



Camden County Workforce Development Board

Supporting the Development and Retention of a World Class Workforce

Gregg T. DeBaere, Chair
Jeffrey S. Swartz, Executive Director

ABILITIES & LITERACY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES MAY 09, 2017

ATTENDANCE – LITERACY COMMITTEE

MEMBERS		12-Sep	4-Oct	1-Nov	6-Dec	3-Jan	7-Feb	7-Mar-17	4-Apr-17	9-May-17
Brahl, Ken CHAIR	Ravitz Family Shoprites	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Abrams, Barbara	Jewish Family & Children Service of Southern NJ	X		X	X		X			X
Beach, Patti	Camden County One-Stop	X	X	X	X	X		X		
Dann, Carol	Camden County College		X		X	X	X		X	
Kalitan, Marlyn	Kalitan Consulting		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Knopf, Dick	Marketing Professional Services	X		X		X			X	X
Young, Jennifer	Verizon		X		X		X			
Weaver, Thomas	Mayor, Clementon Borough				X					
Goodman, Steve	Volunteers of America, Del Valley				X	X				X
Welder, Laura	JEVS			X	X	X				
Walton, Marcie	VOA-Face Forward				X					
Powell, Michelle	Camden County College				X					
Pryor, Regina	DOL-Employment and Training	X	X		X	X	X	X		
Desiderio, Daniela	Housing Authority, City of Camden							X		
Naila Tanczak	DOS La Quinta Inn & Suites									X
Swartz, Jeffrey S., Exec. Director	WDB	X		X	X			X		X
Stubblefield, Lelia	WDB									
Varallo, Kathleen	WDB	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Williams, Leslie J	WDB	X								
Naroden, Eric	WDB Intern	X								
Debbie Friedner	Camden County One-Stop Career Counselor						X			
Laurie Maguire	CCRC-Workforce Learning Link									X

ATTENDANCE – ABILITIES COMMITTEE

MEMBERS		12-Jul	9-Aug	12-Sep	11-Oct	1-Nov	10-Jan	7-Feb	13-Mar	10-Apr	9-May
Maggio, Jim CHAIR	TFG/Judge Group			X		X	X		Snow n/m	holiday n/m	X
Abrams, Barbara	Jewish Family & Children Service of Southern NJ		X	X		X		X			X
Cipolla, Joe	Jewish Employment and Vocational Services				X	X		X			
Davis, Anthony	Mental Services of Southwestern New Jersey		X			X	X	X			
Deitz, Jeffery	Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services	X		X							X
Farber, Dan	Birght Lights USA			X			X				
Forman, Lois	Bancroft	X		X	X	X	X				X
Geoffrey, Taylor	NJ DOL DVOP										
Lombardo, Rick	Target Stores					X					
Lope, Krista	NJ Division of Vocational and Rehabilitation Services		X								
Lucas, Angela	Hireability		X	X	X	X	X	X			X
Newman, Jason	NJ DOL DVOP										
Pryor, Regina	LWD Division of Workforce Operations and Business Svcs.			X	X			X			
Schwengel, Laura	Jewish Family & Children Service of Southern NJ			X							
Tumolillo, Terry	Voice Print										
Walton, Marcie	VOA					X					
Waletz, Julie	ARC of Camden County										
Welder, Laura	Jewish Employment and Vocational Services					X					
Swartz, Jeffrey S.	WDB Executive Director	X	X	X	X	X					X
Varallo Kathleen	WDB Administrative Assistant	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X
Naroden, Eric	WDB Intern										
Stubblefield, Lelia	WDB Administrative Assistant										
Williams, Leslie	WDB Comptroller										

WELCOME

Literacy Chair, Ken Brahl and Abilities Chair, Jim Maggio called the meeting to order, welcomed attendees and asked for roundtable introductions. Ken directed Literacy Committee members to the minutes from their last

meeting on Tuesday, April 4th. Ken said that he and Jeffrey Swartz will be meeting with Jonathon Young, Freeholder to present the Literacy Needs Assessment on Tuesday, May 23rd. He will report on this meeting at the next Literacy Committee Meeting on Tuesday, June 6th. The purpose of this joint meeting will be the planning of the Dispelling the Myths event and most importantly, we will need to finalize the location.

