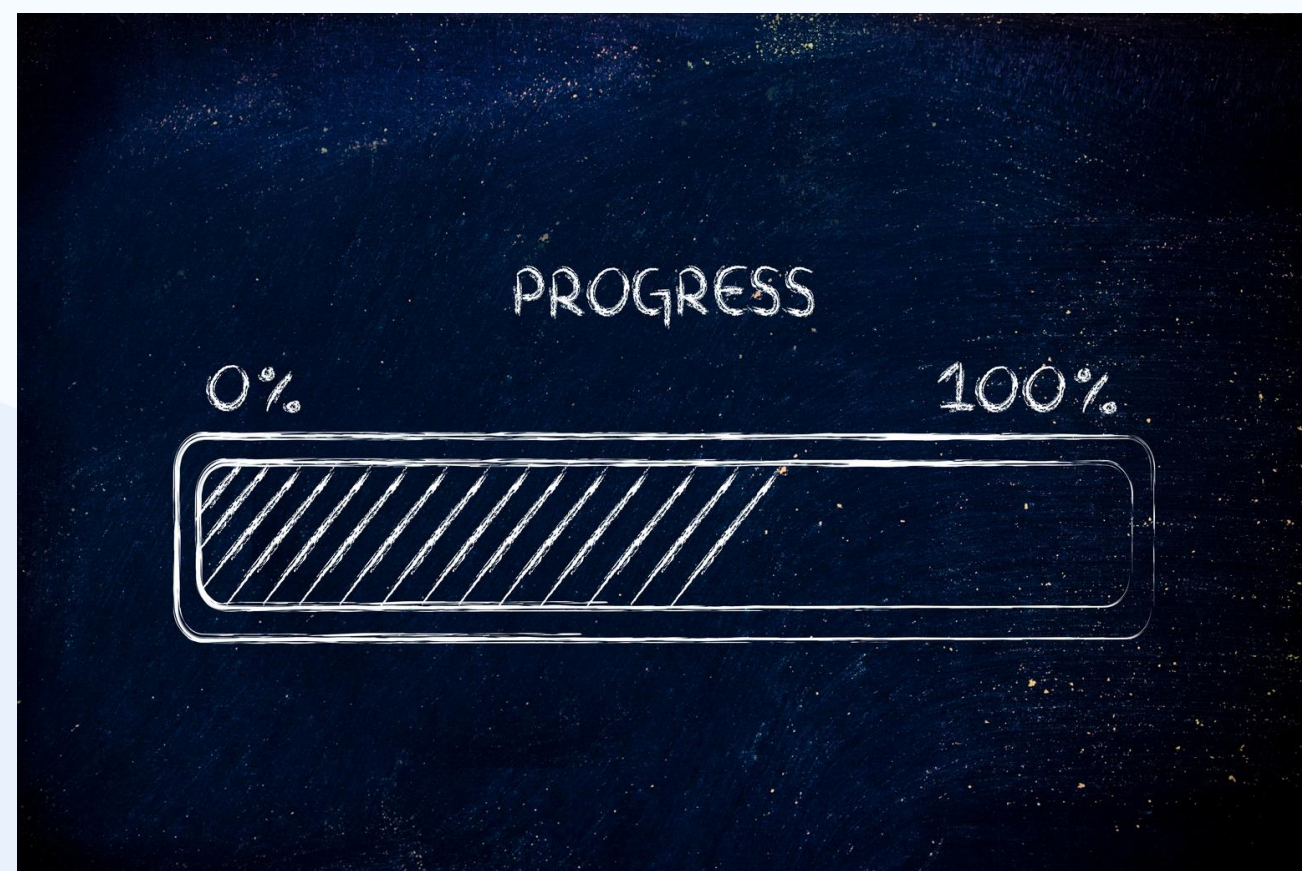


PARTNERS IN PROGRESS

Building Future-Ready Talent for Local Growth





PARTNERS IN PROGRESS

Marion County Public Library
Lebanon/Marion County Career Center
Career Team | Lincoln Trail

