

Colorado Workforce Development Council

Sector Strategies in Colorado

January 25, 2024 Bobbie Wolfe, Senior Consultant





- Introductions
- Why sector strategies?
- Colorado's approach
- Guiding principles and practices
- Discussion

Acronyms to Know **R & D**



Rip-off and Duplicate

SWIPE

Steal With Integrity, Pride, and Enthusiasm

Vision and Values



Vision: Every Colorado employer has access to a skilled workforce and every Coloradan has the opportunity for meaningful employment, resulting in individual and statewide economic prosperity.

Mission: Enhance and sustain a skills-based talent development network that meets the needs of employers, workers, job seekers, and learners for today and tomorrow.

Values: Equity, agility, integration

Why Sector Partnerships?



WIOA Section 101(d)(3)(D)

The development and expansion of strategies for meeting the needs of employers, workers, and jobseekers, particularly through industry or sector partnerships related to in-demand industry sectors and occupations;

WIOA Section 107(d)(4)(D)

To develop and implement proven or promising strategies for meeting the employment and skill needs of workers and employers (such as the establishment of industry and sector partnerships), that provide the skilled workforce needed by employers in the region, and that expand employment and career advancement opportunities for workforce development system participants in indemand industry sectors or occupations.

Definition: Next Gen Sector Partnership^{woc}

Regional partnerships of business leaders within one industry, who work together with public partners from economic development, workforce development, education and training, and other community organizations, to address the shared workforce and broader competitiveness needs of their industry.

Operating Principles

- 1. Industry pull vs. program push
- 2. Shared table vs. owned by a single institution or system
- 3. Integrated response from education, workforce and economic development vs. one-off solutions



Colorado Workforce Development Council

Why Next Gen Sector Partnerships?

GOAL: Growing Good jobs for local people

The Challenge: It's (a little bit) of everyone's job...

Growing Good Jobs • City/County/State Economic Development Organizations

- Chambers of Commerce
- Small Business
 Development Centers
- Industry Associations

Preparing People for Good Jobs

- Workforce development boards
- Community Colleges
- K-12 Career Tech Ed
- Universities
- Adult Basic Education
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- Community-Based
- Workforce Training

Source: Institute for Networked Communities



Why an industry-led approach?

Why should there be Sector Partnerships that are "industry-led"?

- Industry-led means that firms have joined forces to identify and implement projects that they all believe are critical to the health and prosperity of their industry.
- These businesses collaborate to grow their industry, provide job opportunities, and contribute to the region's economic stability.
 - Sector Partnerships can inform public partners of their critical needs with one voice.
- Colorado implemented its Sector Strategy in 2005. The State has since expanded Sector Partnerships using the NextGeneration Sector Partnerships Model
 - Promotes industry-driven alignment across economic development, workforce development, and education.

Background on Sector Partnerships



Work-based Learning Sectors Summit: Growing the Statewide Summit is convened. **Talent Pipeline** Focus is on experiential or work-based learning. Coincides Colorado hosts first Sectors with progress from the Business First Sector Partnership Summit, First Next Gen Sector Experiential Learning Launched in healthcare partnerships are launched. Commission 2007 2013 2022 2005 2014 2017 NGA Policy Academy WildFig Evaluation Launch of the Colorado Talent **Pipeline Report** Colorado's involvement leads to After over a decade of sector the creation of the Sectors strategies in Colorado, Sectors NGA Policy Academy leads to Steering Committee. Sector Steering Committee calls for an creation of report and shared partnerships exclusively focused external evaluation of state's focus on sector partnerships. on workforce. First Gen Sector strategies. Sector Partnerships codified in Partnership Grants released in law through SB 14-205 2008

Sectors Summit: Accelerating

Roles of the State and Local Boards



State

- Provides a state-level framework to align programs and resources.
- Proactively integrates sector strategies as a core way of doing business.
- Utilizes a public-private steering committee that fosters business leadership.
- Recognizes existing work and build upon regional differences and strengths.
- Promotes promising practices working to grow and sustain public/private partnerships statewide and nationally.
- Provides technical assistance and support to regions and industries.
- Incentivizes partnerships developing innovative solutions to their local workforce needs

