



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, NOVEMBER 16, 2023, 2:00 PM (ZOOM CONFERENCING)
1111 MARLKRESS ROAD, SUITE 101, CHERRY HILL, NJ 08003**

ATTENDANCE

COMMITTEE INFORMATION AND ATTENDANCE									
Name	Organization	Trustee Member	20-Apr-23	18-May-23	15-Jun-23	20-Jul-23	17-Aug-23	16-Nov-23	
Thompson Ryan	Truist Bank, BSOT Chair		X			X		X	
Adams, Darrel	Camden County 55+ Program						X		
Askie-Rosario, Andrea	CC Commission of the Blind			X	X		X		
Baer, Jessika	NJ DOL		X						
Bass, Henry	NJ DOL					X			
Cirii, Frank	CCOSCC	X	X	X					X
Davis, Gerald	CCOSCC			X	X				X
Davis, Taylor	KIPP New Jersey		X						
Deitz, Jeff	DVRS		X		X				
Farrar, Gary	Transportation								
Field, Nicole	NJDOL				X	X			
Forman, Lois	Jewish Family & Children's Service						X		
Fugee, Antoinette	Cooper		X		X				X
Gaskins, Melanie	Camden County College								
Laguna, Connie	Truist Bank								
Law, Quinton	Camden Community Partnership					X			
Leonetti, Mike	CCOSCC								
Lex, Jim	Camden County Improvement Authority								
Lord, Lisa	CCTS						X		X
McCormick, Carol	Camden County College			X	X		X		X
Moen, Bill	Camden County College		X				X		X
Page-Soncrant, Jeanne	NJ DOL, Business Rep.		X	X			X		
Perez, Irene	DVRS				X	X	X		X
Quinores, Cris	WAWA								
Regensburger, Robert	Lockheed Martin	X	X	X	X		X		
Shafer, Derena	Camden County College			X	X	X			X
Sinclair, Nidia	Camden County One-Stop					X			
Spector, David	NJDOL			X		X			
Urkowitz, Ronda	Cross County Connection TMA								
Weil, Robert	Connor, Strong, and Bucklew	X		X	X	X			X
Yares, Yoni									
Henderson, Bridget	WDB						X		
Levitt, Alex	WDB		X	X	X	X	X		X
Swartz, Jeffrey S.	WDB		X		X	X	X		
Vaughn, Debra	WDB		X	X	X	X	X		
Williams, Leslie	WDB								

Welcome

Ryan Thompson, Chair, greeted committee members and guests and opened the meeting at 2:04 pm.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Ryan asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the September 21, 2023 meeting. Motion for approval was made by Antoinette Fugee and seconded by Gerald Davis. By a majority vote to the affirmative, the minutes for the September 21, 2023 meeting were approved.

Committee Updates

Irene Perez, DVRS

- Jeanne Page-Soncrant coordinated a site visit at Citizens Bank for DVR. Andrea Askie-Rosario and Gerald Davis attended. The tour included a demonstration of the adjustments made to the ATM which allow it to serve as a virtual teller for the visually impaired. Gerald added that he was very impressed with the services provided for blind or visually impaired bank customers.

- On Friday, November 17th, DVR will host a job fair/NDEAM event in Cumberland County. They are working closely with the NJDOL Office of Apprenticeship. November is Apprenticeship Month. The Office of Apprenticeship provided a very informative presentation in Monmouth County, central to workforce in all of the state, county, DVR and Business Service Representatives.

Frank, Ciri, Camden County One-Stop

- Incumbent Worker Training (IWT)
 - ShopRite's cohort is ending and appears to have gone well. The data has been collected and will be processed and reviewed. Another cohort can begin after a complete application is submitted and has been approved after thorough review.
 - The Bancroft cohort for their pilot program is ongoing.
- The One-Stop will sponsor a job fair in the atrium at the Cherry Hill Mall on Friday, January 19th. Details will be shared when finalized.
- Use of social media is being considered for the One-Stop's outreach campaign during the winter months (Jan-Mar), along with sharing the QR code on buses and PATCO stations and trains. The services of a social media influencer are also under consideration.

Antoinette Fugee, Cooper University Health Care

- Cooper is hosting the following career/recruitment events:
 - Medical Assistant and LPN recruitment event today (11/16) from 1:00 am to 4:00 pm at Cooper's Conference Center at One Cooper Plaza
 - Radiology Career event on November 29th at the main Conference Center on the Camden campus from 9 am – 12:00 pm
 - Career Mobility event for internal team members to discuss the upskilling and career growth for front-line employees. Derena will reach out to Camden County College regarding training and financial aid information.

Discussion:

Ryan Thompson

- Ryan asked for suggestion of things the committee can do to provide resources and assist members and other committees with their endeavors, such as providing teams for skills classes, and participation in job fairs.
 - Antoinette and Irene both suggested that providing resources for financial literacy would be helpful. Frank mentioned Truist Bank will be offering financial literacy for the Youth Work Experience cohorts and he will connect Ryan with Nidia Sinclair to discuss incorporating financial literacy in the upcoming onboarding of their TANF/GA clients for G-Jobs.
 - Irene commented that the DVR provides grants to qualified clients to start business, but they do not have people on staff with adequate business knowledge to assist people with writing business plans or to evaluate the business plans that are submitted to make grant decisions.
 - Alex mentioned that the Literacy and Abilities Committees are planning a resource fair for May and the BSOT Committee should consider collaborating on the event.
 - Ryan asked if there should be an entrepreneurship service offering and if there was an opportunity to add the service. Alex mentioned that entrepreneurship was part of the work of the recently opened Restorative Justice Hub in Camden. He will provide Ryan with contact information.
 - Ryan asked for contacts in Camden County that could support entrepreneurship resource efforts in Camden County. Derena Shafer commented that there is a Camden County-staffed office at the Camden County College's Blackwood campus that could be of help.

Jeffrey Swartz, Executive Director, Workforce Development Board

- In Jeff's absence, Alex Levitt gave a brief update.
 - The partnership with ACE has shifted focus from GIE/WISE to the ACE SPARK Internship Program

for high school students, a paid externship for teachers and a scholarship program for youth seeking higher education for careers in the STEM fields.

The Next Meeting

The next Business Services and Outreach Team meeting is scheduled on Thursday, December 14, 2023, at 2:00 pm via Zoom.

Adjournment

Ryan asked for the motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Frank Cirii, seconded by Derena Shafer. By majority vote to the affirmative, the motion was carried, and the meeting adjourned at 2:37 pm.

SUBMITTED BY:

Debra Vaughn
Administrative Assistant to the Executive Director