



# **SLATE YOUTH SERVICES DEPARTMENT**

**Workforce Investment Act**

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**SLATE – St. Louis Agency on Training and  
Employment**

## WIA YOUTH- WHAT IS IT?

- **The Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA)**
- **Empowering the Nation's Jobseekers**
- WIA provides the framework for a unique workforce preparation and employment system designed to meet both the needs of the nation's businesses *and* the needs of St. Louis City's youth job seekers.



# WIA YOUTH- WHAT IS IT?

- WIA is based on the following elements:
  - Training and employment programs at the local level.
  - Convenient access to employment, education, training, and information services youth need.
  - Providing follow up to bolster successful outcomes.



# WIA AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

## WIA Youth Service Providers

- **Determine** Eligibility for Program Participation
- **Identify** Youth Barriers to Employment
- **Establish** Which Common Measures Apply for Successful Performance Outcomes
- **Select** Which WIA Services Will Most Benefit the Youth with Youth Input
- **Create** a Plan of Action with Each Youth
- **Execute** Twelve Months of Follow Up Once Measures Are Met



# WIA YOUTH ELIGIBILITY

- 16-21 Years Old (on the date of participation)
  - In-School
  - Out-of-School
- Authorized to work in the U.S. (I-9)
- Registered for the Selective Service (males 18 and older)
- One or more WIA Barriers Exist
- Low Income (as defined by WIA)



# WIA BARRIERS – BARRIERS TO EMPLOYMENT

- **Basic Skills Deficient**
- **Dropout**
- **Foster Child**
- **Homeless/Runaway**
- **Offender**
- **Pregnant/ Parenting**
- **Needs Additional Assistance**
- Limited English
- Below Grade Level
- Migrant Youth
- Aged out of Foster Care
- Incarcerated Parent
- Behavior Problems at School
- Family Illiteracy Problems
- Domestic Violence
- Substance Abuse
- Lacks Occupational Goals/ Skills
- Disabled
- Chronic Health Conditions



## WIA COMMON MEASURES

- Placement in Employment, Post Secondary Education, Advanced Training, or Military Enlistment
- Degree or Credential Attainment
- Literacy and Numeracy Gain (Only for Out of School Youth)



# WIA SERVICES –YOUTH PROGRAM

1. Objective Assessment
2. Individual Service Strategy Plan
3. Tutoring, Study Skills, Training, and Instruction
4. Alternative Secondary School Services (Ex: GED)
5. Occupational Skills Training
6. Leadership Development
7. Supportive Services
8. Adult Mentoring
9. Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling
10. Work Experience
11. Summer Employment Opportunities
12. Preparation for Post Secondary Education Opportunities or Employment Opportunities
13. Follow Up Services





# ROOSEVELT INITIATIVE 2012

- Pilot program with SLATE, Mers Goodwill, and St. Louis Public Schools. The program gives individual attention to each youth, providing the trust and support needed to succeed.
- Enrolling the entire senior class at Roosevelt – 95 Students
- This program will primarily assisted with the following:
  - Graduation
  - Post secondary education and training linkages
  - Credit recovery
  - **Summer Jobs**
  - All of the other services provided by WIA will be available to the participants

