



**PHOENIX BUSINESS AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
ALIGN INVESTMENT STEERING COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes**

**February 18, 2026
10:00 a.m.**

Members Present:

Elizabeth Cole	Jesus Love
Pearl Esau	Stephanie Rimmer
Kaaren-Lyn Graves	Dean Scheinert
Mavrick Knoles	

Public Attendees:

Gregg Bach	Gustavo Nava
Erica Bennett	Jovanna Parkhouse
Elissa Black	Angie Parra
Thomas Flynn	Amy Schofield
Gina Harper	Wathsna Sayasane
LaSetta Hogans	Rebecca Tierney
Al Jernigan	Justin West
Luis A. Marquez	Laura Whitehead
Hayden Maynard	

Action items taken are noted in **bold** print.

1. Call to Order / Roll Call:

The Phoenix Business and Workforce Development Board (Board) Align Investment Steering Committee (AISC) Chair Stephanie Rimmer called February 18, 2026 meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. Roll calls were completed and there was a quorum of seven members.

2. December 17, 2025 Align Investment Steering Committee Meeting Minutes:

A motion to approve December 17, 2025, Meeting Minutes was made by AISC Member Mavrick Knoles and seconded by AISC Member Kaaren-Lynn Graves.

Approved: Elizabeth Cole, Pearl Esau, Jesus Love, Stephanie Rimmer, and Dean Schienert

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Motion passed .

3. AISC Strategic Plan Tracker:

AISC Chair Stephanie Rimmer shared the AISC Strategic Plan Tracker with the committee for discussion. Stephanie asked if there was any discussion surrounding Strategy 2.2 around braided funding. AISC Vice-Chair Pearl Esau shared that the Department of Labor has shared some information around funding opportunities for training and apprenticeship. She shared that she will share that information for the committee members to review before the next meeting.

AISC Member Mavrick Knoles asked what is meant by braided funding. Board Executive Director LaSetta Hogans shared that approximately 95% of funding for ARIZONA@WORK City of Phoenix is from Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funding. Recently WIOA funding has been declining, as they are formula funds that are dependent on unemployment numbers and other metrics, where Phoenix is performing well. Braided funding is additional funding that can be used to support workforce programs or provide additional services to participants.

AISC Chair Stephanie Rimmer asked if it would be helpful to committee members to create a visual to share how people can bring braided funding opportunities to the Board. Committee members agreed that it would be. Stephanie encouraged members to send in ideas for a visual representation of considering braided funding ahead of the March AISC meeting and send them to staff and the committee can consider them at the next meeting.

4. Title IB PY25 Performance Outcomes – Quarter 2:

City of Phoenix Community and Economic Development Department (CEDD) Data Manager Justin West shared the second quarter performance outcomes for the Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth Title IB Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act workforce service providers for Program Year 25 (PY25).

ADULT PY25 Q2 PERFORMANCE

Measure	Negotiated Target	Actual Measure
2 nd Quarter Employment	70.0%	77.02%
4 th Quarter Employment	66.0%	71.05%
Median Earnings	\$8,500	\$9,570.69
Credential Attainment	71.0%	68.46%
Measurable Skills Gains	72.0%	28.57%
Achieved	100% or more of Negotiated Value	
Not Achieved	Below 100% of Negotiated Value	

DISLOCATED WORKER PY25 Q2 PERFORMANCE

Measure	Negotiated Target	Actual Measure
2 nd Quarter Employment	74.0%	61.11%
4 th Quarter Employment	72.5%	72.41%
Median Earnings	\$10,500	\$11,726.82
Credential Attainment	69.0%	40.00%
Measurable Skills Gains	73.0%	0%
Achieved	100% or more of Negotiated Value	
Not Achieved	Below 100% of Negotiated Value	

YOUTH PY25 Q2 PERFORMANCE

Measure	Negotiated Target	Actual Measure
2 nd Quarter Employment	73.0%	70.90%
4 th Quarter Employment	73.0%	76.17%
Median Earnings	\$6,100	\$4,701.24
Credential Attainment	57.0%	63.40%
Measurable Skills Gains	63.0%	19.72%
Achieved	100% or more of Negotiated Value	
Not Achieved	Below 100% of Negotiated Value	

2nd and 4th Quarter employment refers to employment in the 2nd and 4th quarters after program exit and it is considered a lagging indicator of program success.

1. Median Earnings are the total earnings in the 2nd quarter after program exit. Participants not employed during the 2nd quarter are not counted due to not being employed and not making wages.
2. Credential Attainment refers to those participants who participated in occupational training and whether they attained a recognized postsecondary credential or secondary school diploma.
 - a. The credential must be attained one (1) year after exit
 - b. Must be a formal recognized credential or certificate
3. Measurable Skills Gains (MSG) is a real time measure for all participants to at least achieve one skill gain each year of WIOA participation.

ENROLLMENTS

Program	Enrollments – Q2	Enrollments – Total
Adult	235	529
Dislocated Worker	3	23
Youth	58	136
AZQUEST	0	77

Justin West shared Enrollments Report, Q1 & Q2 “Enrolled Between” 10/1/25 and 12/31/25. Noted: AZQUEST only had a total of 77 enrollments for Q1 because they will no longer take any new enrollments.

