



**B**uilding **R**eady **I**nformed **D**eveloped **G**overnment **E**mployees

# Meet Our Team



**Rene' Brinkman**



**Sarah Fontaine**



**Kristina Johnston**



**Becky McCarthy**



**Erin Morris**



**Steven Sims**



**Tim Wright**



# The Problem

**Older youth aging out of foster care face high rates of homelessness, unemployment, and incarceration due to limited support and workforce opportunities, while state government struggles to fill high-turnover public service positions.**





# Negative Outcomes

## YOUNG ADULTS FACE EXITING FOSTER CARE



### HOMELESSNESS

Lack of stable housing can lead to uncertainty, insecurity, and a constant struggle to survive.



### INCARCERATION

System involvement can create long -term consequences that limit opportunities and potential.

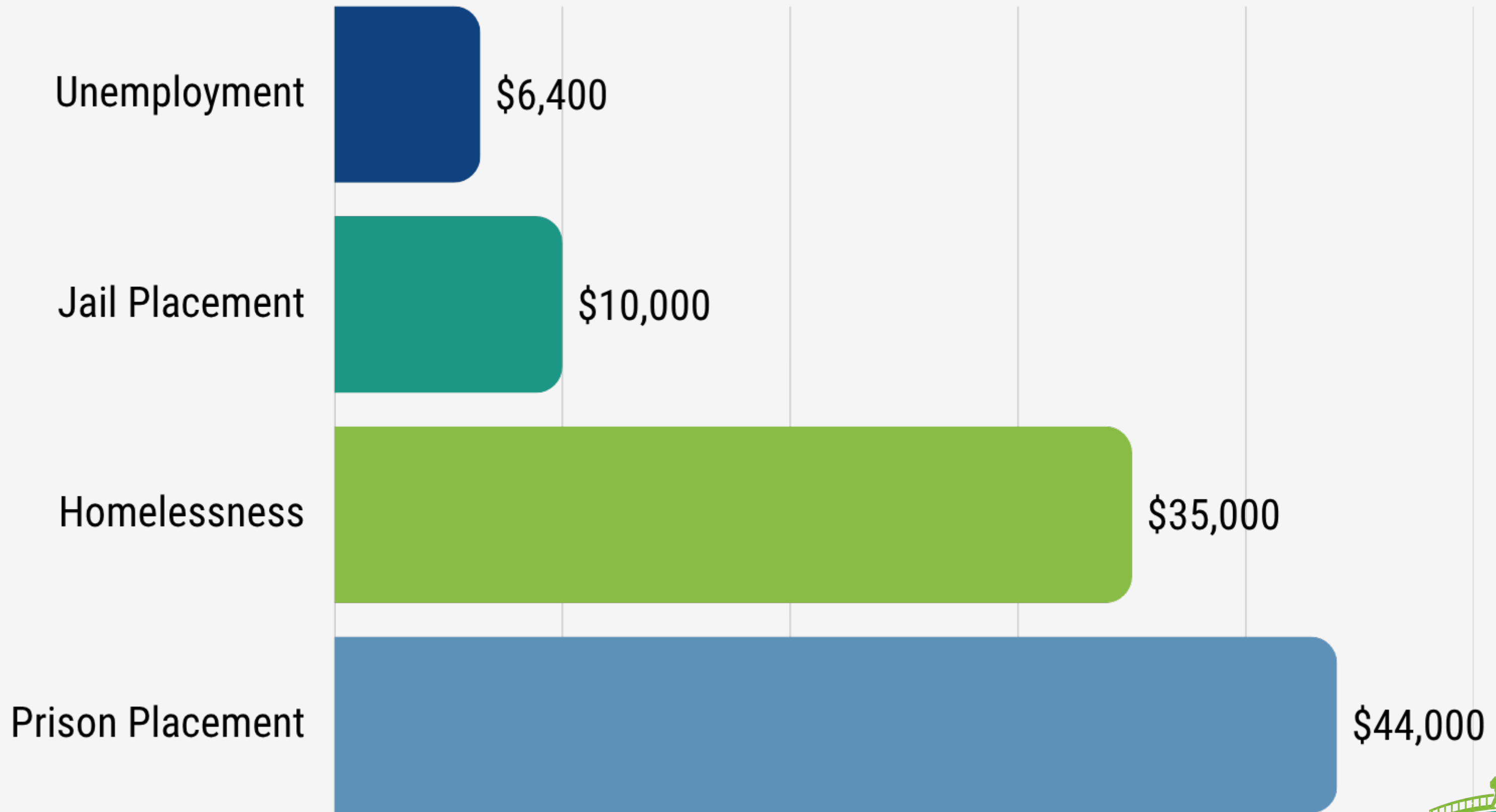


### UNEMPLOYMENT

Limited access to education, training, and experience makes it harder to build a stable future.

