

# Workforce Development with Kentucky's Public Libraries, featuring the KY Department for Libraries & Archives and the Lexington Public Library

- Lori Davis, Workforce Development Manager, Lexington Public Library
- Hilary Writt, Workforce and Adult Services Consultant, Kentucky Department for Libraries & Archives



Lexington Public Library



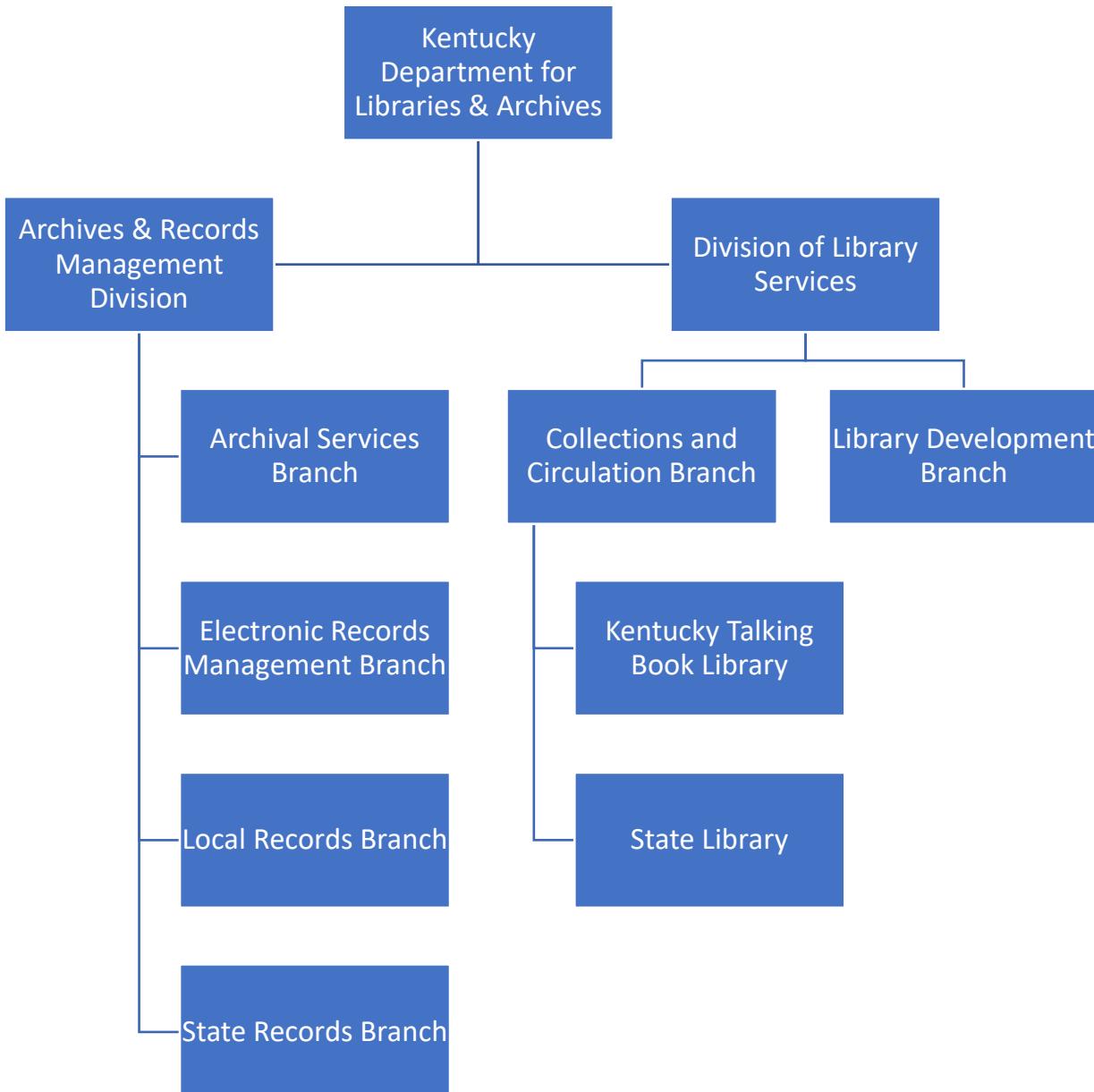
INSTITUTE of  
Museum and Library  
SERVICES

