

# THE AIWP CURRENT

≡ A NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF IOWA WORKFORCE PARTNERS ≡

December 2020

## Virtual Professional Development

### Join us for our December Professional Development Webinar!



**Don't miss out on this great opportunity! Register today!**

**Date: Tuesday, December 15th**  
**Time: 12:00PM - 1:00PM CST**  
**Cost: FREE!**

#### December Webinar: Engaging Youth Virtually

Join Cassie Gerst for a webinar on how to reach youth where they are - virtually!

Cassie is the Outreach and 21st Century Grant Coordinator for the Burlington Community School District. Through her roles and experiences, Cassie has learned how to engage with youth virtually, focusing on cultivation of strong relationships.

**Register for the December 2020 Webinar here!**

## Potential Improvements During Economic Recovery

January not only marks our return from the holiday break, but also signifies the change of an administration. The COVID-19 pandemic has provided a clean slate for economic recovery, with a need for larger structural change in recovery initiatives.

Jobs for the Future has researched and compiled a report on how the Biden Administration can implement economic recovery plans that are more inclusive and equitable. Read the report and JFF's recommendations [here](#).

# How to Achieve an Equitable Economic Recovery for America: A Blueprint for the Biden Administration

## 2021 NAWDP Annual Conference

NAWDP is proud to announce that we will be hosting our 37th Annual Conference May 17th-19th, 2021 in Las Vegas, NV. There will be workshops, key note speakers, pre-conference sessions, annual award presentations, vendor exhibits, and the NAWDP business meeting.

For nearly 30 years, workforce development professionals have gathered at NAWDP's Annual Conference to:

- enhance and maintain their skills through continuing education
- network with peers, mentors, and leaders
- share ideas, experiences and metrics about promising practices
- discover new and innovative programs, products and services

Attendees represent the full range of career experience in the industry, from senior leaders to entry-level employees, and come from every corner of the country and every segment of the industry. NAWDP's Annual Conference has become one of the largest gatherings of workforce development professionals, with over 1,000 attendees and 40 exhibitors each year.

Registration details coming soon.

[Stay Updated Here!](#)

## Resources Worthy of Your Attention

### The NAWDP Certified Workforce Development Professional Credential

NAWDP developed the Certified Workforce Development Professional (CWDP) credential using technically sound research based on the job requirements of a wide range of workforce development roles. The results have been validated by professionals across the nation in a variety of workforce settings as representative of the skills and competencies required for success in the industry.

The CWDP designation is valid for three (3) years from the date of award, and credential holders must apply for re-certification prior to the date of expiration.

[Apply for the CWDP Credential Here!](#)

[Recertify Your CWDP Credential Here!](#)



## News from the Field

### Unemployment Payments Received from CARES Act Funding are Taxable

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation program increased weekly unemployment payments by \$600 a week for those who lost their jobs due to pandemic responses. This allocation of the relief package lasted until July 31st.

One thing was unclear to many who applied for unemployment benefits: that extra \$600 a week is considered taxable income by the IRS. For those who did not adjust their withholdings accordingly, a large bill can be expected after filing their 2020 taxes early next year.

You can read more about this issue [here](#).

## WIOA Success Stories: Impacting Iowan's Everyday Lives



### Career Services Build Confidence: Carey Canaday

My experience with WIOA was a great one. Before seeking assistance from their program, I was a stay at home mom and did daycare for 10 years in my home. I just carried a high school diploma and was in an abusive marriage and very little confidence and had no clue how to start by myself looking for good steady employment.

My friend from childhood, Miranda Millhouse, started to speak to me about how WIOA could help me. It was scary at first but with Miranda's knowledge and great support I choose the CNA program. Within this time my children and I moved out of our home and I filed for divorce.

The CNA program was going well and WIOA also helped me with clothes , gas mileage and helped me get set up with the FIP/PROMISE JOBS program. I got my 3 week CNA classes done and I got my certificate of completion and found a job at a nursing home 2 weeks later— making \$18/hour working 36 hours a week. I worked really hard for the rest of the summer and take on as many shifts so I could and saved up money. At the end of summer, I had enough saved and moved the kids and I into a house of our own. I love my

job and it took a lot of hard work and keeping my head up, and I owe a lot of thanks to my success to WIOA and their staff for all the help along my journey.

This success story was submitted by Jen Erdmann, Operations Manager at Indian Hills Community College.

Do you want to feature a success story of your own in The AIWP Current?

[Submit Your Success Story Here!](#)

## Self Care Tips for the Holiday Break

Ending a year to forget with the holiday season may create more stress than usual. (Can you put more stress on top of current stress? Asking for a friend.)

We hope next year is a better year - take time for self-care to return feeling confident and productive in 2021!

- 1) Make time for you
- 2) Be true to yourself
- 3) Build your emotional intelligence
- 4) Create healthy boundaries
- 5) Focus on the present
- 6) Learn to let go
- 7) Don't force change
- 8) Practice Gratitude
- 9) Consider closure
- 10) Commit to growth

Read more about these self-care practices from Psychology Today [here](#).



## Join the Association of Workforce Partners!

### Join AIWP Now!

The Association of Iowa Workforce Partners (AIWP) is an **advocacy organization** that works on behalf of workforce development professionals in the state of Iowa. AIWP ensures workforce service providers can focus on providing high-quality results to their customers by offering **legislative relations, communications, and professional development services to members and staff.**

Members have access to all of the services of AIWP, including:

- AIWP annual professional development conference,
- Legislative Days at the capitol,



- Advocacy event planning and coordination,
- Professional development opportunities,
- and more!

If you're interested in joining AIWP, please contact Bri Steirer at (515) 237-0338 or [bsteirer@sppg.com](mailto:bsteirer@sppg.com).

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AIWP | 515.243.2000 | [Email](#) | [Website](#)

The logo for AIWP, featuring the lowercase letters 'aiwp' in a yellow, sans-serif font. The 'i' has a dot, and the 'p' has a vertical stem. The logo is centered within a dark blue rectangular background.