VI WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD



ANNUAL STATEWIDE PERFORMANCE REPORT

For the period of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021

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About the VI State Workforce Development Board

The VI State Workforce Development Board (VISWDB) is a policy making entity charged with strengthening the workforce development system by collaboratively building strong partnerships with secondary and post-secondary education, economic development, and the business and private sector to align and improve economic growth in the Virgin Islands. Perform competitive selection of providers, identify eligible training providers for youth, adult and dislocated workers, negotiate and reach an agreement on local performance accountability measures, oversee competitive selection of One Stop Operators and Providers, designate or certify one-stop operators through a competitive process and to terminate for cause the eligibility of such operators, and coordinate activities with education and training providers including providers of workforce investment activities, providers of adult education, career and technical education and local agencies administering plans under Title 1.

During the period of July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021, employers and job seekers were provided a series of services and programs that aided them during this recovery phase of the pandemic. Additionally, a large volume of unemployment insurance claims was paid in a timely manner. The amount paid out since the pandemic is \$206,788,928.00.

The Board held all meetings/communication via video conferencing, email, and phone.

The Board began negotiations to contract with a new One-Stop Operator for the American Job Center. The onboarding date was set for August 2nd, and the official launch date of September 2nd. An update will be provided in the 2022 annual report.

Compliance Monitoring

Compliance monitoring gave the VI Workforce Development Board and the VI Department of Labor the opportunity to receive technical assistance with financial management, to include financial reporting, cost allocation methodology, cash management, allowable costs, payroll controls, audit requirements, one-stop center cost sharing, development of a memorandum of understanding, infrastructure funding agreements, Career Pathways/Sector Strategies Training, and policies and procedures. Maher and Maher conducted the training. Recommended corrective actions were provided to put effective controls methods in place.

Waivers

Waiver of WIOA Section 134(c)(3)(H)(i) and 20 CFR 680.720(b) to increase on-the-job training (OJT) employer reimbursement up to 90 percent for businesses with 50 or fewer employees. ETA approved the Territory's waiver request through June 30, 2022, for the WIOA Title I Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth formula funds.

Summary of Performance Measures

Measure	NPG	FINAL RUN					
PY 2020 Q4 Rolling 4 Quarters							
Adult Entered Employment (2nd Qtr)	55.0%	58.8%					
Adult Entered Employment (4th Qtr)	55.0%	67.5%					
Adult Median Earnings	\$4,800.00	\$5,688.00					
Adult Credential Attainment	50.0%	44.3%					
Adult Measurable Skill Gains	60.0%	61.9%					
DW Entered Employment (2nd Qtr)	51.0%	66.7%					
DW Entered Employment (4th Qtr)	52.0%	67.8%					
DW Median Earnings	\$5,600.00	\$6,271.00					
DW Credential Attainment	50.0%	72.9%					
DW Measurable Skill Gains	55.0%	72.7%					
Youth Entered							
Employment/Placement (2nd Qtr)	62.0%	60.4%					
Youth Entered							
Employment/Placement (4th Qtr)	60.0%	53.1%					
Youth Median Earnings	\$3,400.00	\$4,262.00					
Youth Credential Attainment	45.0%	21.7%					
Youth Measurable Skill Gains	55.0%	80.0%					
Wagner Peyser							
Entered Employment (2nd Qtr)	50.0%	46.1%					
Entered Employment (4th Qtr)	50.0%	42.4%					
Median Earnings	\$5,400.00	\$5,460.00					

Legend				
50.00%	Met or exceeded our goal			
	Did not meet goal but			
50.00%	within 90%			
50.00%	Did not meet goal			

Customer Satisfaction Surveys

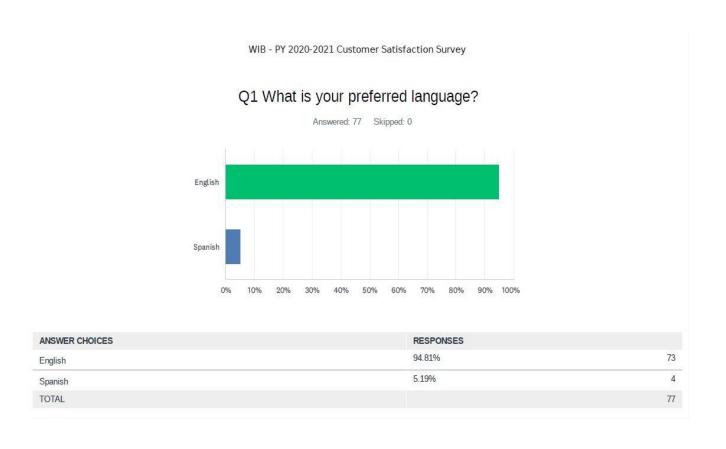
Surveys were used to assess customer satisfaction for businesses and job seekers. Emails were sent with a link to complete the customer satisfaction survey; telephone calls were made, and walk-in were surveyed.

