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**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
ANNUAL HIGHLIGHT**



**KIDS HOPE ALLIANCE™**  
The Jacksonville Partnership  
for Children, Youth & Families

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2023 Workforce Development Annual Highlights discusses the current progress of key initiatives and the plan for future work to be conducted in 2024. This analysis will focus on the city's workforce development needs, barriers, and current resources.

## OVERVIEW

The mission of the Workforce Development Department is to promote equitable opportunities for youth and adults by driving policy change, fostering innovation, advocating for initiatives, and expanding programs that help them successfully transition to the workforce.

## CAREER AND COLLEGE READINESS PROGRAMING (AGES 16-24)

2,676

YOUTH SERVED IN  
CAREER AND COLLEGE  
READINESS PROGRAMS

18

CAREER AND COLLEGE  
READINESS PROGRAMS  
LAUNCHED

3,000

HOURS OF TRAINING  
FOR YOUTH INTERNS

254

SUMMER YOUTH  
INTERNSHIPS

## JACKSONVILLE UPWARD MOBILITY PROGRAM (JUMP)

The JUMP Program is a funding mechanism created by City Councilman Terrance Freeman by which the City of Jacksonville (COJ) allocates an amount equal to 1% of the approved economic development incentives approved during a calendar year for inclusion in the following year's annual budget as funding to be used by Kids Hope Alliance for apprenticeship, pre-apprenticeship, and skilled workforce training programs for Jacksonville residents. JUMP extends the service demographic to include prime-age adults (ages 25-54) and aims to alleviate the workforce gap by addressing skill gaps and employment opportunities, with a particular focus on technical and career-oriented training for youth and adults. **The program is committed to investing in the economic growth and sustainable workforce necessary for long-term economic development and upward mobility for Jacksonville residents.**

### JAX WORKFORCE INNOVATIONS NETWORK (W.I.N)

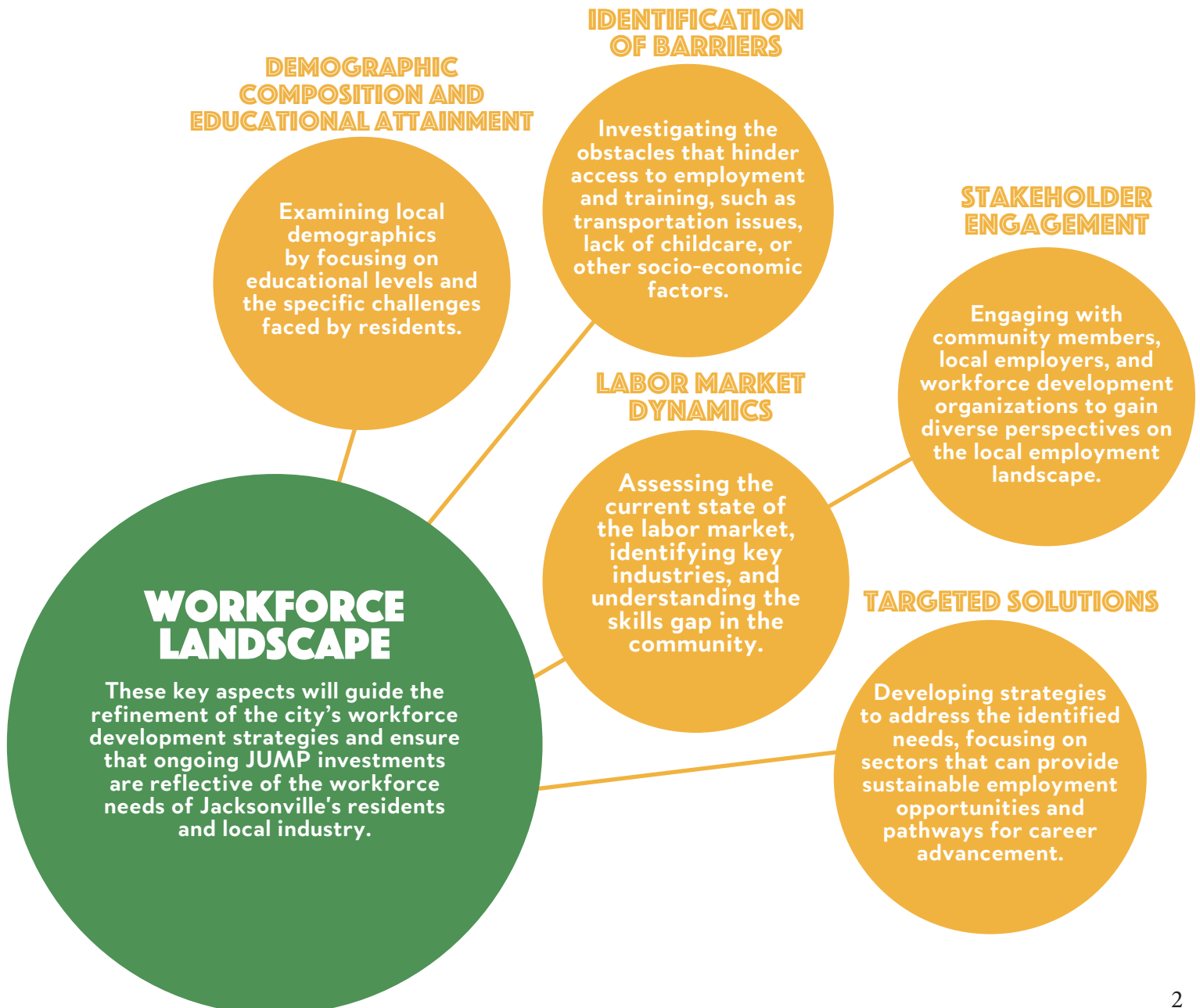
W.I.N. is comprised of workforce and career/college readiness for profit and non-profit providers (KHA funded and non-funded) committed to building a community of collaboration and innovation around workforce development. The primary goal is to work across sectors to break down silos and increase impact by working together to expand equitable access to workforce resources. W.I.N collaboration was critical to this year's application to the Economic Development Administration's Re compete federal grant.



