

Iowa Workforce

# DEVELOPMENTS

News, events, and success stories from Iowa's workforce leader

## Iowa Awards \$37M in Child Care Grants





At least 25 more children from working poor and immigrant families in Des Moines now have hope for expanded access to Barbie Adams' child care center thanks to a \$240,000 grant from the state of Iowa.

The money is part of \$36.6 million in Child Care grants awarded to 108 projects in 72 communities earlier this week by Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds. Iowa Workforce Development and the Iowa Department of Human Services worked together to score project applications and award the grants. Originally planned for \$10 million, the program was expanded by Reynolds after the state received a flood of quality applications.

[Click here to keep reading.](#)

*[Photos: Warydi International Daycare in Des Moines; owner Barbie Adams.]*

## Career Fairs Draw Focused Future Workers

Summer was ending, but Daniel Thorsten wasn't quite ready to hang it up.

After roughly five years working on lawnmowers at a Decorah repair shop, Thorsten had just learned he would be losing his job. The shop's owners were planning to sell their business and retire.

"I'm 62 years old, and I can't retire yet," Thorsten said. "I still wanted to keep going, so I went to



## IowaWORKS Coordinates Successful Job Fair for Departing TPI Employees

More than 335 job seekers attended a two-day job fair in Newton last month, as Iowa Workforce Development and two IowaWORKS offices joined forces to help find new careers for factory workers losing their jobs at TPI Composites.

The event was so successful that it spawned a follow-up virtual job fair earlier this week.

Wendy Greenman, IWD chief of the bureau that receives these WARN (Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification) letters, said the state responds quickly to such notices to assess worker needs and begin reemployment services quickly. In TPI's case, a

keep going, so I went to IowaWORKS. They've served me very well in the past."

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*Daniel Thorsten*

meeting with company leaders was later followed by a total of 11 meetings between impacted factory workers and representatives from the IowaWORKS offices in Des Moines and Marshalltown.

IowaWORKS advisors helped TPI employees understand the wide variety of services that are available through IowaWORKS, from job training and resume coaching to educational programs and vocational rehabilitation. Meetings included information about a variety of services across multiple programs, including details about the availability of child care and food assistance through the Iowa Department of Human Services.

Since Newton draws workers from both the Marshalltown and Des Moines areas, advisors at both offices helped plan the job fair, which was held on the Des Moines Area Community College Newton Campus. Lacie Westendorf, an IowaWORKS workforce program coordinator who also oversaw the project from her office in Waterloo, said team members received an overwhelming response from employers who were anxious to participate in the job fair.

[Click here to continue reading.](#)

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DOWNLOAD THE  
**IOWAWORKS  
APP!**

- Search local job listings
- Upload your resume
- Explore telework options
- Connect with IowaWORKS staff



 **www.IowaWORKS.gov**

Apple App Store

Google Play

## Learn by Listening



More than 12,000 downloads so far by listeners around the world. Ryan West is your guide to a host of workforce programs and people making a difference.

[Click to download.](#)

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## Aspiring Chefs Earn and Learn through Registered Apprenticeships

Last summer, IWD visited Eastern Iowa Community College and an apprenticeship program there that's cooking up tomorrow's chefs. For more on registered apprenticeships, visit [www.EarnAndLearnIowa.gov](http://www.EarnAndLearnIowa.gov).

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## Governor Unveils Workforce Initiatives



Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds gave her annual Condition of the State address on January 12, unveiling the first three of many major workforce initiative expected during the coming year.

- Reducing the maximum length of unemployment in Iowa from 26 weeks to 16.
- Lowering the threshold at which an unemployed Iowan must accept suitable work.
- Creating a separate reemployment division inside state government to focus on getting Iowans back to work.

For more, read the text of the governor's speech [here](#).

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## New Grants Available for Health Care Registered Apprenticeships

# Registered Apprenticeships

Governor Reynolds also used her Condition of the State Address to announce a new Iowa Health Careers Registered Apprenticeship Program aimed at providing high school students with the opportunity to earn money while exploring health careers and helping alleviate Iowa's health care workforce shortage.

The grants will help recipients establish a new (or expand an existing) high school-based Registered Apprenticeship program modeled on the Patient Care Registered Apprenticeship Program launched last year at the Career Academy of Pella. Before they leave high school, students can become a certified nursing assistant and be qualified for employment in a variety of health care careers, including medical surgical tech, lab tech, and phlebotomist.

Grants may be used for equipment, training materials, uniforms, and other costs required to implement the program. Applications are open now through March 1.