Regional & Local Partners

- Convenes partnerships
- Utilizes and customizes the sector partnership framework to drive action across regional system partners.
- Proactively integrates industry-led sector strategies as a core way of doing business.
- Builds a core team of public partners that foster support for business led priorities.
- Recognizes the value of frameworks and sharing across the state while adapting for regional differences and strengths.
- Utilizes Technical Assistance and shares promising practices with other regions and Industries.
- Tests innovative solutions to regional and local workforce challenges

Sector Steering Committee Purpose

The purpose of the Sectors Steering Committee is to play an integral role in CWDC's work by providing strategic guidance on how to best ensure that we remain an **industry-led** economic and talent development system in Colorado.

Strategic Value

Convene on a sustaining basis to set the direction of initiatives and programs that need to be industry-led in our state to drive alignment and scale across agencies and partners.

Committee Member Roles



Convene

Convene business members from sectors with top jobs twice a year to discuss and advise existing sector strategies and talent pipeline efforts underway in Colorado.

Make strategic connections across key sectors strategies and support the industry-led work of CWDC.

Inform and educate

Act as the voice of employers and local communities to help policy makers and education and training providers understand the needs, challenges and opportunities of businesses in Colorado.

Advocate

Advocate for the flexible use of government monies to allow stakeholder use of innovative solutions to address employers talent development needs.

Recommend

Guide CWDC's sector strategy and industry-led approaches by informing strategy, suggesting funding allocations and identifying policy and procedure changes as needed to remove barriers or better support alignment to industry needs in Colorado.

Business Innovation Strategies Unit



Supports Sector Partnerships throughout the State of Colorado through a variety of means and mechanisms. Support / Resources include, but are not limited to:

- Present current funding or resources to partnership
- Present work based learning programs
- Connect partnership to State agencies, i.e. ODEIT, CDE, CDHE, DOLA, DORA and more
- Provide opportunity to collaborate around strategies

An example of a recent partnership for local: Presented Work Based Learning Initiatives program to Northern Colorado, Manufacturing Partnership in November 2023

Local Sector Strategy Example



Aerospace Sector Partnership

The Aerospace Sector Partnership is an industry-led, workforce, education and economic development collaborative designed to meet the hiring, retention, and training needs identified by the Aerospace companies in the greater denver metro area.

Supporting Opportunity Now Grant Application and Innovative work around security clearance process

Partners Involved in the Sector Partnership:

- Arapahoe/Douglas Works! Convener
- 3 Industry Chairs Lockheed Martin, Astroscale and Centennial Software Solutions
- Strong Industry Engagement Blue Origin, Booz-Allen-Hamilton, York Space Systems, ULA, Boeing, Leidos, Northrup Grumman, Raytheon, Sierra Space, Ball Aerospace and NASA
- State and Local Education (HE & K-12)
- Colorado OEDIT
- Local Economic Development
- Municipalities
- CDLE
 - Library System
 - Community Based Organization



Local Sector Strategy Example



The Greater Metro Denver Healthcare Partnership

The Greater Metro Denver Healthcare Partnership (Partnership) is an industry-led, workforce, education and economic development collaborative designed to meet the hiring, retention, and training needs identified by six of the largest hospital systems and ambulatory care facilities in the Greater Metro Denver area.

Partners Involved in Sector Partnership

Economic Development Partners:

- Aurora Chamber of Commerce
- Denver Office of Economic Development
- Denver South Economic Development
- Partnership
- Adams County Economic Development

Association Partners:

- Denver Area Healthcare Recruiters Association
- Association of Operating Room Nurses
- Colorado Center for Nursing Excellence

Business/Industry Partners:

- Children's Hospital Colorado
- Centura Health System
- Denver Health
- HealthONE System
- Kaiser Permanente
- Lutheran/Exempla
- University of Colorado Hospital

Education Partners:

- Metro State University
- Colorado Center for Medical Laboratory
 Science
- Adams County Education Consortium
- Arapahoe Community College
- Front Range Community College
- Area health Education Center