Kathleen Varallo, WDB Administrative Assistant reported calling several different venues to host the event including the Crowne Plaza, Holiday Inn, Camden County College, the Scottish Rite in Collingswood and the Jewish Community Center in Cherry Hill. The Federation Annex Building, where the event was held last year seems to be the most reasonable and easily accessible location for employers. Jeff said the only down side to the Federation Building is the chore of setting up and breaking down the tables, linens and chairs. The committee discussed the location options. All agreed that ease of access for employers was the priority. Ken suggested that we stay with the current location on Springdale Road. As long as we know the challenges in advance, we will be able to gather volunteers to do the set up. Jim Maggio, Abilities chair, asked for any additional concerns. Hearing no other concerns the committee voted to keep the event at the Federation. Barbara Abrams said she would check the date with both the Jewish Community Center and the Federation in case the Federation is booked.

“DISPELLING THE MYTHS” – *Taking Steps Toward Inclusion in the Workplace*

Location: Jewish Federation Annex Building, 1721 Springdale Road, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003

Date/Time: Friday, October 20, 2017, 8:30am-11:00am

- 8:30am – 9:00am Registration, Continental Breakfast & Exhibit Area
- 9:00-10:30 - Guest Speaker, Panel Discussion, Question/Answer Open Discussion
- 10:30-11:00 – Exhibit Area & Networking

PANELIST & PROGRAM UPDATE

Deb Dagit is approved and confirmed as the main guest speaker of the “Dispelling the Myths” event, *Deb Dagit is a sought-after consultant and speaker on the topics of Diversity and Inclusion. As Merck’s VP and CDO for almost 12 years, Deb was responsible for global equal opportunity, employee relations, recruiting, staffing diversity and inclusion. Under her leadership, the company was recognized for its exemplary work in diversity. Deb played a role in the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act through her lobbying efforts and testified before the US Senate Health Education Labor and Pensions Committee in 2011 regarding best practices for improving employment opportunities for people with disabilities.*

Kathleen said that Michele McKeone, Digitability, an Autism-to-Work Online Training Service is confirmed as a panelist. She said Joe Cipolla is contacting someone from Wells Fargo Bank. We also sent a speaker invite to Debbie Deissroth, Corporate Director, Learning & Development, Project Search at Kennedy Health. Dick Knopf asked for more information about this program. Jeff explained, Project Search is a national program that has been established locally at Kennedy Hospital. Kennedy Hospital is working with a cohort from the Yale School that are high functioning students on the Autism spectrum. The Autistic students are being trained through On-the-Job Internships. Jeff said that this local program is modeled after a successful national program. A few of our committee members are involved guiding this initiative. Barbara Abrams said she would follow up with Debbie Deissroth.

The committee discussed other options for panelists. All agreed to reach out to their contacts and finalize the panelists prior to the next meeting. The committee discussed the number of panelists that would be appropriate in keeping with the time schedule of the event. It was agreed that four panelists and the main speaker would be preferable over the five there were last year. Since two of the confirmed speakers are on the training and development side of employment, all agreed that the other two panelists should be employers who could talk about their successes with starting inclusive hiring programs.

Dick Knopf asked about the time schedule and what adjustments should be made to improve the overall program this year. The committee discussed what worked well in past years. The overall program timing should be consistent to what is advertised. Most employers were engaged during the event and were not rushing out the door. All agreed the format went well, speaker, panel, question and answers flowed nicely. Networking, before and after the event worked as well. Ken said cutting out one panelist will help trim the program so that it does not run too long. He said it is important to respect the time schedules of employers. The committee discussed the advertised time schedule normally 9-11am. All agreed to set the hours at 8:30-9am registration and breakfast. This would give a little more time for networking and then start the program promptly at nine. (9:00am)

The committee discussed exhibitor time frames for setting up. There may be a possibility of having them set up the night before if the gym at the Federation is not being used. There is no cost to the exhibitor. Lois Foreman said there were no problems with setting up last year. She said it did not take her much time. Most exhibitors know what to bring and are very self-contained. The committees agreed to make personal contacts to increase the number of exhibitors at this year's event.

VIDEO FOOTAGE UPDATE

The committee's discussed the video footage and that it will be used to market the upcoming event. Kathleen will send a link to the footage again for review. The students at the Camden County Technical School (CCTS) Visual Department have been contacted and are awaiting further input from the committee as far as editing the footage. Barbara Abrams said that several 10 second video statements could be edited together with links to the full video of last year's event. Ken suggested that Barbara Abrams book and confirm the same audio visual company that we used for last year's event. Marlyn suggested that video editing can be done by simply using a cell phone to capture suggested footage and make a note of the approximate time into the footage that the snippet appears. Jim said he will reach out to the class instructor at CCTS.

NEXT MEETING

The Literacy Committee will meet Tuesday, June 6th at 8:30am and the Abilities Committee will meet Tuesday, June 13th at 9:00am.

Submitted by

Kathleen Varallo

Administrative Assistant