A total of 951 job seekers were provided with the survey. Responses were provided by checking a range of one through 10, with the higher numbers representing higher satisfaction.

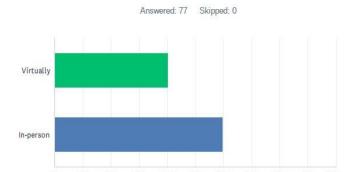
A similar survey was sent to 265 employers.

The results of the surveys are as follows:

2021 Job Seekers Survey:



Q3 How did you receive services?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Virtually	40.26%	31
In-person	59.74%	46
TOTAL		77

40% 50%

60%

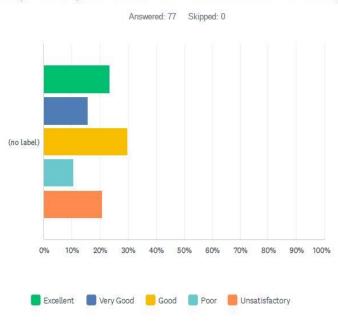
70%

80%

90% 100%

WIB - PY 2020-2021 Customer Satisfaction Survey

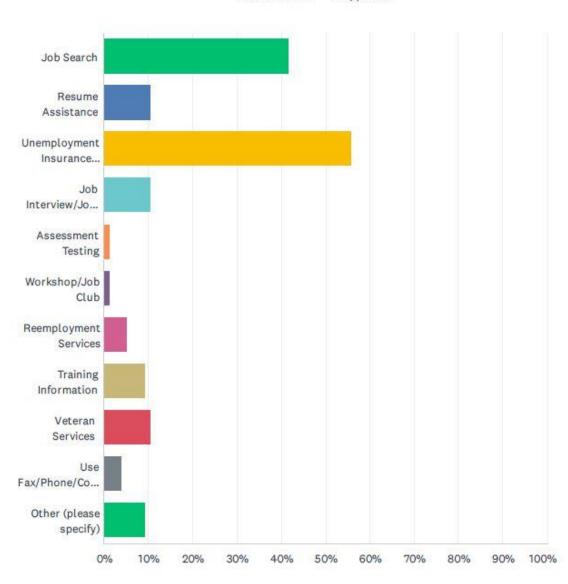
Q4 How would you rate your overall satisfaction with the services you received.



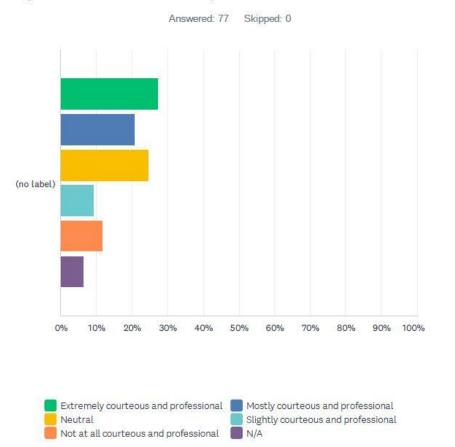
	EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	POOR	UNSATISFACTORY	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE	
(no label)	23.38%	15.58%	29.87%	10.39%	20.78%			
95 (EC)	18	12	23	8	16	77		3.10

Q5 What was the purpose of your visit?

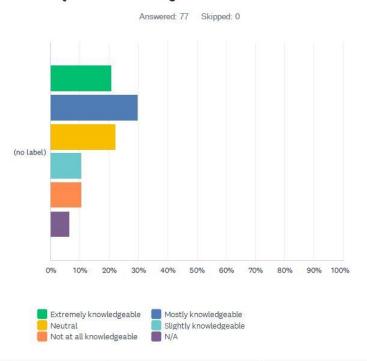
Answered: 77 Skipped: 0



Q6 How courteous and professional were the staff?



Q7 How knowledgeable were the staff?



