

1) ABE Transitions Region	Southwest Minnesota	
2) ABE Consortia within the Transitions Region	List ABE consortia within the Transitions Region	Was this ABE manager involved in developing the plan? (Yes/No)
	Glacial Lakes ABE	Yes
	Mankato Area ABE	Yes
	Adult Area Learning Cooperative	Yes
	Southwest ABE	Yes
3) Local Workforce Development Area(s) within the Transitions Region	LWDA 5 (Central Minnesota including Glacial Lakes ABE) LWDA 6 (Southwest Minnesota including Southwest ABE) LWDA 7 (South Central Minnesota including Mankato ABE, portions of AALC and portions of Southwest ABE)	
4) American Job Centers (AJC), known as CareerForce Centers in MN, within the Transitions Region	Willmar, Litchfield, Hutchinson, Montevideo, Marshall, Worthington, Fairmont, Mankato, New Ulm	
5) Occupations in Demand	Workforce Development Areas 5, 6, and 7 encompass the following counties: ● WDA 5: Becker, Clay, Douglas, Grant, Otter Tail, Pope, Stevens, Traverse, and Wilkin ● WDA 6: Big Stone, Chippewa, Kandiyohi, Lac qui Parle, Meeker, McLeod, Pope, Renville, Swift, and Yellow Medicine	

- **WDA 7:** Brown, Blue Earth, Cottonwood, Jackson, Kandiyohi, Lincoln, Lyon, Martin, Murray, Nicollet, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, Renville, Rock, Sibley, Watonwan, and Yellow Medicine

Each of these areas has industries that significantly contribute to their local economies:

- **WDA 5**

- *Agriculture:* The region's fertile lands support diverse farming activities, including crop production and livestock farming.
- *Manufacturing:* A robust manufacturing sector produces goods ranging from agricultural equipment to consumer products.
- *Healthcare:* Facilities and services cater to the health needs of the growing population.

- **WDA 6**

- *Agriculture:* Farming remains a cornerstone, with an emphasis on crop production and dairy farming.
- *Manufacturing:* The area hosts various manufacturing units, particularly those related to food processing.
- *Renewable Energy:* There's a growing focus on wind energy, with several wind farms contributing to the state's energy grid.

- **WDA 7**

- *Agriculture:* Dominant in crop and livestock production, the sector is vital to the local economy.
- *Manufacturing:* The manufacturing industry, especially food processing, plays a significant role.
- *Tourism:* Natural attractions and recreational opportunities draw visitors, supporting local businesses.

It's worth noting that the top job titles for individuals **with a high school diploma or equivalent** can vary depending on factors such as location, industry demand, and economic conditions. However, based on the Regional Labor Markets website and Occupations in Demand website the top three job titles for individuals with a high school diploma or equivalent were often:

Programming Year July 1, 2025 -June 30, 2026 / ABE Regional Transitions Aid Plan

	● Retail Salesperson: Retail salespersons work in stores selling goods to customers. They assist customers in finding products, process transactions, and ensure a positive shopping experience. ● Home Health Personal Care Aide (PCA): PCAs provide assistance with daily tasks such as bathing, dressing, meal preparation, and light housekeeping for individuals who need support due to age, illness, or disability. ● Fast Food Worker: Fast food workers typically work in various roles within fast food restaurants, including cashier, cook, or customer service representative. These positions often require minimal formal education beyond a high school diploma or equivalent and provide opportunities for individuals to gain valuable work experience and skills.			
6) Minnesota State and Tribal Nation campuses within the Transitions Region	Minnesota State University, Mankato Southwest Minnesota State University South Central College (North Mankato Campus) Minnesota West Community and Technical College (Canby, Jackson, Granite Falls, Worthington Campuses) Ridgewater College (Hutchinson and Willmar Campuses)			
7) Perkins Consortia within the Transitions Region	Minnesota West Mid-Minnesota South Central			
8) Individual completing this form	Mary Kate Lewis	E-mail	mlewis1@isd77.org	Phone 507-345-5222

