

Paraeducator IET

We Got “Skills”!



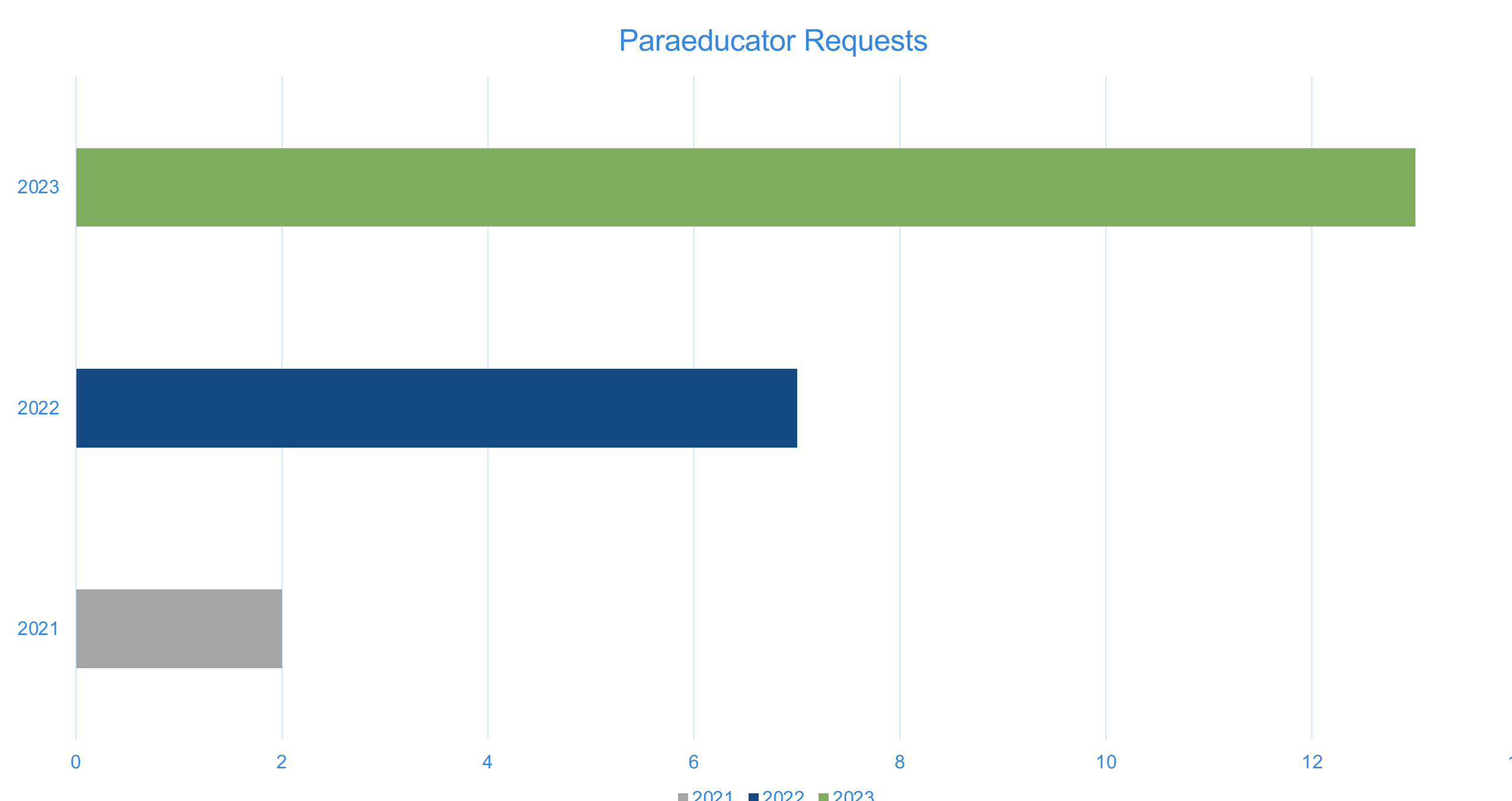
Abstract

The WKEC Adult Education program in partnership with WKEC SERTAC (Special Education Regional Technical Assistance Center) developed an updated Paraeducator Course that is designed for individuals to prepare and pass the Kentucky Paraeducator Assessment and to complete modules focused on special education roles and responsibilities. The course consists of a combination of in-person instruction and distance learning for a minimum of 12 hours.