	EXTREMELY KNOWLEDGEABLE	MOSTLY KNOWLEDGEABLE	NEUTRAL	SLIGHTLY KNOWLEDGEABLE	NOT AT ALL KNOWLEDGEABLE	N/A	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
(no	20.78%	29.87%	22.08%	10.39%	10.39%	6.49%		
label)	16	23	17	8	8	5	77	3.43

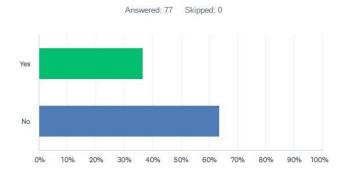
WIB - PY 2020-2021 Customer Satisfaction Survey

Q8 How likely is it that you would recommend us to a friend or colleague?



ANSWER CHOICES	AVERAGE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER	RESPONSI	ES
		6	439	77
Total Respondents: 77				

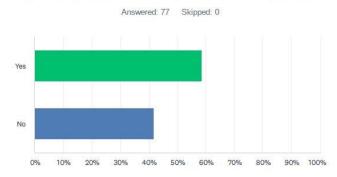
Q9 Did the American Job Center help you achieve your goals?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	36.36%	28
No	63.64%	49
TOTAL		77

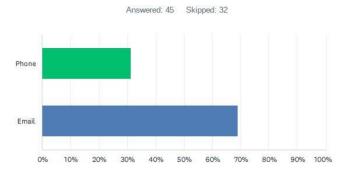
WIB - PY 2020-2021 Customer Satisfaction Survey

Q11 May we contact you to follow up on these responses?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	58.44%	45
No	41.56%	32
TOTAL		77

Q12 How would you like us to contact you?

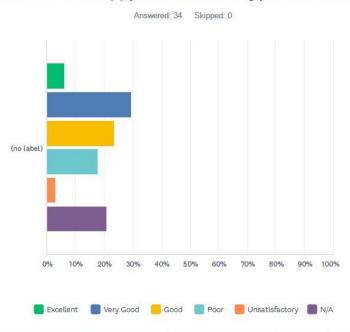


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Phone	31.11%	14
Email	68.89%	31
Total Respondents: 45		

2021 Employers Survey

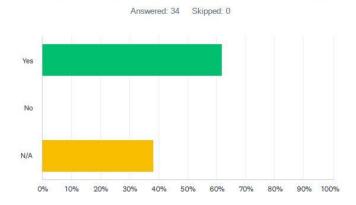
WIB - PY 2020-2021 Employer Satisfaction Survey

Q1 How would you rate the service(s) you received during your visit or interaction with staff?



	EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	POOR	UNSATISFACTORY	N/A	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE	
(no label)	5.88%	29.41%	23.53%	17.65%	2.94%	20.59%			
15 15.7	2	10	8	6	1	7	34		3.22

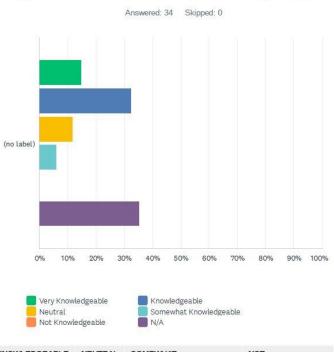
Q2 Was the staff person that assisted you courteous and professional?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	61.76%	21
No	0.00%	0
N/A	38.24%	13
TOTAL		34

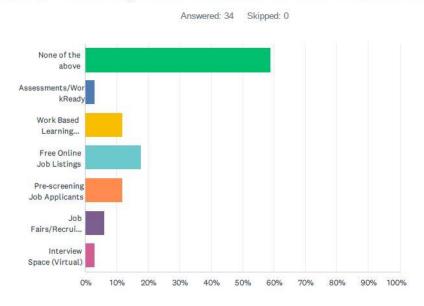
WIB - PY 2020-2021 Employer Satisfaction Survey

Q3 How knowledgeable was the business service staff person that assisted you?