Programming Year July 1, 2025 -June 30, 2026 / ABE Regional Transitions Aid Plan

9) Designated Single Point of Contact	Mary Kate Lewis	E-mail	mlewis1@isd77.org	Phone	507-345-5222
10) ABE Representative/s on the Local Workforce Development Board/s (LWDBs)	<u>WSA 6 – Southwest MN</u> Southwest Minnesota Private Industry Council See Moua-Leske	E-mail	See.Moua-Leske@marshall.k12.mn.us	Phone	(507) 537-7046
	<u>WSA 7 – South Central</u> South Central Workforce Council Nate Warden		nwarden@isd2397.org		(507) 665-4620
	<u>WSA 5 – Central MN</u> Central Minnesota Jobs & Training Services Sherry Smith		sherry.smith@isd728.org		(763) 241-3400 x 5525
11) Please describe the alignment this region has with the CareerForce Center(s) in the region. Are there ABE learners who are co-enrolled in WIOA Title 1 programs adult, youth, and dislocated worker?					
ABE managers often have a close relationship with CareerForce centers, as both entities are involved in workforce development and education. CareerForce centers serve as a referral source for ABE programs, providing clients with information about educational opportunities and vice versa. Collaboration between ABE managers and CareerForce staff can be strong but really depends on the geographic location of the physical CareerForce sites. WSA 7 ABE programs have strong connections with CareerForce centers throughout SW MN due to the close proximity to ABE sites and navigation services provided through Pathways to Prosperity funding.					

Programming Year July 1, 2025 -June 30, 2026 / ABE Regional Transitions Aid Plan

In WSA 7, the strongest connection is between Mankato Careerforce and Mankato ABE. The navigator for P2P programming is housed at CareerForce and has weekly interaction with the local ABE sites at South Central College and at Lincoln Community Center.

In all Workforce Service Areas where P2P (Pathways to Prosperity) grants are active, students are regularly co-enrolled in Title I programs to maximize access to workforce development services. Students may be enrolled in WIOA Youth, WIOA Adult, or Dislocated Worker when there are gaps or limitations in P2P grant coverage. All eligible students are co-enrolled in Title I programs to ensure they continue receiving comprehensive support that prepares them for postsecondary education and career success.

RESPONSE

MANKATO: Regarding the P2P grant in Mankato, our co-enrollment would likely decrease because the navigator in the P2P grant is hired by DEED and that is our connection to co-enrollment. Without the P2P navigator, co-enrollment would be much more challenging. In our estimation this could decrease by more than 50%.

WILLMAR/HUTCHINSON: Glacial Lakes ABE regularly refers students to CMJTS for consideration to enroll in WOIA Adult and Youth programs on an individual basis. CMJTS staff come on site to the Willmar and Hutchinson sites to meet with students when referrals are made. All GLC ABE programming including EL, HSE and transitions classes are shared with CMJTS staff so they can refer potential students to our programming. CMJTS has not been awarded a P2P since before the pandemic.

MARSHALL: The Private Industry Council (PIC) closely works with SW ABE-Marshall to support each other in recruiting and marketing classes offered. The partnership is successful because we are able to braid our funding and share resources for the same goal of training students for careers or improve wages at their current positions.

12) Goal 1:

Throughout the 2025-2026 program year, 5 region-wide, online courses will be offered and promoted to all ABE students across the SW Region. All class enrollment, participation and contact hours will be tracked on a spreadsheet and outcome data will be documented on the SW Region Website.

These online courses will build the capacity of students to meet their career pathway goals while programs build teacher's capacity to be effective online instructors. Due to the geographical makeup of our region, it's difficult to find critical mass for these classes at one site so online regional classes are the best option. Opportunities for

Programming Year July 1, 2025 -June 30, 2026 / ABE Regional Transitions Aid Plan

attending in person classes can be limited for some students. All courses listed in Goal 1 will address workforce preparation activities for Adult Career Pathways students, at a region-wide level.			
S.M.A.R.T. Objectives	Proposed Activities: Description How will this activity benefit the entire region?	Timeline	Proposed/Actual Outcomes and Budget
5 career pathway courses will be designed and delivered to students in SW MN Local programs will promote classes to their students 2 months prior to the start of the class and complete the registration process for appropriate individuals Enrollment and contact hours will be documented on a shared tracking sheet. Students home programs will enter hours in SID weekly	CLASS 1: College and Career Planning LEAD: Mankato ABE INSTRUCTORS: Lindsey Schull (Instructor, Mankato), Hiroko Wollam (Tech Assistant, Mankato) SCHEDULE: 2 nights per week, 2 hours per night Tuesdays, Wednesdays July 8 - 30, 2025 6:00 - 8:00 pm DESCRIPTION: Students will gain the knowledge, skills, and confidence to make informed decisions about their educational and professional pathways. Whether their goal is to pursue higher education, enter the workforce, or explore alternative career paths, this course will equip them with the tools they need to succeed in today's dynamic and competitive landscape. Since this course is regionally focused, it will provide general information and then students will be connected to their local campuses for tours. TARGET POPULATION: Cut score is ESL Level 5-6 29 Students Enrolled	Tuesdays, Wednesdays July 8 - 30, 2025 6:00 - 8:00 pm	Proposed Outcomes: 15-20 students will participate Proposed Budget: \$1320 8, 2 hour class periods TEACHER 16 hours x 1.25 hours prep x \$50/hour = \$1000 TECH ASSISTANT 16 hours x \$20/hour = \$320