# KDLA's mission

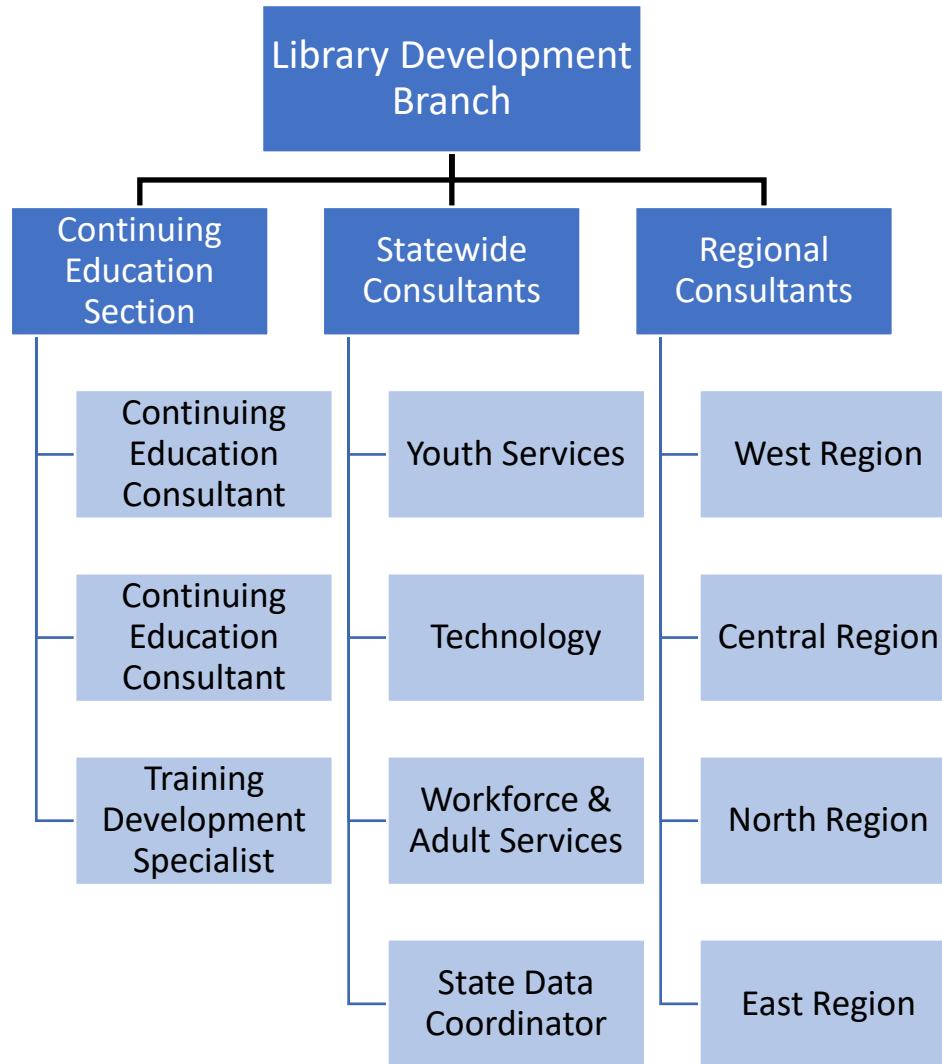
The mission of KDLA is to support and promote access to library services and to ensure that documentation of government activities is created, preserved, and made available for public use.



# KDLA's Divisions



# Library Development Branch



# KDLA Workforce and Adult Services Consultant

- Provide support and training opportunities for public library staff that serve adults 18 and up
- Foster connections between public library staff and state and local workforce agencies and other agencies that serve adults (e.g. Cooperative Extension, Kentucky Career Centers, and Veterans organizations)
- Coordinate training opportunities (webinars, in-person meetings) for public library staff

# IMLS Grants to States

- Through the Grants to States program, the Institute of Museum and Library Services supports statewide library initiatives and competitive grants in the United States and its territories. KDLA and other state libraries receive funding each year according to a population-based formula, and each agency carries out programs based on a five-year plan approved by IMLS. KDLA's five-year plan aligns with the priorities of the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).



## *William B. Harlan Memorial Library*



# Public Libraries in Kentucky

- 120 public libraries in KY, 204 total buildings (main libraries and branches)
- Independent, special purpose governmental buildings
- Over 100 of them are taxing districts
- The libraries are independent of KDLA; the relationship is an advisory/consultative one.
- Libraries are governed by a library board (usually five trustees) and the library director runs the day-to-day operations.

# Workforce Development

- Partners include:
  - Kentucky Adult Education
  - Kentucky Career Centers
  - Kentucky Chamber of Commerce
  - Kentucky Educational Television
  - Kentucky Workforce Innovation Board and local WIBs
  - RETAIN KY



# KY Adult Education & Kentucky's public libraries

- Seven public libraries serve as GED testing centers
- Meeting rooms in Kentucky's public libraries can be used for Adult Education classes.

# Kentucky Career Centers & Kentucky's public libraries

- Multiple public libraries serve as access points for Kentucky Career Centers
- Career Center staff have regularly scheduled times when they are available at certain Kentucky public libraries
- Public library staff work with Kentucky Career Center staff and Local Workforce Board staff to host on-site or take-home job fairs.

