

**Joe Lombardo**  
*Governor*



**Richard Whitley**  
*Director*

State of Nevada  
**Department of Health and  
Human Services**

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**Project 354 – Workforce Development and Outreach**  
**Division of Welfare & Supportive Services**

**Michael Yoder, Workforce Development Division Manager**





# DWSS Workforce Development Origins

- Founded in late 2019, began current operational model in 2020
- Staff composition and experience
- Approach to workforce development founded on social service philosophy and historical precedents in welfare history





# DWSS Workforce Development Service Approach

- Cohort and Individual Development
- Focused Outreach and Recruitment
  - Target underserved demographics
  - Target at-risk populations
- Screening and Assessment
  - Barrier removal
  - Academic (HSE, ESL, ACT WorkKeys)
  - Soft Skills/Life Skills Assessment and Training
- Career Exploration
  - Mynextmove.com
  - Career Personality Assessment tools
  - O\*NET





# DWSS Workforce Development Service Approach

- Development stage
  - Non-degree credentialing path
    - Provide human-centered mentoring support
    - Real time barrier removal
    - Pay for licensing and support services
    - Ensure graduation
  - Job placement
    - Match candidate with known opportunities
    - Utilize EmployNV and DETR for placement





# DWSS Workforce Development Service Approach

- Development stage continued
  - Job Preparedness
    - Soft skills tune-up
    - Life skills / resource budgeting
    - Resume writing
    - Interviewing techniques and mock interview
  - Job Retention Services and wraparound services for up to 1 year





# Support Services

- Support Services
  - Bus Passes, Gas Reimbursement, DMV Vouchers – Registration – State ID – DL
  - Childcare
  - Tuition for TANF participants \$5,000; for SNAPET 50/50 Tuition Program
  - Clothing, books, supplies
  - Laptops, internet reimbursement
- Job Placement
  - OJT – DWSS
  - OJT / WEX Title 1
  - Employer Relations
- Job Retention Services





# Project 354 Defined

- Project 354 Description – 2017 Legislative Session AB354 which sought to reduce disproportionately higher unemployment rates in underserved zip codes.
- Launched in 89030, 89031, 89106; then expanded to 89032, 89081, 89101, 89107 and 89108.
- Coalition of workforce development system partners - Workforce Connections, Title I, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services, Nevada Partners, DETR, Help of Southern Nevada, Catholic Charities, CCSD, City of Las Vegas, Clark County Juvenile Justice, FIT – (Foundation for an Independent Tomorrow), etc.





# Project 354 Past Events

- Resource/Hiring Events
  - Doolittle Community Center
  - Matt Kelly Elementary School
  - New Beginning Ministries
  - Desert Rose Adult HS
  - Multiple High Schools
- Strategic Recruitment/Next Steps







# Questions?





# Contact Information

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