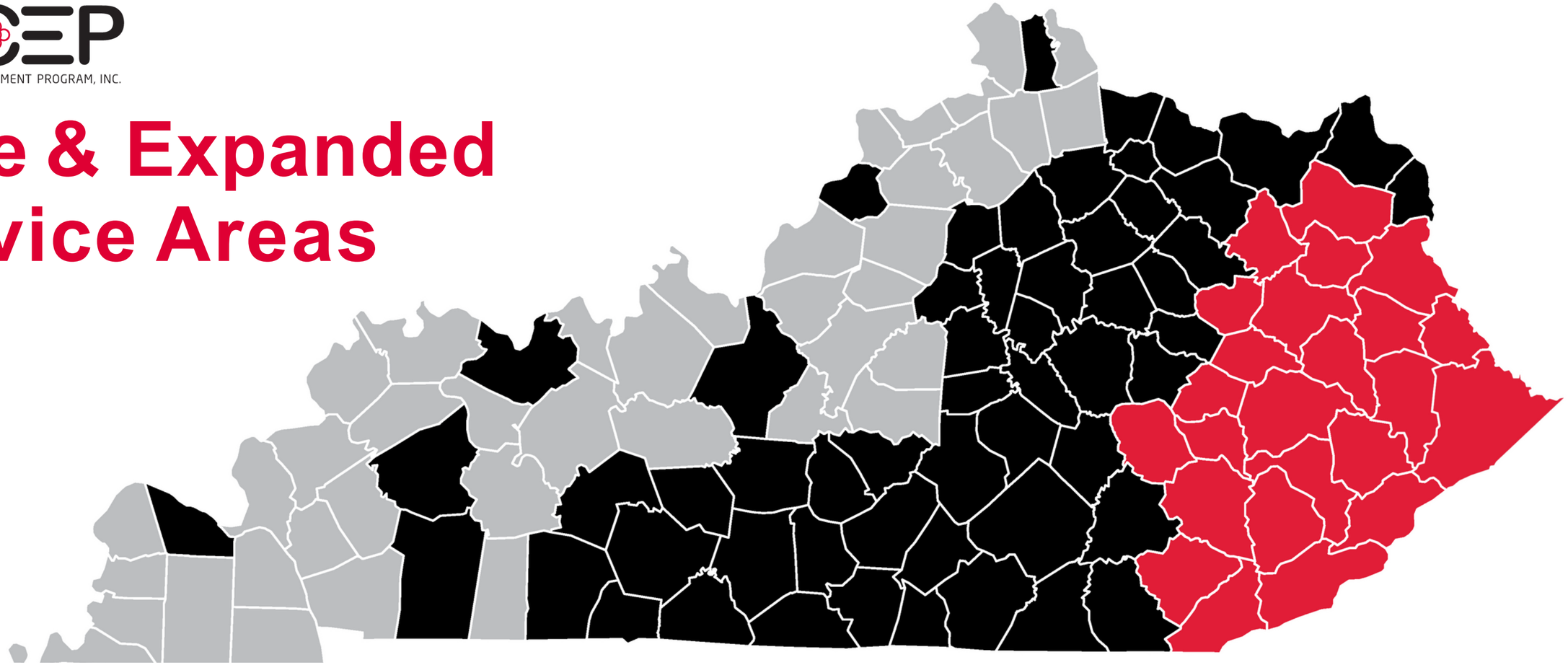
- Bell-Whitley Community Action Agency
- Big Sandy Community Action Program Daniel
- Boone Community Action Agency Gateway
- Community Action Agency Harlan County
- Community Action Agency
- KCEOC Community Action Partnership
- LKLP Community Action Council
- Middle Kentucky Community Action Agency
- Northeast Kentucky Community Action Agency

EKCEP Core Program Service Area



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Core & Expanded Service Areas



EKCEP Core Service Area

- Kentucky Career Center Network (WIOA)
- Prosper Appalachia
- Teleworks USA
- Recovery & Reentry
- Business Solutions