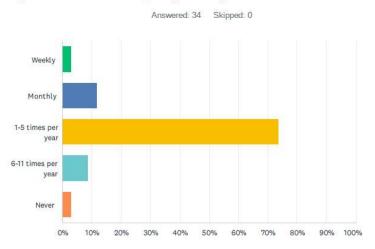
VERY KNOWLEDGEABLE	KNOWLEDGEABLE	NEUTRAL	SOMEWHAT KNOWLEDGEABLE	NOT KNOWLEDGEABLE	N/A	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
14.71%	32.35%	11.76%	5.88%	0.00%	35.29%		
5	11	4	2	0	12	34	3.86
	KNOWLEDGEABLE	KNOWLEDGEABLE	KNOWLEDGEABLE	KNOWLEDGEABLE KNOWLEDGEABLE	KNOWLEDGEABLE KNOWLEDGEABLE KNOWLEDGEABLE	KNOWLEDGEABLE KNOWLEDGEABLE KNOWLEDGEABLE	KNOWLEDGEABLE KNOWLEDGEABLE KNOWLEDGEABLE 14.71% 32.35% 11.76% 5.88% 0.00% 35.29%

Q4 Which of the following services did business service staff discuss with you?

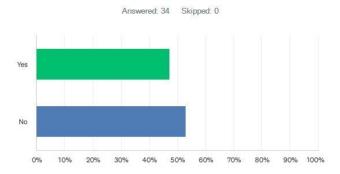


WIB - PY 2020-2021 Employer Satisfaction Survey

Q5 How often have you posted jobs with us on VIEWS?



Q12 May we contact you about your experience?



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	47.06%	16
No	52.94%	18
TOTAL		34

WIOA Statewide Implementation:

The Board held several monthly meetings via Zoom. In April and May of 2021 Maher and Maher provided the Board with training to its members on the following topics: Virgin Islands Career Pathways/Sector Strategies, and Policy 101. Five training sessions were held.

The Local One-Stop Delivery System: The Virgin Islands Department of Labor (DOL) was the One Stop Operator for the Territory. The DOL was responsible for the management and operation of the One Stop Center in all districts. Its primary area of focus was:

- Providing job seekers with the skills and credentials necessary to secure and advance in employment with family-sustaining wages;
- Providing access and opportunity to all job seekers, including individuals with barriers to employment, such as individuals with disabilities, to prepare for, obtain, retain and advance in high-quality jobs and high-demand careers;
- Enabling business and employers to easily identify and hire skilled workers and access other supports, including education and training for their current and evolving workforce;
- Participating in rigorous evaluations that support continuous improvements of one-stop centers by identifying which strategies work better for different populations;

• Ensuring that high-quality integrated data was available to make informed decisions by policy makers, employers and job seekers.

Rapid Response

Rapid Response and Dislocated Workers:

WARN & Other Notices of Business Closures & Layoffs Reported to The VI Department of Labor

DATE	COMPANY	#	ISLAND	AFFECTED	CLOSURE
		EMPLOYEES		DATE	TYPE
3/19/2020	Emerald Beach Resort	6	STT	6/19/2020	Layoff
6/4/2020	Elite Turnaround Specialist	465	STX	6/29/2020	Mass Layoff
8/5/2020	Excel Construction & Maintenance	136	STX	9/02/2020	Mass Layoff
8/10/2020	Elite Turnaround Specialist	125	STX	9/17/2020	Mass Layoff
8/20/2020	Excel Construction & Maintenance	170	STX	9/26/2020	Mass Layoff
9/24/2020	Excel Construction & Maintenance	167	STX	10/22/2020	Mass Layoff
9/12/2020	Frederiksted Healthcare Center	11	STX	11/17/2020	Layoff/Reduced
					Hrs
10/31/2020	Excel Construction & Maintenance	147	STX	12/4/2020	Mass Layoff
1/08/2021	Excel Construction & Maintenance	90	STX	02/01/2021	Mass Layoff
2/18/2021	Kmart Tutu Park Mall Store	4	STT	2/18/2021	Layoff
2/18/2021	Kmart Lockhart Store	2	STT	2/18/2021	Layoff
2/18/2021	Kmart Sunny Isles Store	6	STX	2/18/2021	Layoff
2/18/2021	Kmart West Store	9	STX	2/18/2021	Layoff
3/28/2021	Elite Turnaround Specialist	None Stated	STX	5/03/2021	
6/1/2021	Excel Construction & Maintenance	35	STX	7/07/2021	Layoff
6/03/2021	National Industrial Services	185	STX	6/03/2021	Mass Layoff
6/18/2021	Elite Turnaround Specialist	152	STX	7/02/2021	Mass Layoff
6/21/2021	Limetree Bay Terminals	271	STX	9/19/2021	Mass Layoff
6/23/2021	Christian Equipment Ltd.	17	STX	9/19/2021	Layoff
6/23/2021	Pinnacle Services	45	STX	6/23/2021	Layoff
6/28/2021	Pinnacle Services	225	STX	9/26/2021	Mass Layoff

Program Highlights

UVI Cell:

- Administrative Assistant prepares student to take the Certified Administrative Assistant
 (CAA) online exam with NCCB with no experience required.
- Child Day Care Management Expert Program prepares student to take the Certified
 Administrative Assistant (CAA) online exam with NCCB with no experience required and
 includes the required courses Child, Health, Safety & Nutrition and Early Childhood
 Development courses.

