

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Dislocated Worker

Goodwill operates the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Dislocated Worker program for multiple Workforce Investment Areas in Virginia. The program is designed to provide services to assist individuals, who have lost their job due to company closing or layoff, in obtaining training and industry-recognized credentials in a demand occupation and to re-enter employment in high-growth industries.

Career Services

Career services are offered to all dislocated workers at Virginia Workforce Centers and Satellite Offices. These services include:

- Job search and placement assistance, including career counseling
- Labor market information identifying job vacancies, skills necessary for occupations in demand, and relevant employment trends in the local, regional, and national economies
- Initial assessment of skills and needs
- Information on available services and programs
- Follow up services to assist in job retention



Goodwill's WIOA Dislocated Worker program provides training for locally in demand jobs.

Training Services

Dislocated workers can also receive assistance in training for in demand occupations. To access training assistance, individuals must meet one of the following criteria:

- Has been terminated, laid off, or lost job due to company closing and is receiving or has exhausted unemployment insurance compensation.
- Self-employed and is no longer able to maintain the business due to general economic conditions or natural disaster.
- Displaced homemaker who has been providing unpaid services to family members in home and has been dependent on the income of another family member.

Training may include:

- Occupational skills training in an occupation that is locally in demand
- Skills upgrading
- On the job training
- Industry recognized credentials
- Pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship training
- Academic and career preparation for training
- Post-training job search assistance



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The WIOA Dislocated Worker program is offered to individuals living in the Counties of Albemarle, Augusta, Bath, Clarke, Culpeper, Fauquier, Fluvanna, Fredrick, Greene, Highland, Louisa, Madison, Nelson, Orange, Page, Rappahannock, Rockbridge, Rockingham, Shenandoah, and Warren and the Cities of Amherst, Bedford, Buena Vista, Charlottesville, Harrisonburg, Lexington, Staunton, Waynesboro, and Winchester.



Kathy received training to help her find a new job and be successful.

Kathy Chaney was a stay-at-home mom for 17 years. After a divorce she found herself trying to re-enter the workforce. With little work experience and no education beyond high school, her options were limited. After three months of looking she found clerical employment at the Botetourt Correctional Center.

Kathy worked for three years at the Center, and she was rebuilding her life. Then the Botetourt Correctional Center closed in December 2009 and she was laid off.

In January 2010, Kathy entered the WIOA program at Goodwill. With only a high school education and basic work skills, Kathy's options for employment were very limited. Through interest and abilities testing Kathy realized her strengths and was enrolled in the Paralegal curriculum at Virginia Western Community College (VWCC). Kathy's classes and books were paid through the program.

Driven to succeed, Kathy took 20 credits her first semester, which she completed with a 4.0 grade point average. Kathy continued to strive for excellence and received her Associates in Paralegal Studies in December 2011 and pursued a Certificate in Database Management.

**For more information on
WIOA Dislocated Worker:
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