

Workforce Solutions of West Central Texas Board
500 Chestnut, Suite 1200
Abilene, TX 79602
www.workforcesystem.org



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Alyssa Goodgame

PHONE: (325) 795-4211

Workforce Solutions Wins Service to Community Award at 23rd Annual Texas Workforce Conference

Abilene, Texas — Workforce Solutions of West Central Texas Board was recognized with the 2019 Service to Community Award for their contributions to Abilene and surrounding communities through development of the Lake Kirby Park Children’s Nature Play Area. The trophy and \$30,000 prize were awarded at the Texas Workforce Commission’s 23rd Annual Texas Workforce Conference held December 4-6, 2019 in Grapevine. The Service to Community Award honors a Workforce Development Board that has demonstrated a commitment to the local community through coordination and collaboration efforts that significantly improve Texas workforce system services to the community. This award also recognizes innovative approaches to meeting community needs and is focused on results that benefit the community, employers, workers and the state of Texas.

Workforce Solutions of West Central Texas, in partnership with the City of Abilene, created the Lake Kirby Park Children’s Nature Play Area to serve as an outdoor learning space. The area includes a sand discovery pit with climbing logs, wildflower meadow, and an arboretum of native trees and shrubs. Placed along an accessible boardwalk through the wooded area are interpretive, educational signs. As a result of this collaboration with the City of Abilene, multiple other partnerships have evolved with the West Texas Science Center, local businesses, and others organizations in support of the outdoor space and its associated activities. Trainings on STEM activities, outdoor learning curriculums, and more are provided to area child care providers through this initiative.

The Workforce Solutions of West Central Texas Board is charged with oversight and policy-making responsibility for local workforce and training programs. We are committed to strengthening the economic vitality of our 19-county region by investing in the success of residents and businesses. Our assistance and expertise are provided to both the job seeker and the employer. Visit our website at www.workforcesystem.org. Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available, upon request, to individuals with disabilities. Relay: 1-800-735-2989 (TTY) / 711 (voice)

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