

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, August 11, 2026

10:00 A.M. – 11:00 A. M.

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join: <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/280901617108636?p=oFTvcPOL7ERaHOWVD6>

Meeting ID: 280 901 617 108 636

Passcode: kY7AW6FH

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| I. <u>Welcome - Introductions</u> | Katie Brown, Chair |
| II. <u>Review of Minutes (5/5/26)*</u> | Katie Brown Chair |
| III. <u>PY 25 PYC Report/Dashboard (6/30/2026)</u> | Annmarie Baker |
| IV. <u>New Business:</u> | |
| PY 25 (Final) New Enrollment Report | Katie Brown |
| PY 25 Youth Local Monitoring Report- Information Only | Katie Brown |
| PY 25 Grant Expenditures (Final)- (6/30/2025) | Annmarie Baker |
| PY 25 3 rd & 4 th Quarter WL Youth Performance | Annmarie Baker |
| PY 26 Anderson Impact Awards Nomination* | Annmarie Baker |
| V. <u>Other Business:</u> | Katie Brown |
| VI. <u>Adjourn*</u> | Katie Brown |

*Vote Needed

Next Scheduled Board Meeting –September 9, 2026
In person- Clemson Visitor's Center

Next Scheduled Youth Committee Meeting – October 6, 2026
Teams Virtual Meeting

WorkLink Youth Committee – Meeting Minutes

Date: May 5, 2026

Time: 10:30 AM

Location: Microsoft Teams

Chair: Katie Brown

Attendees

- Katie Brown
- Annmarie Baker
- Windy Graham
- Victoria Britton
- Kristi King-Brock
- Valencia Alexander

(No quorum was present.)

I. Welcome & Introductions

Chair **Katie Brown** opened the meeting and welcomed attendees.

Introductions were made by representatives from WorkLink SC, Eckerd Connects, and Adult Education.

II. Review of Minutes (March 10, 2026)

Because **no quorum was present**, the committee could not vote.

- The March 10 minutes will be **tabled until the next meeting**.
 - Corrections will be emailed.
-

III. PY25 PYC Report & Dashboard

Presented by **Annmarie Baker**.

Key updates:

- **12 enrollments in April**, bringing the program close to meeting its PY25 enrollment goal.
- **36 graduates to date**, with more expected as testing continues.
- Many students have **one section remaining** before completing their HSE.
- Skills progressions are being tracked for students who have passed individual sections.
- Dashboard shows strong progress in enrollment, WEX activity, and credential attainment.

IV. Other Business

1. Youth Monitoring – Eckerd Connects

WorkLink completed PY25 youth monitoring with **positive feedback**.

Staff were recognized for strong youth engagement, confidence, and dedication.

2. PY26 Provider Selection

Eckerd Connects was selected as the **PY26 provider for all WIOA programming**, including youth.

The committee expressed appreciation for continuity and program quality.

3. Provisional Youth Budget & Formula Allocations

- PY26 youth budget and formula allocations are **not yet available**.
- The state received federal funding last week; updates expected **late May or June**.
- Budget areas under close monitoring include **transportation** and **credential/testing fees**.

4. Work Experience (WEX) Program Update

- **Seven** WEX placements are currently active.
- One participant completed WEX at the **Humane Society**, was **hired**, and plans to attend **Tri-County Tech** for Vet Tech in the fall.

V. Announcements

- **Next WorkLink Board Meeting:** June 3, 2026 at 1 PM, Clemson Visitor Center.
- A long-serving committee member announced their **retirement after 30 years**; June 3 will be their final meeting.
- Eckerd Connects and **Annmarie Baker** were commended for operating a **model youth program**.

VI. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting concluded.

PY'25 UPDATE REPORT

Service Provider Information			
Date:		5/31/2026	
Service Provider:		 Palmetto Youth Connections	
Prepared By:		Ann Marie Baker	
Program Description:		Out of School Youth (17-24)	
Number of Participants to be Served:		100 (carryover and new enrollment)	
PY'25 Performance			
Carryover:		17 (this changed from 18)	
New Enrollments:		July 2025: 0 August 2025: 6 September 2025: 19 October 2025: 11 November 2025: 4 December 2025: 4 January 2026: 7 February 2026: 10 March 2026: 9 April 2026: 12 May 2026: 3 June 2026: Total Enrolled: 82	
Dates Covered for New Enrollments:		July 1 – May 31,2026	
Total Active Participant PY25:		74	
Total active In WEX PY 25:		6	
Current total in Follow Up:		58	
Current Total youth serving who are active and in follow up PY 25:		132	
Total Entered Employment/Education/Military (PY 25 Goal Q2: 83.5%; PY 25 Goal Q4: 82%)		4th Q Performance: Q2: 81% Q4: 85%	
Credential Rate (PY 25 Goal 70%) Median Earnings (PY 25 Goal \$3555)		4 th Q Performance: 57% 4 th Q Performance: \$4530	
In Program Measurable Skills Gain (PY 25 Goal: 62.5%)		4 th Q Performance: 81%	
Total number enrolled per county (active and follow-up)	ANDERSON 45	OCONEE 39	PICKENS 48