Programming Year July 1, 2025 -June 30, 2026 / ABE Regional Transitions Aid Plan

Data and course outcomes will be documented on the SW Region Website by the RTC RTC and managers will meet monthly to discuss data, marketing, recruitment, enrollment, and future course planning	24 Students Attended • 3 MRVED • 2 SW Worthington • 11 Mankato • 6 GLC • 2 AALC 174.75 contact hours		TOTAL COST: \$1305.63
	CLASS 2: Professional Leadership Development LEAD: Mankato ABE INSTRUCTORS: Teacher, Co-teacher TBD SCHEDULE: 8 weeks, 1 day per week, 2 hours per day Mondays September 22 - November 24, 2025 6:00 - 8:00 pm 8 sessions DESCRIPTION: This 8-week course helps ABE students who have work experience in the U.S. or abroad gain the skills they need to move into leadership roles. Through class discussion and collaborative learning, students will learn leadership styles, effective feedback, techniques for training employees, networking skills, how to write a resume, and improve their presentation skills. This class is adapted from the “Professional Leadership” course on the Atlas resource library. In-house certificates will be awarded to students who complete the class.	Mondays September 22– November 24, 2025 6:00–8:00 pm	Proposed Outcomes: 10-15 students will participate Proposed Budget: \$2000 8, 2 hour class periods TEACHER 1 16 hours x 1.25 hours prep x \$50/hour = \$1000 TEACHER 2 16 hours x 1.25 hours prep x \$50/hour = \$1000

Programming Year July 1, 2025 -June 30, 2026 / ABE Regional Transitions Aid Plan

	TARGET POPULATION: ESL Level 4 and up, including GED SESSION 1 Teacher 1: Clarice Esslinger Teacher 2: Lindsey Schull 21 Students enrolled 15 attended • 7 GLC • 3 Mankato • 3 MRVED • 2 SW Worthington 168 contact hours SESSION 2 Teacher: Clarice Esslinger Assistant: Linh Nguyen 9 students enrolled 9 students attended • 4 SW Worthington • 5 Mankato 85.5 contact hours	SESSION 1 Mondays October 6 - December 8 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm SESSION 2 Fridays April 10 - May 8 9:00 am - 12:00 pm	RAN 2 SESSIONS SESSION 1 2 TEACHERS SESSION 1 COST: \$2244.93 SESSION 2 1 TEACHER 1 ASSISTANT SESSION 2 COST: \$1747.76 TOTAL COST: \$3,992.69
	CLASS 3: Google Apps for Education LEAD: Glacial Lakes Consortium INSTRUCTORS: Joyce Evenski (Instructor-Glacial Lakes), Tech Assistant TBD SCHEDULE: 8 weeks, 1 day per week, 3 hours per day Fridays September 26 – November 21, 2025	Fridays September 26 – November 21, 2025 8:30 – 11:30 am	Proposed Outcomes: 10-15 students will participate Proposed Budget: \$1980 8, 3 hour class periods TEACHER 1

Programming Year July 1, 2025 -June 30, 2026 / ABE Regional Transitions Aid Plan

	October 24 - December 19, 2025 8:30 - 11:30 am 8 sessions DESCRIPTION: Northstar Digital Literacy provides basics for general computer use, but this class extends beyond Northstar and allows students to expand their digital literacy as they prepare for enrollment in postsecondary or begin on a career pathway. Students will apply these skills while learning the basics of Gmail, how to create and manage files in Google Drive, and how to create files using Google Sheets, Google Slides and Google Docs. Students enrolled in this class will learn skills which can be applied in any career field they choose to work in. In-house certificates will be awarded to students who complete the class. TARGET POPULATION: ESL Level 5+ and GED students who have passed Northstar Module 1: Basic Computer SESSION 1 Teacher 1: Joyce Evenski Teacher 2: Polly Olthoff 8 students enrolled 7 students attended • 3 Mankato • 3 GLC • 1 MRVED 133.75 contact hours SESSION 2 Teacher: Joyce Evenski	SESSION 1 Fridays October 25 - December 19 8:30 am - 11:30 am SESSION 2 Wednesdays	24 hours x 1.25 hours prep x \$50/hour = \$1500 TECH ASSISTANT 24 hours x \$20/hour = \$480 TEACHER 2 24 hours x 1.25 hours prep x \$50/hour = \$1500 RAN 2 SESSIONS SESSION 1 2 TEACHERS SESSION 1 COST: \$2788.51 SESSION 2 1 TEACHER 1 ASSISTANT
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Programming Year July 1, 2025 -June 30, 2026 / ABE Regional Transitions Aid Plan