**WBHMLibrary**  
*is your one stop  
Career Center!*

- Test booklets
- On-site computer access
- Career Counseling the second Tuesday of each month

WBHMLibrary is a  
Kentucky  
Career Center  
PARTNER SITE

**CAREER COACH  
ON-CALL**  
Second Tuesday of each month  
from 10:00 am - 11:30 am  
at WBHMLibrary

**Kentucky  
EDGE**

South Central Workforce  
Development Board

Stop by the second Tuesday of  
each month for information  
about jobs, resumes, classes, and  
training with Shannon Gottke.  
Call us at 270-487-5301, ext. 1 for more details.

WBHMLibrary.org  





# KENTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Northern Kentucky Accountability Group

### Community Learning Lab

- Free rental for businesses and community organizations
- Staff led or organization led programs
- 15 computers, projector, and screen.



Photo credit: A. Potts

# Additional workforce development resources and initiatives occurring at KY's public libraries

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English as Second Language classes

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Job fairs and career preparation classes

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Laptop/hotspot kits for library customers to prepare résumés, search for jobs, or seek remote job assistance

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LearningExpress Library database

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Maker spaces where entrepreneurs can develop prototypes, print buttons, banners, or other promotional materials

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Notary services

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Re-entry kits to assist those recently released from correctional facilities

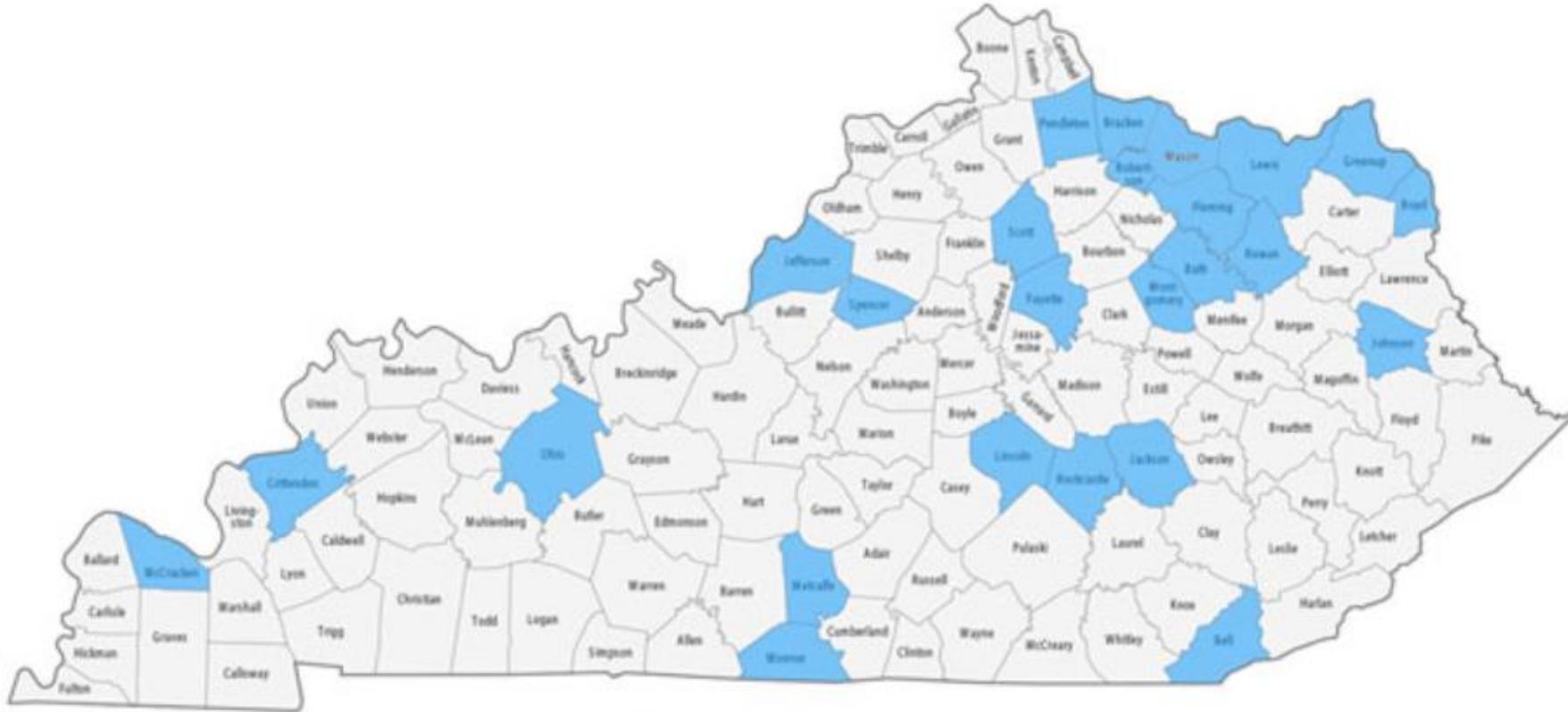
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Scanner/copier that can translate scanned documents from English into other languages

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Workforce support group

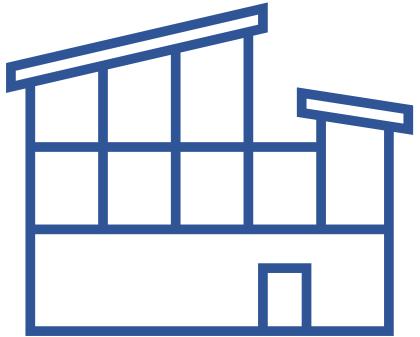
# Map representing 2022 Statewide Job Fair participants



KDLA.ky.gov



# Statewide Job Fair 2022



Public libraries in **26 counties** across the state participated.