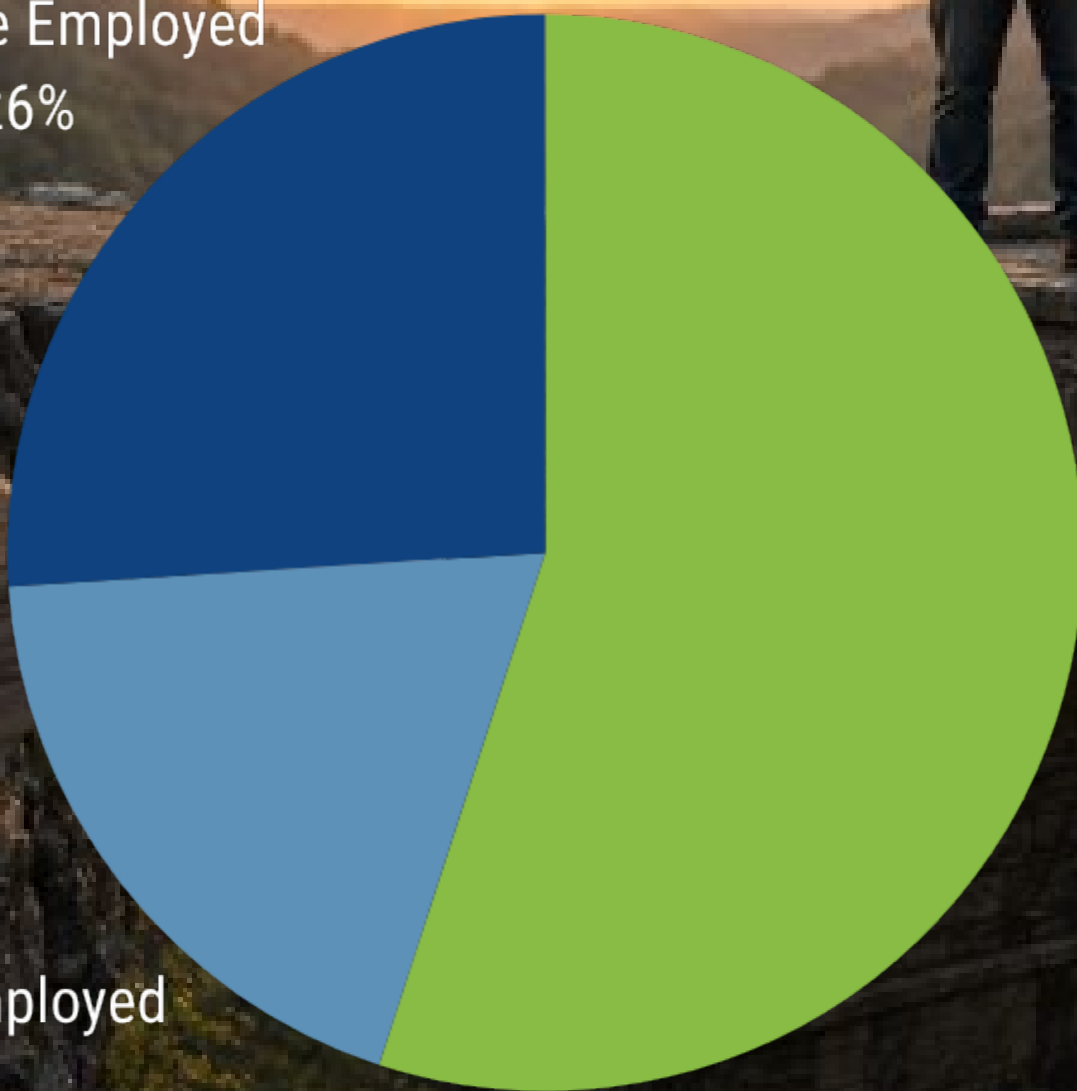
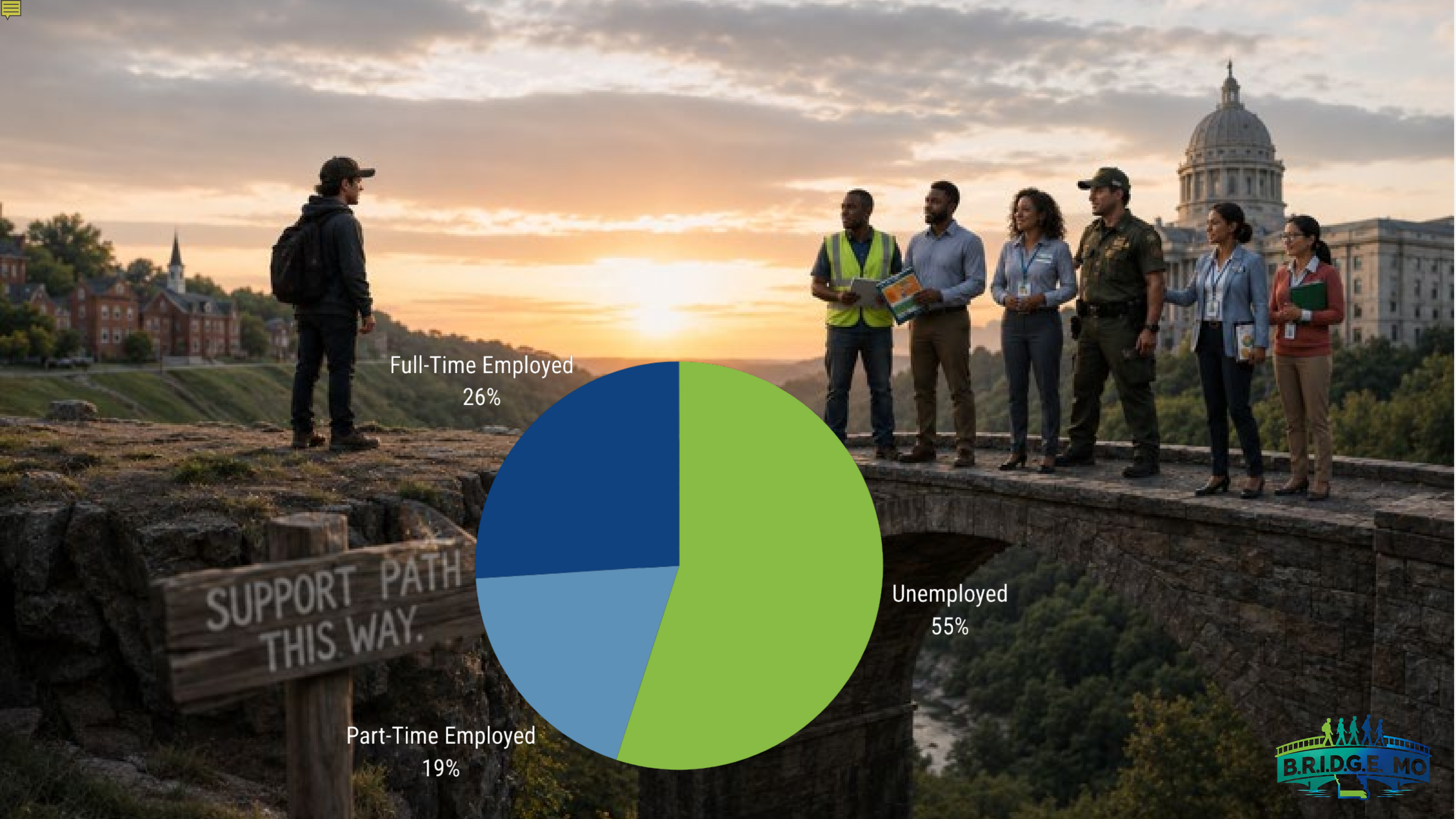