Introduction

- **Paraeducators provide instructional support to students under the direct supervision of a certified teacher.**
- **School districts are struggling to fill Paraeducator positions and retain teachers according to WKEC Board.**
- **The shortage of paraeducators in our 10 counties along with the increase in requests to access the Paraeducator Assessment, led our PLC to determine that a Paraeducator IET would benefit not only our local school districts but also job-seeking candidates and increase MSGs for our program.**
- **The KY Paraeducator Assessment has not been updated since 2009.**

Table 1. Paraeducator Requests



Product Description & Motivation

- WKEC KY Paraeducator Course is a 12-hour course (academics/ paraeducator study guide/ special education roles and responsibilities).
- Course developed as a partnership between WKEC Adult Education and WKEC SERTAC (Special Education Regional Technical Assistance Center)

SSLO's

- Read, interpret, and analyze information
- Knowledge of the language and its conventions
- Solve multi-step real-life and mathematical problems
- Determine the meaning of domain-specific words
- Set goals, follow directions, collaborate, problem solve

Course Completion

- KY Paraeducator Assessment passing score- 48/60
- Mastery of Special Education Roles & Responsibilities- 80%

Course Design

- Academic Instruction- provided by WKED Adult Education Instructors (TABE, individualized instruction, online programs)
- Paraeducator Roles & Responsibilities Instruction- WKEC Adult Education Instructors (online vocabulary review, slide shows, individualized instruction)
- Special Education Roles & Responsibilities- WKEC Adult Education Instructors & SERTAC video modules (independent practice, individualized instruction, online learning)

Baseline & Goal

BASELINE

- WKEC Adult Education started with a baseline of 72 MSGs. Data from KAERS indicates (50+61+106 = 217 divided by 3 = 72)

GOALS

- 10 KY Paraeducator Course completion/certifications per year
- 10 school district engagements per year
- 10 school district contacts/meetings to advertise the course & flyers
- Our goal was to raise our MSGs, through the implementation of the WKEC Paraeducator Course, by 10%, setting our goal at 79 MSGs. (72 plus 10% = 72+7 = 79 MSGs)

Results

Goal of 10 certifications per year/2.5 by April

- Certifications- 1
- In progress- 2
- Increase in MSGs.

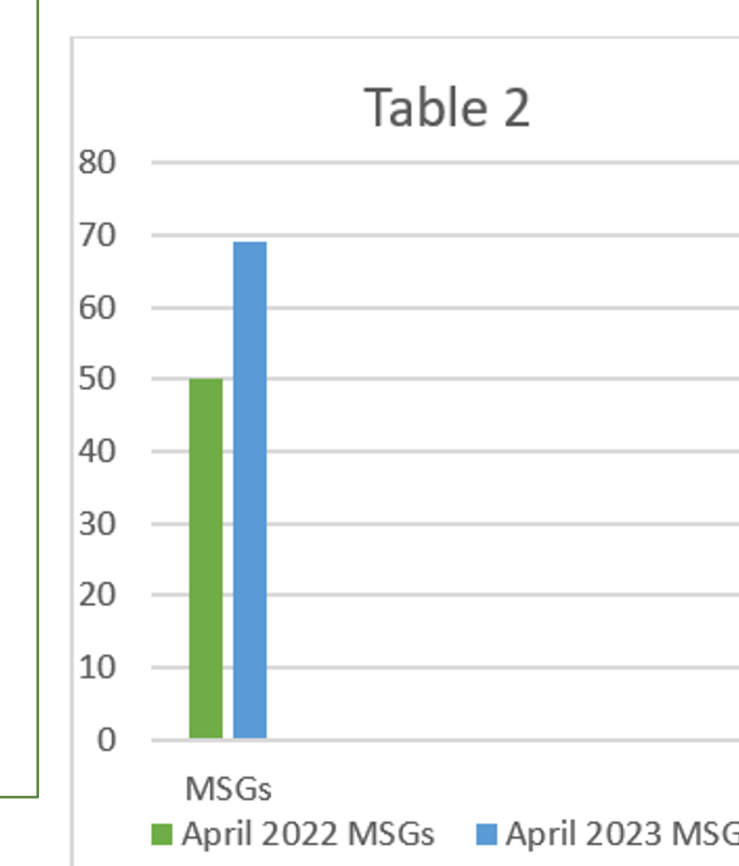


Image 1. WKEC Adult Education KY Paraeducator Course Flyer

Table 2. MSGs



Discussion

- Goals were appropriate based on the size and location of local districts
- Seven school districts have requested the course for their current paraeducators
- Summer/Fall - schools advertise for paraeducator job openings

Conclusions

- While we have not met the 10% MSG increase, our program has had one successful student complete the IET Paraeducator Course and 2 in progress.
- Our marketing efforts of the IET Paraeducator Course and our program has helped increase our overall MSG numbers.
- The advertising of the IET Paraeducator Course has led to another IET/WPL with Audubon Head Start for their CDA program.

References & Acknowledgements

Thanks to WKEC Special Education Regional Assistance Team for their partnership on this IET