<u>Clinical Medical Assistant</u> – prepares student to take the Medical Assistant Certification online
 exam with NHA with no experience required.

Theoretical and practical skills acquired will allow participants to acquire jobs, enhance or prepare for national or local certification job performance. Upon completion of the program, students will attain an industry recognized certificate and certification.

Pinnacle Services LLC:

- NCCER Occupational Skills Development Program, it exposes students to Plumbing Level One
 which includes safety blueprints, plumbing tools, trade math, types of fittings and pipes.
 Students will receive a nationally recognized NCCER Plumbing Level One Certificate.
- NCCER Electrical Level One the program exposes participants to Electrical Level One, which
 includes safety orientation to the trade, circuits, national electric code, electrical and
 construction drawings, theory and conduit bending. Students will receive a nationally
 recognized NCCER Electrical Level One completion certificate.
- NCCER Masonry Program exposes students to Industrial Masonry Level One, which include orientation to the trade, safety, masonry tools, mortar types and mixtures, masonry units and installation techniques. Students will receive a nationally recognized NCCER Masonry Level One Completion Certificate.
- NCCER CORE Introductory Craft Skills Program exposes participants to the necessary introductory, industrial level occupational skills including safety, use of industrial hand and power tools, basic blueprint reading, basic construction related math, communication material handling and employability skills. Students will receive a nationally recognized CORE Certificate and Wallet Card.

Raphael O. Wheatley Skills Center:

 The Raphael O. Wheatley Skill Center is a post-secondary program that offers programs of studies ranging from two to four semesters in duration. It is a tuition-based program which offers nationally affiliated exams and certificates upon completion of eight of their nine programs.

Construction Trades - NCCER Certification (The National Center for Construction Education Allied Health – National Health Career Association, HVAC – NCCER and EPA, Culinary Arts –

Registered as an authorized testing site for Certified Culinarians with American Culinary Federation (ACF).

NetWave:

Fiber Optics Technician/installer - Train students to install, maintain and repair fiber optics
cables, connectors, and testing of fiber optic lines by training them to do fusion and mechanical
splicing, cable termination, identification and inspection of connectors, testing, microscope
inspection, power measurements, insertion loss testing and Optical Time

Domain Reflectometer (OTDR) testing. Students will receive a Fiber Optic International Fiber Optic Technician/Installer Certification (Global Certificate) upon completion of the program.

CTEC:

• This is an NCCER CORE Curriculum is a prerequisite to all level I craft curriculum. Its modules cover Basic Safety, Communication Skills, proper use of equipment, basic federal guidelines and regulations, and introduction to Construction Drawings.

NCCER module exams and NOCTI (National Occupational Testing Institute - exam) - Successful completion of the course students will receive a National Certificate from NCCER. Students will receive a CTEC certificate with a grade average of 80 or more.

Community Action Now!:

• Participants in the Certified Administrative Professional (CAP) program will acquire information and build competency related to sitting for the Certified Administrative Professional exam. They will learn theory and real-world methods to effectively supporting all administrative functions within an organization. Students will obtain advanced level administrative skills to include certifications in Microsoft Office applications as a certified Microsoft Specialist. Additionally, those students with at least 3 years experience and/or Degrees will obtain the Certified Administrative Professional Certification.

Participants in the Certified Bookkeeper program will be able to validate bookkeeping skills, confirm professional ethics obtain bookkeeping, accounting principles, payroll, QuickBooks, and work readiness skills that will prepare them for a successful rewarding career in the bookkeeping, accounting and finance field. Students will obtain their QuickBooks Certification and CB certification from the American Institute of Professional Bookkeepers. After successful completion of this program, students will obtain the Entrepreneurship & Small Business (ESB) certification administered through Certiport. Community Action NOW! is an authorized proctor and trainer for Certiport.