# Fiscal Impact to Missouri



Annual Cost Per Individual





Full-Time Employed  
26%

Unemployed  
55%

Part-Time Employed  
19%

SUPPORT PATH  
THIS WAY.



# State Turnover by Title

As of June 2026

TURNOVER  
RATE

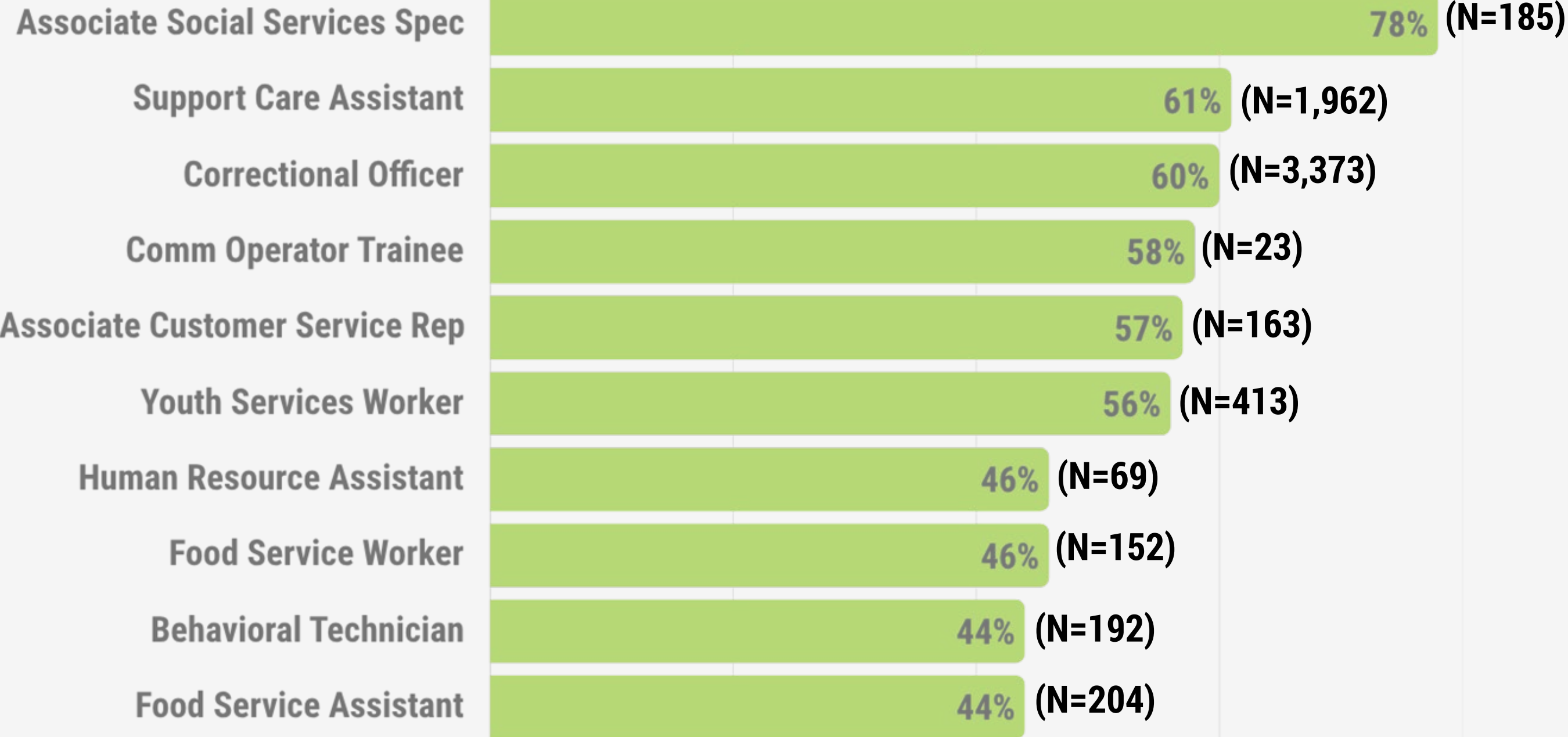
25.1%

TIME  
TO FILL

69 DAYS

COST  
TO FILL

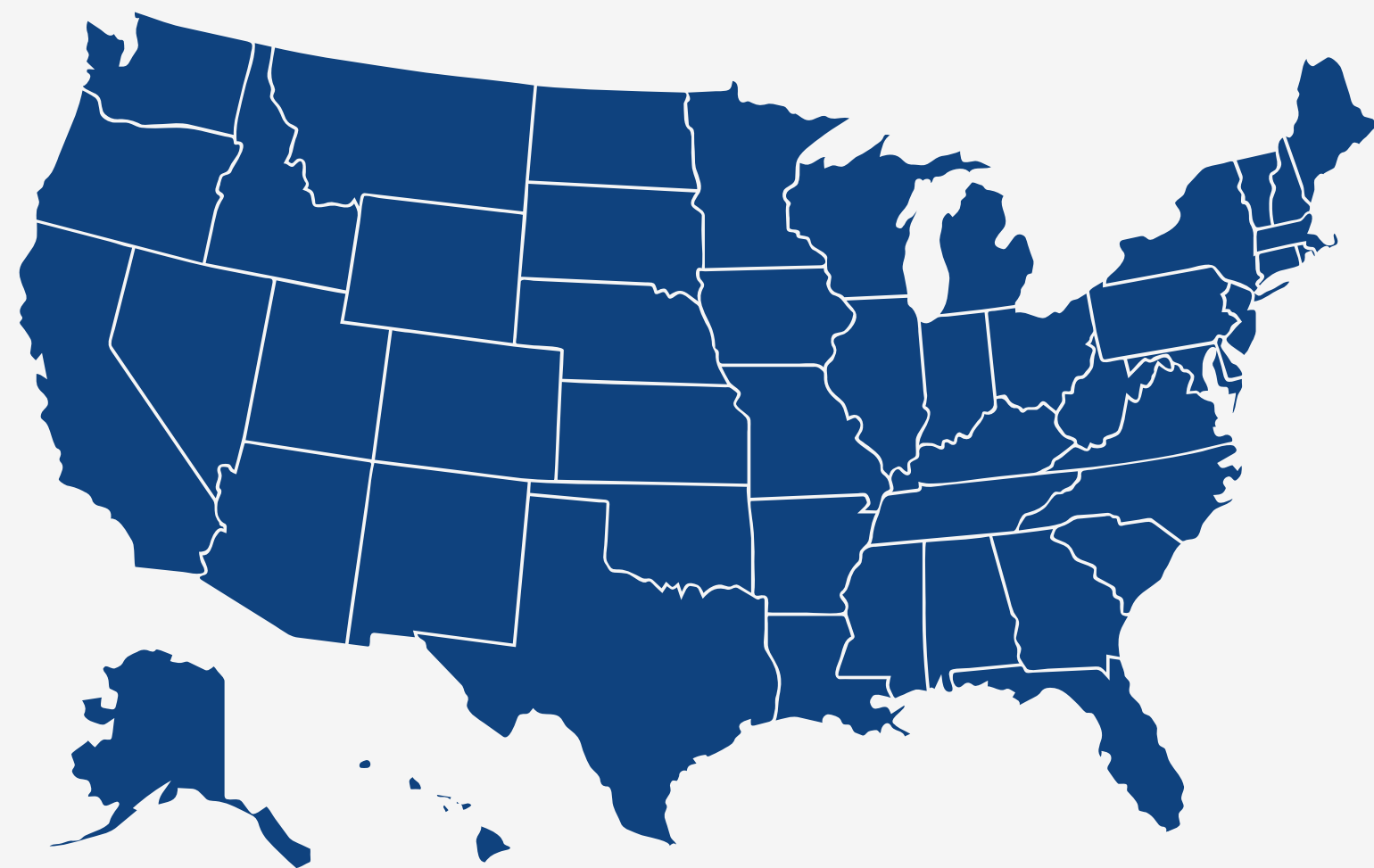
\$18,629