At least **945 take-home job fair kits** were distributed to library customers.



**Partnerships developed or deepened** between libraries and the state and local workforce organizations

**LOOKING FOR A JOB?**

**Get the Job Fair to Go Kit**

National Library Week (April 3-9)

**PICK UP A FREE KIT AT THESE LOCATIONS**

Crittenden County Public Library & Bookmobile Routes  
People's Bank = 100 Kit Giveaway & Free Food!  
First United Bank  
Farmer's Bank & Trust  
Adult Ed Center (in the old Armory building)  
Crittenden County Courthouse  
Crittenden County Extension Office  
Crittenden County Health Department  
Dycusburg Post Office  
Crayne Post Office

For more information:  
Call Crittenden County Library at 270-965-3354



**WORKPLACE ESSENTIAL SKILLS**

Workplace Essential Skills Online helps you make sense of math and language arts used in high-demand careers AND develops workplace and computer skills.

**THE SECRET TO GETTING AHEAD IS GETTING STARTED.**  
— Mark Twain

Build job skills you need to succeed.  
**GET STARTED TODAY!**  
KET.org/WES

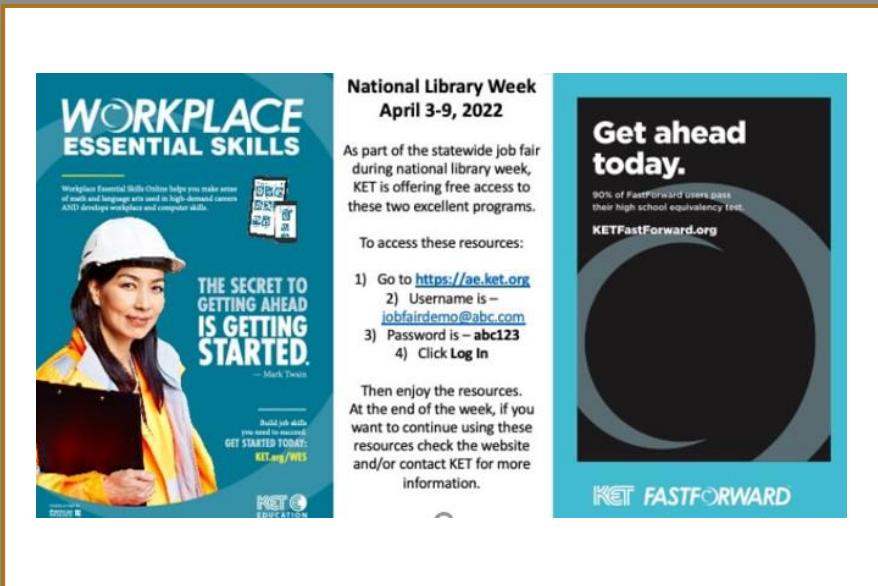
National Library Week  
April 3-9, 2022

As part of the statewide job fair during national library week, KET is offering free access to these two excellent programs.

To access these resources:

- 1) Go to <https://ae.ket.org>
- 2) Username is — [jobfairdemo@abc.com](mailto:jobfairdemo@abc.com)
- 3) Password is — abc123
- 4) Click Log In

Then enjoy the resources. At the end of the week, if you want to continue using these resources check the website and/or contact KET for more information.



# Future possibilities



- More libraries participating in the 2023 Statewide Job Fair
  - Strengthened partnerships between public library staff and local workforce partners
  - Increased awareness of the resources and services offered at Kentucky's public libraries

# Lexington Public Library



# Lexington Public Library

- Established in 1795 and the oldest library west of the Alleghenies
  - Second largest public library system in Kentucky
    - Serving over 300,000 people
    - Central Library and 5 branch locations
      - One Virtual Branch open 24/7



