



**This report Reflects March-April 2017**

**Current Job Openings (Includes indexed jobs)**

	<b>Statewide</b>	<b>Regional</b>
<b>March</b>	<b>34,196</b>	<b>3868</b>
<b>April</b>	<b>28, 279</b>	<b>3149</b>

<i>Unemployment Rates- County rates are not seasonally adjusted</i>			
	<b>March 2017</b>	<b>February 2017</b>	<b>March 2016</b>
<b>United States (seasonally Adjusted)</b>	4.5%	4.7%	5.0%
<b>State of Iowa (seasonally adjusted)</b>	3.1%	3.2%	3.8%
<b>Benton</b>	3.6%	3.8%	4.0%
<b>Cedar</b>	3.2%	3.6%	3.8%
<b>Iowa</b>	3.1%	3.3%	3.8%
<b>Johnson</b>	2.4%	2.6%	2.6%
<b>Jones</b>	4.5%	4.9%	5.4%
<b>Linn</b>	3.4%	3.6%	4.0%
<b>Washington</b>	3.1%	3.5%	2.9%

**Business Services:**

In addition to business visits, the business services team assisted the following businesses during this reporting period through targeting recruiting events in the IowaWORKS center:



**Cedar Rapids Recruiting Events:**

March/April 2017

QPS-2  
Willow Garden  
Ruffalo Noel Levitz  
Aerotek  
Kirkwood  
RGIS-5  
Robert Half  
Kaplan-2  
PIC Group  
Ranstad  
Mediacom  
Driveline Retail

**Iowa City Recruiting Events:**

March/April 2017

Aerotek  
Advance Services  
Goodwill  
Service Master

**Center activities March/April:**

- Kate Pine participated in Healthy Families Event at Taylor Elementary School- an annual event in one of the lower income neighborhoods which provides a hot meal and family activities along with services available in the area to assist families in need.
- Business team began monthly Integrated Conference call hosted by Voc Rehab in which employers with several opportunities across Iowa speak about recruiting & application processes. First call with Union Pacific (schedule for first 6 months of the year includes: Hy-Vee, CVS, and Mid-America Energy)



- Began 3 part Registered Apprenticeship trainings for business team and partners. First and second level training for all staff interacting with businesses with information about RA and how to promote (IVRS, Department for Blind, & IowaWORKS staff in attendance)
- WIOA Integration Steering committee finalized desk reference guide with contacts across all services within WIOA. Final print scheduled for end of 2QTR.
- Kate Pine attended Midwest Manufacturing Conference in Davenport- brought together over 50 employers in the Manufacturing field. Director Townsend presented at the registered apprenticeship panel and IowaWORKS staff manned a table and networked with Iowa manufacturers.
- WIOA Integration Steering committee continued to meet to create visual display board for each physical location and traveling displays which highlight all services available. Along with the display board a 3 minute video was also created and will be published on YouTube at the end of June.
- ECI sponsored a seminar on Registered Apprenticeship on 3/15 at the Linn County Armory with roughly 20 employers attending.
- Jennifer Lahey participated on a panel at a Re-entry forum in Iowa City April 3<sup>rd</sup> to discuss barriers facing those returning to the community following incarceration. Attendees included service providers, employers, concerned citizens, and returning citizens.
- Employer Disability Resource Network (Partnership between IowaWORKS, IVRS, and various community providers) held a reverse job fair on 4/7/17 with 25 employers and 14 job seekers attending. These job seekers attended a boot camp to prepare for the event and a dry run to practice before the actual event. One job seeker received an interview the same day while several others were offered interviews in the coming weeks. Plans are underway for an Iowa City reverse job fair.
- In April, Mace Huffman (BMS for in region 10) assisted with the HBI Resume process mapping in collaboration with IEDA/IWD, the team/focus group designed and implemented a revised HBI website resume process. The process was successfully communicated to all 16 Regions in the state.

**Rapid Response Activities:**

Raining Rose-Laid off 49 workers, paid in lieu of notice up to 3/24/17 (30 days from notice). They used a placement agency to assist their workers with transitioning to their next employment opportunity so on-site meetings didn't occur with IowaWORKS.



**From March-April 2017, several short term trainings were offered free as core services to members of IowaWORKS and are listed below.**

Forklift Certification  
CPR for Healthcare  
Computer Classes (Keyboarding, Word, Email/Internet, Excel)-CR and IC offerings  
OSHA 10  
ESL

**Synopsis of the State Apprenticeship Grant**

889 referrals  
125 enrollments  
25 OJT placements  
50 non OJT placements  
44 referrals to WIOA  
20 in assessment and job preparedness  
43 program exits  
Current OJT's LX Nexus, Homeland Electric, Centro Plastics, Brandt Heating and Air, Collum Electric

**This grant is ending 6/30/17 and will not be extended.**