



**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, MAY 16, 2024, 2:00 PM  
ZOOM MEETING**

**ATTENDANCE**

COMMITTEE INFORMATION AND ATTENDANCE								
Name	Organization	Trustee Member	14-Dec-23	18-Jan-24	15-Feb-24	21-Mar-24	18-Apr-24	16-May-24
Thompson Ryan	Truist Bank, BSDT Chair		X	X		X	X	
Anglin, Leontyne	Beyond Expectations					X		
Askie-Rosario, Andrea	CC Commission of the Blind							X
Anglin, Leontyne	Beyond Expectations					Y		
Baer, Jessika	NJ DOL		X					
Bass, Henry	NJ DOL				X	X		X
Burden, Lawrence	Hopeworks					X		
Campbell, Gabriella	NJ DOL			X				X
Cirii, Frank	CCOSCC	X	X	X	X		X	X
Davis, Gerald	CCOSCC							
DeFulvio, Michelle								X
Fugee, Antoinette	Cooper			X	X			
Kaur, Nimit	Camden County Health and Human Services		X					
Langhorne, Riscoe	Hopeworks		X					
Lakshminarayan, Pavithra	NJ Dept. of Labor & Workforce Dev.		X	X	X			X
Leonetti, Mike	CCOSCC				X	X	X	
Lord, Lisa	CCTS		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	X
Page-Soncrant, Jeanne	NJ DOL, Business Rep.		X	X		X	X	X
Perez, Irene	DVRS			X			X	
Randall, Angela	Community Planning & Advocacy Council (CPAC)			X		X	X	
Regensburger, Robert	Lockheed Martin	X		X	X	X	X	X
Richardson, Ryan	NJDOL			X	X		X	X
Robinson, Terrenny	Net America					X		
Shafer, Derena	Camden County College		X		X			
Sinclair, Nidia	Camden County One-Stop					X		
Weil, Robert	Conner, Strong, and Bucklew	X	X	X	X		X	
Gutbezahl, Maayan	WDB		X	X	X	X		X
Henderson, Bridget	WDB					X		
Swartz, Jeffrey S.	WDB		X		X	X	X	X
Vaughn, Debra	WDB		X	X		X	X	
Williams, Leslie	WDB						X	

**WELCOME & APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- In the absence of Ryan Thompson, Chair, Jeff Swartz, Executive Director of the WDB opened the meeting at 2:04 PM and asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the April 18, 2024 committee meeting. The motion was made by Frank Cirii, seconded by Jeanne Page-Soncrant. By majority vote to the affirmative, the motion carried and the meeting minutes for April 18, 2024 were approved.

**BUSINESS/COMMITTEE UPDATES**

Bob Regensberger, Lockheed Martin - State & Local Government Relations & Economic Development Programs

- Lockheed Martin began operations in Camden in 2015, (in commitment to NJEDA for incentive purposes), establishing a set of lab and technology offices for product development, testing and assessment. Over the past year, the site completed necessary renovations and



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technology updates. The company has completed the transfer of additional jobs from its Moorestown and Mt. Laurel offices to its Camden location, bringing the number of full-time employees to approximately 300, assigned to focus on high-end, classified software product development for the government.

- Lockheed Martin is pleased to be able to focus on outreach opportunities to give back to the community and offer STEM-related outreach to local and area school districts.
- Employment opportunities can be found by searching the [lockheedmartin.com/jobs](http://lockheedmartin.com/jobs) website and selecting the Moorestown, NJ location.

Pavithra Lakshminarayan, NJDOL - Office of Industry Partnerships

- During the Energy Industry Partnership Summit, a manufacturing employer that previously partnered with Rowan College of South Jersey to upskill some of their employees was introduced to Carol McCormick, who shared information about a program Camden County College (CCC) did for Kellogg. The manufacturer was so impressed that they are now planning to send some of their employees to CCC for upskilling.
- Pavi is working on establishing a connection between Rowan University and Camden County College (CCC) and arrange a visit for the Dreamscapes program team to visit CCC.
- The NJDOL awarded \$2 million for the Manufacturing Skills Initiative Program to the NJ Consortium of Community Colleges (NJCCC) for the NJ Pathways Program. Camden County College (CCC) has 7 participants that are being funded by the program.
  - CCC has cohorts for 2 programs on August 28th, the Manufacturing Bootcamp and the National Institute for Metalworking Skills (NIMS) level one skills.
  - The approach is to connect the One-Stop Center (American Job Center), CCC, the WDB and the NJCCC with this grant program. This initiative will be a cohort pilot run for this program. Conversations will start on how to advertise the program to potential participants.
- The State submitted a concept paper for a notice of funding opportunity (for a CHIPS & Science Act project) and will now focus on the quick turnaround of a full-fledged proposal and working on the State level investment to be able to support the request. A response to the grant application is expected by May 22<sup>nd</sup>.
  - The photonics engine is in place. The NSF (National Science Foundation) phase one grant was received for a planning grant and a phase 2 grant has been applied for to begin developing and implementing those plans.
  - The CHIPS committee held a small meeting. The FAA and the Atlantic County Economic Alliance participated in some of the discussions.
  - Bob Regensberger commented that he was contacted by John Kennedy (Senior Adviser for NJEDA) and Lockheed Martin will be formulating some level of activity with the CHIPS and Science project that the NJDOL is attempting to get funded. He noted that Lockheed Martin does have a corporate steering group that handles the company's activity related to the CHIPS Act and he will contact John Kennedy when corporate leadership decisions are made.