Date Through:
05/31/2026



Palmetto Youth Connections-WorkLink-PY25

July 1, 2025-May 31, 2026



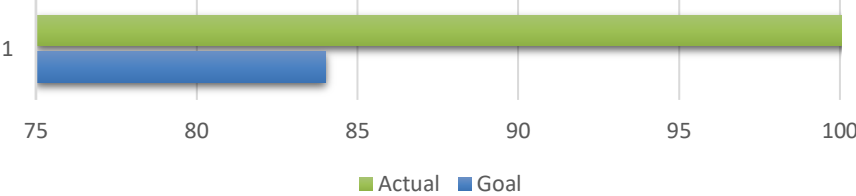
Demographics at Registration

	Anderson	Oconee	Pickens	Total	Percentage
Male:	8	11	17	36	44%
Female:	18	11	19	48	55%
Total:	26	22	36	84	
one youth chose not to identify gender					
Youth (18 & under)	9	6	22	37	45%
Youth (Over 18)	17	16	15	48	55%
Total:	26	22	37	85	
Basic Skills Deficient:	26	22	37	85	100%
Unemployed:	8	7	14	29	34%

PY25 Enrollments

	Goal	Actual
Carryover	0	17
1st Quarter (July-Aug.-Sept.)	21	25
2nd Quarter (Oct.-Nov.-Dec.)	27	19
3rd Quarter (Jan.-Feb.-Mar.)	36	26
4th Quarter (Apr.-May-June)	0	15
Totals:	84	102

PY25 Enrollment Data



Caseload Breakdown

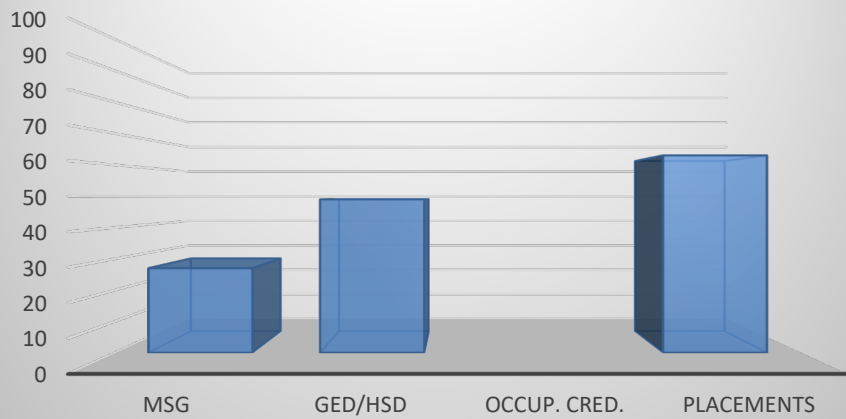
	Anderson	Oconee	Pickens	Total
Baker/Turner	***			
Active:	0	19	0	19
Follow-Up:	0	20	0	20
Cobb	***			
Active:	0	0	25	25
Follow-Up:	0	0	23	23
Wengard	***			
Active:	25	0	0	25
Follow-Up:	20	0	0	20
Total Active:	74			
Total Follow-Up:	58			

WIOA Reported WorkLink Youth Performance

WIOA 2nd Q (Rolling 4Q) Performance				Key:
				Pass
				Fail
Overall Program Score:				
	Goal	% of Goal	Actual	
EMP/EDU/Training Q2	83.50%		81.00%	
EMP/EDU/Training Q4	82.00%		85.00%	
Credential Rate:	70.00%		57.00%	
Med Earnings	\$3,455		\$4,530	
MSG	60.00%		81.00%	