	Assistant: Hiroko Wollam 12 Students Enrolled 10 students attended • 1 MRVED • 1 GLC • 1 SW Worthington • 7 Mankato 119.25 Contact Hours	April 1 - May 20 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm	SESSION 2 COST: \$1705.79 TOTAL COST: \$4,494.30
	CLASS 4: English for Driving LEAD: Mankato ABE INSTRUCTOR: Polly Olthoff (Instructor, Mankato ABE), Stacy (Co-instructor, SW Marshall) SCHEDULE: 8 weeks, 1 day per week, 2 hours per day Fridays September 26 – November 21, 2025 Fridays, March 27 - May 8, 2026 9:00 - 11:00 am 8 sessions DESCRIPTION: This class is designed to prepare students to pass the written driver's permit exam. This is the first step in the career pathway to obtain a CDL license, which is included in the P2P grant. Transportation/Logistics is an in demand industry in the WIOA regional plan for SW MN. Additionally, by supporting adult learners in obtaining their driver's licenses, ABE programs can empower them to overcome transportation barriers, increase their employability, and achieve their career goals.	Fridays September 26 – November 21, 2025 9:00 – 11:00 am Fridays, March 27 - May 8, 2026 8:30 - 11:30 am	Proposed Outcomes: 15-20 students will participate Proposed Budget: \$2000 8, 2 hour class periods TEACHER 1 16 hours x 1.25 hours prep x \$50/hour = \$1000 TEACHER 2 16 hours x 1.25 hours prep x \$50/hour = \$1000

Programming Year July 1, 2025 -June 30, 2026 / ABE Regional Transitions Aid Plan

	TARGET POPULATION: ESL Level 3+ 22 students enrolled 18 students attended • 3 AALC • 3 SW Marshall • 1 SW Worthington • 9 Mankato • 1 SW Faribault Co • 1 MRVED 83 contact hours		TOTAL COST: \$2140.17
	CLASS 5: Child Development LEAD: Glacial Lakes INSTRUCTOR: Clarice Esslinger (Instructor, Mankato), Debora Donahue (class assistant, Mankato) SCHEDULE: 8 weeks, 1 day per week, 3 hours per day Fridays January 23 - March 13, 2026 9:00 - 12:00 pm 8 sessions DESCRIPTION: This course will assist students in exploring the principles of early child development and early childhood career options along with health and safety information. Content will include early childhood developmental milestones, health and safety. Students will get an opportunity to explore early childhood careers through lecture, discussion, and guest speakers. In-house	Fridays January 23 - March 13, 2026 9:00 - 12:00 pm	Proposed Outcomes: 15-20 students will participate Proposed Budget: \$3000 8, 3 hour class periods TEACHER 1 24 hours x 1.25 hours prep x \$50/hour = \$1500 TEACHER 2 24 hours x 1.25 hours prep x \$50/hour = \$1500 CLASS ASSISTANT 24 hours x \$20/hour = \$480

Programming Year July 1, 2025 -June 30, 2026 / ABE Regional Transitions Aid Plan

	certificates will be awarded to students who complete the class. Students will also complete First Aid/CPR/BBP certification. This will be offered in person at local sites as a follow up to child development. \$500 included for up to 10 participants to complete First Aid/CPR/BBP TARGET POPULATION: Cut score is ESL Level 5+ and GED students 9 Students enrolled 7 students attended • 4 Mankato • 3 SW Worthington 102.25 contact hours		RED CROSS CERTIFICATION \$500 for 10 participants Offered but no one enrolled 1 Teacher 1 Assistant TOTAL COST: \$3088.50
13) Goal 2:	In the summer of 2025, Worthington ABE will collaborate with the school district Food Service to offer ServSafe Food Handler. This workplace literacy ServSafe Food Handler class aimed at improving the professional skills of food service workers in the community. The Workplace Literacy Milestones will be completed prior to the start of the class in the Fall 2025. <i>(priority area)</i>		
S.M.A.R.T. Objectives	Proposed Activities: Description How will this activity benefit the entire transitions region?	Timeline	Proposed/Actual Outcomes and Budget
Worthington ABE will establish employer outcomes in the summer of 2025	CLASS: ServSafe Food Handler LEAD: SW ABE - Worthington INSTRUCTORS: Teacher TBD, Co-Teacher/Assistant TBD	Fall 2025 (specific dates TBD)	Proposed Outcomes: up to 50 students will participate

