

JOB SERVICE - FARGO Business Services

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER: AUGUST 2026

NORTH
Dakota | Fargo Workforce Center
Be Legendary.™ JOB SERVICE

Meeting workforce needs.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN! FM FALL JOB FAIR

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15TH

1 PM - 4 PM CT

DELTA HOTEL - FARGO

[CLICK HERE](#)

TOP NEWS

- 2026 Fair Chance Job Fair
- Summer Summit for Youth Workshop
- WIOA Success Story
- Phil Davis, Job Service Director
- Fargo Workforce Center Information & Events

Fair Chance Job Fair

Fargo Workforce Center

Fair Chance Job Fair Draws 259 Job Seekers and 21 Employers & Community Partners!

The Fargo office hosted their Fair Chance Job Fair on June 4, and it was an exciting day filled with opportunity, collaboration and community support. A total of 21 employers and community partners participated, with activities taking place both inside our office and in our parking lot.

The Heart n' Soul Food Truck served delicious meals with their "Pay what you can" model, while another partner, Deep Roots Recovery, shared their mission of providing sustainable recovery support and gave goodies away to interested job seekers. North Dakota State College of Science (NDSCS) brought its interactive driving simulator, and our very own DJ Foysal kept the energy high throughout the event.

This hiring event attracted 259 job seekers, all eager to connect with employers committed to fair chance hiring. Community partners were also on hand to provide valuable information about employment services, training opportunities and supportive services. Employers had great things to say about the event:

- "I talked to over 100 -125 individuals"
- "Lots of active participation"
- "Loved the number of candidates"
- "Enjoyed the variety of people that stopped by"

The Fair Chance Job Fair created a welcoming environment where community, opportunity, and hope came together. It was a wonderful example of how collaboration among employers and community partners can help individuals take the next step toward meaningful employment.



"This didn't feel like a typical job fair.... it was really fun!" -Job Seeker



Summer Summit for Youth: Preparing Tomorrow's Workforce

The Fargo Workforce Center recently hosted its annual Summer Summit, a two-day workshop designed to inspire, educate, and equip youth ages 16–21 as they prepare for their future careers. This year, 11 youth registered, representing four languages: English, French, Kinyarwanda, and Spanish. With interpreters and accommodations available, every participant had the opportunity to fully engage in the experience. Throughout the workshop, participants explored a variety of career readiness topics and activities, including:

- Mental Well-being & Coping Strategies by Rory Beil from Cass Clay Public Health
- Communication in the Workplace by Vocational Training Center
- WIOA Program Overview
- Career Exploration Activities (Interviewing, resumes, wage information)
- Be More Colorful's CareerViewXR Virtual Reality Career Exploration
- Employer Panel

A special thank you to Dan Gunderson with Marsh McLennan & FMHRA, Kate Jarland with Coborns, and Amy Montebello with Sanford Health for participating in the panel and sharing valuable career insights and advice with our participants. The workshop highlighted the importance of collaboration between workforce programs, community partners, and local businesses in preparing the next generation of talent. Participants left with new skills, meaningful connections, and greater confidence as they take the next steps toward their education and career goals.

Thank You to our 2026 Sponsors!



WIOA Success Story: Training Today, Career Tomorrow

After facing challenges that included leaving high school during the pandemic and working minimum-wage jobs, Uriel Scott was ready for a fresh start. He earned his GED and completed the STRIVE Future Leaders program, where he gained valuable workplace skills, industry certifications, and the confidence to pursue a career with greater opportunities.

After relocating to North Dakota to care for his mother, Uriel connected with Job Service North Dakota's Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) program. Through WIOA funding, he was able to enroll in Lynnes Welding Training with his tuition fully covered, removing a significant financial barrier to entering a skilled trade. Uriel has now completed the four-month welding program and received 10 certifications.



He went on several interviews and received four great job offers. He is now working as a Tank Welder at O'Day Tank & Steel. He credits WIOA, along with the support and training he received through STRIVE, for helping him build the skills and confidence needed to achieve his career goals. "WIOA gave me the opportunity to pursue a career I was excited about without worrying about the cost of training. It helped put me on a path toward a stable future." Uriel's story is a great example of how WIOA funding helps eligible individuals access education and training that leads to in-demand careers, stronger wages, and long-term success.



Upcoming Recruitment Events

HIRED Job Fair, August 12

1pm to 4pm at the Avalon Events Center
[Please click here to register!](#)

After Action: Veteran Careers, Benefits & Resource Virtual Expo, August 13

11am to 2pm
[Please click here to register!](#)

Talent Tuesday Hiring Event, July 28

1pm to 3pm at the Fargo Workforce
Center
[Please click here to register!](#)

Talent Tuesday Hiring Event, September 29

1pm to 3pm at the Fargo Workforce
Center
[Please click here to register!](#)

FM Fall Job Fair, October 15

1pm to 4pm at the Delta Hotel by
Marriott - Fargo
[Please click here to register!](#)

Phil Davis

JSND Executive Director

Armstrong Appoints Phil Davis to Serve as Interim Executive Director of Job Service North Dakota.

Governor Kelly Armstrong recently announced the appointment of Workforce Service Director Phil Davis as Interim Executive Director of Job Service North Dakota following the retirement of Executive Director Pat Bertagnolli on June 12.

Davis joined Job Service North Dakota in 2007 as an industry liaison and was promoted in 2008 to customer service area manager for the central and western parts of North Dakota, overseeing the daily operations of six Job Service workforce centers. He was promoted to workforce service director in 2019, overseeing all nine workforce centers across the state as well as another unit that administers 15 different workforce programs.

A Mandan native, Davis enlisted in the U.S. Air Force after high school and spent 21 years in the Air Force as an air traffic controller, serving at several air bases across the world including in Iraq. While in the military, he earned a bachelor's degree in business and aviation management from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Florida. Job Service North Dakota has approximately 159 full-time team members, 76 temporary employees and a biennial budget of \$79.1 million to manage multiple federal grants for workforce and unemployment services.



Important Contact Information

Fargo Workforce Center - 701.239.7300
infojsfg@nd.gov
Unemployment Insurance Claims -
701.328.4995
Unemployment Insurance Employer -
701.328.2866
Employer Unemployment Tax - 701.328.2814
Job Service Website - jobsnd.com

Reoccurring Local Events

- WIOA Orientation - Weekly Tuesday, 1:30pm
- Talent Tuesday Hiring Event - Last Tuesday of the month - [See Schedule](#)
- Cass County Jail Outreach -
 - 1st & 4th Wednesday of the month
- Jamestown Prison - Once per Month
 - Rotating Virtual and In-Person Sessions
- Fargo Public Library - 3rd Tuesday of the month

Other Resources

Secretary of State - 701.328.2900
Workforce Safety Insurance - 800.777.5033
Department of Labor - 701.328.2600