*Meeting performance= 50%+ of goal

YTD Outcomes



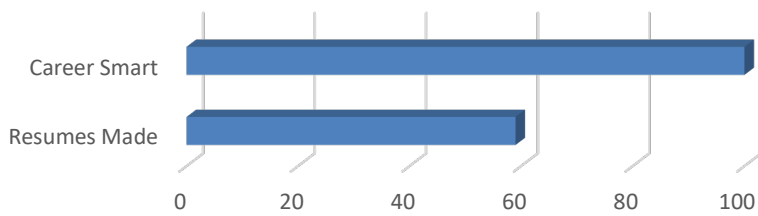
Year-to-date Outcomes

MSG	GED/HSD	OCCUP. CRED.	PLACEMENTS
27	49		63

Work Ready Certificate PY25

5 Platinum	0
4 Gold	0
3 Silver	1
2 Bronze	3
Total:	4

WorkReady Services



Work Ready Services PY25

Resumes Made	Career Smart
59	118

PY'26 UPDATE REPORT

Service Provider Information			
Date:		07/08/26	
Service Provider:		 Palmetto Youth Connections	
Prepared By:		Ann Marie Baker	
Program Description:		Out of School Youth (17-24)	
Number of Participants to be Served:		100 (carryover and new enrollment)	
PY'26 Performance			
Carryover:		Estimate 22	
New Enrollments:		July 2026: 0 August 2026: September 2026: October 2026: November 2026: December 2026: January 2027: February 2027: March 2027: April 2027: May 2027: June 2027: Total Enrolled:	
Dates Covered for New Enrollments:		July 1 2026	
Total Active Participant PY26:		64	
Total active In WEX PY 26:		3	
Current total in Follow Up:		38	
Current Total youth serving who are active and in follow up PY 26:		102	
Total Entered Employment/Education/Military (PY 26 Goal Q2: 83.5%; PY 26 Goal Q4: 82%)		1st Q Performance: Q2: 81% Q4: 79%	
Credential Rate (PY 26 Goal 70%) Median Earnings (PY 26 Goal \$3555)		1 st : Q Performance: 56% 1 st : Q Performance: \$4363	
In Program Measurable Skills Gain (PY 26 Goal: 62.5%)		1 st : Q Performance: 77%	
Total number enrolled per county (active and follow-up)	ANDERSON 32	OCONEE 39	PICKENS 50

Youth Service Provider
Enrollment Status
July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027

ENROLLMENT REPORT		PYC				
PY 26						
*Special notes:						
Board Goal		100				
Month	NEW WIOA Enrollments	Total Enrollments	Monthly Planned Enrollment	YTD % of Monthly Plan		YTD % of Board Goal
Carryover		22				
July	0	22	0			22%
August			8			0%
September			15			0%
October			15			0%
November			8			0%
December			2			0%
January			6			0%
February			15			0%
March			6			0%
April			3			0%
May			0			0%
June			0			0%
Totals			78			
Notes:						
Board Goal = 100						
22 Carryover + 0 New						
Total Enrollments as of						
070826 = 22 Remaining						
Slots = 78						



July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026

Internal Assessment: Occupational Skills Training Anticipated Obligations (Line Item 6530)

Total # of Youth Entered Advanced Training: 7

July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026

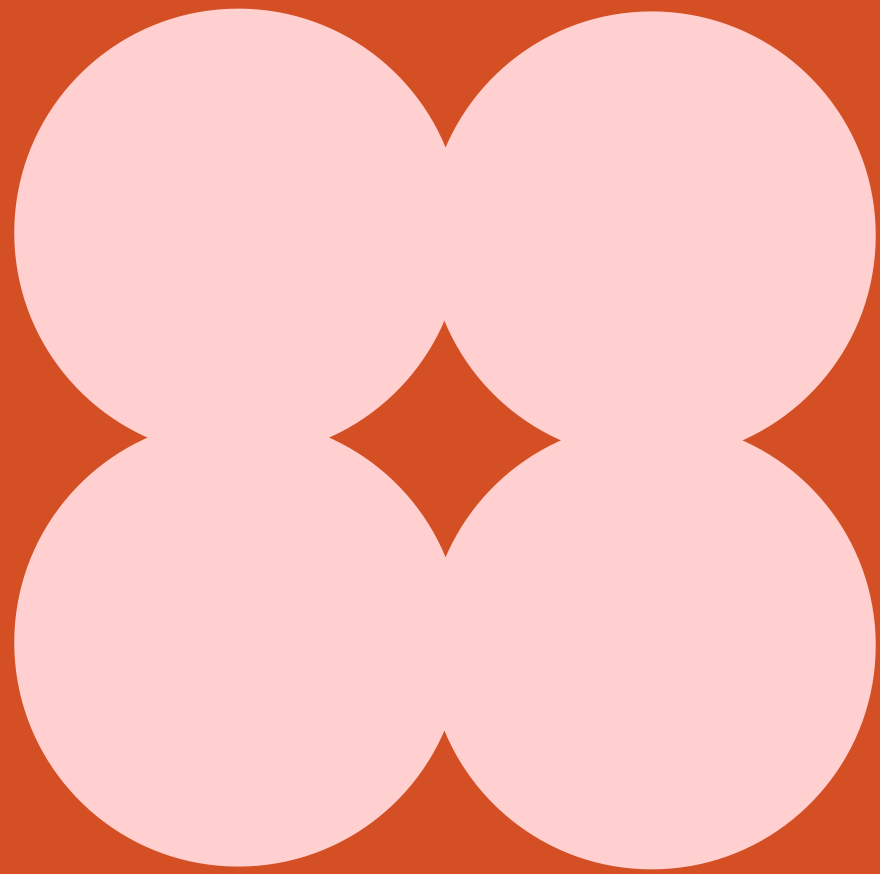
Occupational Skills Training Total: 3
(That PYC can document and confirm)