Programming Year July 1, 2025 -June 30, 2026 / ABE Regional Transitions Aid Plan

Worthington ABE will work with the school district Food Service Manager to establish participant milestones Food Service workers will participate in the Workplace Literacy class and will receive ServSafe Food Handler certification	SCHEDULE: 3 - 3 hour sessions x 2 sections DESCRIPTION: This ServSafe Food Handler course is designed specifically for school kitchen workers to ensure they understand and apply essential food safety practices in a school kitchen environment. The class covers critical topics such as proper food handling, hygiene, temperature control, cross-contamination prevention, and safe food storage. Participants will learn how to maintain a clean and safe kitchen, identify foodborne illnesses, and understand the importance of following local health regulations. Upon completion, workers will be equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to keep students and staff safe through high standards of food safety, ensuring that meals are prepared and served in a healthy and compliant manner. Cost of materials: \$15 per person for online curriculum and test fee Due to the delay in Federal Funding in July of 2025, this program was not able to get off the ground before the start of the school year.		Proposed Budget: \$3000 SESSION 1 TEACHER 1 9 hours x 1.25 hours prep x \$50/hour = \$562.50 TEACHER 2 9 hours x 1.25 hours prep x \$50/hour = \$562.50 SESSION 2 TEACHER 1 9 hours x 1.25 hours prep x \$40/hour = \$562.50 TEACHER 2 9 hours x 1.25 hours prep x \$40/hour = \$562.50 Curriculum/online module training \$15 x 50 students = \$750 TOTAL COST: \$0
14) Goal 3:	In the fall of 2025, Mankato ABE will partner with Mankato Area Public Schools (MAPS) to create a Custodial Careers Academy. This career preparation class will be set up as an approved IET through the state before it		

Programming Year July 1, 2025 -June 30, 2026 / ABE Regional Transitions Aid Plan

	begins in the Spring of 2026. The ultimate goal of this class is to recruit ABE students into local custodial careers. Future plans include a workplace literacy partnership with MAPS as an extension of this IET.		
S.M.A.R.T. Objectives	Proposed Activities: Description How will this activity benefit the entire transitions region?	Timeline	Proposed/Actual Outcomes and Budget
Formalize a partnership agreement between Mankato ABE and Mankato Area Public Schools (MAPS) by Fall 2025. Develop and submit an Integrated Education and Training (IET) curriculum aligned with state requirements by December 2025. Recruit and enroll a minimum of 10 ABE learners for the first cohort beginning in Spring 2026.	CLASS: Custodial Careers Academy LEAD: Mankato ABE INSTRUCTORS: Clarice Esslinger (Mankato ABE), Assistant TBD (Mankato ABE) SCHEDULE: 8 weeks, 1 day per week, 3 hours per class, in person March 31, 2026 - May 7, 2026 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm DESCRIPTION: The Atlas Custodial Prep class will be customized to meet the needs of MAPS. This contextualized course works with students to gain familiarity with vocabulary and concepts related to cleaning school buildings. Students will also work on skills related to reading and math in a custodial context. Course will also include job readiness components such as resume building, interview preparation, and workplace communication. Student activities include online activities with Email, Google Forms, and Google Docs. Mankato ABE partnered with Mankato Area Public Schools Maintenance department to adapt the curriculum to MAPS	Spring 2026	Proposed Outcomes: 15-20 students will participate Proposed Budget: \$2,480 CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT: 10 hours x \$50/ hour = \$500 TEACHER 24 hours x 1.25 hours prep x \$50/hour = \$1,500 CLASS ASSISTANT 25 hours x \$20/hour = \$500

Programming Year July 1, 2025 -June 30, 2026 / ABE Regional Transitions Aid Plan

Target adult learners interested in custodial work, with outreach focused on underrepresented and underserved populations.	entry level custodial positions. Students participated in hands-on activities, applied to be substitute custodians through the MAPS portal, and participated in mock interviews. 13 students enrolled 10 students attended • 10 Mankato 126 Contact Hours		1 Teacher 1 Assistant TOTAL COST: \$3337.68
15) Goal 4:	In the fall of 2025, up to 10 staff from the SW region will participate in the IET Academy to better understand topics like SSLOs, credentials, MSGs, and effective partnerships. <i>(priority area)</i>		
S.M.A.R.T. Objectives	Proposed Activities: Description How will this activity benefit the entire transitions region?	Timeline	Proposed/Actual Outcomes and Budget

