

Communication Services
5334 South Prince Street
Littleton, Colorado 80120
Phone: 303-795-5467
Fax: 303-734-5470
www.arapahoegov.com

For release: February 4, 2016

Contact:

ANDREA RASIZER

Communication Services Director

Direct: 303-795-4284 or Mobile: 303-882-1909

Email: arasizer@arapahoegov.com

OR

JOE BARELA

Arapahoe/Douglas Works! Division Manager

Direct: 303-636-1225

Email: jbarela@arapahoegov.com

Job seekers see higher earnings after using Arapahoe/Douglas Works!

People using the Workforce Center in their job search earned an average \$16,000 more per year

CENTENNIAL, CO --- Arapahoe/Douglas Works! continues to get more people hired and working in steady jobs than last year, according to the Center's seventh annual economic impact report.

The publicly-funded workforce center helped 23,848 people find employment during its Program Year July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015. Of those, 18,009 individuals were still working six months later, and they earned an average of \$51,726 per year.

In contrast, State labor statistics show that citizens who did not use a workforce center in their job search earned an average of \$35,799 per year – a difference of \$15,927 and a full third less than A/D Works! customers.

"Arapahoe/Douglas Works! wants job-seekers to reach their full potential and find not just any job, but a job with a career path and livable wage," said Arapahoe County Commissioner Nancy Jackson. "Seeking help from the workforce center will better prepare and market individuals through no-cost tools, job counseling, events and training opportunities."

No-cost services at A/D Works! include employment workshops, career counseling, networking and hiring events, career and personality assessments, intensive job-search support, special programs for youth and job seekers 50 and older, certifications, GED preparation and training.

"We are thrilled to show our community that more people employed through A/D Works! are still employed six months later," said Arapahoe/Douglas Workforce Development Board Chair and Business Channel Lead at Comcast Andrew Bercich. "Being able to get job seekers back to work and payback taxpayers in less than one year is one way we demonstrate how workforce investment works."

According to A/D Works!, the 18,009 newly-employed customers earned a combined \$286.8 million more per year than non-customers – funds that are reinvested in the local economy in the form of increased spending on goods and services.

For every \$1 spent by the workforce center on its programs and operations, \$30.59 was returned to the economy through these increased earnings.

"We are so proud to show our community and nation that workforce investment works," said Joe Barela, Arapahoe/Douglas Works! Division Manager. "Not only do our customers earn a higher average wage and a

better opportunity for a career in high growth industries, but our region’s business and industry have access to a more skilled and competitive workforce to meet their needs.”

Since 2008, the workforce center has published annual studies of its economic impact and return on public investment at the request of its Workforce Investment Board, a group of public and private sector leaders who guide workforce development in Arapahoe and Douglas counties.

A/D Works! published these outcomes in the report *Economic Impact of Workforce Center Operations – July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013*.

To learn more about using A/D Works! to assist in upskilling your career pathway to gain a better job; or if you are an employer who is beginning to experience a greater degree of difficulty filling skilled positions during this full employment market, visit A/D Works! website www.adworks.org.

* * *

Connect with Arapahoe County

Stay informed about Arapahoe County. Sign up for news releases, agendas and updates to our website via our *Notify Me* Link at www.arapahoegov.com. Or, connect with us via Nextdoor, [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).