IBEST **Manufacturing**: (T. Schofield-Anderson)
IBEST Health care (Z. McKweon – Oconee)
(S. Badger – Oconee)

Post-Secondary Entry Total: 4
(That PYC can document and confirm via the Student Clearinghouse and schedules

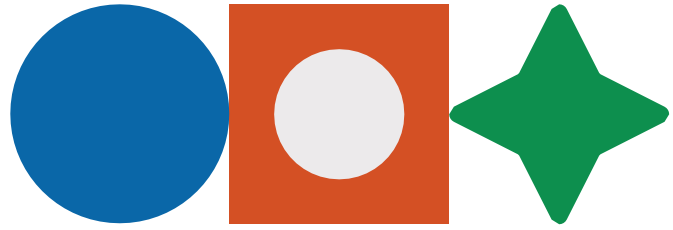
B. Jackson (Health care) (TCTC)
E. Hamm (Oconee - Health Care) (TCTC)
A. Cruz (Oconee – Business Admin) (TCTC)
B. Sosby (Oconee – Univ Transfer) (TCTC)

Post-Secondary WIOA Tuition Obligation:
\$0



FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION: ABI MORRISON AND MATTHEW BURGESS

Two learner success stories
nominated for the 2026
Anderson County Community
Impact Awards



WHY THEIR STORIES MATTER

Re-engagement changes trajectories

A new setting can quickly restore momentum toward credentials and careers.

Right-fit learning environment

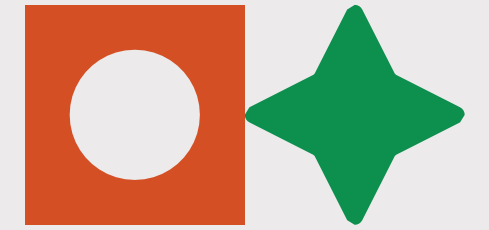
Pelzer Adult Education offered structure, encouragement, and a fresh start.

Partnership support removes barriers

Coordinated instruction, guidance, and practical help kept progress on track.



MEET THE NOMINEES



Abi Morrison

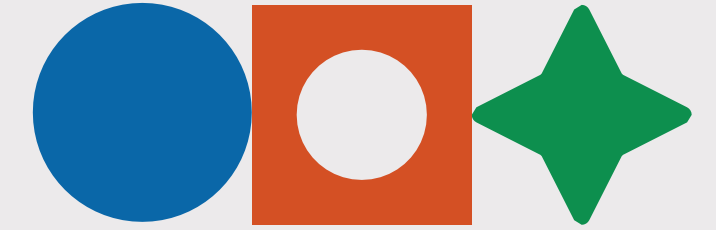
GED completed on an accelerated timeline; radiology pathway ahead



Matthew Burgess

GED earned in two months; now employed with the school district

ABI FOUND HER PATH



A better-fit learning environment

- Abi enrolled at Pelzer Adult Education in May 2026.
- She made the change after realizing her high school setting was not working.

Strong potential recognized early

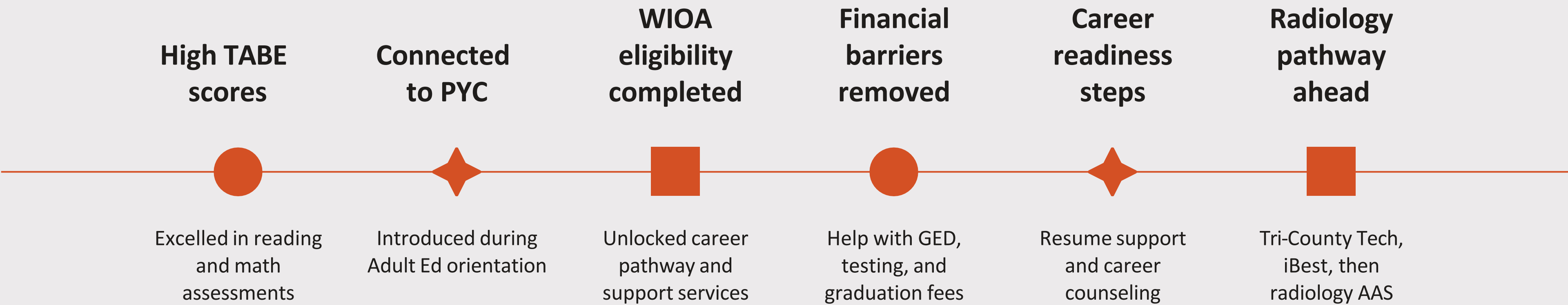
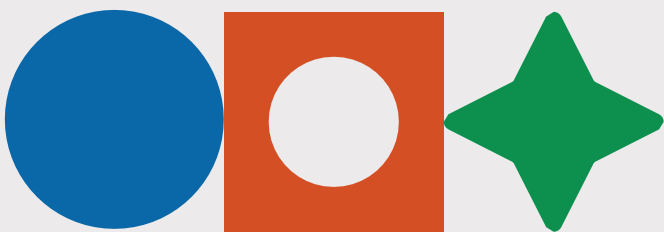
- Teachers quickly noted her strengths and expected fast progress.

