

Center of Excellence Overview

• U.S. DOL initiative to increase systems alignment across apprenticeship, education, and workforce

- Led by Safal Partners; 5 national partners
- We provide <u>no-cost</u> services including:
 - Monthly webinars
 - Quarterly virtual office hours
 - Individual compliance assistance and services
 - Online resources (desk aids, guides, frameworks, etc.)

















Quick Pulse Poll

Are you a....

- Workforce Board Staff
- Service Provider Staff
- Educational Partner
- Vocational Rehabilitation Partner
- Employer
- Board Member
- Registered Apprenticeship Staff
- Other





Quick Pulse Poll

Did you attend our April 25th webinar?







Discussion Leaders



Alan Dodkowitz
Senior Subject Matter Expert,
Safal Partners



James Disbro

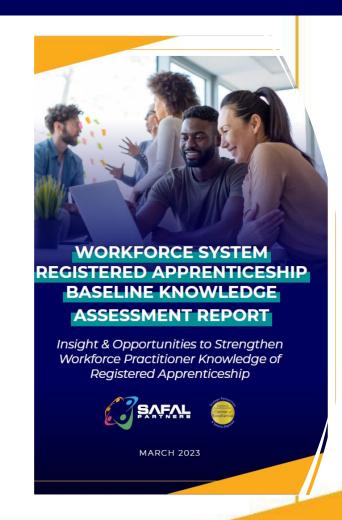
Senior Director,
Regional Alignment
& Programs Development
CareerSource Suncoast



First: Understanding the Field

Deep dive into system understanding of RA

- Multiple methodologies: data analysis, interviews, partner surveys, working groups, TA participant feedback, literature review
- First analysis of national, state WIOA/RA co-enrollment data
- First analysis of WIOA State Unified and Combined Plans for RA
- First national assessment, "Workforce System RA Baseline Knowledge Assessment Report"
- First national assessment of Title II RA engagement,
 "Expanding RA through WIOA Title I and Title II Partnerships Report"
- First landscape scan, analysis of Apprenticeship Networks across the US





Re-thinking Assumptions

Workforce system stakeholders aren't as engaged in or strategically planning for RA inclusion as initially thought.

Misalignment seen across multiple areas:

- State planning to local implementation
- WIOA funding utilization to policy development ...and more





WIOA State Plans: 7 Indicators of Alignment

- 1) Apprenticeship mentioned as workforce strategy
- 2) Plans to apply for/utilize federal grants to expand apprenticeship
- 3) Apprenticeship articulated specifically in strategies to meet State Plan vision
- 4) State level apprenticeship work group or committee to State Workforce Board
- 5) Specialist expertise embedded into the American Job Centers
- 6) State-level initiative for RA expansion (i.e. investment of additional resources, statutes to incentivize/scale RA programs)
- 7) Specific objectives, goals for increased # of apprentices or RA programs



Support at Top, Dropoff in Planning

RA Alignment Indicator	# of State Plans Included	% of States	# of Territories
1. Apprenticeship acknowledged as workforce strategy	50	100%	6
2. Plans to apply for/utilize federal grants to expand apprenticeship	42	84%	4
3. Apprenticeship articulated specifically in strategies to meet State Plan vision	17	34%	3
4. State level apprenticeship work group or committee to SWDB	17	34%	1
5. Specialist expertise in AJCs	16	32%	1
6. State level Initiative (e.g., investment of additional resources, statute designed to incentivize or encourage establishment of apprenticeships)	15	30%	2
Specific objectives and goals for increased # of apprentices or apprenticeship programs	7	14%	0



Field-Informed TA: Creating New Tools

Creating cross-system, responsive TA and training to drive outcomes. Products include:

- First national ATR/BSR training (5-part series, capstone)
- First series of WIOA State Planning webinars on RA inclusion
- First Adult Education / IET Pre-Apprenticeship RA Framework
- First state level CTE RA Bootcamp, replicable model
- First Intermediary Assessment tool to assist states in RA expansion
- First WIOA/RA Co-Enrollment Dashboard



