



Special points of interest:

- From the Director, Color Me Happy
- Economic Development Council (EDC) News
- Rave Reviews
- Workforce Development Board (WDB) News
- Staff News

Economic Development Links

www.nacog.org

[2020-2025 NACOG Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy \(CEDs\)](#)

Workforce Development Links

www.yavapaiatwork.com

www.arizonaatwork.com

[2020-2023 Yavapai County Workforce Development Plan](#)

Resources

[Click here for a video overview of the NACOG-EWD!](#)

Contact Us

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(928)778-1422



Color Me Happy

This time of year is so beautiful when the fall colors start coming out, but there needs to be a combination of ingredients to make the spectacular show we enjoy in autumn. First, a good amount of rain in the summer is essential to nourish the trees with moisture and assist with leaf retention. Drought can seriously impair the display of colors. Secondly, cool, clear autumn days promote the vibrant colors that stand out against the blue sky and green pines—wind and rain can cut the show short. We have been fortunate to have experienced the “right ingredients,” what a delightful show we have going on in Yavapai County this fall!

So, yes, we need certain ingredients to demonstrate “colorful” successes in our economy, too. Determination to seek out resources that help us grow, the support of family and friends, and believing in community are all vital to encourage a resilient path to success.

It seems that our workforce has hit a “drought” and challenges to economic successes appear to be at every turn, generating the need for innovative thinking and creative solutions.

The Northern Arizona Council of Governments (NACOG) Economic and Workforce Development (EWD) Division is a great place to start down a new career path or to find new opportunities in your current occupation. We offer training opportunities that can open doors of unlimited possibilities for the job seeker who has the determination to seek them out.

Employers all over Yavapai County are discovering the resources that we offer to expand and retain their staffing needs in order to be successful in the current economy. NACOG EWD offers plenty of services to local job seekers and businesses to sustain resilience and retention, and cool relief from the worries related to sustainability.

Our economy thrives when business succeeds. Consider how YOU can engage in the economic success of Northern Arizona and make this a great place to live and work.

Call us at (928)778-1422 to find out what resources are available and how you can get involved in economic and workforce innovation.

Let your “colors” show!

Teri Drew

NACOG Regional Director & Executive Director, Yavapai County Workforce Development Board



“We can only be said to be alive in those moments when our hearts are conscious of our treasures.”

—Thornton Wilder

Indications of Resilience in the NACOG Economic Development District:

According to the Arizona Commerce Authority Office of Economic Security, unemployment in the month of September 2021 in the NACOG District as a whole averages 5.75% - an increase over the state of .05% and an increase over the U.S. of .95%. All four Counties saw **decreases in the Unemployment Rate** over the last reporting period, with Apache County showing the greatest decrease.

By County, the breakdown is as follows:

September 2021

Apache County – 8.4% (-3.1% Year-over-Year)

Coconino County – 5.1% (-2.9% Year-over-Year)

Navajo County – 6.0% (-2.7% Year-over-Year)

Yavapai County – 3.5% (-2.5% Year-over-Year)

Northern Arizona is to be commended for their forward progress toward recovery!



Economic Development Council (EDC) News

Build Back Better

Regional Challenge

As a response to the [NACOG Regional Recovery & Resilience Plan](#) and the Regional Broadband Strategic Plan, NACOG EWD has submitted an application for the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration **Build Back Better Regional Challenge Phase I Grant**. The project seeks to simultaneously solve major needs of the District while supporting the development of a robust health industry cluster in urban, rural and tribal areas of the NACOG District. This aligns with the goals and strategic vision listed in the 2020-2925 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, as well as the 2021 Economic Recovery & Resilience Plan. The project will impact underserved populations (rural, Latino and Indigenous), will support recovery and resilience from economic

shocks (e.g., coal industry shut-downs), and focuses on workforce development and technology-based economic development.

Proposed Projects: NACOG EWD will embark on a series of projects which are all aligned to boost economic prosperity in the region. This project is aimed at recruiting and training a healthcare workforce to respond to the growing demand for healthcare professionals in the region. Underlying this need for healthcare professionals is a need for infrastructure to assist in healthcare expansion capabilities and education. As such, NACOG EWD has listed the following six projects, which will all lead the region to better health and economic outcomes upon completion:

1. **Broadband Infrastructure**
2. **Workforce Training**

3. **Distance Learning and Telehealth**
4. **Creating a Regional Network of Specialists for Shared Benefit**
5. **Tribal Relations Building**
6. **Continued Development of Workforce Training for Future Dislocated Workers**

The success of this project will be demonstrated through the proposed Key Performance Indicators (KPIs): Anticipated Job Creation, Wage Growth, Reduced Unemployment and Underemployment, Numbers of Workers Placed in Quality Jobs, and a full Demographic Breakdown of Populations Benefiting from Investments. We fully expect to receive the Phase I planning funding as well as the invitation to apply for the \$100 million Phase II implementation grant. Thank you to all who gave letters of support for the project!

Regional Rendezvous - Focus on Apache and Navajo Counties



Regional Director Teri Drew and Executive Assistant Julia Sawyer travelled in mid-October to visit some of the Apache and Navajo County communities and meet with leadership to discuss the Build Back Better Regional Challenge initiatives and to gain support of the regional nature of NACOG EWD's application.



