

JobSTAR Annual Report

Support Talent and Retention
Jackson's Business Resource Network

JobSTAR (Support Talent And Retention) is a key Jackson County resource helping employers support their workers with needs that can affect productivity and attendance.

An on-site Success Coach provides confidential guidance, connecting workers to a wide range of services and support. The results include **a stronger workforce, financially stable families, higher productivity and a more vibrant local economy.**

During the 2024-25 program year, 20 companies participated in the program, with 877 employees served and 1,652 referrals made. This year wrapped up the federal earmark funding that allowed 10 nonprofit organizations to participate. Another highlight from this year was implementing the first year of JobSTAR's multi-year workplan.

From an Employer



I am more than happy with JobSTAR and its impact on our employees. Based on these impacts, we estimate 3-4 individuals are successful in retaining their employment each year. Our Success Coach has developed a good reputation with our employees and regularly helps individuals with accessing services they were not even aware existed. Although not everyone will access JobSTAR, for those who have or those who will, JobSTAR will continue to be a great benefit for our employees.

-- Doug Scott (Industrial Steel Treating Co.)

2024-25

By the Numbers



20

Participating companies



877

Employees served



1,652

Referrals made

Top 5 Referrals

- Food Assistance, 299
- Insurance/Medical, 243
- Government Navigation, 177
- Transportation, 121
- Housing/Foreclosure, 105



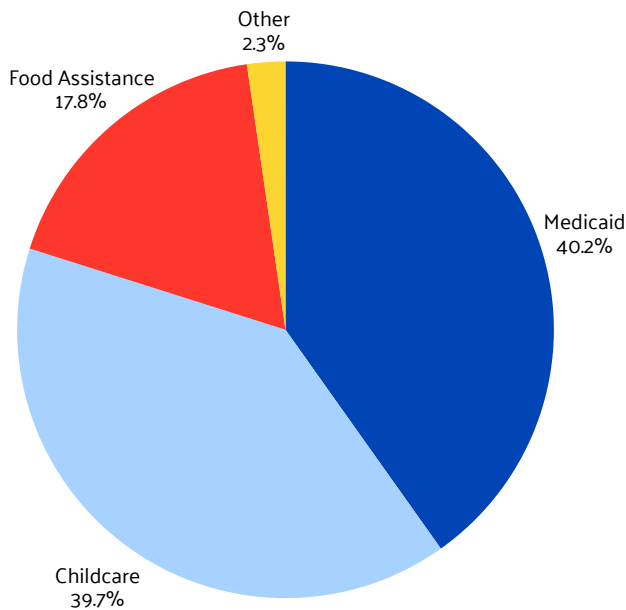
UNITED WAY
South Central Michigan

From an Employee

“A JobSTAR Success Coach is like having a valuable, second professional perspective, as needed. Another colleague who is emotionally intelligent and engaged when you float ideas. I love my Success Coach because we all need encouragement and support; especially in the work we do. It’s been motivational to meet with my coach, and it’s helped me rise above some heavy matters, making it easier to tackle the work week with a clear mindset.”

– Mara M. , Public & Community Health Sector

By the Numbers



*Other: Barrier Removal Employment Success (\$16,214), Direct Supportive System (\$8104), State Emergency Relief (\$17,250), Utility Assistance (\$7,478), Gas Card Bus Passes (\$525)

Medicaid	\$563,245 for 125 individuals
Childcare	\$556,858 for 36 children
Food Assistance Program	\$249,588 to 92 families
State Emergency Relief	\$17,250 for 30 items

United for ALICE@Work Melissa’s Story

Melissa participated in our United For ALICE at Work program, where she attended a course alongside other local employers dedicated to improving working conditions to better support their employees. United For ALICE at Work helps employers implement policies that enhance workforce success and sustainability. This HRCI and SHRM certified course helps employers and human resource professionals to reduce turnover, increase retention, and boost engagement.

“We utilized data from the United for ALICE at Work project to identify pay discrepancies across specific positions. The insights provided enabled us to clearly demonstrate where wage adjustments were needed, ultimately leading to meaningful increases. Without the support of the ALICE at Work data, we wouldn’t have been able to make such a compelling case for these changes.”

– Melissa McDaniels (Melling Engine Parts)

Joining JobSTAR

- Become a participating employer
- Make an investment in the program
- Learn more about JobSTAR

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