



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Supporting the Development and Retention of a World Class Workforce

Jeffrey S. Swartz, Executive Director

Carl A. Donato Jr., Chair

**BUSINESS SERVICES AND OUTREACH TEAM
MEETING MINUTES
THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2024, 2:00 PM
ZOOM MEETING**

ATTENDANCE

COMMITTEE INFORMATION AND ATTENDANCE									
Name	Organization	Trustee Member	15-Jun-23	20-Jul-23	17-Aug-23	16-Nov-23	14-Dec-23	18-Jan-24	
Thompson Ryan	Truist Bank, BSOT Chair			X		X	X	X	
Adams, Darrel	Camden County 55+ Program				X				
Askie-Rosario, Andrea	CC Commission of the Blind		X		X				
Baer, Jessika	NJ DOL						X		
Bass, Henry	NJ DOL			X					
Campbell, Gabriella	NJ DOL							X	
Cirii, Frank	CCOSCC	X				X	X	X	
Davis, Gerald	CCOSCC		X			X			
Deitz, Jeff	DVRS		X						
Field, Nicole	NJDOL		X	X					
Forman, Lois	Jewish Family & Children's Service				X				
Fugee, Antoinette	Cooper		X			X		X	
Kaur, Nimit	Camden County Health and Human Services						X		
Langhorne, Riscee	Hopeworks						X		
Lakshminarayan, Pavithra	NJ Dept. of Labor & Workforce Dev.						X	X	
Law, Quinton	Camden Community Partnership			X					
Lord, Lisa	CCTS				X	X	X	X	
McClinton, Crystal	NJ Courts: Probation Division, Camden Vicinage								X
McCormick, Carol	Camden County College		X		X	X		X	
Moen, Bill	Camden County College				X	X	X	X	
Page-Soncrant, Jeanne	NJ DOL, Business Rep.				X		X	X	
Perez, Irene	DVRS		X	X	X	X		X	
Randall, Angela	Community Planning & Advocacy Council (CPAC)								X
Regensburger, Robert	Lockheed Martin	X	X		X				X
Richardson, Ryan	NJDOL								X
Shafer, Derena	Camden County College		X	X		X	X		
Sinclair, Nidia	Camden County One-Stop			X					
Spector, David	NJDOL			X					
Weil, Robert	Conner, Strong, and Bucklew	X	X	X		X	X	X	
Gutbezahl, Maayan	WDB						X	X	
Henderson, Bridget	WDB				X				
Levitt, Alex	WDB		X	X	X	X			
Swartz, Jeffrey S.	WDB		X	X	X		X		
Vaughn, Debra	WDB		X	X	X		X	X	
Williams, Leslie	WDB								

WELCOME & APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Ryan Thompson, Chair, opened the meeting at 2:03 PM.
- As the first order of business, Ryan asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the December 14, 2023 committee meeting. The motion was made by Bob Weil and seconded by Antoinette Fugee. By majority vote to the affirmative, the motion carried and the meeting minutes for December 14, 2023 were approved.

BUSINESS/COMMITTEE UPDATES

Irene Perez, DVRS

- DVRS is working with several of their vendors which have been awarded INE (Innovation and Expansion) grants. Among the grant requirements, the vendors will do the following:
 - Host a DEAM event
 - Host a job fair (scheduled for Spring 2024)
 - Open 90 cases for disabled individuals who do not require one-on-one assistance to gain



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Supporting the Development and Retention of a World Class Workforce

Jeffrey S. Swartz, Executive Director

Carl A. Donato Jr., Chair

employment

- Provide work-readiness with new clients
- Establish a relationship with 25 employers that previously have not worked with DVRS and educate them on the benefits of hiring the disabled
- DVRS will participate in a virtual recruitment event with NJEDA on January 30th from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Registration is required.
 - Full-time, part-time, temporary, and remote jobs are available, including opportunities for high school students.
- State agencies are making an effort to hire people with disabilities. Applicants provide a cover letter or resume and their Schedule A/B New Jersey letter, which is the document that certifies their disability. If the applicant qualifies for the job, they will get a good faith interview. Job offers have been made at State agencies.

Pavithra Lakshminarayan, NJDOL/LWD, Industry Partnership Division

- Puratos has been helpful with career awareness events as part of the action team. They promote career awareness, STEM education, and exploring the manufacturing process in the food industry/food manufacturing sector.
 - An event was held in Egg Harbor Township School District (last month).
 - Approximately 20 students from Cumberland Tech High School will be hosted on the 31st of this month.
 - Discussions are just starting with Lockheed Martin to do a similar program, beginning with the Camden School District. Lisa Lord mentioned that Inductotherm may also want to participate.
- NJEDA has spearheaded meetings with the NJDOL Industry Partnership Unit regarding the CHIPS and Science Act. Discussions have begun with the Camden County offices of Lockheed Martin, Joint Base MDL, FA Tech and some industry partners from the North Central as well.
- There have been discussions for creating pathways with Carol McCormick (CCC) and Lisa Lord (CCTS).

Ryan Richardson, NJDOL/Energy Industry Partnership, Sector Lead

- The Office of the Secretary of Higher Education (OSHE) is releasing grant funding for the Career Accelerator Internship Program, which will fund all interns going through NJ businesses for this summer (May through August). NJ American Water, ACE and PSEG have all applied for interns. The intern applicants must be HS graduates and matriculated in a NJ college. They will be paid \$20/hr. PSEG has expressed interest in potentially using the internships as a pipeline for on-the-job training and hiring the interns at the end of the summer.

