

IOWA PLAINS COMMITTEE

Date: October 10, 2025

Time: 8:30 AM

Facilitator: Holly Espenhover-Chair

IN ATTENDANCE

Linda Rouse-Iowa Workforce Development
Elizabeth Waigand – Iowa Workforce Development
Teresa Larson-White-Iowa Workforce Development
Nicolas “Omar” Valentine-Iowa Workforce Development
Holly Espenhover-UnityPoint Health
Chelsie Dobney-UnityPoint Health
Kent Heronimus-Interstates
Pamela Woolridge
James Morris-IWD
Tammi Erlbacker -
Randall McQueeney- IWD
Kathy Leggett- IWD
Brittney Gutzmann-
Ryan Spratt
Luke Huggins
Melissa Haukap
Renea Anderson
Wayne Pantini

AGENDA

Dashboard Updates – James Morris

- Dashboard now displays enrollment percentages alongside numbers.
- Goals can be added, either on the main dashboard or a separate tool/page.
- Bar chart format will replace current chart to improve public readability.
- Send any relevant pages, links, or individual skill gains data to James for inclusion in the dashboard.
- **VOS (Virtual One-Stop Greeter):**
 - Request to include a definition of the VOS.
 - Clarify which credentials are included and who is represented in the data.
 - Define what is being measured and who is being counted.

Creston AJC – Linda

- Lease expires **12/31/2025**; the Creston location will close on this date.
- Press release regarding closure was issued **10/10**.
- **Vocational Rehabilitation** will operate from the **SWIC office**.
- Career planners will continue meeting clients by appointment at the public library and other partner agencies.
- The mobile unit will provide services in Creston and surrounding areas.
- **Promise Jobs** staff will relocate to **Council Bluffs or Des Moines**.
- **Title I** services will remain in Creston; another career planner will move to Des Moines.
- **Wayne** will host a meet-and-greet in Creston to provide transitional support and contact information to the community.
- **Randall (VRSI)** is working with homeless veterans to connect them with services and employment opportunities.

OSO Updates – Tammi

- **Surveys:**
 - Increased response rate; 106 local surveys completed – the highest recorded to date.
 - Access via QR code flyers, email signatures, and paper forms.
 - Feedback from local surveys has been positive.
- **Outreach Tracker:**
 - Focus on events; amended report to include **Fort Dodge** will be sent.
- **Partner Referrals:**
 - 85 referrals currently tracked. Interest in tracking how many lead to enrollment.
- **Service Delivery Report:**
 - Increased focus on **Work-Based Learning (WBL)**, especially in the **Iowa Plains** region.
 - Working to recruit more employers for WBL opportunities.
 - Staff checklist developed to streamline employer onboarding and increase efficiency.
 - Need to increase outreach to employers for transitional jobs and WBL.

Sioux City HAC

- In recognition of **National Disability Employment Awareness Month**, career planners are working on employer engagement.
- **Career Fair** planned with a **Reverse Job Fair** component:
 - **10/20 | 1–4 PM**
 - 1–2 PM: Reverse Job Fair (candidates at tables, employers visit them)
 - 2–4 PM: Traditional Career Fair open to all
 - Contact **Brittney Gutzmann** to participate or connect employers.

Title I Success Story – Teresa

- **Veteran Client: John, age 53**
 - Former project manager who left the workforce in 2015 to care for family.
 - Struggled to find employment due to lack of certifications.
 - Enrolled in Title I, completed a Project Management certification.
 - Received support with interview prep, clothing, and successfully reentered the workforce in a project management role.

WBL Webinar – Sara (N/A)

Update from Kathy Leggett

- Hosted the **Filling Jobs Webinar** on **9/30**.
- 17 employer organizations (ECO) participated.
- Survey was distributed on **10/10**.

Iowa Plains Dashboard – Committee Discussion

- Discussion around increasing engagement and improving committee attendance.
- Need to attract more employers and generate interest in participation.
- **Wayne** will compile a list of participants and potential outreach groups, including:
 - SHRM groups
 - Fort Dodge Growth Alliance
 - Manufacturing peer groups and conferences
 - Community colleges
 - AEA
- Consider presentations on work experience programs to educate employers about committee goals and available funding.
 - Clarify that **work experience funding** supports participant wages.
 - Provide information on **incumbent worker training** and other programs.
- **Holly** will develop an outreach and information-sharing plan, coordinate with **Linda**, and create one-page flyers for the website.