Fast completion, celebrated publicly

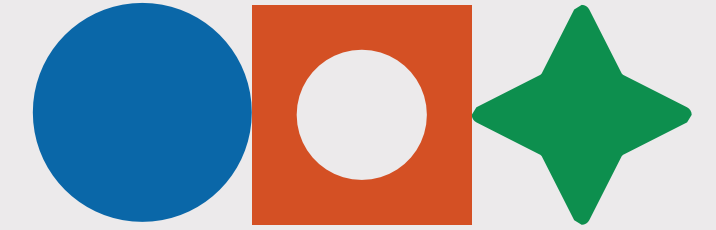
- She completed GED coursework and testing on an accelerated timeline.
- Abi finished in time to walk in the 2026 graduation ceremony.



ABI'S NEXT STEP FORWARD



MATTHEW RECLAIMED MOMENTUM



A nontraditional journey

- Matthew moved from traditional school to online options, then paused.
- He described feeling “stuck” until deciding to return at age 20.

Rapid re-engagement

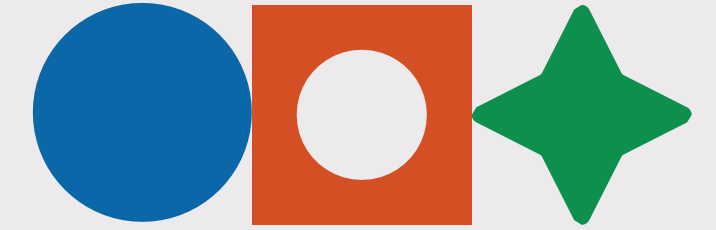
- He enrolled at Pelzer Adult Education in August 2025.
- With steady effort, he earned his **GED** by October 2025.

Persistence through barriers

- Transportation challenges made attendance hard, but he kept showing up.
- His progress reflects resilience and readiness to take next steps.