Carol McCormick, Camden County College

- The Mfg Pre-Apprenticeship Bootcamp is in the pre-screening phase and will begin February 11th.
 - Participants will earn 13 college credits in the Precision Machining Technology Program which can be applied toward an Associate's Degree. In addition, participants will receive a national metal working skills credential.



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Supporting the Development and Retention of a World Class Workforce

Jeffrey S. Swartz, Executive Director

Carl A. Donato Jr., Chair

- The Basic Skills Grant, which provides free training from the DOL, is available to all private sector employers for a minimum of 10 people. Courses offered include leadership, customer service, time management, Microsoft, and others. The open enrollment classes are held virtually Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Email blasts are sent to all the employers at the beginning of each month, notifying which classes are coming up for the next month.

Antoinette Fugee, Cooper University Hospital

- Cooper is continuing to develop partnerships with local high schools for workforce development programs:
 - Phlebotomy tech students from Brimm Academy are being onboarded at Cooper Hospital to begin their clinical studies on February 6th.
 - Critical Care Tech Program with Brimm Medical Arts Academy in partnership with Rowan College of South Jersey. Students will complete the curriculum components and the didactic with Rowan and move on to the clinical components at Cooper Hospital on February 26th, running through the end of the year to complete all of their hours for their clinical portions.
 - Medical Lab Tech Pilot Program with Mercer County College bringing the students into Cooper once they've completed their didactic portion.
 - Discussions have begun to launch a Critical Care Tech Program with Kipp High School and Mastery High School graduating seniors who are not college bound. They can start the program in May. There will be pathways to connect them to Cooper Hospital's hospitality and operations positions, as well as possible training opportunities directed to healthcare. The program will include developing a support system for these newly graduated high school students, addressing fundamental expectations for professionalism and how to be successful.
 - Cooper is in the process of partnering with CCTS to start a co-op for their HVAC program.
 - Cooper recently sponsored 6 members of its frontline team for the EMT Program that launched this week, in partnership with Hopeworks and Camden County One-Stop.
 - In response to questions from Irene Perez and Angela Randall, Antoinette noted that the Critical Care Tech Program with Hopeworks is designed for Camden City residents. Once the students complete their training partnerships with local high schools, qualifying to take the NHA exam and earning their certification, they will work with Cooper Hospital for 2 years. High school DVR students can start with career exploration on a case-by-case basis.

Ryan Thompson, Truist Bank

- Financial Literacy Quick Trust update:
 - A team of Truist colleagues provided budgeting workshops for the students at Atlantic City High School in partnership with the African American Chamber of Commerce. They are available to incorporate financial literacy into training programs throughout New Jersey.



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Supporting the Development and Retention of a World Class Workforce

Jeffrey S. Swartz, Executive Director

Carl A. Donato, Jr., Chair

- There is a collaborative meeting of the WDB committees on January 31st. The meeting is for planning the event in Clementon on May 6th. Ryan suggested that everyone mark their calendars and hopefully participate in the event.

Lisa Lord, Camden County Technical School

- Camden County Technical Schools (CCTS) will hold 2 job fairs the first week of March:
 - March 1st, there will be a job fair specifically for CCTS students in Pennsauken
 - March 6th, there will be a job fair at the high school in Sicklerville from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

Angela Randall, Community Planning & Advocacy Council (CPAC),

- As Director/Planner of Homeless Services at CPAC, Angela is currently working with an Advisory Board along with young adults who are experiencing housing instability. Their group, the Youth Empowerment and Advocacy Headship, illuminates what is going on in the world of employment for youth who do not have parental involvement and guidance. Some are out of school and the majority are without income. These are individuals between the ages of 16 and 24. CPAC will conduct an annual homeless count in Camden County and have a resource fair at Cathedral Kitchen off of Federal St. on January 25th.
- Antoinette suggested that Angela reach out to Risce Langhorne (Director/Workforce Internship Pathways) at Hopeworks.

Robert Weil, Conner, Strong & Buckelew

- Connor Strong and Buckelew has open positions for experienced insurance professionals, such as:
 - Director of Data Analytics and Actuarial Services Department
 - Associate Claim Consultant, with one position open in New York City
 - Training Associate in the Camden office
 - Town Acquisition Sourcer (remote)Interested parties can go to the company's website to find open positions and upload their resumé.

Gabriella Campbell, NJDOL/LWD

- As an OJT writer for Camden County, Gabriella commented that she is looking for grants and there is still money available.

STATE, CAMDEN COUNTY, & REGIONAL BSR UPDATES

Jeanne Page-Soncrant, NJDOL

- Jeanne hosted a virtual recruitment event for PILOT Services to hire direct support professionals for group housing. She has 2 virtual recruitments events scheduled:
 - Wawa
 - Cooper University Hospital – Patient Access Navigators, Patient Services Representatives (customer service positions)
- The One-Stop/Employment Weekly job fair at the Cherry Hill Mall has been postponed until Friday, January 26th.



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Supporting the Development and Retention of a World Class Workforce

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

Jeff Swartz, WDB – Absent, no updates provided

ADJOURNMENT

Ryan asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Bob Weil, seconded by Antoinette Fugee. By majority vote to the affirmative, the motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 2:48 PM.

NEXT MEETING

The next Business Services and Outreach Team Committee meeting will be held Thursday, February 15, 2024, at 2:00 PM. via Zoom. Meeting materials and Zoom conferencing information will be distributed prior to the meeting.

Submitted by:

Debra Vaughn

Assistant to the Executive Director