State Progress: Interest, Investments

Provided intensive TA, customized tools at request of 12 states on wide range of alignment topics including:

- Cross-system collaboration
- WIOA funding uses for RA, supportive services
- WIOA State Plan development
- Braiding funding
- High school youth apprenticeship/CTE alignment
- Pre-apprenticeship
- AJC case manager/BSR training

Increase in state-level support for RA expansion

- 28 states have enacted RA-supportive legislation in '23, '24
 - Employer incentives and tax credits drive employer demand
 - Grant programs LWDBs will seek \$\$ over/in addition to WIOA
 - Restructuring governance: RA and Workforce Systems alignment/consolidation (i.e. Virginia, lowa, Vermont)





Field Needs, Responds to Centers' TA

Data shows .03%
national WIOA/RA
co-enrollment rate....

242% increase in WIOA/RA co-enrollment in targeted states served by Center

Have produced <u>82</u> webinars with 5,000+ attendees....

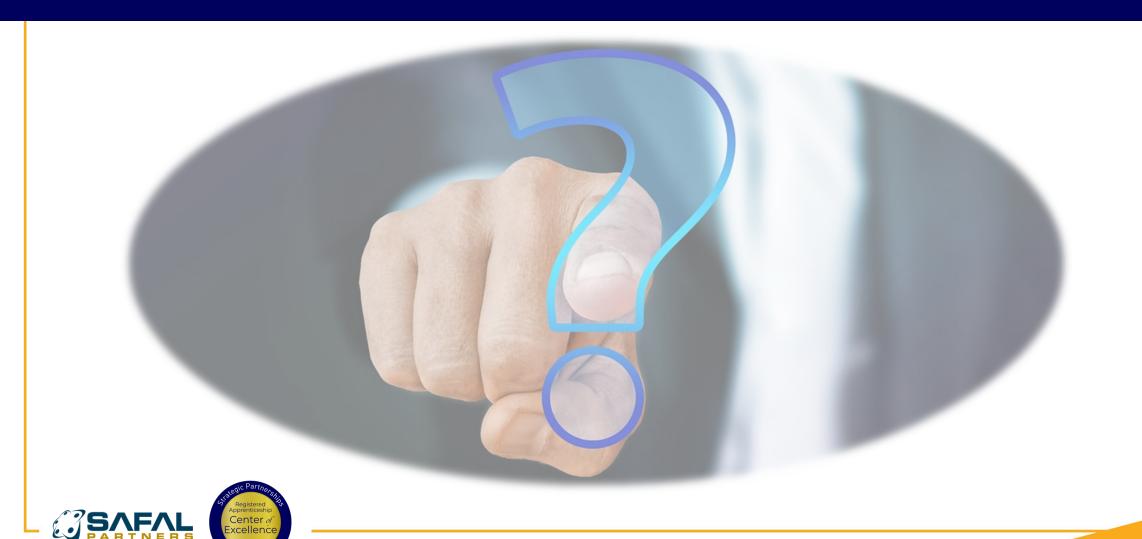
95% participants
"strongly agreed" TA was
of high value and
planned to implement

Initial goal of 200 partners in system alignment....

3,000 organizations have committed to developing new strategic RA partnerships



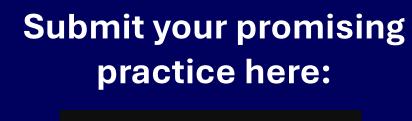
Questions



Share Promising Practices

WHAT YOU DO MAKES A DIFFERENCE

We Want to Highlight Your Promising Practices for System Alignment with Registered Apprenticeship.



Center of

Excellence







Become a Center Partner

- Receive no-cost expert services, including materials and support
- Network with potential partners nationwide
- **Be** nationally recognized for your work





THANK YOU FOR JOINING US

Email us your questions at RA_COE@SafalPartners.com