EKCEP Expanded Service Area

- Recovery & Reentry
- Employer Retention Services

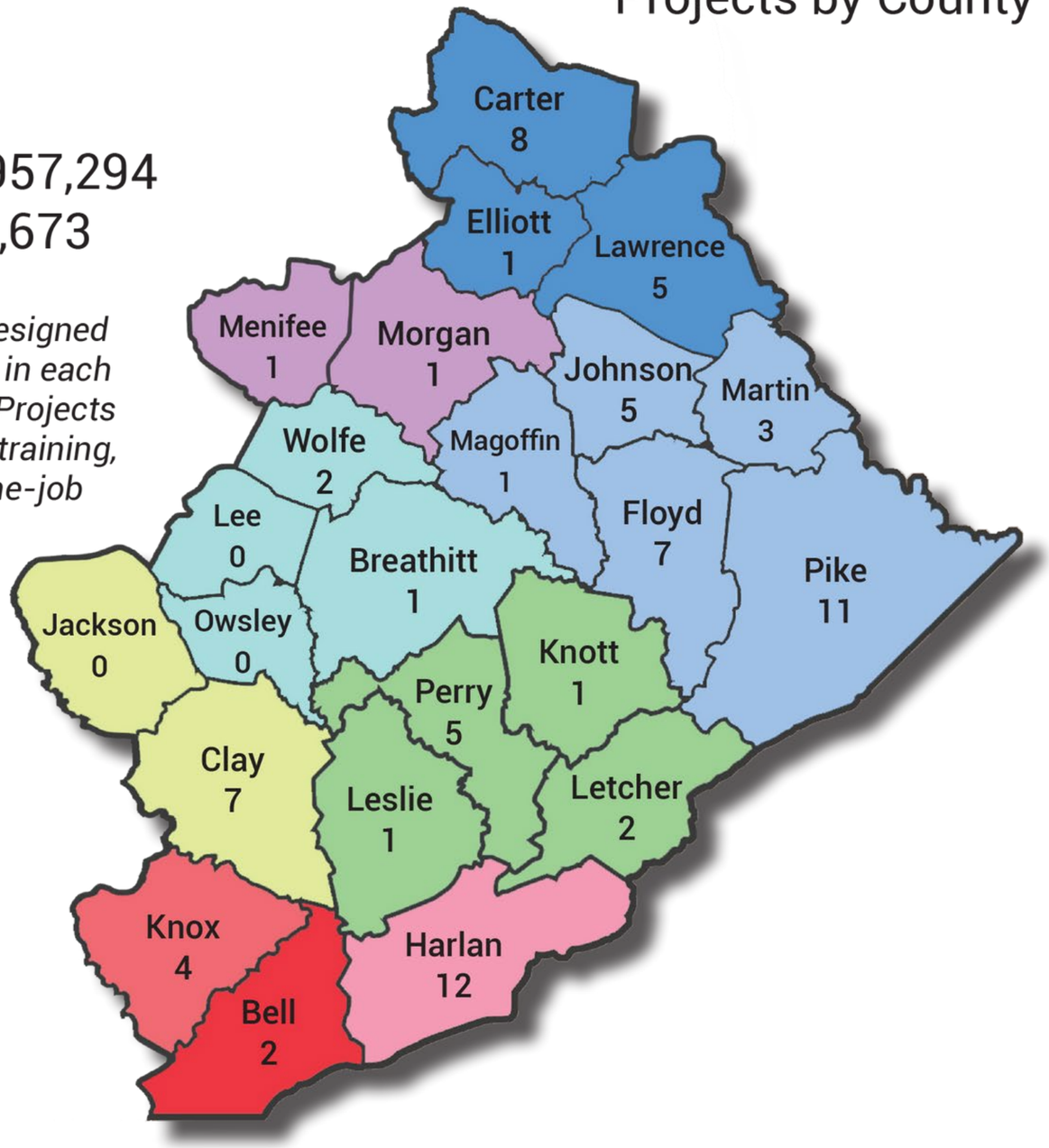
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Business Services Projects PY2023

Projects Budget: $1,957,294
Expenditures: $1,146,673

EKCEP Business Services are designed to ensure projects are available in each county within the service area. Projects may include incumbent worker training, apprenticeships, and paid on-the-job training.