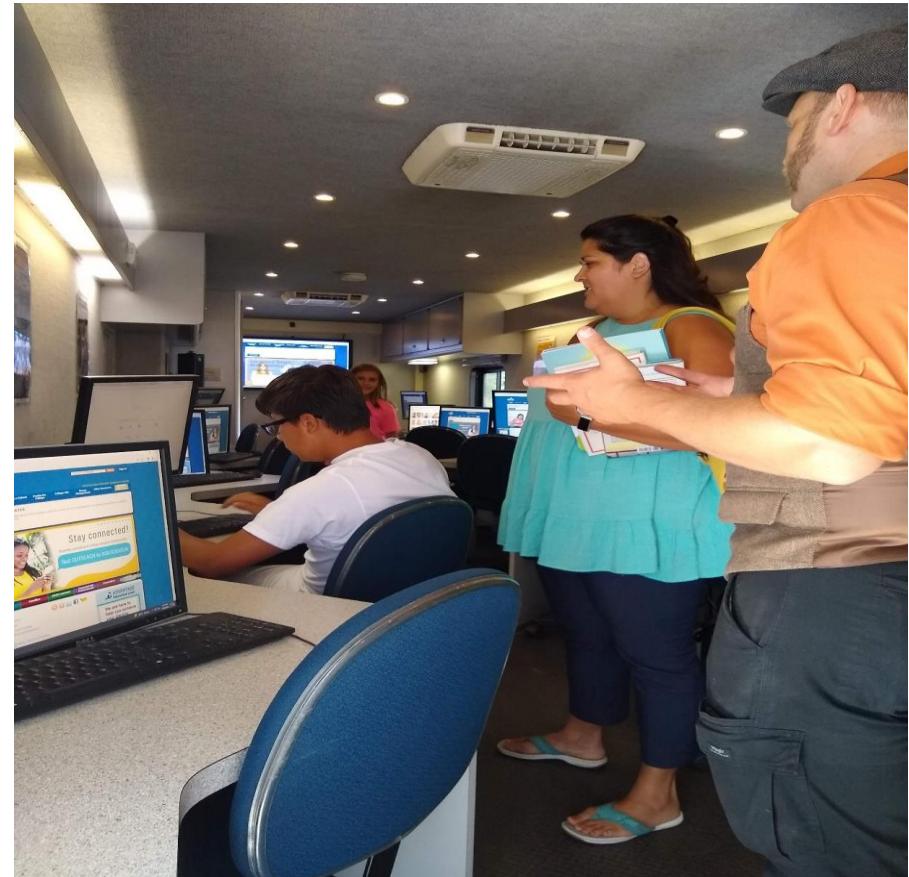
# Lexington Public Library

## Vision:

Our community engaged in a lifetime of discovery

## Mission:

Connects people, inspires ideas and transforms lives



# Workforce Development at the Lexington Public Library

- During the pandemic, many Lexingtonians became dislocated from their jobs and careers
- Executive Director, Heather Dieffenbach sought to position the Library to effectively assist job seekers in career pivots by creating a Education Department.
- The Library's Education Department is headed by Clarissa Thomas and she oversees workforce development as well as early education and school-age programming.

# What is Workforce Development?

## Workforce Development

**“...has come to describe a relatively wide range of activities, policies and programs employed by geographies to create, sustain and retain a viable workforce that can support current and future business and industry.”**

Lyn E. Haralson, *What is Workforce Development?*  
Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, April 1, 2010

# Workforce Development: An Individualized Approach

*“Educational institutions and public and private social service providers, for example, approach workforce development and develop programs from the perspective of the sustainable economic security of the individual.”*

Haralson, id.

# Workforce Development and the Role of Training and Education

“The premise behind “**individual centric**” workforce development programs is that individuals will not be able to make substantive contributions to their respective societies without access to training and education.”

Haralson, id.

# Workforce Development and Social Supports

Organizations serving individuals recognize that in most instances meeting the **basic needs of an individual** through social safety nets is a necessary component to sustainable economic security.

Therefore, workforce development from this perspective is defined as a combination of **social services, community supports, job training and education** that positions an individual for success in the workforce.”



Haralson, id.

# Libraries are engaged in Workforce Development?!

Libraries, including the Lexington Public Libraries, are trusted institutions with their communities.

Did you know that...

73% of libraries help with job searches.



48% provide access to and assist entrepreneurs with online business information resources.