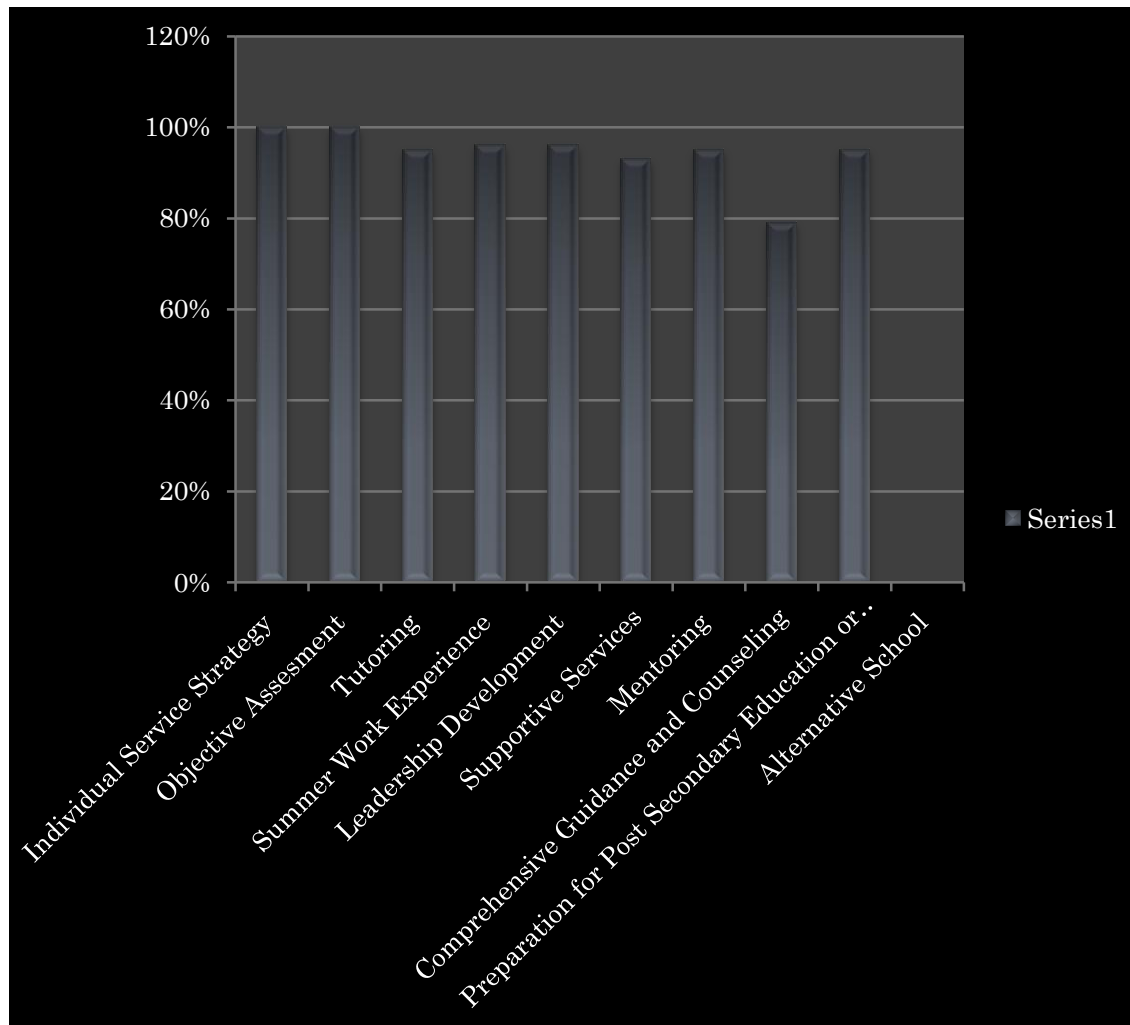


# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Summer jobs
- The case manager ratio was 1:23.
- The case managers stayed engaged with the students, parents, teachers, counselors, and work place supervisor through out the program year.
- The students learned “job readiness skills.” The job readiness included but not limited to good behavioral choices, dress code, respecting authority, following directions, and attendance. The soft skills learned in “job readiness training” transferred succinctly into the classroom.
- Harris Stowe State University– Mathematical Academy
- Special Ranken Technical College Initiative



# ROOSEVELT INITIATIVE 2012- OUTCOMES



Individual Service Strategy	100%
Objective Assesment	100%
Tutoring	95%
Summer Work Experience	96%
Leadership Development	96%
Supportive Services	93%
Mentoring	95%
Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling	79%
Preparation for Post Secondary Education or Employment Opportunities	95%



# ROOSEVELT INITIATIVE 2012- OUTCOMES

- Male 48% Female 52%
- Ages(17)- 19% (18)- 50% (19) - 26% (20)- 4% (21)- 1%
- Disability 18% No Disability 82%
- 4% White 86% African American 9% Asian 1% Hispanic
- Limited English 4% Not Limited English 96%
- Low Income 93% Over Income 7%