Kentucky Workforce Development Board
August 5, 2026

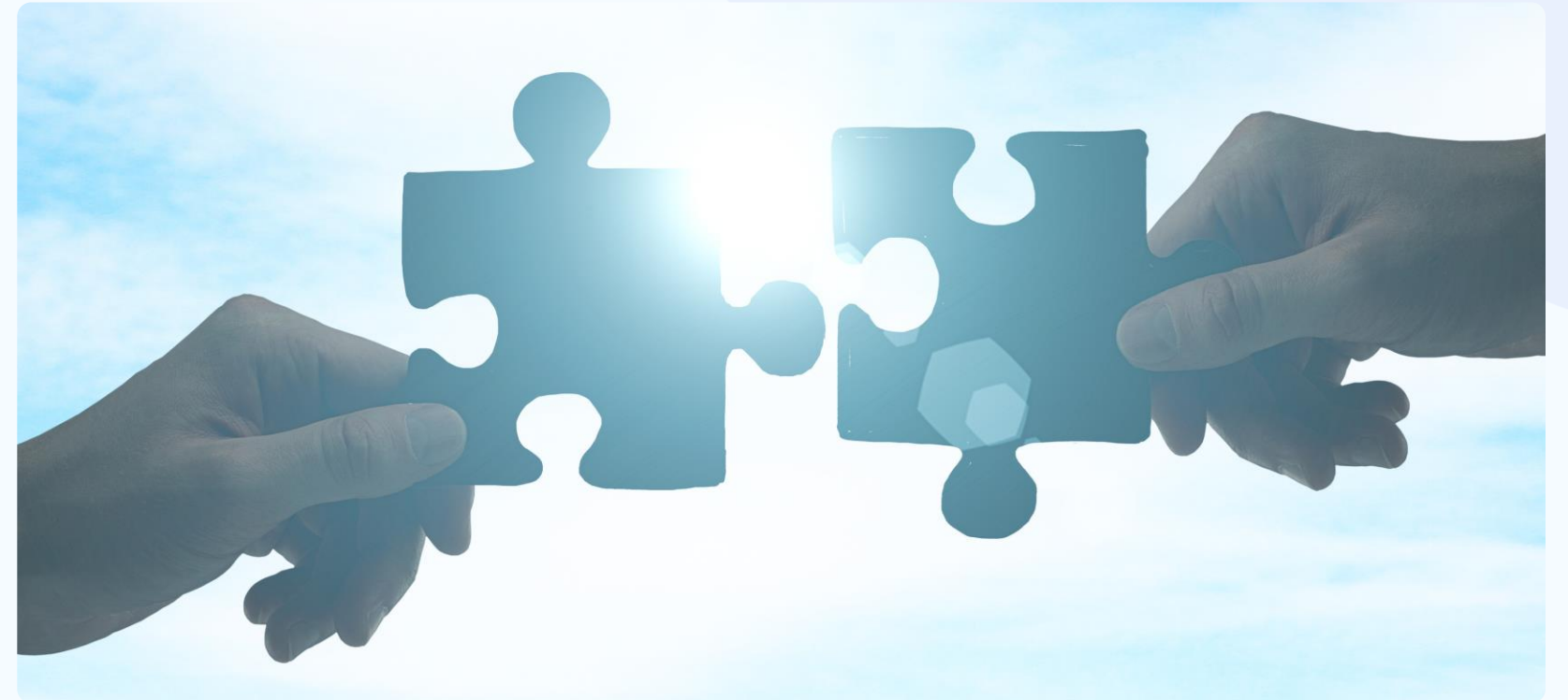


WORKFORCE ASSESSMENT

Together, we evaluate current employee skills, identify gaps, and align talent capabilities with future business goals and operational needs within our community.

WHY THE PARTNERSHIP WORKS

- ✧ Trusted community institutions
- ✧ Shared mission of economic opportunity
- ✧ Accessible, welcoming services
- ✧ Workforce development beyond a single event



PARTNERSHIP TEAM

Library

Books & Materials
Driver's License Manuals
Free Wifi
Free Computer Access
Study Rooms
Recruiting
Application Support
KYVL
Resource Referrals

Jamie Collins, Director
Marion County
Public Library

Career Center

Advertise Job Openings
Applicant Screening
Recruiting
Job & Resource Fairs
Job Readiness
Training
Workshops
Outplacement Assistance
UI Filing
Expungements
Labor Market Information

Terri, Thomas, Director
Lebanon/Marion County
Career Center

Career Team

WIOA Programs
Work Experience (WEX)
Supportive Services
Job Readiness
On-the-Job Training
Soft Skills
VR Career Exploration
Tuition Assistance
Kentucky Adult Education

Kristin Reed,
Executive Director
Career Team

2024 Job Fair

- Inaugural library-hosted job fair
- 17 employers
- 31 job seekers
- Resume & cover letter workshop

2025 Showcase

- Moved to Sportsplex
- 42 employers
- 81 job seekers

2026 Job & Resource Fair

- 35 employers
- 36 job seekers

THREE YEARS OF GROWTH



WEX SUCCESS STORY



Library Benefits	Participant Benefits
Expanded Capacity	Workplace Experience
Project Completion	Soft Skills
Better customer service	Communication
A new employee	Career Exploration



PARTNERSHIP = STRONG COMMUNITY

Marion County Public Library, Lebanon/Marion County Career Center, and Career Team are active members of Marion County Heartland Coalition, a local non-profit organization focused on create a healthy and safe community for all.