# The Solution

**B.R.I.D.G.E. MO connects young adults to job shadowing, workforce development, and entry level positions in Missouri state government.**





# FEDERAL LANDSCAPE

*Fostering the Future* Executive Order

**Fostering the Future Act (HR 7432)**

**Fostering the Future for American Children  
and Families Act (HR 6221)**

**Fostering Youth Mentoring Act (HR 4769)**

**CONNECT Act (HR 7995)**



# GREAT for Missouri



**INNOVATIVE**



**RESOURCEFUL**



**COLLABORATIVE**



**EFFICIENT**





# Young Adult Focus Group Interest

- Seeing a job firsthand to help feel more confident about choosing a career path



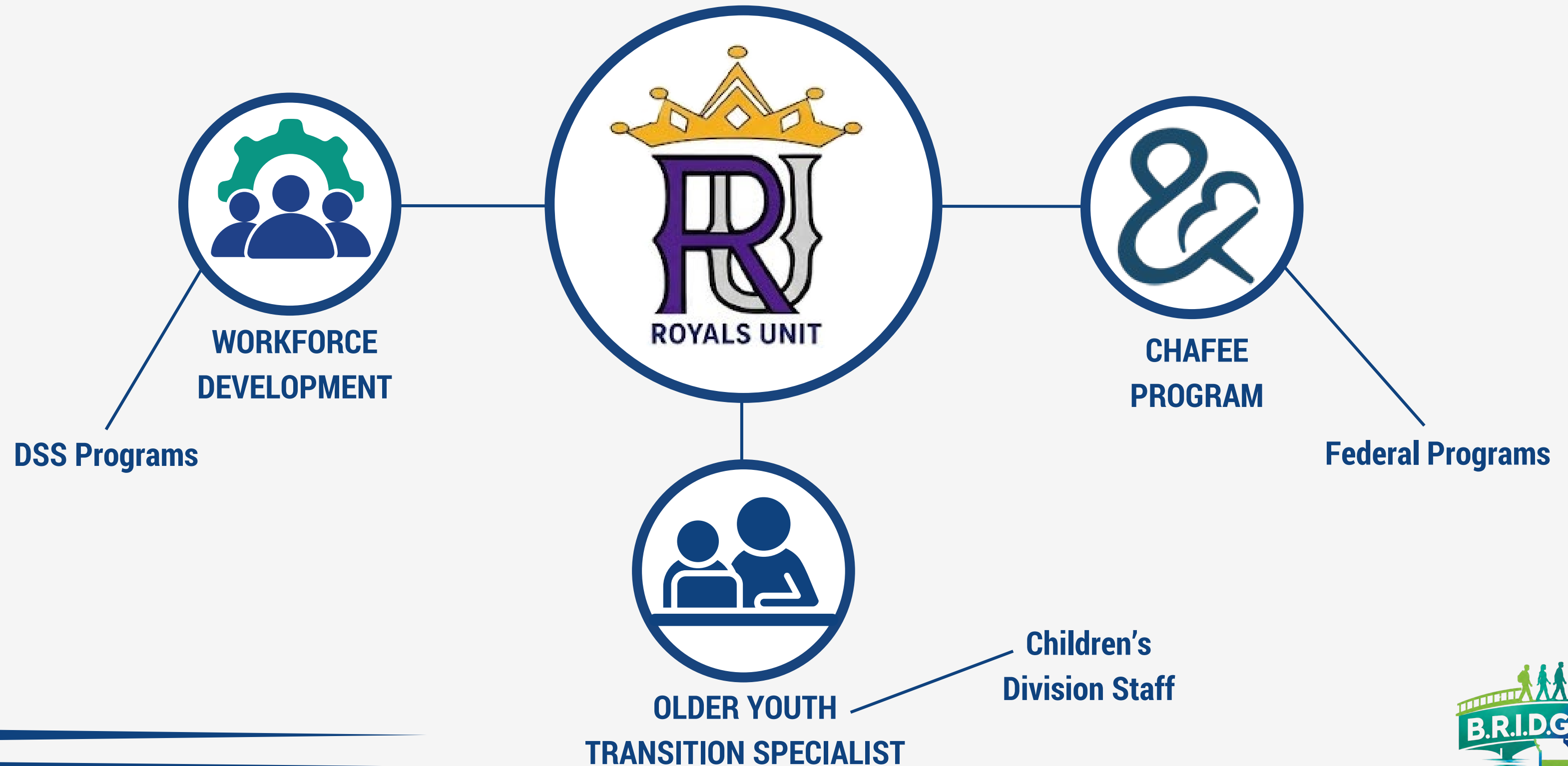
- Learning about State Government career opportunities