Programming Year July 1, 2025 -June 30, 2026 / ABE Regional Transitions Aid Plan

Staff will register for the IET Academy in July 2025 Registered staff will attend the first in person session on September 30, 2025 Registered staff will participate in mentor coaching sessions and complete required documentation Registered staff will attend half-day virtual event on December 9, 2025	LEAD: RTC The list of anticipated staff is below but is subject to change. SW ABE-WORTHINGTON: Stacy Everding (manager), 1-2 teacher TBD MANKATO: Karen Wolters (manager), Jennifer Johnson (teacher), Liv Musel-Staloch (teacher), John Lawton (teacher), Bette Blaisdell (teacher), Mary Kate Lewis (RTC) GLC: Ann Trochlil (manager) SW-MARSHALL: See Moua-Leske (manager), Matt Fischer (teacher) SW-MRVED: Deanna Johnson Integrated Education and Training (IET) Academy is a cohort experience that includes a pre-IET Institute meeting, attending the Sept 30 event, coaching and support, and ends in a December half day virtual event. IET Academy requires about 20 hours. <u>IET Institute</u>: In-person full day event on Tues Sept 30 8 am-4 pm. Virtual half day event on Tues Dec 9th 12-3:30 pm. The IET Academy did not happen as planned due to the delay in Federal Funding.	September 30-December 9, 2025	Proposed Outcomes: Up to 10 staff complete the IET Academy Proposed Budget: \$1000 This amount will cover the wages of hourly staff TOTAL COST: \$0
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Programming Year July 1, 2025 -June 30, 2026 / ABE Regional Transitions Aid Plan

16) Goal 5:	In the summer of 2025, Southwest ABE will offer a 5 week Mustang Pathway Program, supporting students in strengthening their English, reading, and math skills, leading to their admission to SMSU.		
S.M.A.R.T. Objectives	Proposed Activities: Description How will this activity benefit the entire transitions region?	Timeline	Proposed/Actual Outcomes and Budget
Collaborate with local college to offer college prep program Recruit students that have graduated high school but are ABE eligible based on NRS assessment scores Contact hours and level gains will be recorded	CLASS: Mustang Pathway Program LEAD: Southwest ABE – Marshall INSTRUCTORS: English-SMSU Instructor, Math-Matt Fischer SCHEDULE: July 21 - August 15, 2025 1:00 - 2:30 pm DESCRIPTION: Southwest ABE in Marshall will partner with Southwest Minnesota State University to provide a five week camp called “Mustang Pathway Program 2025”. Students in the Mustang Pathway Program participate in a free five-week summer experience to strengthen English, reading and math skills in an engaging and supportive environment. English is taught by an SMSU instructor and Math is taught by SW ABE-Marshall instructors. The summer experience helps students transition to the university with focused coursework before the start of the academic year. Students who successfully complete the Mustang Pathway Program are admitted to SMSU, and are required to join the Pathway Scholars, a first-year student cohort. A maximum of 40 students will be enrolled.	July 21 - August 15, 2025 1:00 - 2:30 pm	Proposed Outcomes: up to 40 students will participate Proposed Budget: \$2500 This amount covers 50% of the cost of the SMSU instructor

Programming Year July 1, 2025 -June 30, 2026 / ABE Regional Transitions Aid Plan

	TARGET POPULATION: Students that have recently graduated HS but are ABE eligible based on NRS-approved assessments UPDATE The MPP program included both Language and Math classes and demonstrated strong student outcomes. The Language class enrolled 18 students; 17 completed post-testing, with 16 achieving an educational functioning level gain and one student withdrawing from the program. The Math class enrolled 17 students, all of whom completed post-testing, and 16 achieved level gains. Overall, the program was highly successful in supporting student progress and advancing learners toward their educational goals.		
			TOTAL COST: \$2500
17) Goal 6:	Continue to strengthen the referral process for prospective ABE students between partners in the region by offering networking opportunities for students and staff during the 25-26 program year.		
S.M.A.R.T. Objectives	Proposed Activities: Description How will this activity benefit the entire transitions region?	Date for completion	Proposed/Actual Outcomes and Budget
Mankato ABE will collaborate with SCC for date, event space, and catering.	EVENT: ACP Networking Day LEAD: Mankato SCHEDULE: 1, full-day event, February 13, 2026 DESCRIPTION: This is an event which brings together	February 13, 2026	Proposed Outcomes: 70-90 practitioners from WSA 7 will participate Proposed Budget: \$2000

Programming Year July 1, 2025 -June 30, 2026 / ABE Regional Transitions Aid Plan

Registration flyer will be developed and sent to partner agencies. Speakers will be recruited and scheduled into breakout sessions. Participants will register and attend the ACP networking day. Participants and presenters will be tracked on Google Sheet.	various agencies (Colleges, Veterans Services, CareerForce Centers, Vocational Rehabilitation Services, WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker Services, Youth Programs, Homeless Prevention Programs, Mental Health Practitioners, Addiction/Recovery Services, and Energy Assistance Programs). The goal is to network, improve and enhance referral systems to ultimately improve resource and opportunity accessibility for adults in the region. The target audience is adult service providers from WSA 7. This year, we're introducing a new feature: the 3 hour Community Action Poverty Simulation (CAPS). Poverty affects many individuals and families, but it's hard to truly grasp unless you've lived through it. CAPS is an interactive, immersive experience that helps participants better understand the realities of poverty. Unlike a game, it is based on the real lives of Community Action clients, offering a powerful way to bridge the gap between misconception and understanding. FOR REFERENCE: 2024 Agenda for Mankato ACP Networking Day UPDATE 2025 Schedule of Events Friday, February 27, 2026 Lincoln Community Center, Mankato 8:00 am - 3:30 pm Breakfast and Lunch provided 104 registrants 89 attendees		The specific costs for the day include the catering of breakfast and/or lunch and photocopies of materials. Mileage for Poverty Simulation facilitators
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Programming Year July 1, 2025 -June 30, 2026 / ABE Regional Transitions Aid Plan

