



Sally Payne,
Assistant Director of
Workforce Development



ABOUT US

OUR CUSTOMERS

OUR SERVICES

PORTAL 2 WORK

ABOUT US

Mission: The Workforce Development Board facilitates, advocates, and allocates resources for workforce solutions resulting in employer engagement and improved quality of life in the region.

Vision: A thriving regional economy supported by diverse employment opportunities and a highly trained and sustainable workforce.

OVERVIEW

PROGRAMS

WHO WE ARE

- There are 500+ Workforce Development Boards throughout the United States, each of these Boards is federally-funded. The Council of Local Elected Officials (CLEO) accepts the local funds and appoints board members.
- The Ozark Region Workforce Board (ORWDB) covers 7 counties (Dallas, Polk, Webster, Greene, Christian, Stone, and Taney).
- 51% of the Board is represented by Private-Sector employers.
- Funding is allocated by the U.S. Congress to the Department of Labor (DOL). DOL then allocates these funds to each of the 50 states, who then allocate to the Workforce Development Boards.
- The CLEO and the ORWDB have designated the City of Springfield's Department of Workforce Development to oversee the daily operations of the job centers in the region.



Fiscal Allocations

Even though we are a City department, the Department of Workforce Development receives no money from the City's General Fund. Our funding is solely dependent on the Department of Labor and the State of Missouri.

Funding levels have been steadily declining for a number of years. When the economy is doing well and unemployment is low, we receive less funding whereas if the opposite was true, we receive greater funding.

Developing an app requires a big investment and with funding decreasing, we are grateful for the opportunity to be considered for Hack4Good.





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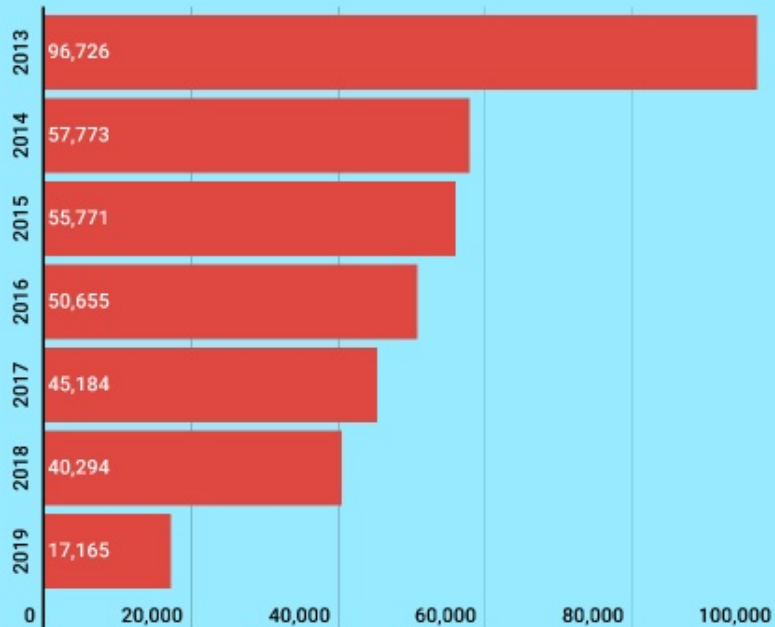
OUR CUSTOMERS

The unemployment rate in our seven-county region is 2.8 percent. This means that those who are unemployed face barriers that prevent them from working. This trend can be observed nationwide. Transportation issues and the unavailability of childcare are two of the biggest barriers we've seen.

**CUSTOMERS
BY THE
NUMBERS**

THE STATS

WHO WE SERVE...







Local Area Unemployment Statistics May 2019				
Area	Civilian Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate
Christian County	43,924	42,866	1,058	2.4%
Dallas County	7,081	6,768	313	4.4%
Greene County	150,076	146,216	3,860	2.6%
Polk County	14,364	13,906	458	3.2%
Stone County	13,499	12,979	520	3.9%
Taney County	26,165	25,208	957	3.7%
Webster County	17,114	16,560	554	3.2%
Ozark Region Summary	272,223	264,503	7,720	2.8%

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TRANSPORTATION BARRIERS HURT THE WORKFORCE

It takes three  to reach the East Sunshine Job Center from the Northside.

Several factors will increase the demand for transportation choices in coming years, including rising fuel , air quality, land use,  congestion, and  costs.

According to the Ozarks Transportation Organization, the average commute from Greene and Christian counties to Springfield is 22.3 minutes.

Over 75,000 people commute to Springfield on daily basis according to 2016 Census Data.



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OUR SERVICES

Our front-line staff are instrumental in providing numerous trainings, classes, and job-search assistance for our customers. In addition, we offer innovative programs including:

- Change One Thousand Soft Skills Academy
- Green for Greene
- Art at Work
- Registered Apprenticeships
- Summer Jobs for Youth
- Ozark's Promise

THE NEED

EXPANDING OUR REACH



With the help of Hack4Good, we can reach more job seekers. Designing an app is something that we cannot do in-house, and with today's tech-focused world we must utilize and embrace new avenues to serve our customers. This app will allow our customers to find those good jobs in their own neighborhoods and will allow us to reach more job seekers and job seekers to reach us. When transportation and childcare are barriers we have to go to them.



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WHAT YOU CAN DO

We are asking you to help us develop an app that allows the job seeker to connect with employers around their geographic area, helps the employer find potential employees, and educates job seekers about the different industries and what encompasses specific occupations. Our app would be different than other job searching sites, because it would implement real-time and local data that other apps lack. All job postings on our system are vetted for authenticity, which is different from other job boards.

POTENTIAL

COLLABORATE

ADDRESSING BARRIERS THROUGH TECH

- By using our existing MoJobs system and other job searching websites, this app would take Zip codes from job postings and create a geographical matrix that will show job seekers employment opportunities in their area. Users can have the app notify them of a nearby job once it becomes available.
- This app will also allow an individual to directly access services available at the Missouri Job Centers and notify job seekers when a pop-up job center or hiring event is nearby.
- While we are certainly happy about the low employment rate, employers are desperate for workers. By using an user-friendly and fluid app that reaches individuals, employers can directly target individuals within a geographical area of the city.
- App designers can integrate the City's GIS data to identify the greatest concentration of under/unemployed individuals.
- A future iteration of this app can include interactive maps that highlight a variety of major employers from all industries in the area and offer a glimpse into the day-to-day responsibilities for specific occupations.

**Thank you for making our
community a better place to
live, play, and work!**



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