5. Board FY26 Budget (Quarter 2): ARIZONA@WORK City of Phoenix FY26 Q2 Fiscal Report:

CEDD Accountant III Luis A. Marquez shared information about the ARIZONA@WORK City of Phoenix PY25 Q2 fiscal report.

FY26 Budget Through 12/31/25

Program	Budget	Budget Actuals*	Budget Balance	% Spent	% Remaining	ISY - OSY %	% on WEX
Administration	\$ 1,257,348.00	\$ 653,870.60	\$ 603,477.40	52.0%	48.0%		
Adult	5,346,714.00	2,610,458.10	2,736,255.90	48.8%	51.2%		
Dislocated Worker	167,769.00	89,525.42	78,243.58	53.4%	46.6%		
Adult/DW	5,514,483.00	2,699,983.52	2,814,499.48	49.0%	51.0%		
Rapid Response	287,263.00	143,877.18	143,385.82	50.1%	49.9%		
Adult/DW/RR Total	5,801,746.00	2,843,860.70	2,957,885.30	49.0%	51.0%		
Youth - In-School	740,317.00	567,563.90	172,753.10	76.7%	23.3%	23.6%	23.2%
Youth - Out-School	2,209,476.00	1,834,625.10	374,850.90	83.0%	17.0%	76.4%	22.6%
Youth Total	2,949,793.00	2,402,189.00	547,604.00	81.4%	18.6%		22.8%
Total	\$ 10,008,887.00	\$ 5,899,920.30	\$ 4,108,966.70	58.9%	41.1%		

Budget Actuals include amounts encumbered.

- 50% of the year elapsed and 58.9% of budget used
- Youth expenses OSY goal is minimum 75%
- Youth expenses WEX goal is 20%

Budget Actuals include

- amounts encumbered
- purchase orders and expenses not assessed

Purchase orders for the One Stop Operator (International Rescue Committee) and Youth providers are included. The One Stop Operator (OSO) purchase order was less than originally budgeted because they began work in mid-October. Youth expenses (ISY vs OSY and WEX) are on target.

6. Title IB Provider Updates:

Jewish Family & Children's Service (JFCS):

- ✓ JFCS Supervisor Gina Harper shared information about a youth participant who joined the program experiencing some life challenging barriers which made it hard to find a job. JFCS assisted with completing an educational program as well as job placement to help support his family. These supportive services helped remove barriers, so he had a chance to succeed.

Neighborhood Ministries (NMPHX):

- ✓ NMPHX Supervisor Amelia Schofield shared information about a youth participant who enrolled in the NMPHX's WIOA Level Up Youth Program seeking career guidance. Participant began her Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA) Program in August 2025 with the completion date of September 2025. She was offered job placement as a fulltime CNA at a Behavioral Home in October 2025.

Participant works closely with her case manager focusing on the areas of: long-term career planning, leadership development, work readiness, occupational skills, and support services.

Chicanos Por La Causa (CPLC)

- ✓ CPLC Program Manager Elissa Black shared information about a youth participant who enrolled in the WIOA Program facing significant barriers and seeking career guidance. Participant worked closely with his case manager to develop an Individual Service Strategy (ISS) focusing on employment and GED planning. Participant completed Work Readiness Skills Training, received mentoring, and was successfully placed into a paid Work Experience (WEX) at a community center. With the assistance of supportive services, he has maintained consistent attendance, performed well on the job, and remains actively engaged in services while continuing steps toward enrolling in a GED program.

Maryvale Family YMCA (YMCA)

- ✓ YMCA Program Director Erica Bennett shared information about a youth participant entered into the Y Achievers program as an in-school youth. The Y Achievers program was introduced to the participant when she engaged in the RISE Summer Youth Program.

After completion of the Summer RISE program, she enrolled into the WIOA program to continue her experience. She was able to complete a WEX at the same job site she assigned to through the RISE program.

October Job Fair at Safe Outdoor Space (SOS)

✓ **ARIZONA@WORK CITY OF PHOENIX - YouTube**

City of Phoenix Human Services Deputy Director Jovanna Parkhouse provided context referencing in collaboration with the Office of Homeless Solutions, the Community and Economic Development Department, and Workforce Development Division (WDD). On October 15, 2026, City staff hosted a highly impactful Job Fair Prep and Job Fair Week at the Safe Outdoor Space (SOS). Human Services staff assisted 21 individuals with resume writing and interview preparation, ensuring they were ready to connect with employers. Participants received free professional interview clothing generously donated by the Salvation Army, helping participants feel confident and prepared for success. The event concluded with on-site interviews conducted by six local businesses, resulting in 18 conditional job offers, a powerful outcome that demonstrates the impact of planning, partnership, and community support. Human Services Workforce Development Division remains committed to empowering job seekers and creating pathways to employment through personalized guidance and strong community collaboration.

7. Call to the Public:

None

8. Future Agenda Items:

- Braided Funding Opportunities/Visual representation of braided funding consideration

9. Adjournment:

AISC Chair Stephanie Rimmer adjourned the meeting at 10:56 am