	MORNING SESSION Student Panel-Success stories of P2P grant 19 Breakout sessions 25 minute sessions held simultaneously in 5 classrooms AFTERNOON SESSION Poverty Simulation 12:30 - 3:00 Facilitated by MVAC 21 volunteers 46 participants		MANKATO COST: \$2000
SW Marshall ABE will collaborate with SMSU for date, event space, and catering. Registration flyer will be developed and sent to partner agencies. Speakers will be recruited and scheduled into breakout sessions. Participants will register and attend the ACP networking day.	EVENT 2: Networking Day + Community Action Poverty Simulation (CAPS) LEAD: SW Marshall ABE SCHEDULE: 1, full-day event; February 2, 2026 DESCRIPTION: This is an event which brings together various agencies (Colleges, Veterans Services, CareerForce Centers, Vocational Rehabilitation Services, WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker Services, Youth Programs, Homeless Prevention Programs, Mental Health Practitioners, Addiction/Recovery Services, and Energy Assistance Programs). The goal is to network, improve and enhance referral systems to ultimately improve resource and opportunity accessibility for adults in the region. The target audience is adult service providers from WSA 6. Community Action Poverty Simulation (CAPS): Poverty is a reality for many individuals and families. But unless you've	February 2, 2026	Proposed Outcomes: 50-70 practitioners from WSA 6 will participate Proposed Budget: \$1500 The specific costs for the day include the catering of breakfast and/or lunch and photocopies of materials.

Programming Year July 1, 2025 -June 30, 2026 / ABE Regional Transitions Aid Plan

Participants and presenters will be tracked on Google Sheet.	experienced poverty, it's difficult to truly understand. The Community Action Poverty Simulation (CAPS) bridges that gap from misconception to understanding. CAPS is an interactive immersion experience. It sensitizes community participants to the realities of poverty. CAPS is not a game. It is based on real Community Action clients and their lives. CAPS exists to: Promote Poverty Awareness: During the simulation, role-play a month in poverty and experience low-income families' lives. Increase Understanding: After the simulation, you will unpack your learning and brainstorm community change. Inspire Local Change: Together, you can be a voice to end poverty in your family, friends and community. Transform Perspectives: The goal of CAPS is to shift the paradigm about poverty away from being seen as a personal failure and toward the understanding of poverty as structural, a failure of society. UPDATE Monday, February 2, 2026 5 Family Ranch Venue 8 am- 3:30 pm Breakfast, Lunch & Snack Provided Poverty Simulation 62 registered 17 volunteers		
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Programming Year July 1, 2025 -June 30, 2026 / ABE Regional Transitions Aid Plan

	-positive feedback about session having a better understanding of individuals living in poverty and how to transfer this knowledge when working with this demographic *Due to the contract of the simulation, picture and video capturing are prohibited "Speed Dating" Networking Session 14 vendors -Participants & volunteers from Poverty Simulation participated -10 minute "elevator speech" presentations by vendors -participants rotated in groups of 3-4 -cowbell signaled beginning and ending of a rotation -guaranteed every participant heard from every vendor -mostly positive feedback from the vendors regarding connection with every participant instead of awkwardly coming by to grab merchandise		MARSHALL COST: \$1500 TOTAL COST: \$3500
18) Goal 7:	Southwest MN will pay for the services of a Distance Learning Coordinator to establish systems and practices that allow for consistency with enrollments, marketing, training, counting of contact hours and reporting of outcomes for regional course offerings.		
S.M.A.R.T. Objectives	Proposed Activities: Description How will this activity benefit the entire transitions region?	Date for completion	Proposed/Actual Outcomes and Budget
Maintain online registration system to ensure consistency and accuracy in	LEAD: Mankato To ensure that processes are developed and utilized for online transition course enrollment, Southwest MN will pay for the services of a Distance Learning Specialist to assist	Ongoing during 2025-2026 budget year	Proposed Budget: \$5,800