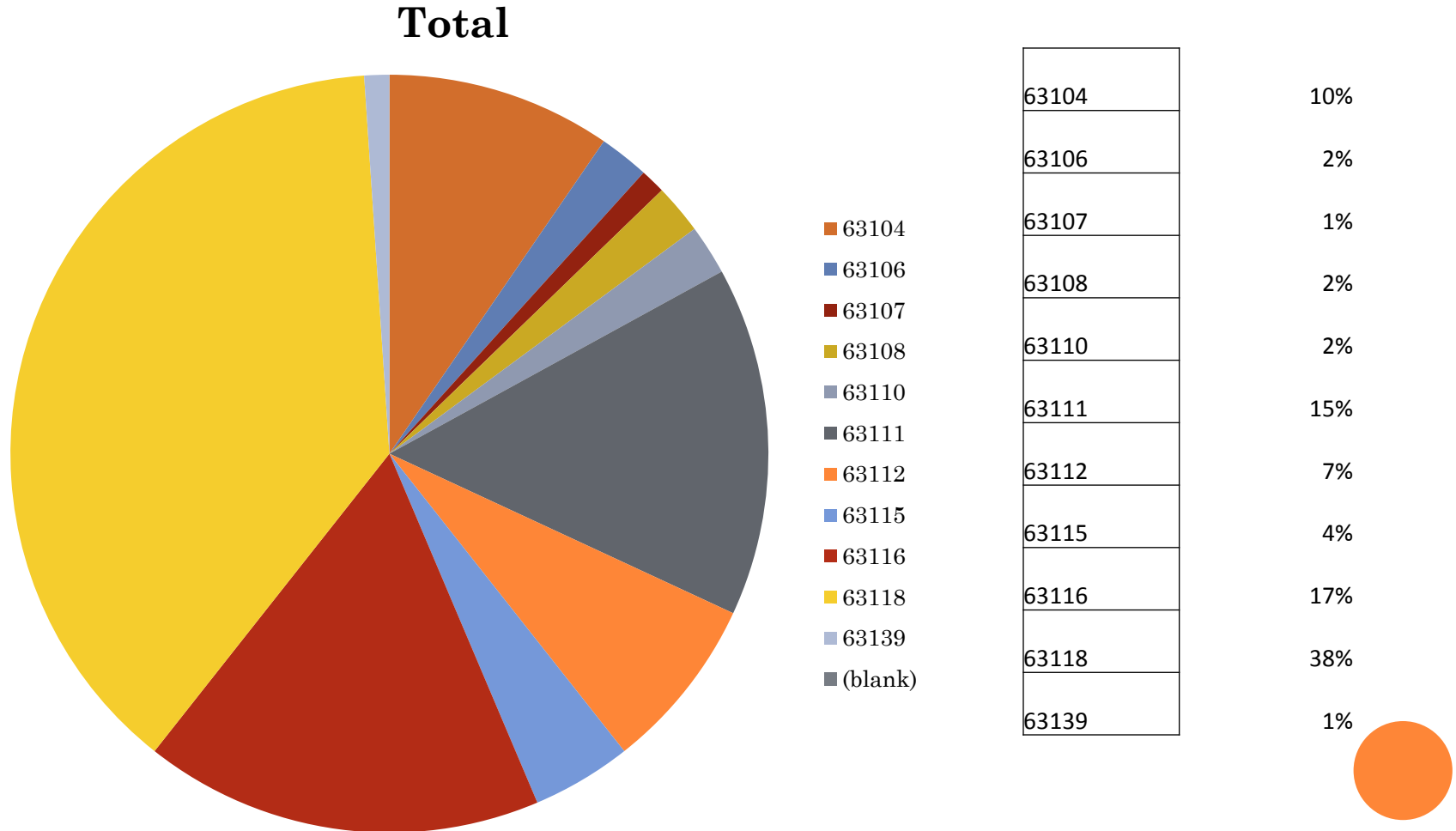


# ROOSEVELT INITIATIVE 2012- OUTCOMES

- Parenting 3% Not Parenting 97%
- Needs Additional Assistance 73% Does Not Need Additional Assistance 27%
- Basic Skills Deficient 33% Not Basic Skills Deficient 67%
- In Foster Care 1% Not in Foster Care 99%
- Not Homeless 100%
- Not an Offender 100%
- Receives Public Assistance 72% Does Not Receive Public Assistance 28%



# ROOSEVELT INITIATIVE 2012- OUTCOMES – ZIP CODE REPORT



# PROGRAM CHALLENGES

- Eligibility Documentation
- Quick Start Time



# VALUABLE WORK EXPERIENCES

- This is an example of a worksite and how valuable work experience is to the young people at Roosevelt High School. Through MERS/Goodwill and the Office of the License Collector, students in the WIA Youth Program are working with the City of St. Louis to gather experience and knowledge for their future careers. This story aired on June 22, 2012.
- <http://www.ksdk.com/news/article/325029/3/Summer-jobs-hard-to-find-for-teens>

