



Martha M. @WORK

Presentation to the Pinal County Workforce Development Board
Youth Program

November 17, 2022



Innovative Workforce Solutions

Applications

25 September and
October

48 YTD

Enrollments

4 in September and
October

16 YTD

110 participants

Service goal 100-125

What have the participants been working on?



FAMILY SIZE	HHS Poverty Guidelines	70% LLSIL* METRO AREA
1	\$13,590	\$12,385
2	\$18,310	\$20,296
3	\$23,030	\$27,866
4	\$27,750	\$34,400
5	\$32,470	\$40,593
6	\$37,190	\$47,478
7	\$41,910	\$54,363
8	\$46,630	\$60,259
Poverty Level Additional Per Person > 8	\$4,720	
LLSIL Additional Per Person > 6		\$6,885

What’s the housing situation in PC?

The median home cost in Pinal County is \$315,800. Home appreciation the last 10 years has been 196.0%. **Home Appreciation in Pinal County is up 28.5% in the last 12 months.**

Renters make up 21.0% of the Pinal County population.
1.4% of houses and apartments in Pinal County, are available to rent.

As you can see from the chart, affording any kind of housing and being considered LLSIL is very difficult.



<https://www.bestplaces.net/housing/county/arizona/pinal>

Let's look at some real wage data, while keeping in mind the previous chart

	Casa Grande	Maricopa	Apache Junction	Coolidge	San Tan*	Winkelman, Hayden, Mammoth
Avg hourly	\$20	\$20	\$22	\$20	\$30	\$15*
Bottom 25%	\$15	\$15	\$15	\$14	\$21	N/A
19 hrs a week at 25%	\$14,820	\$14,820	\$14,820	\$13,832	\$20,748	\$14,820
40 hrs a week at 25%	\$31,200	\$31,200	\$31,200	\$29,120	\$43,680	\$31,200

Actual Rental data

	Casa Grande	Maricopa	Apache Junction	Coolidge	San Tan	Winkelman, Hayden, Mammoth
Rent, 2 bedroom	1,601	2,560	1,525	1,195	2,230	1,000*
Percent increase over last year	40%	20%	33%	14%	-6%*	-
Median home cost	268,700	311,000	313,200	211,300	\$349,300	117,600

So why are we sharing this?

- Providing some context of challenges for youth in Pinal County
- Highlight the difficulty in qualifying for services while maintaining even part time 'low wage' employment.
 - Especially affects those still living with guardians/parents.
 - If you want a roof over your head, you are going to struggle to qualify for services.



Featured Participant Stories

Participant A wanted to finish all her tests in time for the GED graduation this past May, but really struggled with the math.

She reserved her cap and gown and studied extra hard with lots of support from her teachers, but still did not pass the math test. She left school in 8th grade, and with the recent failures of the math test feels like it may be 'too late for her'.

Recently she had an accident on her way to work. Now she is struggling with transportation and keeping her job. She is still engaged and working on her goals but lately expresses a feeling that life is stacked against her even when doing the 'right' thing.

Participant B was raised in an abusive household and became justice involved at an early age. She was pregnant and on probation when first enrolled in the YP. She has worked hard to change her circumstances and successfully got off probation, earned her GED, was placed in a job, found her own apartment, and got engaged! Recently things have taken a turn. She was mandated bed rest and therefore lost her job. She even had to cancel her medical assisting school registration. Then, while driving their only vehicle to work, her fiancé was hit, and the car was totaled - putting their only paycheck at risk. She worries that they can't buy diapers let alone replace the car and cover all the others bills. She is still on bedrest and worried about their future as a young family.

Why these stories?

It's important to not just recognize and celebrate those that have already succeeded. It is equally important to recognize those still on the journey.

We must praise and support grit and tenacity. We must also explicitly acknowledge that the road these youths are on is difficult and tenuous. Because they have fewer resources, troubles many of us could withstand by ourselves or through familial and community connections can be calamitous for them.

This is where much of the program labor is. It is not simply sending job listings and hosting resume workshops, although that work is a critical part of what we do, it is also building foundations and creating a network of supports so the youth can withstand the trials that face them, and they are able to *stay in school and keep the job*.



So, in the spirit of Thanksgiving...



**Thank y'all for supporting the youth
of Pinal County!**

(In)Outreach

Targeting ISY:
Coolidge Unified
Transition Fair,
Imagine Prep,
CGMS Career
Fair,
Accessibility
services

Hiring Events,
making
connections

Continuous Improvement

Identifying **new**
resources

Professional
Development

Aligning tools and
efforts with the
'region' in mind

Get Creative

Leverage
technology

Identify **useable**
data

Areas of Opportunity

Bureaucratic Lift

Precision Targeting

Support DOLs push
for
“WIOA can!”