FROM TRAINING TO EMPLOYMENT

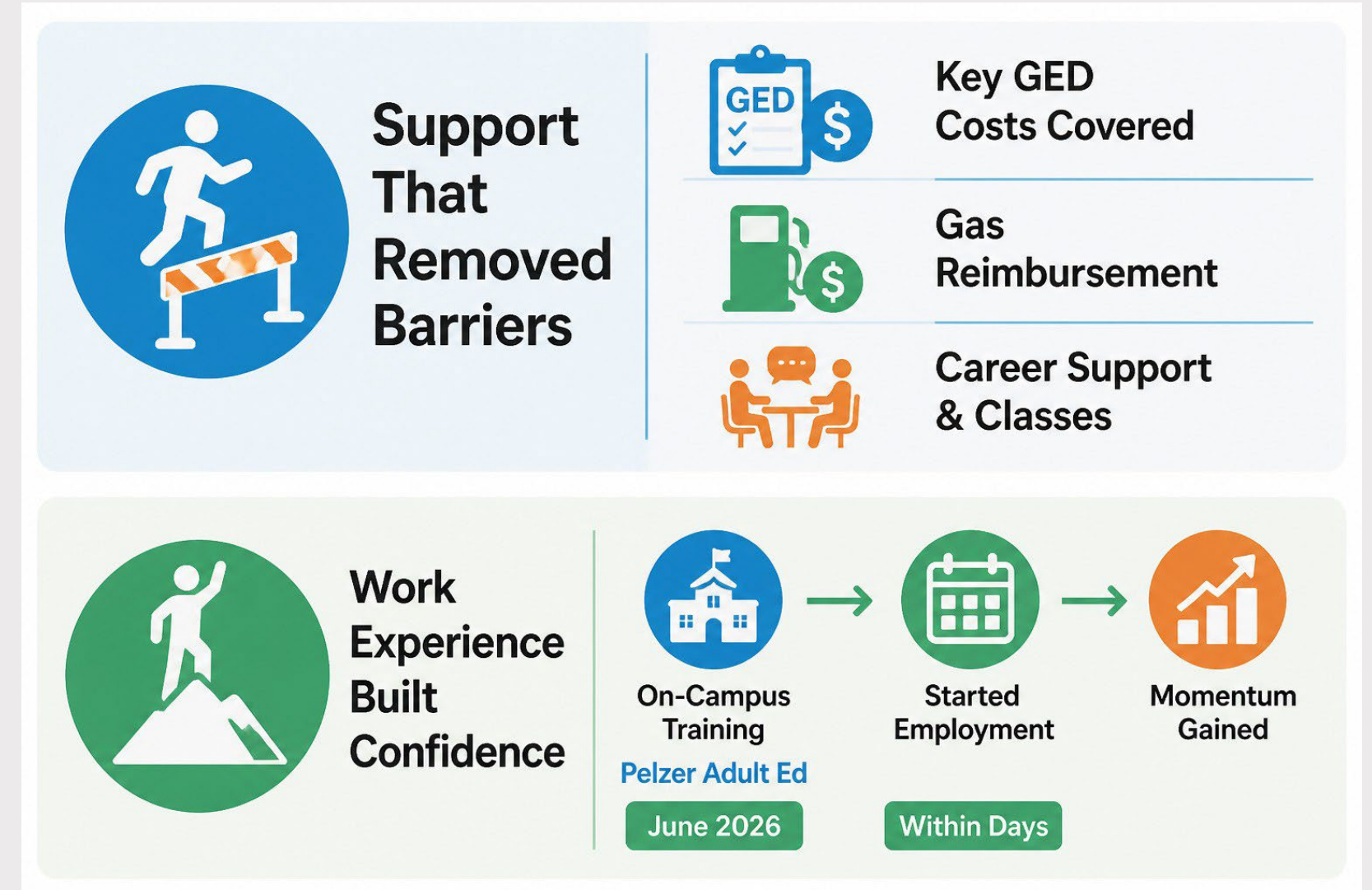


Support that removed barriers

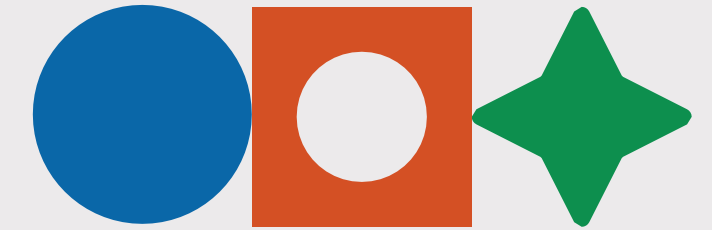
- PYC helped cover key GED costs and provided gas reimbursement.
- Career counseling and Career Smart classes strengthened job readiness.

Work experience built confidence

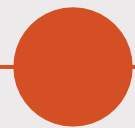
- Matthew completed on-campus WEX training at Pelzer Adult Ed in June 2026.
- Within days, he started school district employment and gained momentum.



WHAT PARTNERS CAN LEARN



Early referral at orientation



Students
connected to
PYC/WIOA
supports
immediately

Fast eligibility and planning



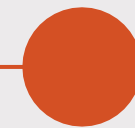
Career pathway
goals set
alongside GED
progress

Barrier removal through services



Fees and
transportation
help kept
momentum
steady

Career readiness is built in



Resume support and
Career Smart classes
add direction

Next-step bridges to college and work



Training and
counseling link
GED to real
opportunities

Partnership outcomes that last



Coordinated
support turns
re-entry into
long-term success

WorkLink Strategic Plan WIOA Youth 2025-2027

Key priorities and actions for workforce
stakeholders



Agenda

1. Understanding Youth Needs and Barriers
2. Enhancing Training and Support Systems
3. Communication and Implementation Strategies