ACTION PLAN



IOWA PLAINS LWDA

ONE STOP OPERATOR
REPORT

Iowa Plains
LWDA

PY2025

**One Stop Operator
Report
September 2025**

Prepared By:
Tammi Erlbacher

Prepared For:
Iowa Plains Executive
Committee



IowaWORKS Center Traffic

September 2025

Center	# People Served
Spencer	494
Fort Dodge	636
Sioux City	1617
Denison	278
Council Bluffs	949
Creston	163
TOTAL	4137

Survey Analysis

September 2025

Center	# Surveys Completed	Average Satisfaction Rating 1-4 Range
Spencer	7	4
Fort Dodge	23	3.82
Sioux City	44	3.98
Denison	8	4
Council Bluffs	15	3.93
Creston	9	3.88
TOTAL	106	3.9

Survey results reported include Iowa Plains Local Area Survey

Outreach Events

September 2025

Date	Event	Location
Sep 2, 2025	Calhoun County Veterans Service Office and Community Outreach Event	Rockwell City
Sep 3, 2025	Rosecranse- Emerge	Sioux City
Sep 4, 2025	IowaWorks Open House	Creston
Sep 4, 2025	Matura Open House	Creston
Sep 4, 2025	Clay County Fair	Spencer
Sep 4, 2025	IWCC Meet and Greet	Council Bluffs
Sep 8, 2025	Veterans Day Booth at Clay County Fair	Spencer
Sep 9, 2025	RTF- Emerge	Sioux City
Sep 11, 2025	Resume Workshop	Manning
Sep 11, 2025	Calhoun County Job Fair	Manson
Sep 11, 2025	Growing Community Connections	Sioux City
Sep 12, 2025	Vet Court	Sioux City
Sep 15, 2025	Woodbury County Jail- Emerge	Sioux City
Sep 16, 2025	Community Action Agency	Sioux City
Sep 17, 2025	Atlantic Chamber of Commerce Small Busienss Conference	Atlantic
Sep 17, 2025	Lutheran Services of Iowa	Sioux City