Programming Year July 1, 2025 -June 30, 2026 / ABE Regional Transitions Aid Plan

student enrollment for transition courses Create, update and maintain Google Sites for each course Provide staff DL/technology training on an ongoing basis Create and monitor the attendance taking process to ensure	staff with training, set-up, and registration of the online regional classes. The coordinator duties will include establishing systems and practices that allow for consistency with enrollments counting of contact hours and reporting of outcomes. ● DL Moodle Hour reporting ● Online student orientations ● Staff training on DL programs, Google Sites, Google Meet and online teaching strategies ● Course enrollments ● Create Google Sites for each regional class ● Set up and manage attendance tracking		TOTAL SPENT: \$5800
19) Goal 8:	By the end of the 2025-2026 program year, the Regional Transitions Coordinator will enhance regional ABE transitions by establishing efficient communication and collaboration processes across all SW ABE managers and partners. The coordinator will foster collaboration and communication across regional managers and partners to ensure the successful implementation of the regional transition plan. This includes working closely with all stakeholders to meet established timelines and ensure the plan is executed as outlined, with clear and consistent updates shared throughout the process.		
S.M.A.R.T. Objectives	Proposed Activities: Description How will this activity benefit the entire transitions region?	Date for completion	Proposed/Actual Outcomes and Budget
RTC will attend specified meetings	Lead: All ABE Sites Mary Kate Lewis currently serves as Regional Transitions coordinator for the Southwest ABE region. Position is	Ongoing during 2025-2026 budget year	Proposed Budget: \$14,400

Programming Year July 1, 2025 -June 30, 2026 / ABE Regional Transitions Aid Plan

RTC will share information with stakeholders in a timely manner RTC will monitor transitions plan and ensure outcomes are met or redirected, as appropriate RTC will report data to stakeholders RTC will manage marketing practices and dissemination	contracted for 35 hours per month for \$1,200. Duties include: • Attend meetings at the Department of Education, <i>quarterly</i> • Coordinate and host regional check-in meetings for managers, <i>monthly</i> • Coordinate and host regional meetings, following the RTC meetings, to communicate information and monitor grant activity progress, <i>quarterly</i> • Attend webinars and state conferences and share information with managers (manager webchats, SI, regionals) • Attend various workforce board meetings to share information about ABE • Attend Adult Career Pathway partnership meetings, <i>quarterly</i> • Write and assist with implementation of regional transition plan - ensure timelines are met • Attend P2P meeting to stay informed about P2P and IET offerings in this region • Organize and facilitate the Adult Career Pathways Networking day for WSA7 • Create and distribute all marketing for transitions classes • Create and maintain SW regional website • Conduct course planning meetings with instructors and managers prior to the start of each transitions course • Compile and report data for all regional classes • Serve as a point of contact for regional managers about best practices with technology, testing and		
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Programming Year July 1, 2025 -June 30, 2026 / ABE Regional Transitions Aid Plan

	programming, which includes responding to numerous emails and phone calls weekly No RTC work during the month of July and part of August due to the freeze in Federal Funding.		TOTAL SPENT: \$12,171.40
	Lead: Mankato ABE Fiscal Management costs to Mankato ABE (up to 10% of \$50,000).	June 2026	Proposed Budget: \$5,000 UFARS BUDGET CODE: 04-500-520-000-438-144 TOTAL SPENT: \$5,000
	Lead: All ABE Sites Conferences, Workshops, Traveling/Mileage	Ongoing, as needed through the 2025-2026 program year	Proposed Budget: \$2,000 TOTAL SPENT: \$836.67
Budget Spreadsheet			TOTAL BUDGET: \$50,000 TOTAL SPENT: \$50,000

Revision History

Date	Note change(s) and describe reason for the change(s)	Version
	IET Academy did not run as planned due to Federal Funding delay Reallocated \$1000 to regional online classes	
	ServSafe in Worthington did not run as planned due to Federal Funding delay Reallocated \$3000 to regional online classes and Construction Trades Boot Camp	
	Added second sections of Professional Leadership and Google Apps for Ed with reallocated funding from IET Academy and ServSafe ● Total cost of additional sections included above	

Programming Year July 1, 2025 -June 30, 2026 / ABE Regional Transitions Aid Plan

	Added Construction Trades Boot Camp with reallocated funding from IET Academy and ServSafe Offer regional construction trades boot camps as a strategy to enhance students' capacity to achieve their career pathway goals while simultaneously fostering connections with local trades unions. These mini-sessions can cover a range of topics tailored to the needs of students interested in pursuing careers in the construction industry. The Boot Camps are coordinated in collaboration with local Workforce Councils and Trades Unions in an effort to raise awareness of these in demand industries and the opportunities for interested adult students. Students will learn LMI information, complete a project under the direction of a union trades person and gain hands-on experience in each industry. Wednesdays March 26 - May 5, 2026 Coordinator/supervision \$1387.52 Assistant \$445.44 TOTAL COST: \$1832.96	
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