# Developing America's Workforce



County Roles, Barriers and Solutions - County Case Studies

# Maricopa County, Arizona



2021 POPULATION: **4,496,588** U.S. REGION: **WEST** ARCHETYPE: **URBAN CENTERS AND CORE SUBURBS** 

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NACo Counties for Career Success Participant Maricopa County is Arizona's most populous county, encompassing more than 60 percent of the state's population. Though the county is classified under the Urban Centers and Core Suburbs archetype, it covers a large geographic area that includes many rural communities. Accordingly, jobseekers from rural areas face transportation barriers that cause difficulty accessing and maintaining enrollment in workforce development programs. These challenges are often compounded by financial and geographic barriers to accessing affordable child care.

## **Barriers**



TRANSPORTATION CHILD CARE

# Solutions

### WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COORDINATORS

Maricopa County employs Workforce Development Coordinators to liaise with local employers, communities and partners to provide services across the county. Coordinators operate from within communities to reduce transportation barriers and work with students to find careers in their communities that promote workforce and industry growth in rural areas.

### **DUAL-ENROLLMENT STRATEGY**

Maricopa County has prioritized Head Start slots for clients enrolled in their Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act program and case management. Parents and guardians of children at Head Start facilities are also recruited for workforce development as part of a full scope twogeneration strategy.



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