

66 Victor Valley Adult Education Regional Consortium **CONSORTIUM APPROVED**

2023-24

Plans & Goals

Executive Summary

The Victor Valley Adult Education Regional Consortium (VVAERC) is in the High Desert region of Southern California. It covers a vast suburban and rural area serving 17 zip codes in San Bernardino County across 1700 square miles, ranging from Kramer Hills in the north to Lucerne Valley in the Southeast and near Phelan in the southwest. The region is in San Bernardino County; the largest county in the United States. VVAERC consists of six Member districts: Apple Valley USD, Hesperia USD, Lucerne Valley USD, Snowline Joint USD, Victor Valley Union High School District, and Victor Valley College. The Victor Valley Adult Education Regional Consortium's (VVAERC) vision is to provide adult learners in our region with the skills needed for employment, career advancement, and personal growth. We believe that by working collaboratively with community partners in our region, we will be able to strengthen adult education and ensure students have access to full supportive services and high-quality programs leading to their success in college and their careers. Major Accomplishments during 2022-2023 include:

- Apple Valley, Hesperia, Snowline, and Lucerne Valley Adult Schools, as well as Victor Valley College, will continue to receive WIOA II Adult Education Federal funding through 2027.
- All member districts increased unduplicated enrollment across all program areas.
- All member districts have increased HSD and HSD completion rates.
- All member districts have increased adult education transitions to post-secondary education.
- Apple Valley Adult School received WASC Accreditation as of July 1, 2023
- Apple Valley Adult School launched a VVC-accredited EKG monitoring certificate course with 44 students completing the course.
- Hesperia Adult School had the largest graduating class in history with 161 HSD/HSE completers.
- Hesperia Adult School launched a community engagement and outreach campaign attending over 16 community events in collaboration with the VVAERC members.
- VVUHSD expanded ESL enrollment.
- Victor Valley College: hired a Director of Noncredit Programs; expanded credit and noncredit career education certificate training programs; doubled HSE student enrollment; increased ESL and HSE course enrollment by 48% over prior year and exceeded pre-pandemic unduplicated enrollment in these areas; doubled the ESL course offering and enrollment at AVAS campus; Transition Counselor services surpassed pre-pandemic services to students and transitions.

Victor Valley Adult Education Regional Consortium (VVAERC) will continue implementing a three-year strategy to enhance Adult Education Programs across all member districts. Our 2022-2025 Three-Year Plan is the foundation for the development of our goals; as such, during the first year of implementation, we will focus on three key objectives during FY 2023-2024.

These three goals are (1) Improve adult student transitions to postsecondary and career opportunities. (2) Increase opportunities for English language acquisition through ESL and Citizenship courses (3) Expand CTE course offerings that are aligned with regional workforce needs. These goals allow us to consistently improve and integrate adult education services in the High Desert region of California and outline a roadmap for career success. To achieve those Objectives the following strategies for 2022-2025 have been developed.

- Increase the number of in-demand noncredit Career Development and College Preparation and CTE Align curriculum and levels of courses offered at adult schools with courses offered at VVC.
- Increase the number of students demonstrating Measurable Skills Gains by completing Educational F Increase HSD/HSE completion rate as certified by diplomas issued Increase student transitions from adult education to post-secondary institutions.
- Share a common form to track student transitions to postsecondary education and/or the workforce across the region.
- Create a unified branding strategy to generate a consistent message throughout the region that includes an increased social media presence.

Regional Planning Overview

VVAERC is continuously looking toward the future to see how we can best serve the region's students. Over the past year, the consortium members worked diligently to implement the strategies in the Three-year plan while following the guidelines set by the state. The consortium's implementation plan will focus specifically on the areas that are among VVAERC's top priorities. VVAERC will continue to utilize the Three-Year Plan as a guiding tool to improve existing programs and create new programs to help support adult education in the area. VVAERC was able to analyze regional WDB and regional LMI data to identify long-term trends in high-growth sectors, and from this, will be able to implement continuous process improvement focusing on closing gaps and working cohesively with community partners to provide high-quality adult education services. Furthermore, during the 2023-2024 FY, our members will continue to collaborate with all stakeholders, including community partners and local businesses, to prioritize strategies, and identify potential opportunities and partnerships that can help address our adult students' needs during this time of increased demand for High School Diploma, High School Equivalency, ESL and Career Education Programs.