Challenge	Solutions & Outcomes
At-risk Youth	Prevention initiatives
Substance Use	Drug-free community events
Immediate Help	Situation Table referrals
Basic Needs	Housing, transportation, mental health & recovery connections

LOOKING AHEAD

Marion County Public Library, Lebanon/Marion County Career Center, and Career Team are committed to continuing our partnership, which supports our entire community.

- ✧ Expand employer participation
- ✧ Grow WEX placements
- ✧ Increase workshops and programs
- ✧ Strengthen regional partnerships





CONTACT INFORMATION

Jamie Collins, Director
Marion County Public Library
directormcpl@marioncopublic.org
270.692.4698

Terri Thomas, Director
Lebanon/Marion County Career Center
terri.thomas@marioncountky.gov
270.692.6870

Kristin Reed, Executive Director
Career Team | Lincoln Trail
kristinreed@careerteam.com
606.622.4470

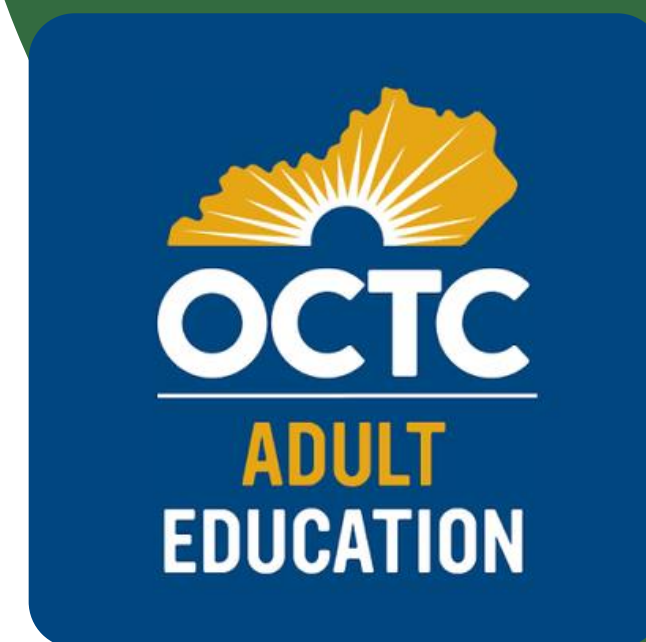


Adult Education Partnership

Growing a stronger community together

Jean Westerfield, Assistant Library Director
Ohio County Public Library

Lindsey Kafer, Director of Adult Education
Owensboro Community and Technical College





Ohio County Public Library

Population: 23,934
596 Square Miles

13,470 Card holders
2 branches, 1 bookmobile,
1 homebound vehicle





OCTC Services



Funded through Kentucky Office of Adult Education (WIOA Title II funding plus state funds)



English Language instruction - including reading, writing listening, and speaking



College / Career Assessment



Digital Skills instruction through Northstar



GED Preparation

- Instruction in GED Reading, Math, Social Studies, and Science, as well as test-taking strategies
 - Individual
 - Small-group
 - Paper-based
 - Computer-based
- Free GED Ready Tests



Planting Seeds



How our partnership began

In 2017, our previous Director met with one of our library patrons, who just happened to be the Adult Education officer in the area.

In the Beginning

When we first began, OCTC Adult Education (then OCTC SkillTrain) would offer services at our library once weekly for four hours in any available meeting room.





Our Partnership

Where are we now

Our library currently offers a dedicated space for OCTC Adult Education one full day each week. They have access to their testing room and other rooms as needed for students to have individual study time.

We would love to have them more often, but their schedule won't currently allow for more time.





Our Role

- Provide a room in our Library Annex
 - Desks, chairs, shelving, computers, etc.
- Provide advertising on our regular platforms
 - Social media, print calendars, website, etc.
- Provide library information for student “Welcome packets”
 - Print calendars, New Patron brochures, library card applications, etc.



Statistics

2019 - 18 enrolled, 4 GED recipients
2020 - 11 enrolled, 2 GED recipients
2021 - 23 enrolled, 9 GED recipients
2022 - 19 enrolled, 7 GED recipients
2023 - 17 enrolled, 9 GED recipients
2024 - 16 enrolled, 8 GED recipients
2025 - 22 enrolled, 6 GED recipients



Future Growth



In November 2025, our library applied for (and was awarded) a GED Testing Center grant through KDLA in order to become a registered GED testing center.

Our library will provide a space with specialized equipment and a dedicated staff member to administer GED exams through Pearson VUE.

Owensboro is the closest testing site to our county, so this has the potential to have a huge impact for our citizens.

We are scheduled to go “live” with our GED testing site at the end of August.

To begin, we will be open for testing one day per week, but will continue to expand our available hours as the service progresses.





Any Questions?

Jean Westerfield
jwesterfield@ocplibrary.org

Lindsey Kafer
lindsey.kafer@kctcs.edu