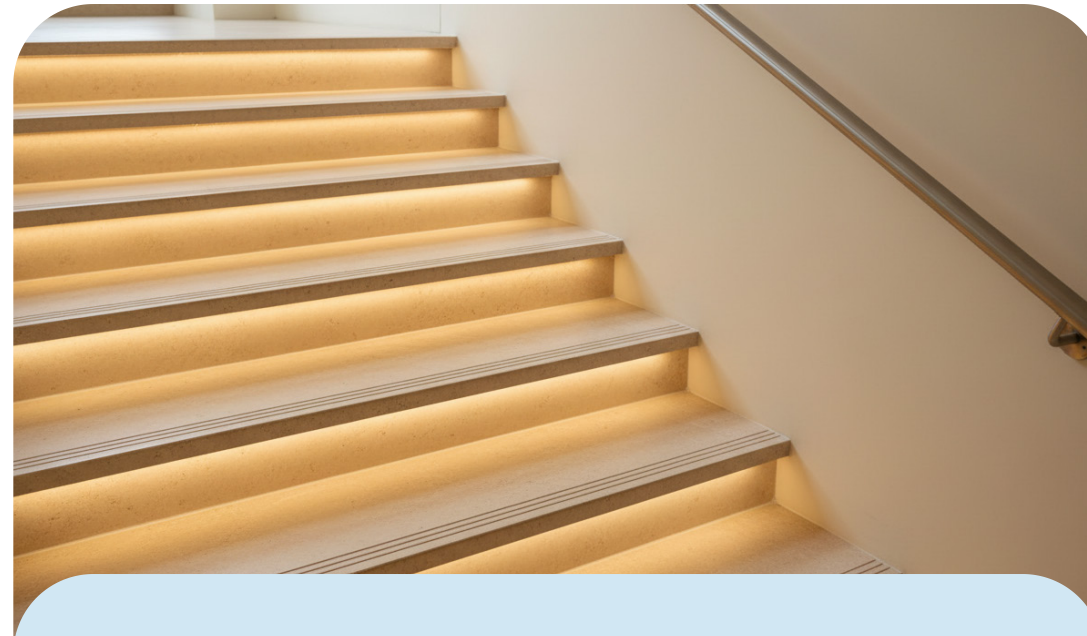
Understanding Youth Needs and Barriers

Why Youth Matters



Youth power the future workforce

- Early connection to training builds a stronger regional talent pipeline.
- Youth-ready pathways help employers meet demand with local talent.



Equity and career readiness

- Targeted youth engagement expands participation for underserved communities.
- Supportive services strengthen persistence, confidence, and job readiness.



Shared responsibility

- Partners can reduce barriers so first jobs are attainable and stable.
- Aligned schools, providers, and employers create clear entry points for youth.

Starting With Barriers

Listen first, then design

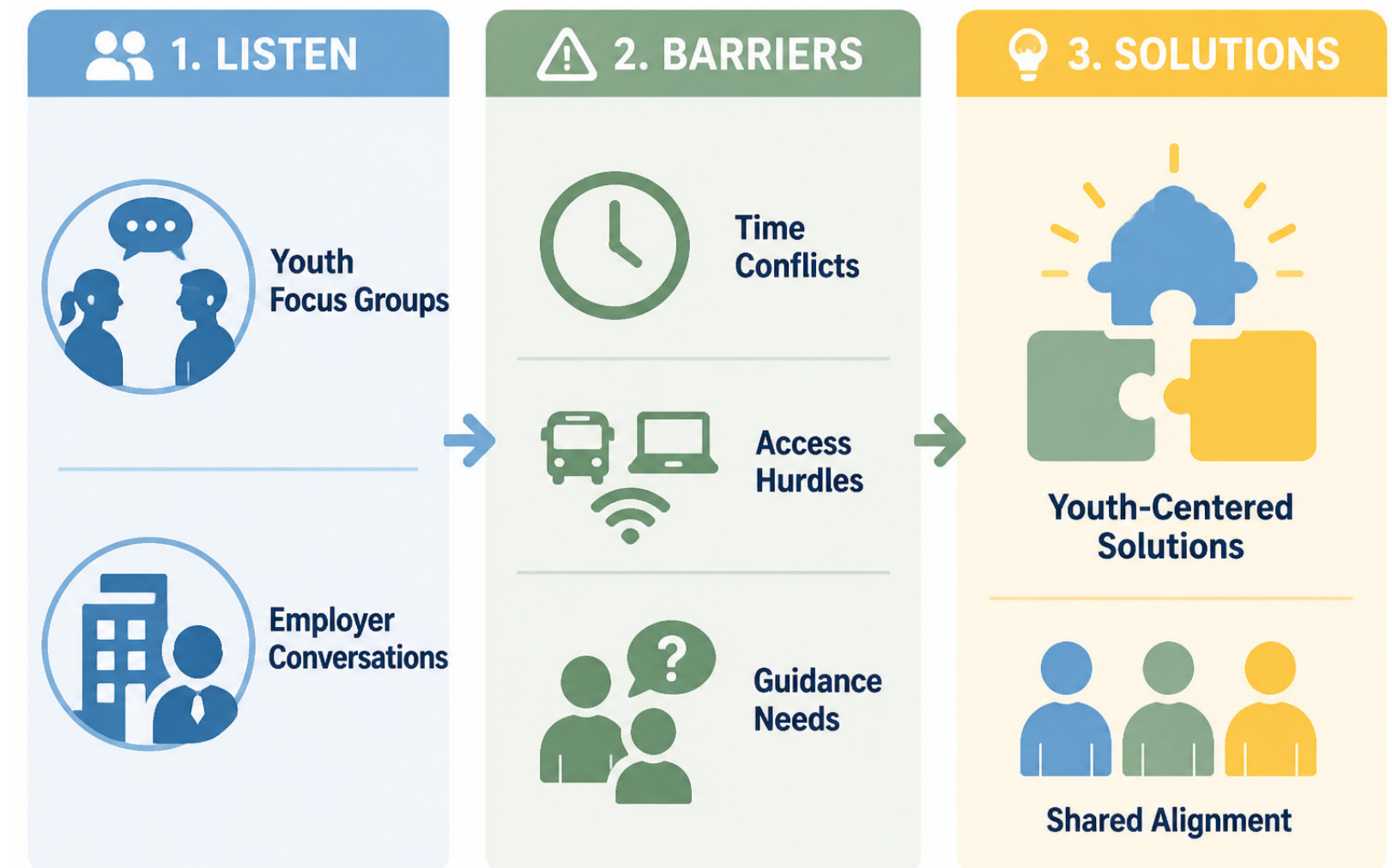
- Use job seeker focus groups to surface real youth entry challenges.
- Engage employers to pinpoint hiring friction and readiness gaps.