Pictured from upper left: Teri Drew at the City of Show Low City Hall; upper right: Teri Drew and City Manager and EDC Vice Chairman Paul Ramsey at the St. Johns City Hall; bottom: Teri Drew and Town Manager and EDC Member Keith Johnson at the Town of Pinetop-Lakeside. Teri and Julia also met with the City of Show Low's Business Development Coordinator and EDC Executive Committee member Steve North and Grant Writer Lisa Robertson, Navajo County Manager Glenn Kephart and Government Relations Director Rochelle Lacapa, Pinetop-Lakeside Councilmember Paul Watson and Community Development Coordinator Tony Alba.

Workforce Development Board (WDB) News

Board Recertification

Congratulations to the Yavapai County Workforce Development Board for achieving their 2-year Board Recertification from Governor Ducey's Workforce Arizona Council in September! The process to receive this classification is a vigorous one that includes the review and approval of the following components of the WDB:

- WDB membership composition for compliance with requirements of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) and State requirements
- Standing Committees and Standing Committee Members
- Bylaws
- Shared Governance Agreement (includes Organizational Chart)
- One Stop and Service Provider Agreements
- Local Workforce Strategic Plan
- One Stop Procurement, including contracting

- Memorandum of Understanding/ Infrastructure Funding Agreement (MOU/IFA)
- Policy Development:
 - A. Conflict of Interest
 - B. Training Services, including requirements for work-based training
- WDB Oversight
- WDB Management of Funds

The Yavapai County WDB is to be commended for their diligence to maintain compliance with federal and state requirements.



Congratulations—2021 Leadership Awards Elan Electric and Western Heritage Furniture



Above: Jim Johnson, Elan Electric.
Right: Tim McCune, Western Heritage Furniture.



The WDB was pleased to present a Leadership Awards to Jim Johnson, owner of Elan Electric and Tim McCune, owner of Western Heritage Furniture. Mr. Johnson and Mr. McCune were unable to attend the Annual Awards Ceremony to receive the award during the WDB Annual Meeting.

Elan Electric has participated with NACOG On-the-Job training contracts over the past few years.

They offer training opportunities to younger workers looking to get into the electrician field and they do an outstanding job of training their new hires. They have a retention rate of 100%!

Western Heritage Furniture has worked with NACOG for several years now, providing employment to many clients through our On-The-Job Training program. Western Heritage Furniture gives raises and promotions at the end of their OJT's that are significant and provides expert craftsman level training in the building of premier, hand-made reclaimed wood furniture.



Rave Reviews!

"I am beyond thankful for everything you've done for me. Being a CNA has made it possible for me to get my own apartment! It's been such a blessing and I appreciate you!"
- Maranda, CNA

★★★★★

"I recently requested financial assistance through NACOG so I could go back to school and further my education & qualifications. Receiving an education is not free and can become more of a financial burden that continues to hold you back instead of simply providing peace of mind. The NACOG office was so thorough in providing information I had no idea was even available to others, let alone myself. The response time after submitting requests was also very efficient which allowed me to get prepared for my first semester at Yavapai College where I would be receiving training for Commercial Driving. I am a woman Wildland Firefighter who was looking for a way to become more of an asset in my chosen field and I found it at NACOG. If it wasn't for Art Askew, who assisted me directly through the entire process this opportunity would not have been available to me.

"Thank you all so much for your time and most of all for assisting me in furthering my education."

- L.A.

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Service Locations

PRESCOTT

221 N. Marina St. Ste. 201
Prescott AZ 86301
(928)778-1422

COTTONWOOD

1500 E. Cherry St. Ste. F
Cottonwood, AZ 86326
(928)649-6869

PRESCOTT VALLEY

3262 Bob Dr. Ste. 342B-1
Prescott Valley, AZ 86314
(928)759-1669

Services include:

- **Job Search**
- **Job Placement**
- **Dislocated Worker Services**



NACOG Staff News

**Prescott LIVING Magazine Women is Leadership Edition,
October 2021**



Featured in the Fall Women in Leadership edition were the Administrative Ladies at NACOG EWD! Pictured left to right, Leah Cickavage, Operations Manager, Julia Sawyer, Executive Assistant, Teri Drew, Regional Director and Janae Ottis, Interim Senior Administrative Assistant. Congratulations! See page 72 for the full story!

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Return to Work Campaign

The NACOG EWD has initiated a Return to Work Campaign and marketing initiative! We have invested in widespread publications in various Metro Phoenix publications, the Quad City News and KPPV Radio! Featured focuses have been:

- ⇒ **Getting Dislocated Workers Back on the Job:** Offering scholarships for tuition, books and exam fees, paid internships/on the job training, relocation expenses and supportive services. Numerous job opportunities in office management, healthcare-C.N.A, caregivers, nursing, medical office management, manufacturing, and more.
- ⇒ **Youth Career Opportunities:** Career pathway development, career assessments, scholarships, paid internships/on the job training, gift cards for referrals, etc.
- ⇒ **Veterans Call to Service:** Veterans offer the workforce transferrable skills that are applicable to service operations especially in law enforcement, medical/healthcare, hospitality, management and more.

Job opportunities and incentives are available now! Call us at (928)778-1422 for more information, and visit us at www.yavapaiatwork.com and on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/yavapaiatwork/) at Yavapaiatwork!