Meeting Regional Needs

Regional Need #1

Gaps in Service / Regional Needs

The VVAERC member districts identified the need to expand and improve adult student transitions within their program, between programs, and to postsecondary and career opportunities, increase opportunities for English language acquisition through ESL and Citizenship courses, and the expansion of CTE courses that align with regional workforce needs.

How do you know? What resources did you use to identify these gaps?

Throughout the Three Year Planning process, member districts and partners engaged in multiple professionally facilitated planning sessions. Gaps in Services were identified and agreed upon by VVAERC Member Districts and Partners. Planning sessions and engagement tools include community and staff surveys, consensus workshops, coordinator committee meetings, LMI data analysis, and ongoing engagement with parallel state initiatives such as Strong Workforce.

How will you measure effectiveness / progress towards meeting this need?

Effectiveness will be measured through performance outcomes submitted via DIR and MIS quarterly data and fiscal expenditure reporting.

Address Educational Needs

2023-24 Strategies

Strategy Name

Address Educational Needs

Activity that Applies to this Strategy

Increase Pre- and Post-test pairs regionally

Metrics that Apply to this Activity/Strategy

- Student Barriers: Low Literacy (AE 311 - Overall)

Strategy Description

This activity will ensure that all consortium members are increasing the literacy skills of the students we serve by increasing the frequency of CASAS pre-and post-testing of our students. When analyzing our member district outcomes, the most urgent area of need was in improving our pre-and post-test "match". This will ultimately improve our data and our ability to measure literacy gains. By monitoring hours of instruction, running more frequent reports, and scheduling/calendaring more tests, we will have a better understanding of our student's level, which in turn can help increase transitions to post-secondary and the workforce.

Improve Integration of Services & Transitions

2023-24 Strategies

Strategy Name

Improve Integration of Services and Transitions

Activity that Applies to this Strategy

Increase student transitions

Metrics that Apply to this Activity/Strategy

- Student Barriers: Low Literacy (AE 311 - Overall)

Strategy Description

VVAERC will track student transitions to postsecondary programs and careers using a shared spreadsheet with input from our Transition Counselor and K12 Transitions Staff. All transition staff will help establish criteria that indicate students who will be successful in transitioning. A student transition plan will be developed earlier in their education cycle to better prepare students for transitioning to post-secondary and the workforce. Transition staff will also aid in providing students with career exploration, enrollment, and cross-referral services.

Improve Effectiveness of Services

2023-24 Strategies

Strategy Name

Effectiveness of Services

Activity that Applies to this Strategy

Develop a Unified Branding Strategy

Metrics that Apply to this Activity/Strategy

- All: Number of Adults Served (AE 200 - Overall)

Strategy Description

VVAERC will maintain a unified branding strategy to generate consistent messaging throughout the region. The goal is to lower the barriers students face in discovering options and enrolling in classes. This will more effectively engage students and improve their awareness of the educational opportunities available to them, thereby leading to increased enrollment.

Fiscal Management

A narrative justifying how the planned allocations are consistent with the annual adult education plan which is based on your CAEP 3-year plan.

The annual Plan is based on the CAEP 2022-2025 Three-Year Plan (which includes the strategies used in this plan).

An approach to incorporating remaining carry-over funds from prior year(s) into strategies planned for 2023-24.

The Executive Committee and adult education coordinators review carry-over funds and allocate regional funds based on CAEP guidance. Funds are expended in the priority areas identified in the consortium's Three Year Plan as strategies, region-wide needs, and activities.

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