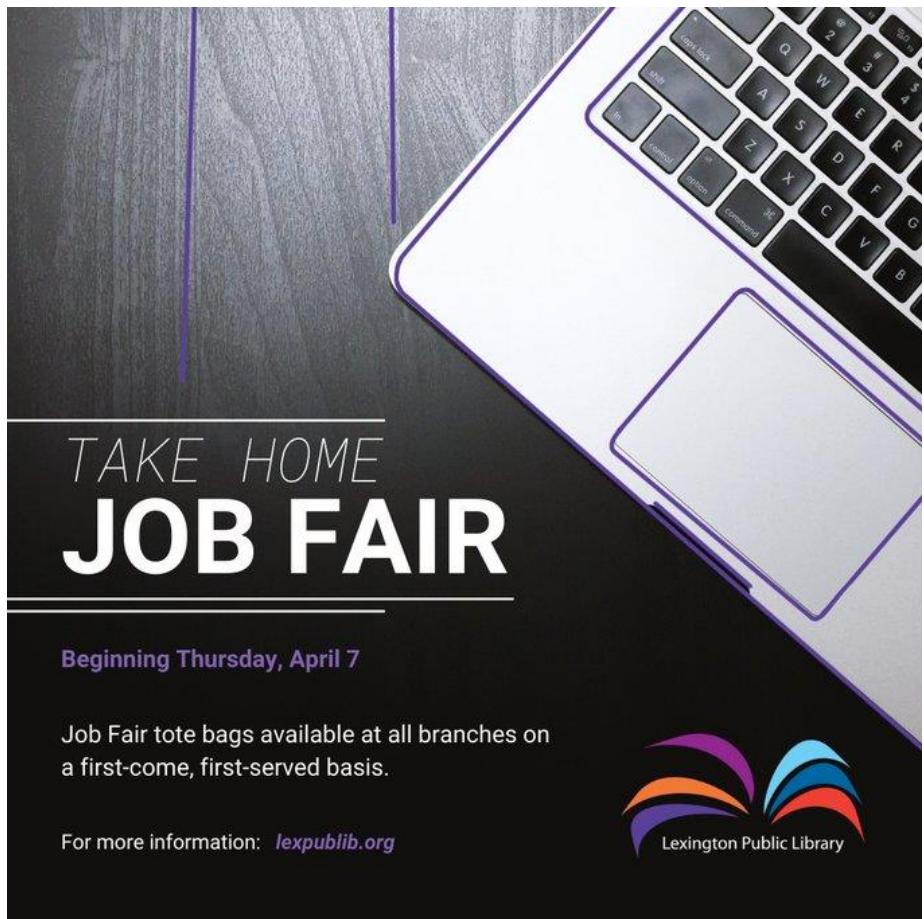


# Workforce Development

**Opportunities to uplift our communities:**

- Job Retraining
- Job Search assistance
- Resume Development
- Job Upskilling preparation
- Entrepreneurial Support and Development

# Lexington Public Library-Take Home Job Fairs



# Onsite Job Fair-Healthcare Sector



# College Fair and Expo

Lexington Public Library

**COLLEGE FAIR & EXPO!**

Central Library | Phoenix Park  
May 24 | 3 - 6 PM

FREE ICE CREAM!

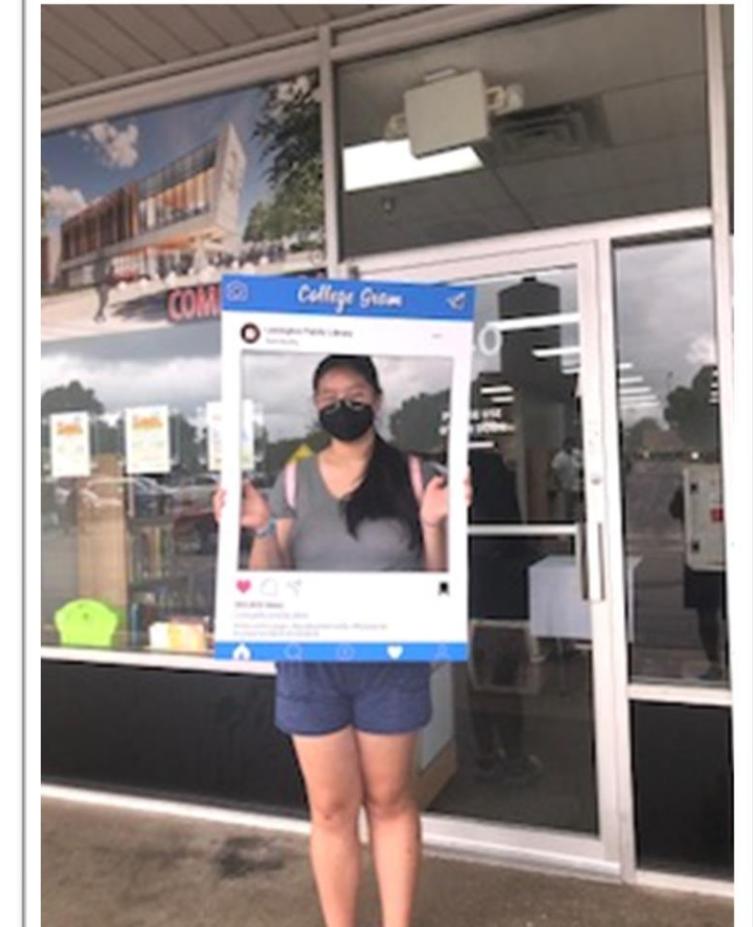
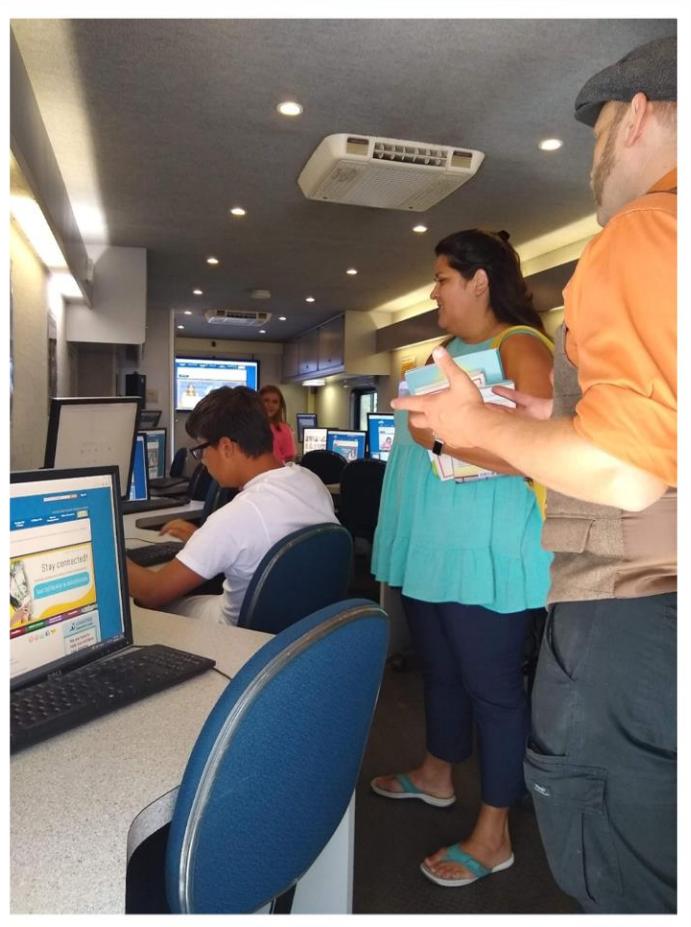
# College Fair and Expo



