

Division of Community Resources Monthly Report

Workforce Development

May 2024

Workforce Development

- ✓ The State budget passed providing \$55 million for the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP). This \$7.9 million increase is to support the increase in minimum wage and \$5 million towards increasing available slots. These funds are provided by the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA). They are passed through to the local Social Services office who then enters into an Agreement with the local workforce offices across the State.

The SYEP provides six weeks of paid work experience to economically disadvantaged youth between the ages of 14 and 20 years old. The Center for Workforce Development (CWD) has already begun the planning for the 2024 program. Applications for youth were available as of April 14th. The program will run from July 8 through August 16. There are resolutions under the Human Resources Committee to set pay rates for Crew Leaders and youth participants.

- ✓ The NYS Department of Labor (NYSDOL) is providing local areas who have met and will continue to meet expenditure levels with additional funding. The CWD will be receiving and additional \$100,000 in Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) funding to be used for training and supportive services.
- ✓ The County Legislature allocated funds to the CWD to support the cost of short-term training in high demand occupations.

This has allowed for the Automotive Trade class. This program started April 9th with all 15 seats filled. Classes are held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 9 pm for 8-9 weeks. This is training offering various AES certifications upon completion and participants will be connected to Sullivan County businesses with a job.

There is also an executed contract with HC Staffing, LLC and a Facilities Use Agreement with BOCES. Minor with the universal background screening company for healthcare, known as Simplr, are being sorted. Once resolved a start

date will be set to start off with (HHA) Home Health Aide and then rotate to (CNA) Clinal Nursing Assistant.

- ✓ The CWD sent an email blast to County departments and vendors offering a presentation/review of services of the CWD and other departments under the Division of Community Resources. This is being conducted for outreach purposes to bring awareness of what services are available with new and changing staff. To date 17 presentations have been completed and several more are scheduled. These outreach efforts have led to increased knowledge in the community about what services are offered as well as the building of new relationships.
- ✓ NYSDOL applied for \$10 million in Round 3 of the Federal National Dislocated Worker Emergency grant to address the Opioid crisis. The CWD signed on to participate if NYS is awarded. This will provide funding for training and employment for individuals directly or indirectly impacted by the Opioid crisis. Additional information was requested by USDOL which was provided.
- ✓ The in-house hiring events are underway for 2024. There were three (3) events in March and four (4) in April. The hiring events for May are being scheduled.
 - May 9th from 11:00am – 2:00 pm will have Bethel Woods Center for the Arts, Adapt of the Hudson Valley, and Catskill Veterinary Services
- ✓ Career Center data updates:

Social media March 2024:

- 966 followers; Reach of 17,125 people with 939 Facebook page views. This is a 30% increase in people and a 55% increase in page views from February 2024.

Center Services:

- The CWD provided services to 11 business customers and listed 143 jobs.
- The CWD assisted 560 participants that came into the Career Center.
- Welfare to Work caseload profile March 2024:
Total Caseload - 275

TANF – caseload 112
Medical issues – 8%
Disabled – 23%

Pregnant/Newborn – 3%
Needed in Home – 5%
No Child Care – 13%
Criminal Justice involved – 24%
Cases closed – 22

Safety Net – caseload – 163
Medical issues – 17%
Disabled – 38%
Needed in Home – 3%
Criminal Justice involved – 61%
Cases closed – 21

Labor Market Data for February 2024 compared to March 2023

- ✓ Sullivan County saw an increase in total nonfarm jobs of 4.8% (1,400) and an increase of 6.1% (1,400) in total private sector jobs.

Please note: The net month (February 2024 - March 2024) showed an increase of 1.0% (300) nonfarm jobs and an increase of 1.2% (330) in private sector jobs.

- ✓ For Sullivan County the job gains were:
 - Private Educational and Health Services at 10.5% (800)
 - Professional and Business Services at 15.0% (300)
 - Financial Activities at 12.5% (100)
 - Mining, Logging & Construction at 7.1% (100)
 - Manufacturing at 5.0% (100)
 -

For Sullivan County the sectors that showed no job growth were:

- Leisure & Hospitality
 - Trade, Transportation & Utilities
 - Information
 - Other Services
 - Government
- ✓ NYS showed an increase of 1.5% (141,800) in total nonfarm jobs and 1.3% (106,300) in private sector jobs.

The largest jobs gains were found in:

- Private Educational and Health Services at 4.4% (98,500)
- Government at 2.5% (35,500)
- Leisure & Hospitality at 4.0% (34,600)
- Financial Activities at 0.7% (5,100)
- Other Services at 1.1% (4,100)
- Professional and Business Services at 0.3% (3,500)

NYS saw job losses in:

- Information at -5.5% (-16,200)
 - Trade, Transportation and Utilities at -0.9% (-13,100)
 - Mining, Logging and Construction at -1.7% (-6,500)
 - Manufacturing at -0.9% (-3,700)
- ✓ Within the region, Sullivan County's private employment sector grew the fastest year-over-year, up 6.1 percent. The second fastest growth was recorded in the Kingston MSA (+2.7%) followed by the Dutchess-Putnam Metropolitan Division (+2.3%), followed by and Orange-Rockland-Westchester labor market area (+0.5%).
- ✓ The Hudson Valley region showed an increase of 1.2% (11,000) in total nonfarm jobs and an increase of 1.0% (8,100) in private sector jobs.

The largest job gains were found in:

- Private Educational and Health Services at 4.5% (9,800)
- Leisure & Hospitality at 4.3% (3,700)
- Government at 1.9% (2,900)
- Financial Activities at 2.4% (1,100)

The Region's job losses were in:

- Mining, Logging and Construction at -1.0% (-600)
- Trade, Transportation and Utilities at -1.3% (-2,300)
- Manufacturing at -2.1% (-900)
- Professional and Business Services at -2.0% (-2,400)
- Information at -2.1% (-300)

The region saw no growth in Other Services.

- ✓ Sullivan County's unemployment rate was 4.0% for March 2024 up from 3.4% in March 2023.

March 2024 had 38,100 people in the labor force (36,500 employed & 1,500 unemployed). The number of employed individuals increased 0.8% (300) and the number of unemployed increased by 15.4% (200) leaving the labor force with a net gain of 1.9% (700).

The total labor force remained flat from February 2024 to March 2024. The number of employed workers increased by 0.3% (100) and the number of unemployed workers decreased by -11.8% (-200).

- ✓ The Hudson Valley's unemployment rate for March 2024 was 3.7%, an increase from 3.0% in March 2023.

- ✓ NYS's unemployment rate was 4.2% in March 2024 compared to 4.1% in March 2023.
- ✓ The March 2024 unemployment rates across the 62 NYS counties ranged from a low of 3.2% for Tompkins County to a high of 7.3% for Hamilton County. Sullivan County with a 4.0% rate ranked 16th in the State along with New York, Ontario, Queens, Richmond and Schenectady Counties.
- ✓ Hudson Valley unemployment rankings for March 2024:
 - # 2 Rockland County at 3.4%
 - # 4 Putnam County at 3.5%
 - # 6 Dutchess County at 3.6%
 - # 9 Westchester County at 3.7%
 - #11 Orange County at 3.9%
 - #11 Ulster County at 3.9%
 - #16 Sullivan County at 4.0%