Loreen J Gebelein, Director

County of Sullivan
Center for Workforce Development

2024 Annual Report

<u>www.sullivanworks.org</u> www.facebook.com/SullivanCWD



The Center for Workforce Development (CWD) office is located at 50 North Street, Monticello, New York, housed and partnered with the office of the New York State Department of Labor (DOL). The mission of CWD is to be the recognized leader in providing high quality employment related resources and services to our community's individuals and businesses, with overseeing and implementing employment and training related programs. CWD works closely with DOL and other local partners to provide these services to individuals and businesses in Sullivan County. CWD manages the Sullivan County Career Center and the Director is the designated Center Operator. CWD is primarily funded with federal dollars which is passed to the NYS DOL, which in turn passes the funding through to the County.

The Federal Workforce Innovations & Opportunity Act (WIOA) mandates the creation of a local Workforce Development Board (WDB), which is comprised of local area businesses, mandated partners and staff of CWD. One Board for each Workforce Development Area is required, and Sullivan County remains its own geographical workforce area. WIOA requires the creation of a physical Career Center, with mandated programs under Title I funding including Adult, Dislocated Worker and Youth Programs. The New York Systems Change and Inclusive Opportunities Network (NY SCION) is funded under Titles I and III WIOA for the position of the Disability Resource Coordinator.

Other services provided by CWD include employment and training for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) for individuals on public assistance. This program is run through an MOU with the Department of Social Services (DSS) funded through the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA).

CWD also runs the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) for six weeks during the summer providing Youth with paid work experience and work readiness skills while assisting local businesses with their hiring needs. This program is also funded through OTDA.

2024 emphasized the need for businesses to take proactive measures to address employee apprehensions and challenges in going back to work. Companies were finding themselves in need of positioning themselves to succeed by upskilling their workforce, using data to overcome hiring roadblocks like salary benchmarking, and adapting their workers by developing soft skills. In 2024 job openings continued to outnumber the people actively seeking work, and economic recovery following the COVID-19 recession featured historically strong wage growth. In 2024 the December year over year private sector count in the Hudson Valley rose by 9,700 or 1.2%, with the largest gains being in private education and health services. Job losses were centered in mining, logging and construction, professional and business services, trade, transportation and utilities. Private education and health services remained the region's leading job generator for this period and increasing 3.6%. Sullivan County had the strongest growth rate in the Hudson Valley region for the majority of 2024. The December year over year growth rate for Sullivan County was up 4.5%.

Key Highlights for 2024: (Statistics on following pages)

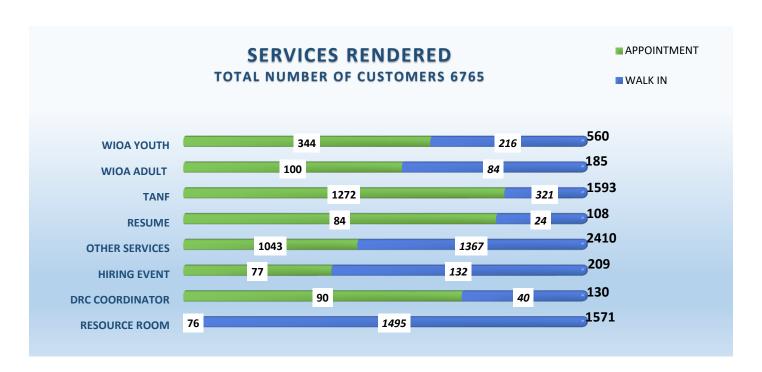
- ✓ CWD served 6,765 customers at the Career Center for 2024 which was an increase from 2023 of 5,773. Customers can walk in or be scheduled for appointments, and staff assists customers with use of the Career Center computers, job searching, resume building, interviewing skills, educational training, upgrading skills, and many other workshops to develop their ability to work and find their intended job/career.
- ✓ The Sullivan County Legislators once again approved funding to continue our local area Trade Programs in conjunction with Sullivan BOCES, administered by CWD. 2024 gave opportunities to participants in the Automotive Technician and Security Guard trades. CWD provides resume building and interviewing skills throughout these programs and connects businesses with the participants for a direct hire.
- ✓ Our social media continues to grow with our Facebook following reaching, 1049 in 2024. CWD's weekly publication of "Hot Jobs" is circulated to thousands of individuals and businesses on a weekly basis.
- ✓ Our business services Labor Market information and Job matching for businesses increased between 2023 and 2024 with more business requesting information. Our In-house hiring events were a success during 2024 and have now replaced the annual job fairs.
- ✓ CWD enrolled youth in paid work experience opportunities, GED trainings, and operated the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP), with 144 applications received, and CWD employed 50 Youth participating for the 2024 season as well as 3 Crew Leaders. There were 11 sites for 2024 which included Bold Gold Media, C.A.R.E, SC Federation for the Homeless, Literacy Volunteers, Livingston Manor and Monticello High Schools, Fallsburg and Liberty Parks & Recreations, United Way & Woodridge Housing Authority. All participants were offered the opportunity to attend financial literacy through Liberty Partnership and SUNY Sullivan.
- ✓ Partnership collaboration increased, referrals between partners increased, and CWD consistently works with partners for training needs within the County for jobs in high demand.
- ✓ An additional \$100,000 of WIOA funding was received for Adult Programing and continues into 2025. These funds are in process of being used for On-the-Job Trainings (OJT's).