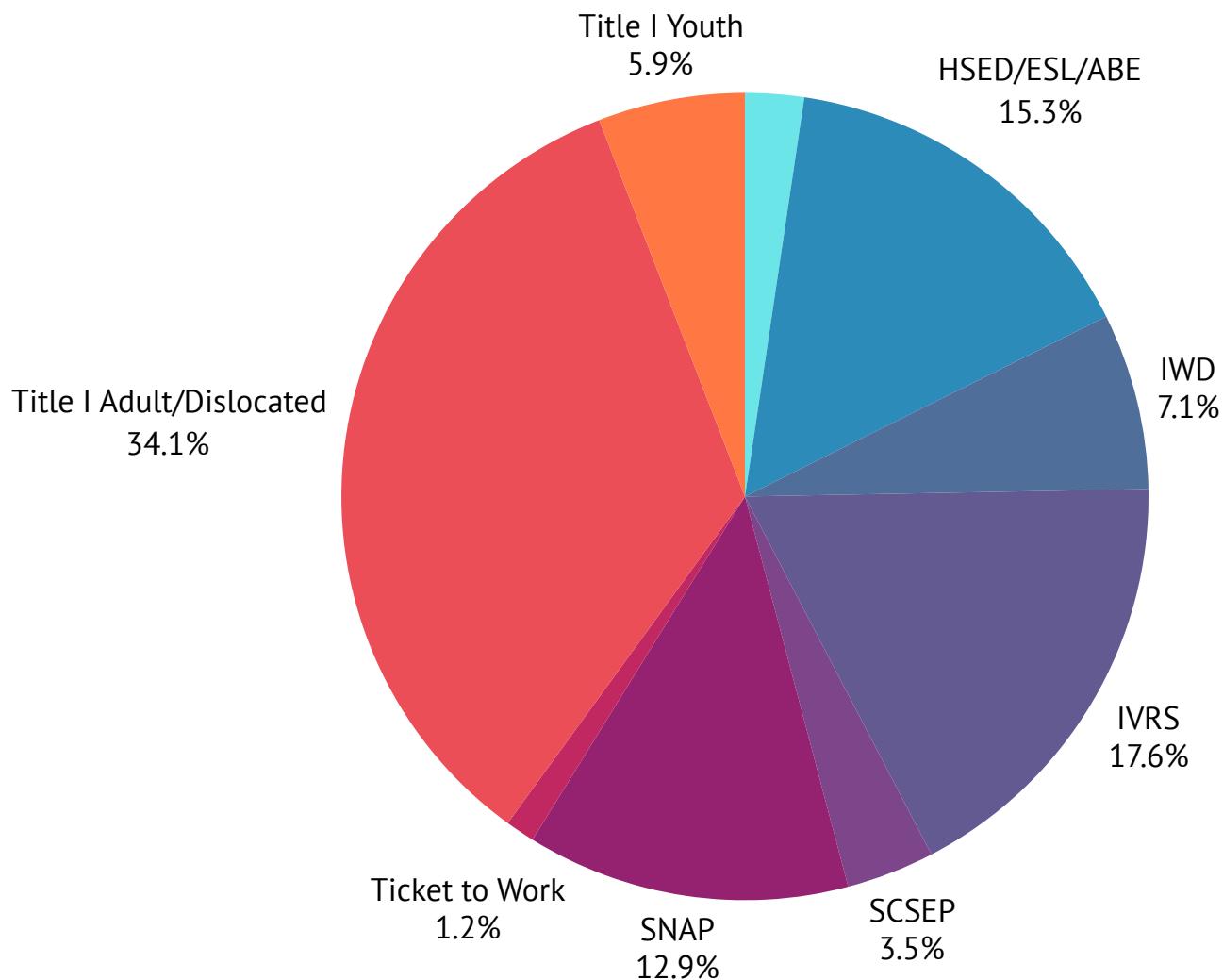
Outreach Events

September 2025

Sep 17, 2025	Lutheran Services of Iowa	Sioux City
Sep 18, 2025	IowaWorks Open House	Denison
Sep 22, 2025	HMS Hub: Collaborative Meeting September	Whiting
Sep 22, 2025	SECH Monthly Meeting	Sioux City
Sep 23, 2025	New Visions Homeless Services	Council Bluffs
Sep 23, 2025	RTF -Emerge	Sioux City
Sep 24, 2025	Waffles for Warriors	Sioux City
Sep 26, 2025	HOP Homeless Outreach Program	Council Bluffs
Sep 26, 2025	Gospel Mission	Sioux City
Sep 29, 2025	Career Week at IWCC	Council Bluffs
Sep 30, 2025	HDC Conference AIMS Institute	Council Bluffs
Sep 30, 2025	Rosecranse Cynthia's House- Emerge	Sioux City
Oct 25, 2025	ECI Event- WBL Panel	Sioux City

Partner Referrals

- American Indian Council
- HSED/ESL/ABE
- IWD
- IVRS
- SCSEP
- SNAP
- Ticket to Work
- Title I Adult/Dislocated
- Title I Youth



85

Total Number of Referrals

OSO Service Delivery Report

September 2025

OSO Center Visits

9/4- Denison
9/9- Creston
9/10- Council Bluffs
9/16- Denison
9/18- Denison
9/22- Whiting (HUB Collaboration Event)
9/25- Sioux City (ECI- WBL Panel Event)

Weekly Staff Trainings

9/3 Work Authorization
9/10 JVSG/Home Base Iowa
9/17 Work Life Balance

Partner Meeting

9/9- Core Partner Meeting

Efficiency Creation

Work Experience/Transitional Job Staff Checklist

Employer Of Record

LifeSkills Connection continues to provide employer of record services for Iowa Plains. Currently, we have 4 participants on our payroll that are enrolled in Title I Services.