# College Fair and Expo



# College Planning Roadshow



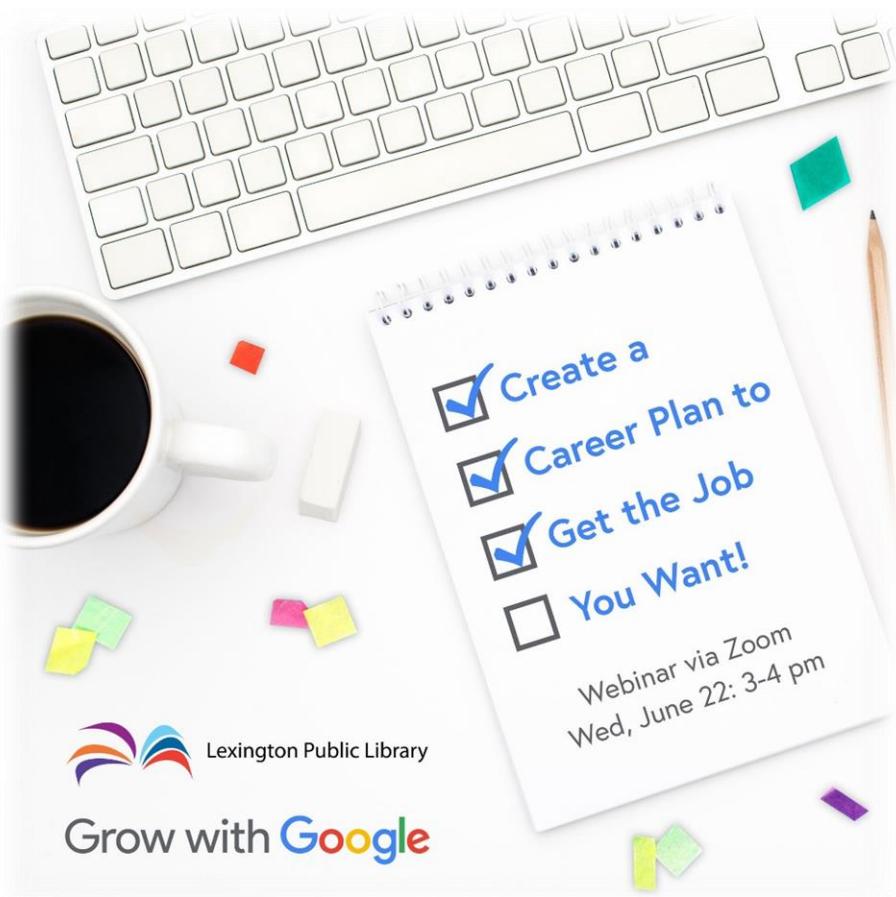
# Google Career and Entrepreneurial Webinars