- ✓ The NYSCION position for the Disability Resource Coordinator was renewed thru WIOA funding again for 2024 to continue to serve individuals with disability that receive SSI or SSDI. There was also an additional \$30,000 awarded to Sullivan County through the Office of Mental Health.
- ✓ An Outreach Strategic Plan was awarded to Bold Gold Media to continue branding of CWD and to update program materials and web designs.
- ✓ Administered all WIOA grants received and expended monies accordingly.
- ✓ Operated the Welfare to Work Program under the MOU with DSS.
- ✓ CWD encountered two WIOA audits during 2024 for program and fiscal through DOL, and any suggestions and changes were implemented, but no major findings. CWD also assisted DSS on the OTDA audit of the Temporary Assistance Program.
- ✓ CWD continues to be dedicated to the residents and businesses of Sullivan County and looks forward to many new initiatives, upcoming grants and innovative services to be provided in 2025.

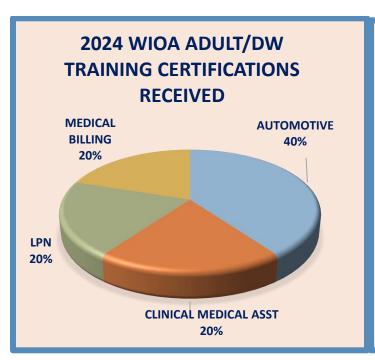
CUSTOMER & CAREER CENTER SERVICES







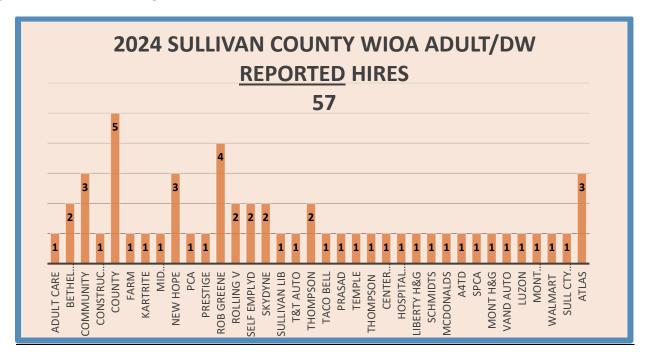
WIOA ADULT & DISLOCATED WORKER PROGRAMS







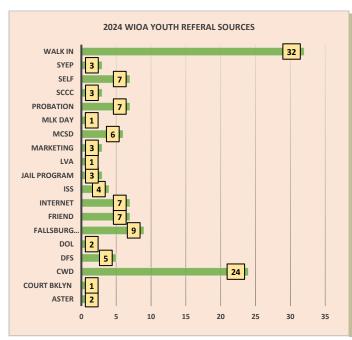
*Only WIOA funded training



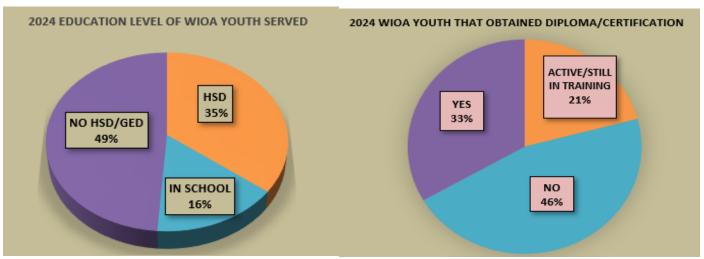
WIOA YOUTH PROGRAMS







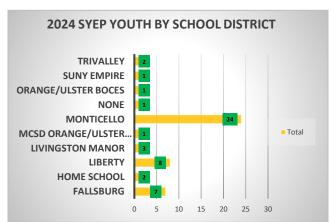




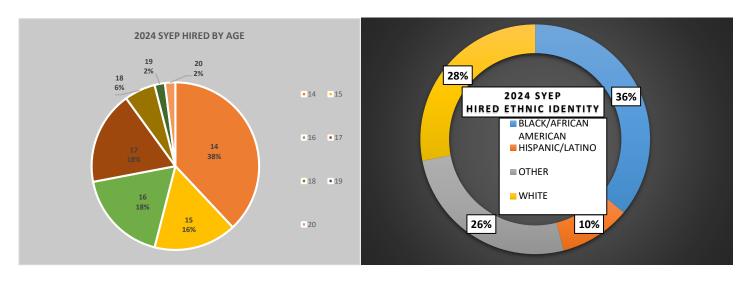
^{*}Only WIOA funded training

SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (SYEP)

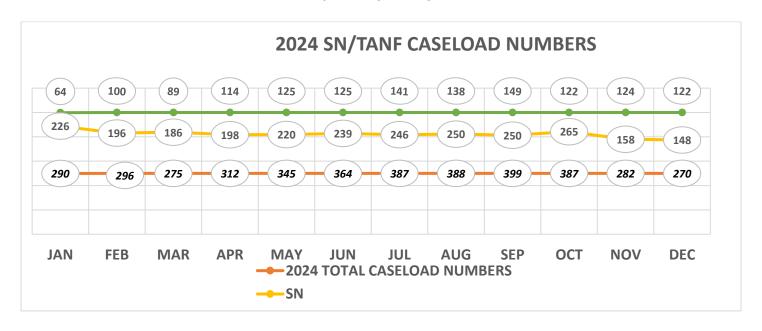


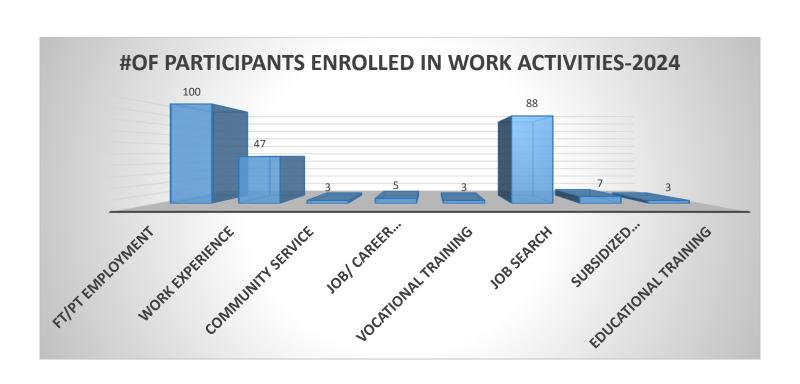


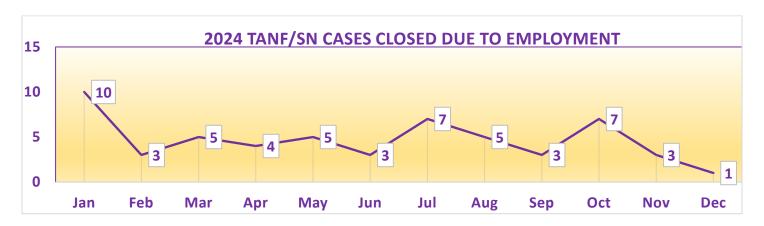
^{*127} Youth received more intensive services in 2024

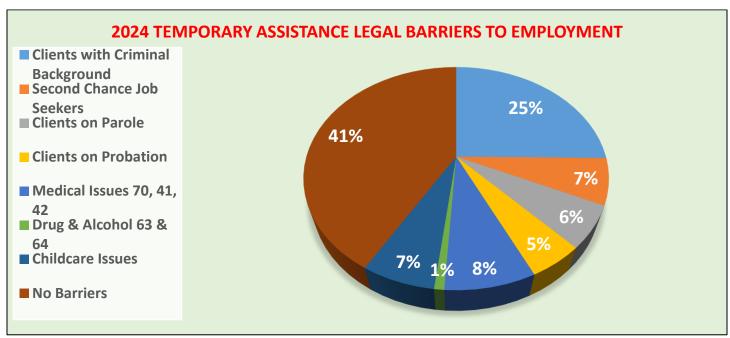


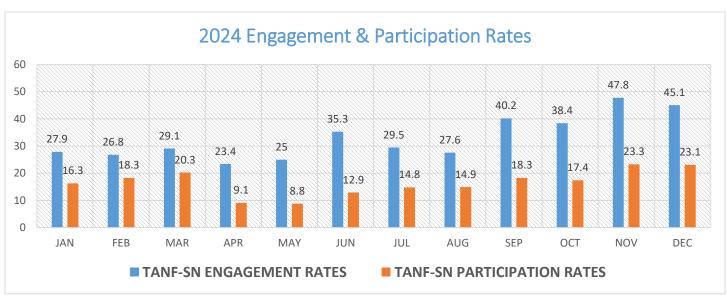
TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS



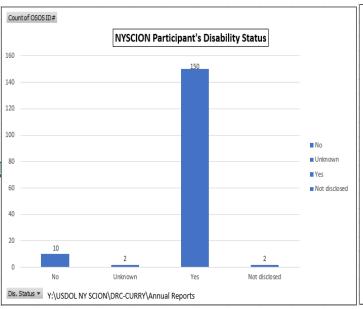


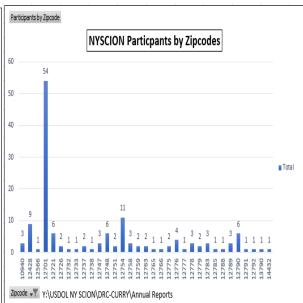


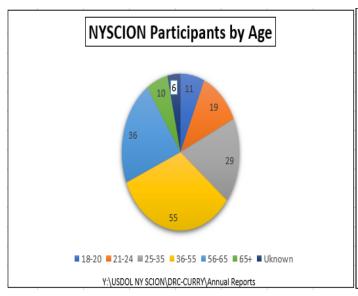


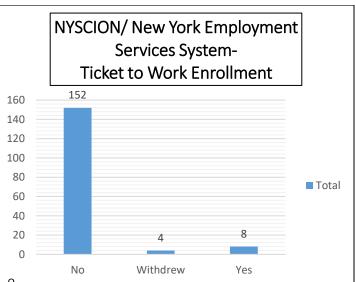


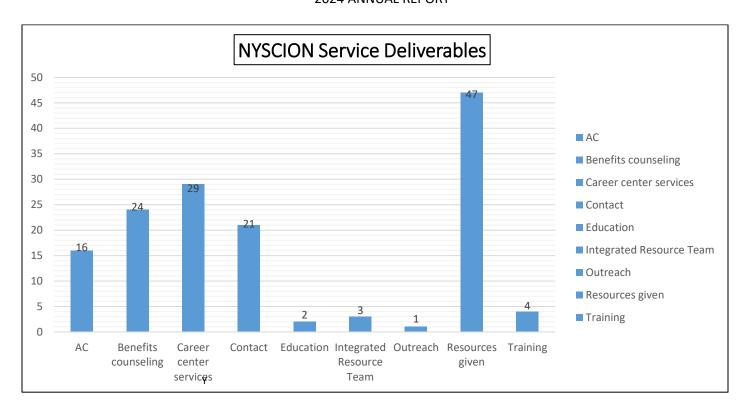
NEW YORK SYSTEM CHANGE INCLUSIVE OPPORTUNITY NETWORK (NYSCION) GRANT



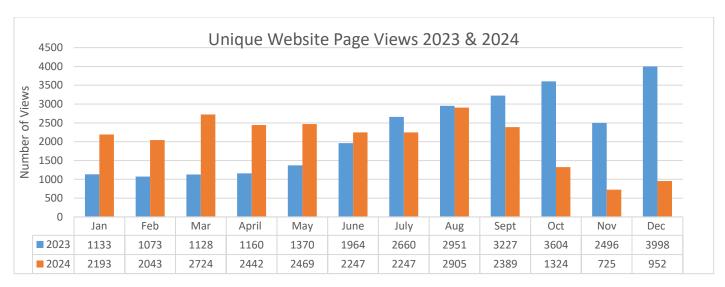




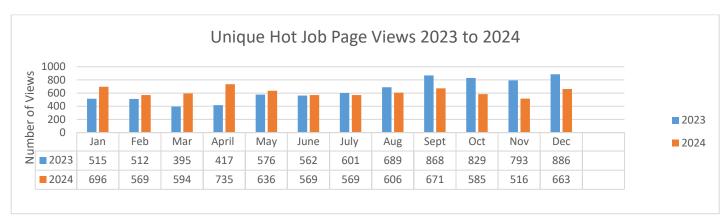


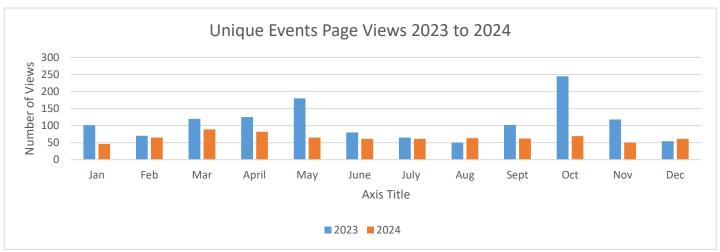


WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK ANALYTIC REPORT

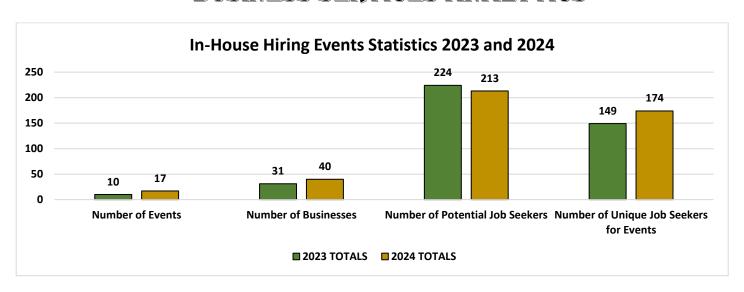


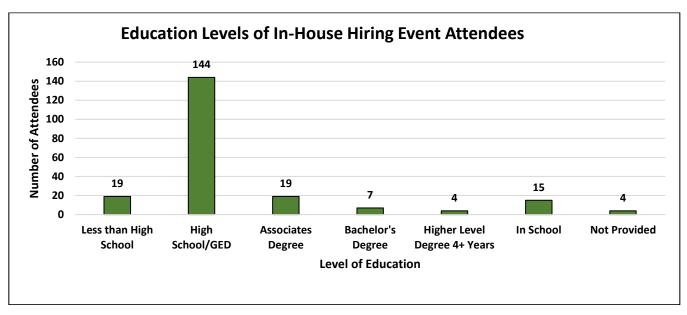
^{*1049} Facebook followers for 2024

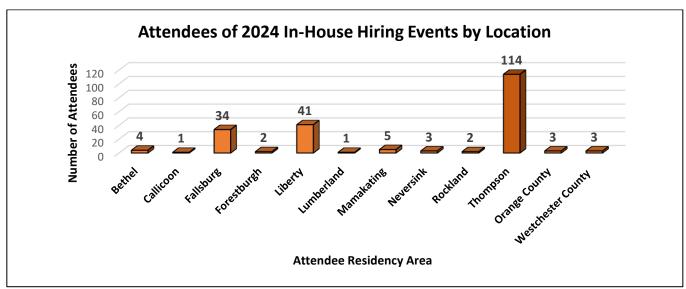


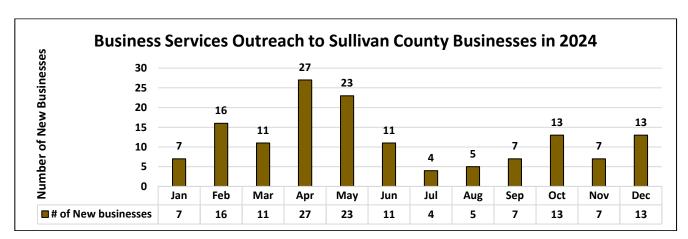


BUSINESS SERVICES ANALYTICS

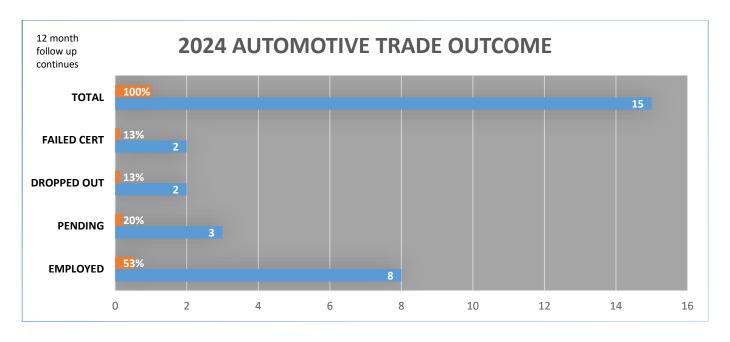








SULLLIVAN COUNTY TRADES PROGRAMS





FINANCIAL SPENDING

