# National Dislocated Worker Grants 

## WORKFORCE OPPORTUNITY FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES (WORC IV)



Areas to be Served: Craighead, Independence, Jackson, Jefferson and Mississippi counties

Arkansas Center for Data Sciences
P.O.Box 7959

Little Rock, AR 72217-7827
Logan Hunt
(870) 503-0395
lhunt@acds.co

## WORC Scale-Up, Scale-Out Project

The goal of the WORC grants is to create economic prosperity and gainful employment opportunities for eligible residents in impacted ARC and DRA regions, enabling them to remain and thrive in these communities.

Through the WORC Initiative, ACDS plans to target new entrants into the workforce, dislocated, and incumbent workers. Over the 3-year life of the grant ACDS will do the following activities: 1) Enroll pre-apprentices in Self-Paced Training, 2) Enroll pre-apprentices in Forge Institute IT Fundamentals Bootcamp, 3) Provide necessary hardware to pre-apprentices and Interns, 4) Fund Work-Based Learning (WBL) internship opportunities, and 5) Fund RTI for Registered Apprenticeships. Individuals and communities who partake in ACDS programs will be positively impacted by the above activities in both the short and long term. ACDS' RAP model will provide immediate relief to Delta companies filling IT-related positions and long-term benefits by creating an efficient pathway to hire Arkansans, instead of outsourcing the work out of state or off-shore.
This will provide economic mobility for those individual apprentices, as well as address historic inequities in the target communities by removing barriers that have prevented members of the community from entering these positions in the past.