# THE FUTURE OF WORK IN JACKSONVILLE

In 2023, the Mayor's Youth at Work Partnership steering committee, with support from the Walton Foundation and Delivery Associates (through the Community Funding Accelerator), completed a preliminary analysis of barriers to workforce entry in the City of Jacksonville (as part of the Recompete grant effort) utilizing the most recent census data and a combination of existing cross-sector community needs assessments, and feedback from community and business leaders. The data collected revealed multiple census tracks with a high prime-age employment gap and the need for a more comprehensive workforce analysis to be conducted in the City of Jacksonville.

The 2024 study will focus on the workforce landscape to include, but not limited to, areas with a high prime-age employment gap and upskilling/reskilling needs of the community at large. JUMP will fund the analysis and is designed to provide a deeper understanding of the barriers to employment, upskilling/reskilling necessary for career advancement, and opportunities for upward mobility.



# THANK YOU

## TO OUR PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS!

### THE MEMBERS OF THE MAYOR'S YOUTH AT WORK PARTNERSHIP STEERING COMMITTEE

- Nicole Hamm, Executive Director, BlueZones
- Cheryl Taylor, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Career Source NEFL
- Corey Wright, Chief of Staff and Assistant Superintendent of Accountability and Assessment, Duval County Public Schools
- Dr John Wall, Provost and VP for Academic Affairs, Florida State College at Jacksonville
- Dr. Anna Lebesch, Senior VP, Strategy and Talent Development, JaxUSA Partnership
- Dr. Ronetta Wards, Vice President, Jacksonville Public Education Fund
- Mary Smith, AVP Chief People and Culture Officer, Jacksonville Transportation Authority
- Dr. Barbara Ritter, Dean of Davis College of Business & Technology and Executive Director of Career Services, Jacksonville University
- Dr. Melissa Chester, Economic Development Program Officer, Local Initiative Support Corporation (LISC)
- Coral Messina, Assistant State Attorney, State Attorney's Office
- James Ellout, Vice President of Community Impact, United Way of NEFL
- Dr. Richmond Wynn, Vice President of Community Engagement and Partnerships, University of North Florida
- Heather Horovitz, SVP, CDFI and Impact Lending, Vystar Credit Union
- Kimberly Allen, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), 904Ward

### CITY COUNCIL AND THE MAYORS OFFICE

### KIDS HOPE ALLIANCE BOARD MEMBERS

- Marsha Oliver, Chair
- Kevin Gay, Vice Chair
- Cynthia Nixon, Treasurer
- J. Carson Tranquille, Secretary
- Lawrence Edward Dennis
- Meredith Chartrand-Frisch
- Connie Hodges

### NATIONAL COHORTS 2023 National League of Cities Youth Excel Fellowship Grantee

- 2023 National League of Cities Reengaging Opportunity Youth in the South (ROYs) Grantee
- Cities for Financial Empowerment Summer Youth Connect

### KIDS HOPE ALLIANCE STAFF

- John Everett, Director, Workforce Development
- Dr. Saralyn Grass, Chief Executive Officer
- Tyrica Young, Workforce Development Coordinator



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