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Ryan Richardson, NJDOL Energy Industry Partnership Unit

- Ryan commented that he has successfully connected Doreene Bennett of American Water with the Egg Harbor Twp. School District. Egg Harbor School District is a Pace Grant awardee with funding for pre-apprenticeships and transportation to career awareness tours of American Water's Delran and Egg Harbor facilities.
  - In early June, Doreene, and perhaps a water treatment specialist, will travel to Egg Harbor school district to make a presentation to Dr. Graham's class. A field trip to the American Water treatment facility in Delran will be arranged for early fall.
  - Industry tours will hopefully create a pathway out of Egg Harbor Township's Career & Technical Education (CTE) programs to potentially get hired by American Water or other contractors in the area.
- The State of New Jersey is seeking a Dept. of Energy statewide grant to provide a Training for Residential Energy Contractors (TREC) Program.
  - An invitation will be emailed to CCC and others from the BPU for the BILT (Business and Industry Leadership Team) Convention on June 20<sup>th</sup> at NJIT from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Ryan will follow up with the BPU's emailed invitation distribution and will serve as a point of contact for the event.

Frank Cirii, Camden County One-Stop Career Center

- The One-Stop will be a gold sponsor for job a fair tomorrow (May 17<sup>th</sup>) in the atrium at the Cherry Hill Mall from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Ten tables are available for county entities.
- Incumbent Worker Training (IWT) is coming to a close with the upcoming end of the ShopRite and Bancroft contracts.
  - New employers are being sought for new IWT contacts.
- The One-Stop is in the final stage of implementing its educational outreach campaign. The One-Stop's QR code will be shared through print media, social media ads, PATCO ads and direct mailing. The advertisement will also appear on the 2024 Camden County Parks Guide, which is constantly referred to by residents for current summer events and into the early fall months.
- The refrigerator and ice machine need to be serviced or replaced and the carpeting in the offices need to be cleaned. The quotes for these services are being evaluated.

William Moen, Camden County College (CCC) - Workforce Innovation

- CCC was awarded the NJ Build Grant to train women and minorities in the construction trade. A free 6-week pre-apprenticeship program will begin this month at the Camden City campus. An information session will be held this coming Monday for interested candidates.
  - The free 6-week training is expected to take place from June 17<sup>th</sup> through the beginning of August. At the end of the program, students will be placed with local building trades unions to begin testing for apprenticeships.
  - A flyer is now available and can be distributed at the job fair at the Cherry Hill Mall tomorrow.
- CCC's team, led by Kaina Hanna, has applied for a NJDOL Gains Grant and expects to learn the outcome in the next week or two.



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- CCC held its commencement ceremony for over 1400 graduates at Freedom Mortgage Pavilion in Camden. Feedback from attendees about the use of the spacious venue for the ceremony has been very positive.

### **STATE, CAMDEN COUNTY, & REGIONAL BSR UPDATES**

Jeanne Page-Soncrant, NJDOL Business Services

- Jeanne has been working on a major Business Services initiative for the reentry workforce. In a meeting with employers and county partners yesterday, including the Probation Dept., Jeanne spoke about a number of issues around reentry, but first and foremost, the need to remove the “scarlet letter” of being an ex-offender. The term they will try to use to refer to individuals this applies to, going forward, is “justice-involved” or “justice-impacted.”
- Jeanne noted that the unemployment/underemployment rate of the justice-involved populations is over 50% and that the support of employers is needed in order to provide second chances.
- The Courier Post will have a significant number of workforce lay-offs in Cherry Hill in mid to late June.
- NJDOL Business Services, in partnership with Camden County College, will host an event on June 14<sup>th</sup> at Rutgers Camden, from 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM. The event will be a community job fair and resources event. Resource agencies for people with disabilities and mental health issues will be also invited to participate in the event since they make up a large number of the justice-impacted population.

Henry Bass, NJDOL Veteran Services

- On June 3rd, Henry will hold a virtual veterans-only recruitment event for the Camden County Department of Corrections. The invitation was sent to workforce managers and DVOPS in all 7 counties that Henry services and to veterans throughout NJ.
- On July 25th, Joint Base MDL (McGuire/Fort Dix/Lakehurst) will host its annual “Hiring Our Heroes” Career Summit. The flyer will be circulated to workforce managers and DVOPS in all 7 counties that Henry services when it is available.
- Henry is working with Jeanne and Cooper Hospital to do a recruitment event in June.
  - They are collecting veteran contact information for potential employment opportunities at Cooper Hospital.

Gabriela Campbell, NJDOL, Contracts Writer, On the Job Training

- Irene continues to seek Camden County employers for opportunities for OJT grants.
  - OJT grants are available for small and large business, including veteran, women and minority owned businesses. The prerequisites are that the positions must be full-time (minimum of 32 hours per week) and pay a rate of at least \$16 per hour.
  - Jeff commented that SHRM would be a valuable organization for Gabriela to connect with.

### **REGIONAL ACTIVITIES**

Jeff Swartz, WDB

- WDB staff will attend a career day at Sterling HS to promote the ACE SPARK scholarship



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and internship programs, and services available at the One-Stop.

- The quarterly board meeting will be in person at Camden County College/Blackwood Campus in Roosevelt Hall on Tuesday, June 18<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 AM. Board members are asked to RSVP as soon as possible. A quorum is needed to complete WDB business.
- The GSETA Conference will be Oct 23-24 at the Ocean Resort in Atlantic City.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Jeff asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Jeanne Page-Soncrant, seconded by Henry Bass. By majority vote to the affirmative, the motion carried, and the meeting adjourned at 2:47 PM.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next Business Services and Outreach Team Committee meeting will be held Thursday, June 20, 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