Workforce Partners:

- Adams County Workforce Center
- Arapahoe/Douglas Works!
- Denver Office of Workforce and Economic Development
- Jefferson County Workforce and
 Business Center
- Colorado Urban Workforce Alliance

Local Sector Strategy Example



The Greater Metro Denver Healthcare Partnership Continued:

Strategies Created for Success

Subject Matter Experts from Business/Industry drive the occupations to focus on training and the most critical occupations:

- Nursing, Medical Technologist, Medical Laboratory Technician and Surgical Technician
- Registered Apprenticeships:
 - Medical Assistant Apprenticeship Program
 - Medical Laboratory Technician Apprenticeship Program

Vetted Data – Neutral/Objective Discussion

- Industry Profile
- Regional Growth Projections
- Top Regional Employers
- Competitive Wage Analysis
- Saturation Rates
- Skills Gap
- Critical Occupations

A Snapshot of Sector Partnership Success



Colorado Tree Care SP: First cohort of Arborist Journeyworkers graduated from the apprenticeship program at Front Range CC in 2022.

South Central Tech SP: Creation of a co-working space and incubator and Pax8's move to Fremont County The Workforce Innovation.

Mesa County Manufacturing SP: Program created in 2019 provides base-level training for job seekers and up-scaling skills for current workers, serving up to 200 students a year.



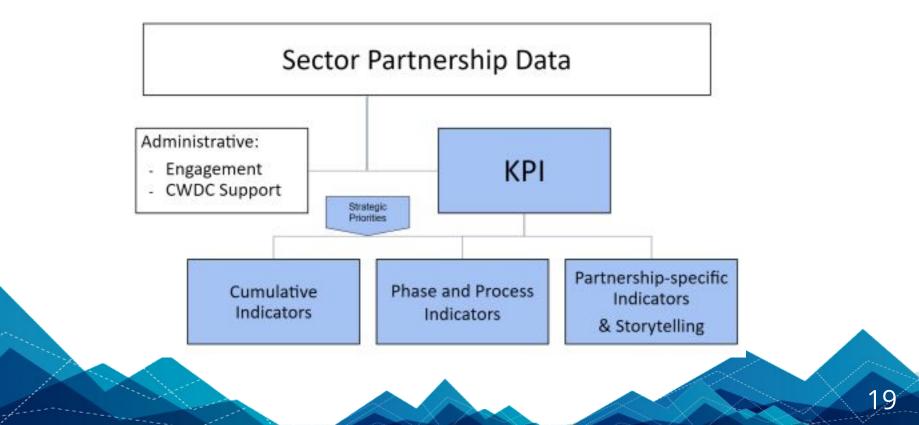
Key Performance Indicators

- Survey methodology utilized
- Business members and conveners asked to respond
- Impacts examined on businesses and on jobseekers





Key Performance Indicators



KPI Examples



Impact on Businesses

- 82% have businesses that have developed new or enhanced ideas for new products and/or markets
- 91% have businesses that have found support in finding employees with the skills and experiences their business needs
- 82% have businesses that have developed new recruitment practices

Impact on Jobseekers and Students

- 71% increased student/jobseeker awareness of training/education programs.
- 62% experienced increased program alignment across secondary, post-secondary, and/or workforce programming.
- 67% enhanced existing or developed new training/education program(s).



Communities of Practice

Regular calls to provide information, support, and facilitated discussion

- Statewide
- Industry Specific
 - Healthcare
 - Manufacturing
 - Multi-Industry

Where are we now?





