



State Employment and Training Programs

1. Sustain Jobs First Employment Services at \$15.1 million, \$5.1 million for North Central Region

RATIONALE: Sustain the State's Jobs First Employment Services (JFES) statewide to maximize JFES job placement, ensuring required federal participation rate that enhances job placement. Also, increase emphasis on subsidized employment to optimize success.

IMPACT: About 6,000 TFA individuals in the Capitol Region and 15,000 statewide receive job search services, moving into employment and career pathways. JFES provides substantive supports to CT's American Jobs Centers.

2. Sustain Ex-Offender Reentry through the I-BEST, Second Chance Program at \$1.27-million

RATIONALE: The IBEST Second Chance Program has supported hundreds of Ex-Offenders to gain training credentials and many placed in employment in the Capitol area. Our goal is to continue to build this program to assist more former inmates with successful reentry into society, work and sustainable careers.

IMPACT: About 200 ex-offenders served a year, with many achieving employment, reduced recidivism. Consideration to sustain the program in the Capitol region and expand this to the rest of the state.

3. Sustain Youth Employment Programs at \$5.2-million

RATIONALE: Sustain the State's \$5.2 million investment in its 14-19 year old, in-school youth participating in an employment/ internship experiences. Consider set aside for startup costs. Consider a portion of this funding for opportunity youth strategies to reconnect more 18-24 year old, out-of-school, disconnected youth to jobs".

IMPACT: In the Capitol Region, this program contributes to over 1500 summer employment and learning jobs, and several thousand statewide, leveraging additional youth employment funding. With high youth unemployment, particularly in the distressed communities, these work experiences contributes to future success for youth, and a talent pipeline needed by state businesses.

4. Sustain Jobs Funnel Program funding at \$197,379 statewide

RATIONALE: Support Jobs Funnel Statewide (presently three programs) to connect more unemployed (many ex- offenders) to the trades related to construction occupations.

IMPACT: Over one hundred unemployed individuals are served a year, with many achieving employment, reduced recidivism; with other programming also supported throughout the state.