For more information, click [here](#).

*[Photo from KNI-KRLS: Career Academy of Pella participants at the governor's address]*



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# Reemployment Case Management Program is Up and Running



lowans seeking unemployment benefits now can expect to receive faster and increased assistance in finding a new career, but they'll also need to meet higher work search requirements and report their work search efforts in a new way.

The changes are part Iowa Workforce Development's new Reemployment Case Management (RCM) program, which went into effect on January 9 as part of a drive to focus more urgency on getting unemployed lowans back to work as quickly as possible.

[Click here to continue reading.](#)

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## Upcoming Events / Opportunities

**ECI** February 3, 2022  
11:30 - 12:30 CST

THE EMPLOYER'S COUNCIL OF IOWA PRESENTS  
**DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION  
IN THE WORKPLACE**

We encourage business owners, managers and HR professionals to attend this training session to learn the key to inclusive leadership, how to foster cultural diversity and understand and mitigate the influence of bias within your organization.

**GROWING FORWARD INNOVATIONS**

**GET IT**

**REGISTERED BY VISITING THE  
LOWE STORE IN IOWA**

<https://www.eciowa.com/empire/>

TYSON MEET HAS BEEN LICENSED FOR THE IOWA BY IOWA STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION

**PICKER-OULMAN**  
Plumbing, Heating & Electric Inc.

**Now Hiring Apprentices!**

**Earn & Learn!**

- \$15-\$25/HR DOE
- \$0 School Debt
- 4 Year Program
- Online Classes

**Openings Include**

- HVAC
- Plumber
- Electrician

Picker-Oulman Plumbing, Heating, & Electric Inc.  
10 Woodland Ave.  
Muskegon, MI 49444

Send Resume to Ryan at: [Picker-Oulman@hotmail.com](mailto:Picker-Oulman@hotmail.com)

**Tyson**

**Hiring Event**  
Starting Wage at \$18/hr

**Walk-in Interviews!  
Relocation Assistance!**

**\$4,000 Sign-On Bonus  
For Maintenance**

**Date & Time**  
Friday, January 14th  
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

**Where**  
**IowaWORKS**  
600 South Pierce Ave.  
Mason City, Iowa 50401  
(841) 422-1524

**IowaWORKS**

**IowaWORKS**

**Tuesday** WEDKLY JOB FAIR  
LOCAL EMPLOYERS  
GET A NEW JOB NOW!

**Grab A Job!**

**TUESDAY JANUARY 18TH EMPLOYERS LIST**

**EVERY MONDAY** Program Coordinator - school based, Family Support Specialist, Youth Worker, and much more!

**LOWE** Lindale Mall  
**CEDAR RAPIDS** 1:00 - 3:00 P.M.

Scan for More Info:

**TO THE RESCUE**  
Direct Support Professional, Home Health Aide, Human Services Router/Coordinator, Certified Nursing Assistant and More!

**TYSON**  
General Production Workers, Heavy Skilled Labor, Maintenance Parts Room Attendant, and more!

**IMPACT LIFE**  
Digital Marketing Strategist, Philanthropist (They Train) - CDL Driver and more!

**R.H. Hummer Jr., Inc.**  
01/20/2022  
10:00AM - 1:00PM  
**IowaWORKS**  
200 Army Post Road  
Des Moines, Iowa 50315

**HUMMER**  
R.H. Hummer Jr., Inc.

**Open Positions:**  
- CDL Truck Drivers for Multiple Loads Including:  
- Home Depot  
- Home Depot  
- Multiple Loads  
- Other Retailers  
- Clean DOT Inspections

**Hiring Pay Rate:**  
Pay varies depending on the load, 20K sign on bonus

**Benefits Include:**  
- Medical  
- Dental  
- 401K  
- Life Insurance

**How to Apply:**  
Call 515-288-7415 to apply

**IowaWORKS**  
A proud partner of the AmeriCorps JobCenter network

**Manko Window Systems INC**  
01/18/2022  
10:00AM - 1:00PM  
**IowaWORKS**  
200 Army Post Road  
Des Moines, Iowa

**MANKO**  
WINDOW SYSTEMS, INC.

**Open Positions:**  
- Leader  
- Glass Production  
- Door Production

**Hiring Pay Rate:**  
\$15/hr for production and  
Benefits include:  
- Medical  
- Dental  
- 401K

**How to Apply:**  
Call 515-288-7415 to apply

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IOWA  
**WORKFORCE**  
DEVELOPMENT



**IowaWORKS**

