

# WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL



WELCOME TO SECTOR STRATEGIES AND CAREER  
PATHWAYS COMMITTEE

January 14, 2025

1:00 pm to 2:30 pm



# WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Annual Report

Bennette E. Misalucha  
Executive Director

# 2024 Highlights

## ❑ State Unified Plan

- Completion of the State Unified Plan (April 2024)
- Approval (June 2024)
- Implementation (December 2024): Synergy Summit

## ❑ WDC was restored as an attached agency of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. (July 1, 2024)

### Implementation of the Transition Plan

- Determining Roles and Responsibilities
- Personnel Recruitment



# 2024 Highlights

## ☐ Focus on Board Governance

- Training of all State and Local board members (WIOA Academy) from June 2024 to January 2025
- Re-assessment of purpose/direction of each of the six Committees

## ☐ Focus on Staff Training

- After needs assessment, training modules were developed, with subjects ranging from Strategic Partnerships to Employer Engagement to Customer Service.
- This technical assistance was conducted with support from the US Department of Labor.



# 2024 Highlights

## ❑ Strong Alliances with Local Boards

- Regular Meetings of the Executive Directors
- Leverage collective strengths
- Monthly Performance Coordination Meetings

## ❑ WDC as a Convenor

- Long Term Care Summit and Workforce Working Group (February 2024)
- Transportation Working Group (3 meetings in 2024)



# 2024 Highlights

- ❑ September as Workforce Development Month
  - Future of Work Conference (September 30, 2024)
  - Workforce Heroes Awards (September 30, 2024)
    - ✓ Sen Donovan dela Cruz as Legislator of the Year
    - ✓ UH Pres David Lassner for Lifetime Achievement Award
  - Governor's Proclamation of September as Workforce Development Month in Hawaii (September 1, 2024)



# 2024 Highlights

## □ Community Outreach

- Thus far, we have engaged with more than 50 agencies, community organizations and groups, in all the islands and engaged with each to better understand the State's workforce needs.
- The network we have built positions WDC as a key convenor in solving workforce development issues.
- Throughout the year, WDC was invited to advocate for the State's workforce initiatives at various events, including the Hawaii Cloud Innovation Summit, the Las Vegas-Hawaii Business Summit (twice), the Organization of Women Leaders, the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii podcast, the Immigrant Resource Center's monthly meeting, and in May, WDC provided the opening remarks for the workforce session during "Hawaii on the Hill" in Washington, D.C.



# Implementation of the Unified Plan

- ❑ December 9, 2024 Workforce Synergy Summit
  - Gathered 70 stakeholders at Foreign Trade Zone conference room
  - Public, private, businesses, non-profits, philanthropy
  - Creation of the Pillar Catalyst teams centered around the four pillars:
    - Alignment with economic growth
    - Alliance with Training and Education entities
    - Ensure Equity and Diversity
    - Create Workforce Synergy
  - Started the process of identifying a “North Star” goal
  - The Teams will meet in January and February to plan next steps
  - Community/Industry-led





# PY 2022 WIOA Unexpended Funds

□ At the November 21 Board Meeting, the Board approved the utilization of PY 2022 Unexpended Funds.

- Background on Unexpended Funds/mahalo to Evaluation Team

- Three Grants to three Agencies:

✓ UH Community Colleges	\$468,000
✓ Hawaii P-20 Partners for Education	\$446,000
✓ University of Hawaii Workforce Office	\$100,000

- Three Requests for Proposals (RFP)

- Fiscal Training \$100K
- PR Outreach \$300k
- AJC Research \$100K

- Deadline to respond is February 4, 2024



# FOCUS FOR 2025

- State Unified Plan Implementation
- Full Transition as an attached Agency
- Strengthening Board Committees/robust memberships
- Strengthen local boards/ work towards improved performance levels
- Focus on Improving American Job Center performance
- Collaboration with community partners
  - Goal: 12 partnership efforts/year
  - Goal: 8 events/year



MAHALO