Projects by County

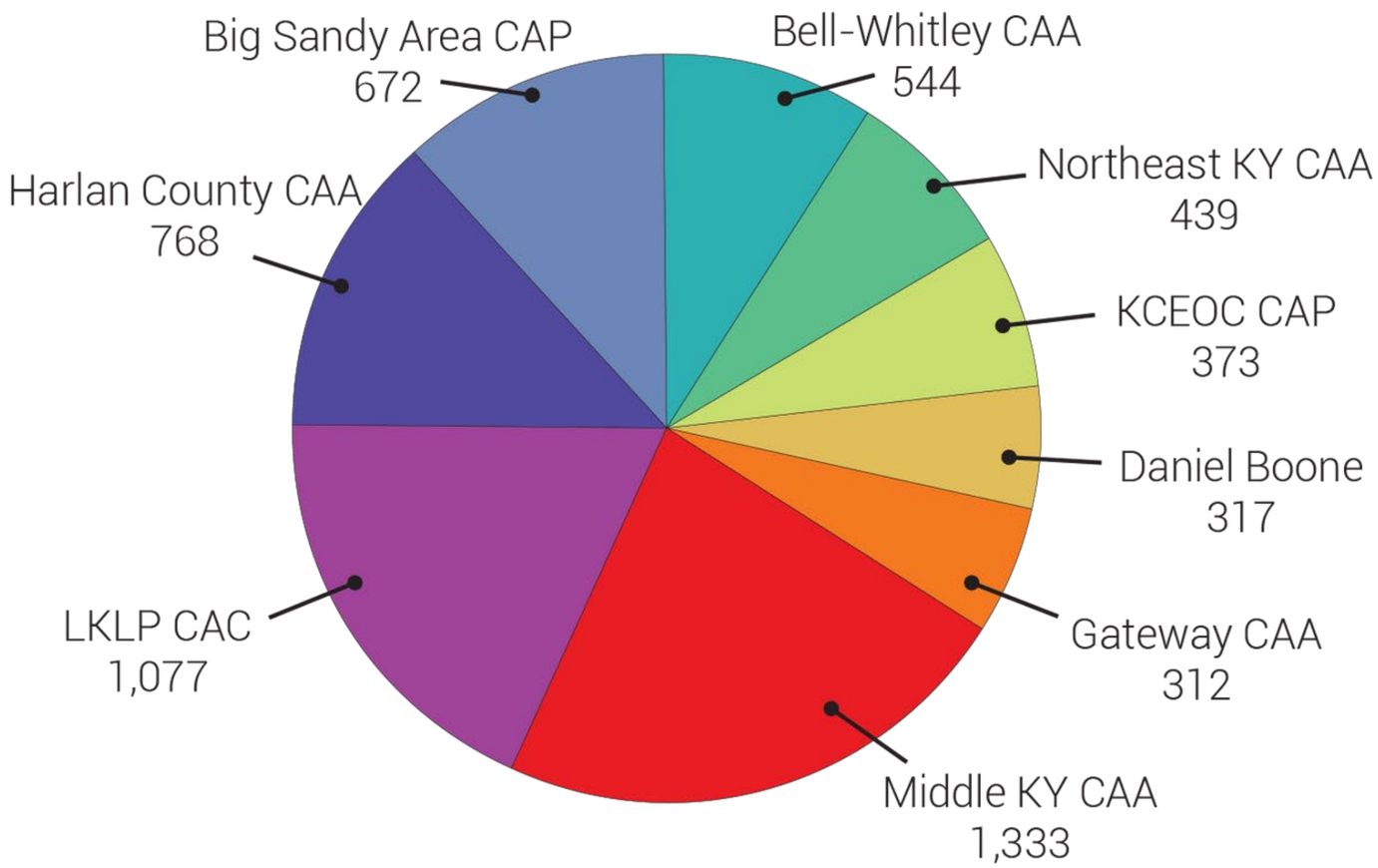


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Clients Served PY2023*

New Enrollments: 6,900
New & Carryover: 10,171

New Enrollments by Contractor Agency

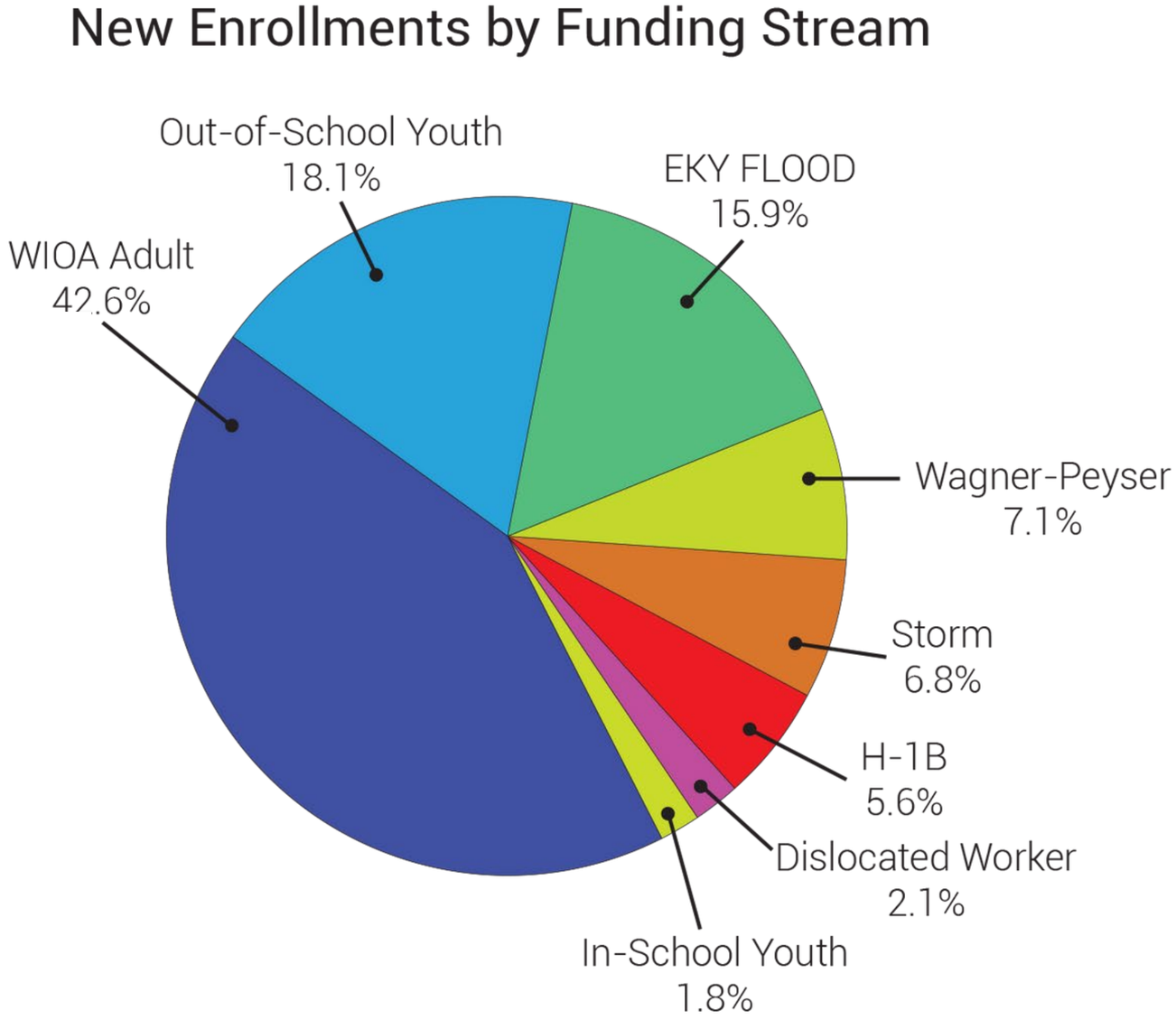


*Core services only.

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KCEOC community Action PARTNERSHIP

"Creating change since 1964"



Headquartered in Knox County, KY, KCEOC Community Action Partnership serves low-income individuals and families in 16 counties in Southeastern Kentucky. KCEOC programs include a focus on:

- Housing
- Early Childhood Development
- Community Services
- Workforce Development

KCEOC community Action PARTNERSHIP
"Creating change since 1964"

PY2023 Results

Under contract with EKCEP, KCEOC Community Action delivers direct workforce services in Knox County, KY. These services include assistance for adults, dislocated workers, and youth between the ages of 16-24.

All WIOA Program Clients PY23	
Clients Served	245
Assessments completed	270
Clients in Training	69
Supportive Services	58
Work-based Learning	83

Paths 2 Promise Partnership (2016-18)

Paths 2 Promise (P2P) was a federally-funded pilot in partnership with EKCEP, USDA, the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and Community Action agencies in Eastern Kentucky's Promise Zone. It was designed to increase employment among recipients of SNAP benefits. Between 2016 and 2018, the program enrolled 3,206 people for services in eight counties.

KCEOC Community Action Partnership
"Creating change since 1964"

P2P Results in KCEOC Service Area

Total Program Costs: $1,692,114

- Personnel & Other Infrastructure: $368,715
- Transportation Assistance: $337,806
- Childcare Assistance: $290,288
- Work-based Learning: $361,993
- On-the-job Training: $4,877
- Training: $264,062
- Supportive Services: $64,371

Total Program Clients Served: 260

- Client Assessments Completed: 235
- Clients in Training: 119
- Clients Receiving Supportive Services: 216
- Clients in Work-based Learning: 120

Questions?