The ESB program is a micro-enterprise Initiative pathway to economic independence through self-employment. Participants in the ESB program are low-income, high-potential entrepreneurs who want to start up or strengthen their small business. C.A.N. ESB micro-entrepreneurs are women and men, veterans, farmers, disabled individuals and even those with felony convictions who seek a second chance at life. Participants will gain core concepts in entrepreneurship, recognizing and evaluating business opportunities, marketing sales and business financial management. Participants will earn the ESB certification through Certiport

Tang How Brothers, Inc.

• Construction Trade Programs: NCCER Core Curriculum, NCCER Pipe Fitting – Level 1 + Level 11 and NCCER Welding – Level 1 + Level 11

NCCER Core Curriculum is a pre-requisite to all Craft Programs. It comprises of Nine (9) Modules covering both practical + theory. NCCER Pipe Fitting — Trainees will acquire Basic Pipe Fitting Techniques + Skills, regarding the proper use of Pipefitting Tools + Equipment, and hands on training for placement in entry level jobs in this field. NCCER Welding 1 — Trainees will acquire Basic Welding Industry Safety + Skills, Industrial Structural Welding (SMAW) + Proficiency in Oxy-Acetylene Cutting. NCCER Welding 11 — Trainees will acquire advanced Procedure + Skills found in the welding industry.

NCCER is an Accredited Training + Assessment Organization within the USA. THB Inc. is an Accredited Training Sponsor of NCCER for Core Curriculum; Pipe Fitting + Welding Programs.

Virgin Islands Professional Charter Association. Inc

A 5-week training program in the marine industry to 18 – 25-year-old from the Virgin Islands to complete the following: 5 day sailing course at St Thomas Yacht Club; Power-boating; Swimming; SCUBA diving; First Aid and CPR; Boating Safety certification; Navigation; Marina and dock management; Vessel Maintenance and Crewing; Marine Technical Services including marine engines and systems; STCW Basic Training. Students to be employable as yacht crew or marine technicians.

Skills that will be acquired through the program: Captain's and Crew skills in conjunction to marine technician skills including diesel engine maintenance.

STCW Basic Training (Standards of Training and Certification of Watch-keeping) (\$1200) rendering the graduate employable on an international seafaring vessel US Coast Guard Captains 100t certification (\$1000) / equivalent training in Marine Technical Services. The Captain School is the assessor of these certifications

Promising Practices

The United States Virgin Islands is making their Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAPs) a resourceful and innovative employee development opportunity for the territory's businesses. Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) is a proven model of apprenticeship that has been validated by the U.S. Department of Labor or a State Apprenticeship Agency. RAPs enable and energize more employers to participate and provide them access to larger talent pools that have been trained for entry-level to management positions, thereby meeting industry demands and reducing unemployment rates across the country. This program year amid the COVID 19 pandemic, the VIDOL as a State Apprenticeship Agency (SAA) registered two Apprenticeship Programs with twelve enrolled apprentices. They are currently working with the Registered Apprenticeship Programs (RAP) to identify funds that are available to support their program. The USVI Department of Labor continued to recruit additional employers as part of the RAP efforts, however, the impact of the COVD-19 pandemic has slowed employer enthusiasm and interest in the short-term, but not for the long-term.



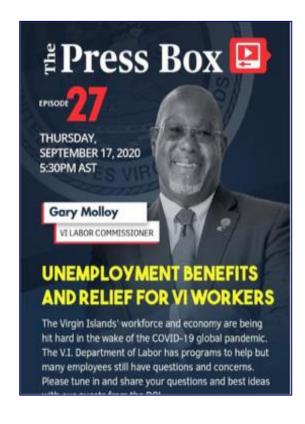
"Plessen is honored to have been chosen to participate in the first federallyfunded USVI Apprenticeship program. We appreciate the support and collaboration with the USVI Department of Labor and Commissioner Gary Malloy. This is an important step forward for us providing on-the-jo... See More



From left to right: Luisa Gabriel, Charlyn George, Venesta Anthony Daniel, Francia Anthony, Niyosha Aldonza, Plessen Corporate Administrator Angela East, Dept of Labor Commissioner Gary Malloy, Plessen CEO Dr. Jan Tawakol, Plessen Chief Medical Officer Dr. Tasnim Khan, Dena Romero, Jas... See More

There were several success stories during the Program Year as well as job fairs that were held to provide employment opportunities for residents.