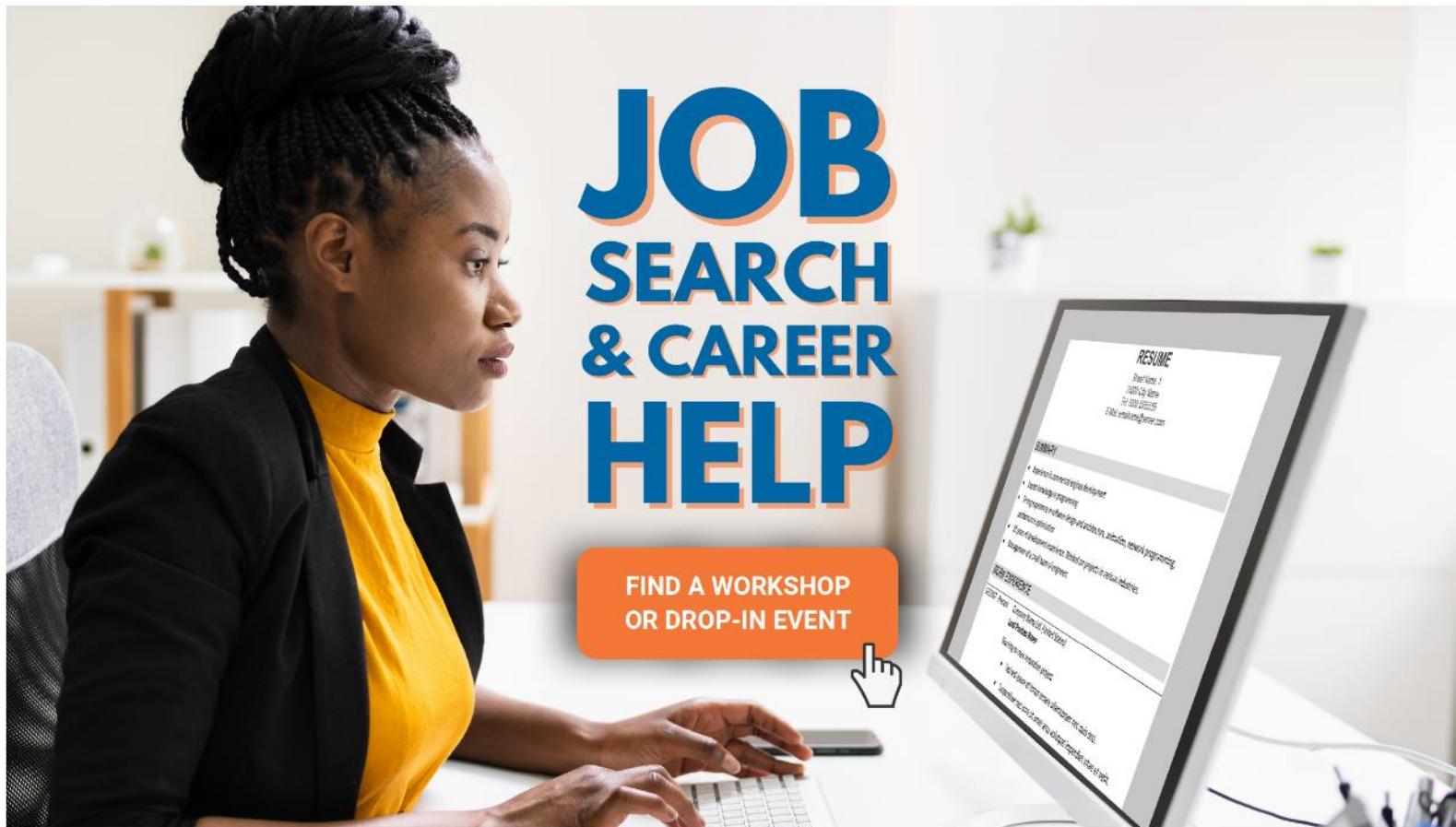
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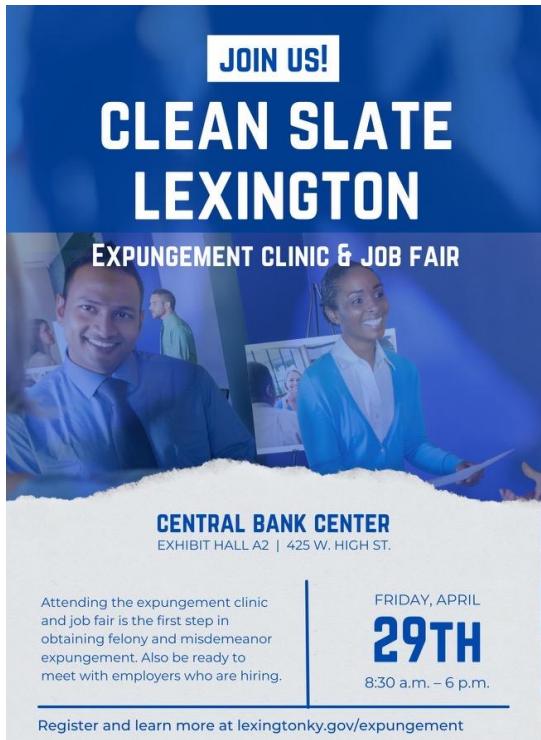
# Google Career and Entrepreneurial Webinars



# Job and Career Help



# Expungement Clinic and Job Fair



# Expungement Clinic and Job Fair

- [Lexington job fair, expungement clinic offers second chances \(lex18.com\)](#)

# Libraries: Partners in Workforce Development



# Questions



# Contact us:

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