

# 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

Iowa Plains  
LWDA

## ONE STOP OPERATOR REPORT

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

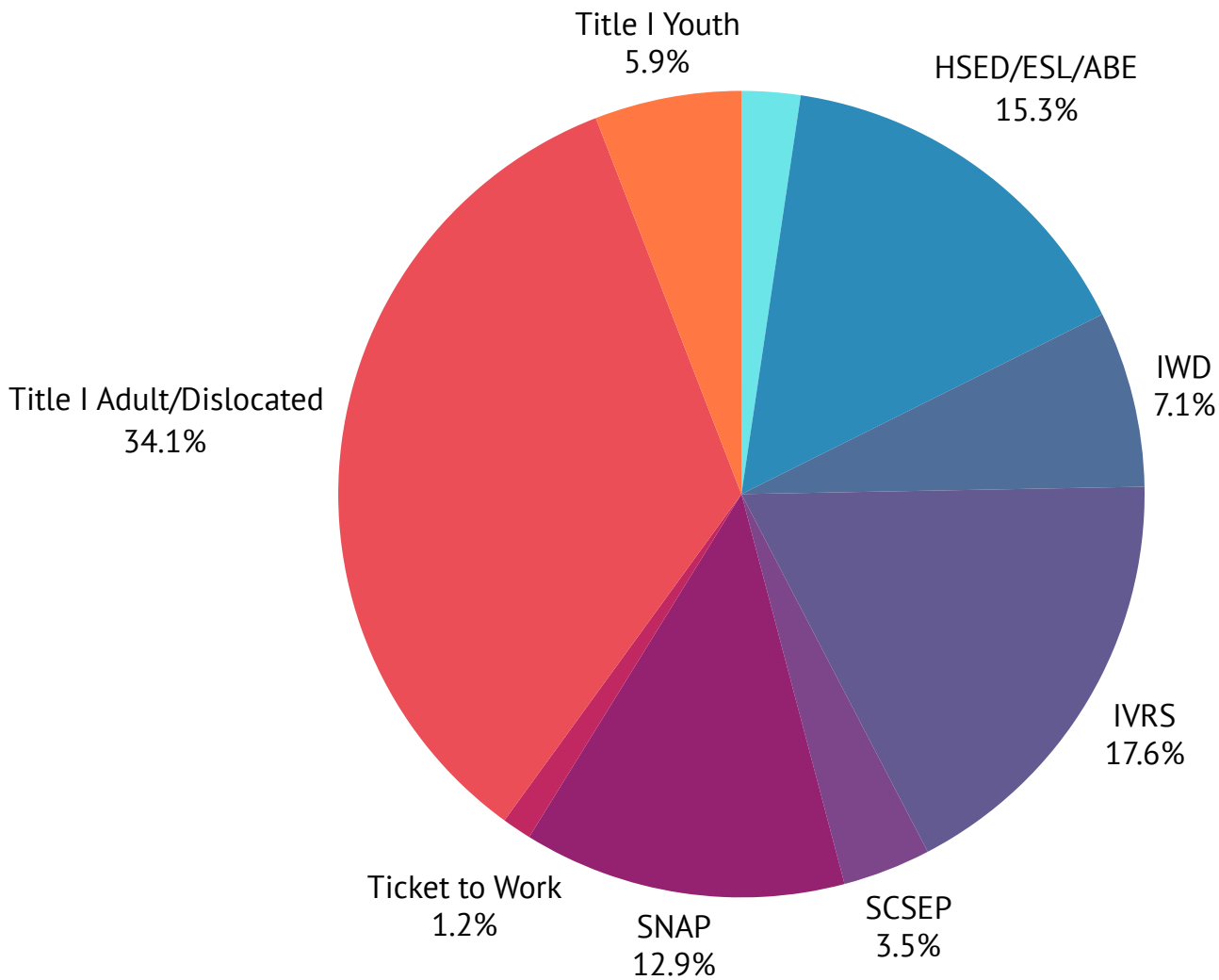
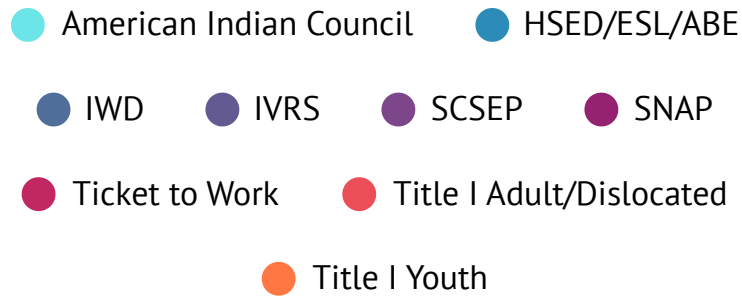
Date	Event	Location
Sep 2, 2025	Calhoun County Veterans Service Office and Community Outreach Event	Rockwell City
Sep 3, 2025	Rosecranse- Emerge	Sioux City
Sep 4, 2025	IowaWorks Open House	Creston
Sep 4, 2025	Matura Open House	Creston
Sep 4, 2025	Clay County Fair	Spencer
Sep 4, 2025	IWCC Meet and Greet	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	Waffels 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



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.

