

Update on Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth Program Activities

Adult and Dislocated Worker Program

During November, Monterey County Works strengthened service delivery and increased customer engagement across all centers:

- Veterans Day Engagement: Staff attended the Veterans Day event at the Veterans Transition Center on November 11, 2025. The strong turnout provided networking opportunities with partners and expanded pathways for Veterans seeking employment and training services.
- High Road Construction Careers (HRCC) New Cohort Launch: A new HRCC pre-apprenticeship construction training cohort began on October 20, with hands-on experience and pathways to apprenticeship programs in the skilled trades.
- Increased Activity and Referrals: In October, Equus saw a notable rise in participant engagement driven by enhanced outreach, new partnerships, and smoother intake processes.
- Business Outreach and OJT Expansion: Business engagement remains strong with ongoing development of On-the-Job Training (OJT) opportunities and work-based learning placements to support participants in achieving employment success.
- Education and Training Partnerships: Collaboration with International College and Calbright Online Community College is connecting participants to short-term, industry-recognized credentials aligned with regional workforce needs.
- Staffing and Coaching: With one final hire pending, the Adult and Dislocated Worker programs will be fully staffed to meet the rising demand for services.

Youth Programs

GREEN CADRE

The current Green Cadre cohort, funded through the CaliforniansForAll grant, has successfully packed and distributed more than 3,000 food parcels throughout Monterey County. It is estimated that these food parcels will feed over 12,000 community members. With the holiday season approaching, participants have already prepared boxes for the annual Pozole distribution with the Food Bank for Monterey County. The current Green Cadre cohort will celebrate their graduation on Friday, December 19, 2025.

We are excited to announce that applications for the next Green Cadre cohort officially opened on November 13, 2025. Outreach and recruitment efforts are now underway as the Youth programs work to secure 24 new participants for the upcoming cohort. Green Cadre participants will continue their impactful work with the California State Parks, the City of Monterey, and the Food Bank for Monterey County. Due to the success of the Climate Action partnership with the City of Monterey, the City of Pacific Grove has expressed interest in partnering with the Green Cadre on a fuel mitigation project.

The new cohort is scheduled to begin training on January 12, 2026.