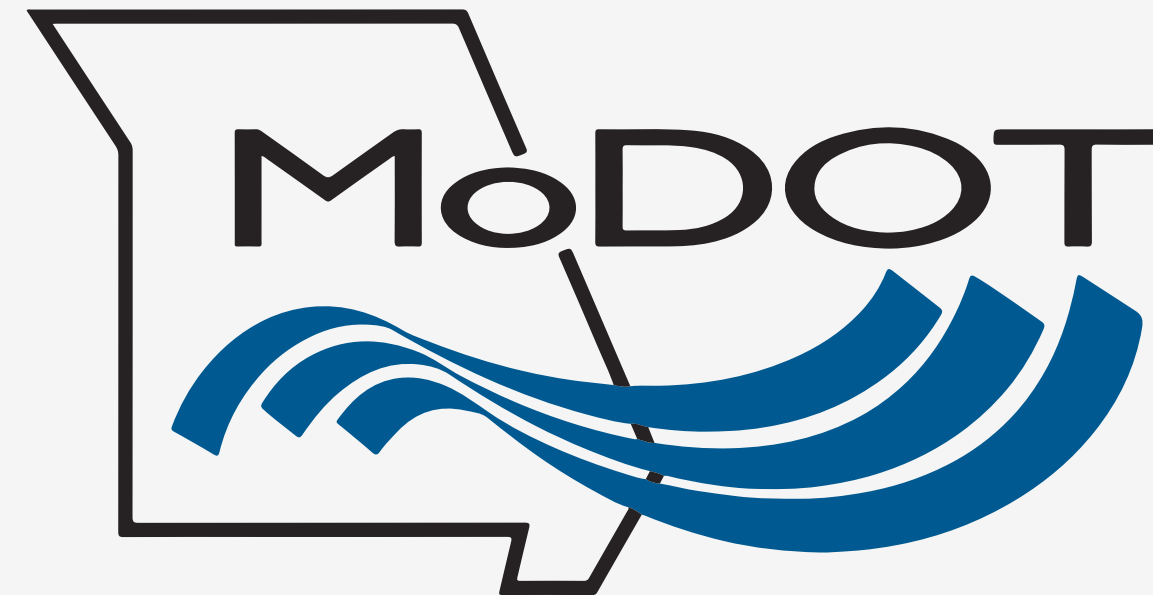
- Shadowing opportunities with State Government