Sector Partnerships by Region



Inactive Partnership

Region 13

Region 2

Northern Colorado Manufacturing Sector Partnership

Region 4

Region 11

Colorado Springs Retail and Hospitality Partnership

Northern Colorado Health Sector Partnership

Northern Colorado Construction Partnership

Nonprofit Sector Partnership

Mesa Manufacturing

Northern Colorado Hospitality Sector Partnership

- Upper Arkansas Health and Wellness Sector Partnership
- South Central Tech Sector Partnership

- Tech Talent Denver
- Boulder County Healthcare Sector Group
- Colorado Media Journalism

- West Metro Advanced Manufacturing Sector Partnership

Updated April 2023

25 Active or Sustaining Sector Partnerships

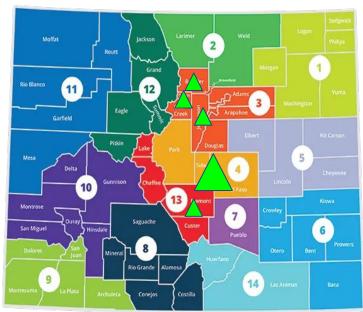
Recent 2023 Launches



23



- West Metro Construction
- Boulder Healthcare
- Boulder Food, Beverage & Hospitality
- Regions 4, 7, 13
 - Southern Colorado Healthcare
- Region 13
 - Early Childhood Education



2023 - 2024 Explorations



- Region 1
 - Manufacturing re-launch
- Region 2
 - Financial Services
- Region 3
 - Healthcare (with Behavioral Health focus)
- Region 4
 - Construction
- Region 6
 - Healthcare, Manufacturing, Agriculture
- Region 8
 - Healthcare
- Region 9
 - Healthcare, Building Trades
- Region 11
 - Clean Tech, Agriculture
- Region 13
 - Agriculture / Ag-Tech
 - Region 14
 - Manufacturing



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Sector Strategies (87% critical industries)





Advanced Manufacturing

4 active/4 inactive sector partnerships CAMA, Manufacturer's Edge



Aerospace

1 active/0 inactive sector partnerships COS pace Business Roundtable: CO Space Coalition



Bioscience 0 sector partnerships

Colorado Bioscience Association



Creative Industries 1 active sector partnership



Defense 0 active sector partnerships



Electronics 0 sector partnerships

Colorado Photonics Industry Association



Energy & Natural

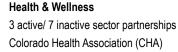
1 active/0 inactive sector partnership (tree care) CO Cleantech; CO Oil and Gas.; Tree Care Industry.



Financial

0 sector partnerships Colorado Bankers Association

Food & Ag 1 inactive sector partnership





Infrastructure Engineering 2 active, 0 inactive sector partnership AGC CO; HBA; CCA; Bldg & Construction Trades Council;



Technology & Information 3 active sector partnerships

Colorado Technology Association



Tourism & Outdoor Rec 2 inactive sector partnerships CRA;CHLA.; Outdoor Industry Assoc.



Transportation & Logistics 1 active sector partnership

1 active/2 inactive sector partnerships EPDC. CEA

Foundation Industries



Retail 3 active, 2 inactive sector partnerships CRA;CHLA.

Misc Nonprofit 1 active

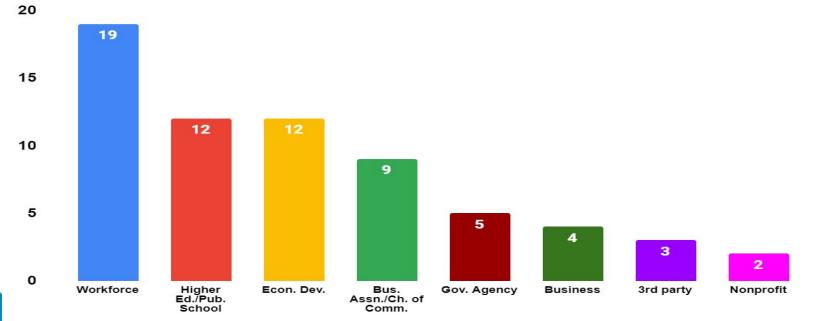
Education

No partnerships

- Defense
- Bioscience
- **Financial services**

Last updated Oct.2023

Sector Partnership Conveners by Type



CWDC

Key Considerations



- State provided resources include money, knowledge, support, supplies
 - web sites
 - training
 - o facilitation tools
- Local implementation critical to Colorado's model



Discussion



Thank you! bobbie.wolfe@state.co.us www.coworkforcecouncil.org