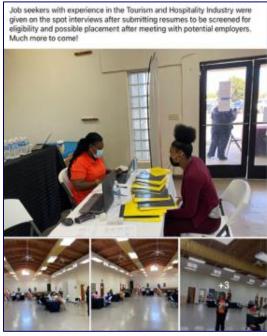


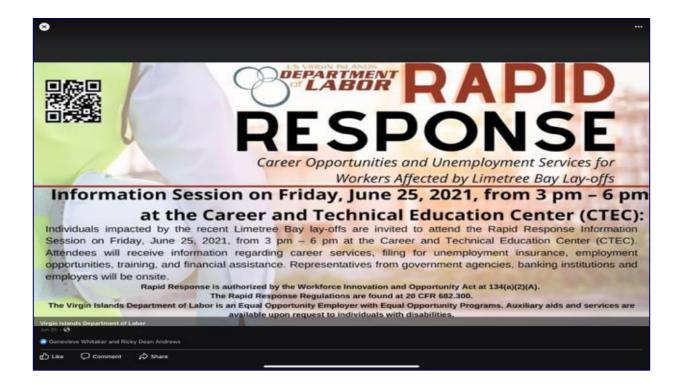


Outreach today in St. John, VIDOL Youth and Apprenticeship Team connected with candidates for the Summer Youth Work Experience. Find out more by visiting www.vidol.org/forms















Restoring Futures Project

Lessons Learned from a National Laboratory for Disaster Recovery, Workforce Innovation & Economic Transformation
Written by: Jeanette M. Hercik, Ph.D.-The Atticus Company under contract to ICF

Restoring Futures, a Dislocated Worker grant project funded by the US Department of Labor, was dedicated to putting dislocated workers back to work in the U.S. Virgin Islands post-hurricanes Irma and Maria, and ultimately, worked collaboratively with employers as they struggled to overcome the economic upheaval caused by COVID-19.

Over the last 36 months, the Restoring Futures team has developed contracts with 30 employers for positions resulting in placing 277 dislocated workers in full-time jobs with workbased learning opportunities. These contracts reflect a variety of occupations in five different sectors: Hospitality/Food & Beverage (10); Construction (3); Healthcare (3); Infrastructure Services (6); and Logistics/Services (8). These companies represent both big businesses, employing more than 100 employees (6); and small companies (24). Most positions were placed in the hospitality/food & beverage sector—199 positions and 72% of all placements.

Metrics of Success

- 30 Employers
- 277 Dislocated Workers Employed
- 168,600 Hours of Work-based Learning
- 91.7% Measurable Skill Gain
- \$8,418 Median Quarterly Earnings
- \$2.7 Million Dollars Infused into the VI Economy

Wage reimbursements were tied to work-based learning, resulting in 168,600 hours of training, with 65% of workers placed in at least four months of On-the-Job-training. According to the most recent performance reports submitted to the U.S. Department of Labor, 91.7% of employees showed measurable skill gains and the recent quarterly cohort with median earnings of \$8,418—both metrics exceed the benchmarks for VIDOL. Total wage reimbursements from Restoring Futures exceed \$1.6 million, which leveraged an additional \$1.1 million in private capital, infusing over \$2.7 million into the Virgin Islands economy.

U.S. Department of Labor Grant Number: DW 32570-18-60-1-51 awarded to ICF.

The Future of WIOA in the Virgin Islands

The VI Workforce Development Board remains committed to fulfilling its mission, administering, and completing programs and projects so the Virgin Islands will be in full compliance with all state and federal regulations while serving the people of the Virgin Islands, recruit, and re-train key employees, identify industry specific skills needed, determine barrier to employment, enhance enrollment and provide user friendly online application process, create a vast talent pool of highly skilled workers, make the American Job Center (AJC) more customer focused to bring awareness to the services available at the AJC for both jobseeker and employer, align job training programs with the skills that are needed in today's workplace, enhance business engagement through a sector-based approach to workforce training, align work-readiness and workforce training programs with economic development strategies, promote diversification of post-secondary education and training opportunities, develop focus-driven sector strategies, develop a network for temp or "gig" workers, and develop an integrated data system.

COVID-19 has changed the occupational outlook of the Virgin Islands. The below-listed slides represent a picture of some of the employment opportunities that will be prevalent in the territory.

