



WORKFORCE
SOLUTIONS Capital
Area
Connecting People to Jobs

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 10, 2020

Contact: David Olson
Phone: 512.597.7119
Email: david.olson@wfscapitalarea.com

Workforce Solutions Capital Area Stands with Austin to Support Workers and Businesses Impacted by COVID-19 Concerns

AUSTIN – Workforce Solutions Capital Area reaffirms our support to Austin’s businesses and workers disrupted by concerns around the COVID-19 and offers an array of resources to help employers avert layoffs, and assist workers to find and keep employment. The Workforce Solutions’ team stands ready to provide proactive, business-focused responses to retaining workers and assisting in the event of a layoff.

“Workforce Solutions Capital Area connects local people to local jobs,” said Tamara Atkinson, Chief Executive Officer at Workforce Solutions Capital Area. “When they need us, we directly connect people to jobs, with a personal touch. That’s how we ensure our people are productive and our region is prosperous.”

“Especially at this moment, our city needs to draw on a strong history of supporting our workforce and small businesses, and stepping up when parts of our communities are in need,” said Mayor of Austin Steve Adler. “Thank you to Workforce Solutions for continuing its leadership role keeping our economy strong. Anyone and everyone, employees and employers, are encouraged to seek its assistance and expertise.”

“During this time of need, it is important we all come together and rally around the workforce that being affected most, during and in the aftermath of COVID-19,” said Travis County Judge Sarah Eckhardt. “I applaud Workforce Solutions for rolling up their sleeves and partnering with both the city and county to care for our neighbors.”

Austin’s economy remains strong, with many job openings available for workers. As of March 10, 2020, Workforce Solutions Capital Area reported over 31,700 jobs postings in the Arts and Entertainment, and Hospitality and Tourism industries alone. They can assist in identifying workers’ transferrable skills, and connect employers to qualified talent.

Workforce Solutions Capital Area offers at no cost many resources for Central Texans whose employment is impacted by concerns related to COVID-19:

- Assistance looking for a job through WorkInTexas.com, the state’s premier job search website.
- Weekly workshops offering resources to effectively write a resume, conduct a job interview, and more.
- Funding for skills training in occupations with good earnings potential and in growing industries in Travis County.

A proud partner of the [americanjobcenter](#) network

Workforce Solutions Capital Area is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available, upon request, to persons with disabilities. Relay Texas: 1.800.735.2989 (TDD) / 711 (Voice) www.wfscapitalarea.com

For businesses facing a layoff or closure as a result of economic changes related to COVID-19, Workforce Solutions Capital Area offers early intervention such as layoff aversion and outplacement services, at no cost, with a proactive, business-focused approach:

- Layoff aversion strategies include incumbent worker training and shared work plans.
- Our Rapid Response team can respond with onsite, early-intervention services customized to help employees cope with job loss and assist workers in transitioning to their next employment opportunity.
- We can host informational meetings to provide employees with valuable resources to assist them in making the transition to a new job. Affected workers receive basic information on accessing unemployment insurance benefits through the Texas Workforce Commission and referrals to our three Career Centers.

Workers and businesses can learn more about available resources by visiting www.wfscapitalarea.com or calling 512.485.3792.

Job search and layoff aversion services are key to achieving the Austin Metro Area Master Community Workforce Plan's goal to make living in Austin more affordable by improving economically disadvantaged residents' access to better economic opportunities. Joined by the City of Austin, Travis County, and other essential public and private partners, we seek to help 10,000 residents living at or below 200 percent of poverty to secure middle-skill jobs by 2021. Learn more about the Master Plan [here](#).

Workforce Solutions Capital Area Workforce Board is the publicly-funded workforce board for Travis County. Through strong partnerships and strategic collaborations, Workforce Solutions is leading the region's workforce system in the development of a world-class workforce.

###

A proud partner of the  **americanjobcenter** network

Workforce Solutions Capital Area is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available, upon request, to persons with disabilities. **Relay Texas:** 1.800.735.2989 (TDD) / 711 (Voice) www.wfscapitalarea.com