



**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 COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 13TH, 2017**

**ATTENDANCE – ABILITIES COMMITTEE**

MEMBERS		12-Jul	9-Aug	12-Sep	11-Oct	1-Nov	10-Jan	7-Feb	13-Mar	10-Apr	9-May	13-Jun
Maggio, Jim CHAIR	TFG/Judge Group			X		X	X		Snow n/m	holiday n/m	X	X
Abrams, Barbara	Jewish Family & Children Service of Southern NJ		X	X		X		X			X	X
Gipolla, 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	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	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						
Waltz, 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	X
Varallo Kathleen	WDB Administrative Assistant	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X
Naroden, Eric	WDB Intern											
Stubblefield, Lelia	WDB Administrative Assistant											
Williams, Leslie	WDB Comptroller											

**WELCOME**

Abilities Chair, Jim Maggio called the meeting to order, welcomed attendees and asked for roundtable introductions. The committee briefly discussed the success of the Project Search program at Kennedy Hospital. Jeffrey S. Swartz, WDB Executive Director applauded the efforts of some committee members who participated in launching the program. Barbara Abrams, Jewish Family & Children Service and Lois Forman, Bancroft both agreed there was a tremendous amount of work involved. It is rewarding to see young individuals on the Autism spectrum graduating and being placed in sustainable jobs as a result of this program. They were happy that a discussion about Project Search will be included in the upcoming October event. Jim reviewed the general information about the event, confirmed speaker and panelists.

**“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

**SPEAKER & PROGRAM UPDATE**

Deb Dagit is approved and confirmed as the main guest speaker of the “Dispelling the Myths” event,

1111 Markkress Road, Suite 101, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003 • [www.ccwib.com](http://www.ccwib.com)

Phone: 856.751.1500 • Fax: 856.751.4495

*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.*

#### Panelists:

- Michele McKeone, Digitability, an Autism-to-Work Online Training Service
- Debbie Deissroth, Corporate Director, Learning & Development, Project Search at Kennedy Health.
- WaWa – panelist to be named
- Wells Fargo Bank – panelist to be named.

Angela Lucas, Hireability, said we have not gotten full confirmation about who will be speaking from Wells Fargo Bank. Kathleen Varallo, WDB Administrative Assistant said that it was agreed at the joint meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup>, to include at least two employers who are engaged in inclusive hiring practices. She said this was meant to create a balance in the program with two training providers and two employers. Kathleen said the panelist's names were not included on the last year's flyer, however were named in the event program so there is still time to get the specifics while we promote the event. Lois Forman said she could contact Deb Dagit as a back up to get contacts for employer panelists. She said there is a USBLN conference in Orlando at the end of August. Deb will have access to a full list of employers who may be willing to participate on the panel. She was thinking that Marriott might be a local candidate for participation. The Philadelphia Marriott has a hiring program.

#### SPONSORSHIP UPDATE:

Jeff reported having spoken to Judi London, Bancroft Marketing Manager. He is awaiting a sponsorship commitment letter from Bancroft. Once the letter is received, our office can expedite the sponsorship with an invoice. He said Bancroft will receive an exhibit table and recognition for their sponsorship on all printed materials distributed about the event.

Barbara Abrams confirmed that the date is cleared with the Jewish Federation. We will still have to rent some tables and chairs and will need some assistance with the set up and break down. Jeff said that we should be able to complete the invite/flyer and get it out to all of our contacts. The committee reviewed the flyer. Barbara said there is a new name for the building. It is now called the Jewish Federation Commons. Lois Forman asked that the flyer be sent to Judi London for approval before it is distributed. Barbara asked that Jewish Family and Children's Services be listed under the "Soups and Sweets" logo so that it is clear. It appears in the logo but the font is too small to read.

#### PROGRAM AGENDA AND FORMAT

Jim asked the committee if the format and time frame was finalized. The committee discussed the format (see above) and agreed that no changes need to be made except to open the registration at 8:15 instead of 8:30am. The main speaker would be given a time slot of 25 minutes to speak. The time allotted for each panelist presentation would be 8-10 minutes. Someone in the committee is going to contact the speaker/panelists to

review format, talking points and time frames. Jeff said that Freeholder Young was invited last year to participate by opening the program with welcoming remarks. All agreed to invite him to do the same at this year's event. He also said that the agenda should be reviewed at the beginning of the program so that attendees know what to expect.

The committee discussed the exhibit or networking tables. All agreed it would be a good idea to invite more participation of employers or partnering organizations to reserve an exhibit table at the event. All the panelists and speaker will be invited to set up a display table as well as any sponsors to the event in addition to Bancroft. The committee suggested that the One-Stop take a table to create awareness about its services for employers. The exhibit tables serve to fill the room and present a wider scope of awareness and information about supporting services for employers who would like to begin hiring individuals with disabilities.

Lois Forman offered another work trial volunteer to help update the event contact list and send out e-vites and emails. The committee discussed new ideas for contacts and how to promote the event to a broader reach of employers. The committee agreed to forward contacts to the WDB office that could be added to the event mailing list.

#### VIDEO FOOTAGE UPDATE

Jim Maggio said he contacted the Camden County Technical School (CCTS) Visual Department. Since their school year is coming to a close, the video editing project will have to wait until school is back in session in September. He asked if there was a summer program that might be in place to take on the project. The video instructor was going to get back in touch with him. He said the delay will give the committee time to review the footage carefully to get specific about how it should be edited and presented to promote the October as well as other Abilities events. Barbara suggested that those who already volunteered to review the footage should plan on getting together sometime over the summer to view and make a decision about getting just two good minutes edited.

Jim summarized the assignments of the committee to be as follows; finalize employer panelists from WaWa and Wells Fargo. If none can commit, we will contact Deb Dagit for employer contacts, get approval from Judi London about the e-vite/flyer, and promote exhibit tables to increase participation in that area. The committee should forward new agency and employer contacts to add to the event mailing/contact list. Committee members who volunteered to review the video footage of last year's event should plan on attending a meeting dedicated solely for the purposes of editing the footage down to a two minute version that can be used to promote the Dispelling the Myths, 2017 event via social media outlets.

#### NEXT MEETING

The Abilities Committee will meet Tuesday, July 11<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am.

Submitted by

*Kathleen Varallo*

Administrative Assistant