Barriers to address early

- Scheduling conflicts often limit participation in training and work.
- Access barriers include transportation, technology, and awareness of options.
- Many youth need clearer guidance and stronger support connections.

From insights to solutions

- Turn input into practical, youth-centered changes stakeholders can align on.



Making Training Work



Create consistent training quality

- Use a shared curriculum guide so partners teach the same core skills.
- Align expectations across providers to strengthen employer confidence in completions.



Offer flexible ways to participate

- Design delivery options that fit school schedules, work shifts, and family needs.
- Expand formats and timing so youth can keep progressing without stopping out.



Reduce friction into career pathways

- Make entry steps clearer and more accessible, especially for first-time workers.
- Improve readiness for in-demand roles through training that is easier to start.

Enhancing Training and Support Systems

Strengthening Youth Supports



Wraparound partnerships

- Coordinate with mental health and community partners for youth stability.
- Create warm handoffs so youth receive timely, trusted support.



Resource fairs that go further

- Host youth-friendly fairs linking jobs with housing, health, and basics.
- Bring multiple providers together to reduce repeat appointments.



Clear referral pathways

- Maintain simple referral tools so youth know where to go next.
- Support navigation for first-time job seekers and their families.

Reaching Underserved Youth

Use data to focus efforts

- Map demographic patterns to identify youth with limited service access.
- Prioritize outreach where participation gaps are most persistent.

Partner for trust and reach

- Work with schools and community organizations that youth already rely on.
- Co-host local touch points that reduce stigma and invite first steps.

Deliver targeted, equitable outreach

- Tailor messaging and entry points for disconnected and underserved youth.
- Track engagement and adjust strategies to expand equitable participation.



Communicating With Relevance

Design for youth realities

- Use culturally and language-appropriate messages that feel relevant to youth.
- Place information where youth already engage: schools, community sites, and online.

Build trust through messengers

- Equip community ambassadors to share resources through trusted local networks.
- Partner with youth-serving organizations to co-host outreach and listening sessions.

Turn awareness into action

- Make next steps simple: clear contacts, quick referrals, and easy follow-through.
- Track engagement and adjust outreach based on what reaches underserved youth.



Simplifying Access Points

Make online entry simple

- Improve website usability so youth can quickly find next steps.
- Use clear pathways for jobs, training, and supportive resources.

Create one front door

- Build a **central portal** that connects programs across providers.
- Reduce repeated intake and confusion about where to start.

Design for first-time users

- Use plain language and mobile-friendly navigation for new job seekers.
- Add quick links to referrals and local points of contact.



Communication and Implementation Strategies

Aligning With Demand

Use labor market signals

- Track growth industries to focus youth training on high-opportunity careers.
- Update pathways as demand shifts, so youth skills stay current.

Close real employer gaps

- Run skill gap analyses to identify what employers need most.
- Shape curricula with providers so training matches workplace expectations.

Improve long-term outcomes

- Prepare youth for jobs with stronger mobility, wages, and stability.



Turning Strategy Into Action

Activate Youth Connections

- Co-host youth resource fairs with schools and community partners.
- Bring employers, training options, and support services into one space.

Make Pathways Visible

- Create digital career maps that show steps into local industries.
- Pair maps with clear training entry points and next best actions.

Pilot, Learn, Scale

- Launch small pilots to test new youth engagement approaches.
- Use results to refine delivery before expanding across the region.



1 Activate Youth Connections



2 Make Pathways Visible



3 Pilot, Learn, Scale

What Stakeholders Should Do

Align around shared outcomes

- Coordinate outreach, supports, and training so youth experience one pathway.
- Agree on simple success measures partners can track and improve.

Use feedback to improve fast

- Use job seeker and employer input to refine services continuously.
- Apply demographic and labor market data to target what works.

Build a connected system

- Keep referrals warm by linking youth to the right partner quickly.
- Create clear handoffs so fewer young people fall through gaps.