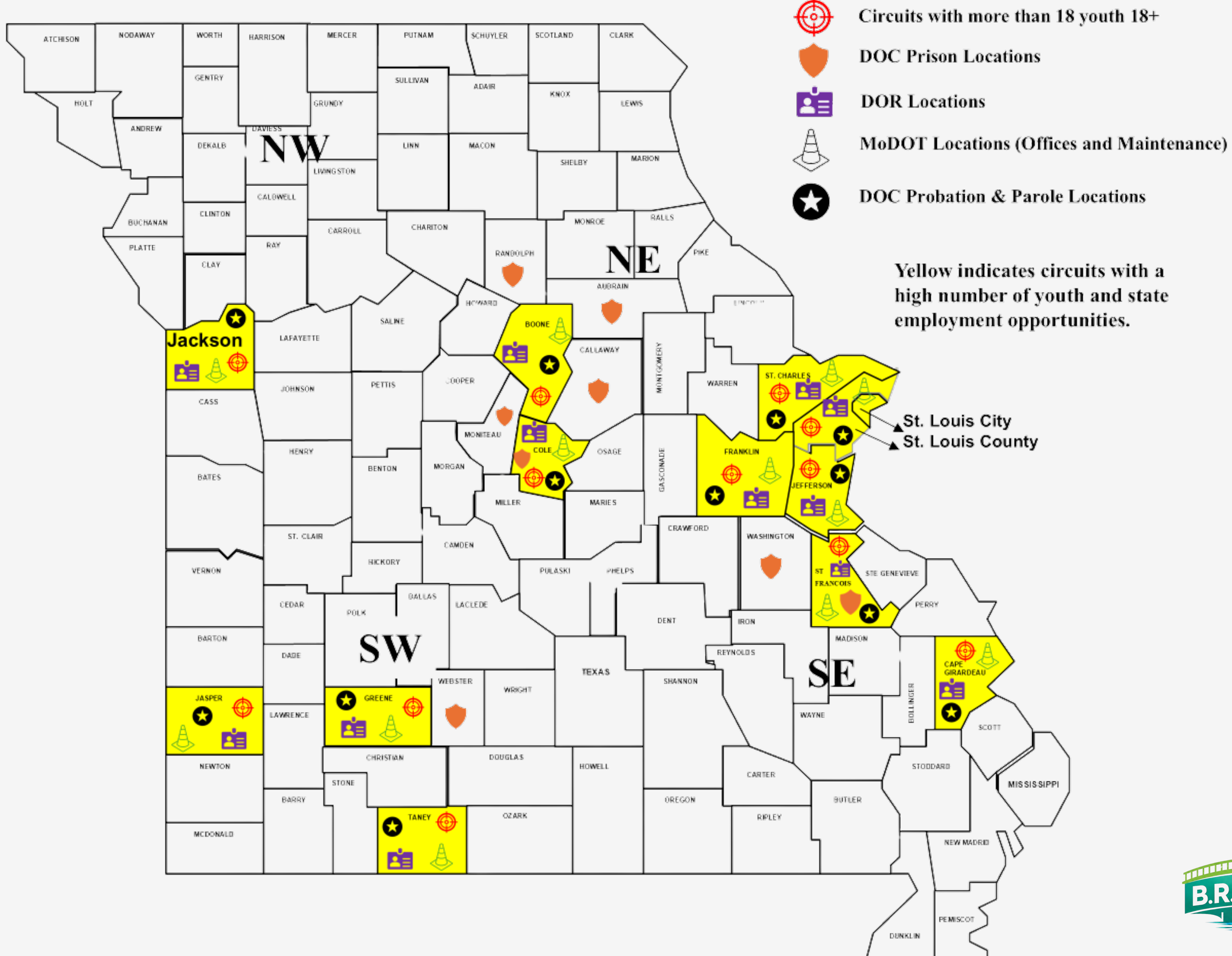


# Young Adult SUPPORT SERVICES

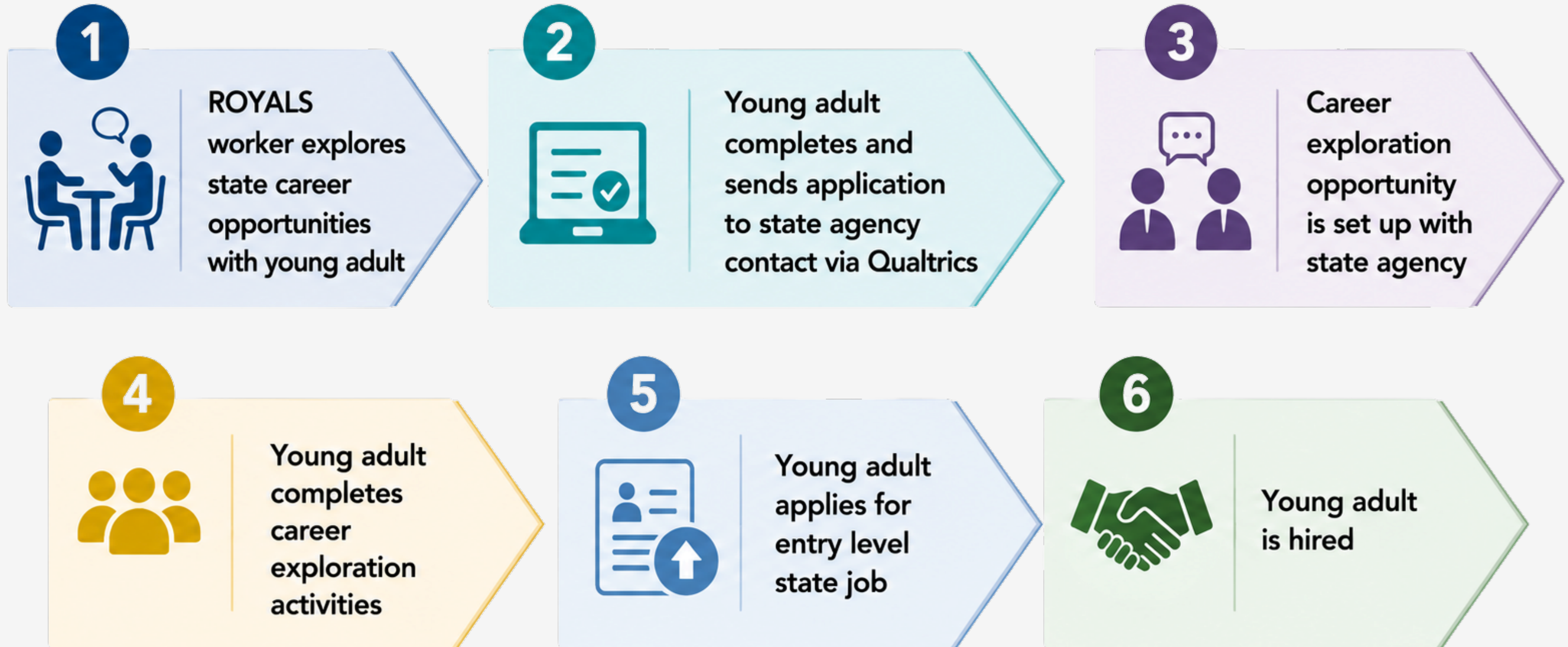


# Capstone Partners





# The Process





## MOCareers

Agencies | MO.gov



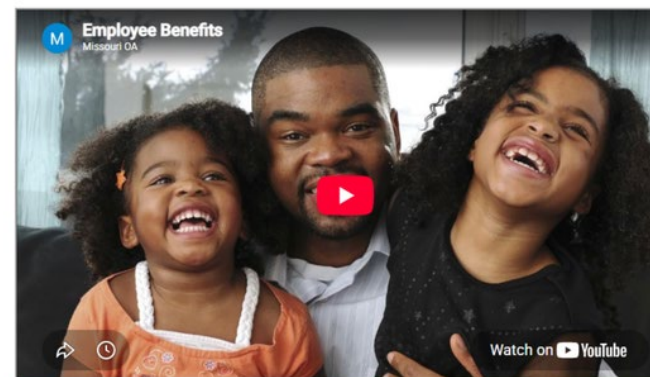
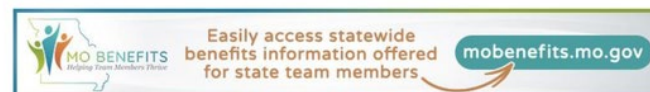
## Why Missouri State Government is Great for Young Job Seekers

Entry-level jobs are everywhere  
Many departments offer roles that  
require only a high school diploma  
or basic experience—perfect for  
young adults entering the workforce.

You make an impact from day one  
Your work helps protect families,  
support schools, strengthen  
communities, and improve daily life for  
Missourians. You don't need years of  
experience to start making a difference.

You'll grow with support  
Whether you're just starting out or  
entering the workforce for the first time,  
Missouri state government provides  
training, mentorship, and opportunities to  
build skills that help you advance.

## BENEFITS



## Entry Level Highlights



Maintenance Workers



Emergency Operators



## Missouri Department of Corrections

### Correctional Officer I



### Probation and Parole Assistant



# WE ARE AT A CROSSROAD.



The **CLIFF** leads to unfilled state government positions and youth leaving foster care to disproportionate negative outcomes.

The **BRIDGE** leads to a stronger government with a stable workforce and a brighter future for foster youth and Missouri.



## THE CLIFF



Unfilled State Government Positions



Disproportionate Negative Outcomes



Lost Potential.  
Higher Costs.  
Weaker Future.



## THE BRIDGE



Stronger Government



Stable Workforce



Brighter Future  
for Foster Youth  
and Missouri





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