

## **Sally Payne**

Sally Payne has been named Director of Workforce Development for the City of Springfield after serving as Interim Director since December of 2019. Sally joined the City in 2008 as an accounting supervisor. She was promoted to fiscal administrator and then assistant director of Workforce Development before taking on the role of Interim Director.

During her 13-year tenure in Workforce Development, Sally led the effort to create a northside Job Center, developed the Career Closet, assisted with various initiatives and job training programs including the launch of Build My Future. She currently sits on the Build My Future board. She is a regular presenter at local, state and national workforce conferences.

As Interim Director, Sally led the Workforce Development department through the initial pandemic phase as businesses closed and thousands of Ozarkers were laid off. Job Center staff were directed to assist those filing for unemployment, many for the first time, to help navigate that system and led efforts to get the information out through local media partners about eligibility for the different types of assistance offered by the federal government. In recent months Sally started a podcast called Workforce Vibe, which was the first of its kind for any city department.

In July, the department was awarded a \$3 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to prepare 400 justice involved individuals for the workforce as they are preparing to leave the state prison system and relocate back to southern Missouri. Sally is currently collaborating with other City departments to train construction workers through an initiative called Project Core.

Sally has a degree in Economics from Missouri State University. She has two grown children, Sophie and Parker.