

**ABILITIES COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2022 (ZOOM)**

**ATTENDANCE**

COMMITTEE INFORMATION AND ATTENDANCE									
Name	Organization	Trustee Member	10-Feb-22	10-Mar-22	14-Apr-22	9-Jun-22	11-Aug-22	8-Sep-22	
Cirri, Frank	Camden County One-Stop	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Coleman, Ardella	Cooper University Healthcare						X		
Deitz, Jeffery	Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services	✓							
<b>Donato, Carl, Interim Chair</b>	Wawa	✓	X		X	X	X	X	
Forman, Lois	Jewish Family & Children's Service		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Freire, Edison	JEVS Human Services		X	X		X			
Fugee, Antoinette	Center for Family Services								
Galvin, Tim	Cooper University Healthcare		X						
Hale, Dawn	The Arc of Camden County		X						
Lucas, Angela	JEVS HireAbility						X		
Marks, Karen	Jewish Family & Children Service of Southern NJ		X						
McClintock, Monica	Rowan University		X	X	X	X		X	
Quinones, Cris	Wawa					X			
Scott, Jessica	The Arc of Camden County		X	X	X	X		X	
Taguwa, Denise	LWD-WDB Coord + Support								
Tyndell, Maurice	BestWorks		X			X			
Turnage, Shay	Cooper University Healthcare						X		
Weiberg, Oriel	Jewish Family & Children's Service						X	X	
Levitt, Alex	WDB Staff		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Swartz, Jeffrey S.	WDB Staff		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Vaughn, Debra	WDB Staff		X	X	X		X	X	

**WELCOME**

Carl Donato Jr., Interim Committee Chair, greeted all those in attendance and the meeting was called to order at 8:35am.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

For the first order of business, Carl asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the August 11, 2022, meeting. Lois Forman made the motion, seconded by Oriel Weinberg. The motion carried with a unanimous vote to the affirmative and the minutes for August 11, 2022, were approved.

**Open Forum, Discussion Of Future Events/Committee Updates**

Carl Donato, Chair

- The WDB has registered for a table at the STAND DOWN event at the Cherry Hill Armory for homeless veterans on Friday, September 23, 2022. Carl and Jeff confirmed they will attend.
- National Disabilities Awareness Month begins on October 1<sup>st</sup>. The committee's activities will then turn more toward a disabilities/limited abilities focus. Oriel Weinberg commented that he would look into events and notify Alex, to circulate the information.
- Carl brought up the subject of hosting career fair activities in March or April when Jeff mentioned that he would like to see the committee attempt to solidify its relationship with SHRM, to try to dispel the misgivings about hiring people with disabilities and communicate what is offered at the One-Stop. Monica McClintock commented that she thinks the disconnect between stems from a need for better communication, where meetings are mutually attended and opportunities for networking and joint marketing are taken advantage of. Jessica Scott, co-chair of the SHRM Workforce Readiness

Committee, stated that going into their new business year, they will be looking for events that they can help out on or presentations they can do. She would like to set up a meeting to brainstorm ways for her committee, the WDB and One-Stop to collaborate. Jeff stated that he would welcome a member of SHRM to speak at a Workforce Board quarterly meeting. Monica commented that the monthly meetings offer a perfect networking opportunity and membership is not a requirement to attend a meeting. Meetings are held at the Westin Hotel on Fellowship Road in Mount Laurel, usually from 6-8pm. Registration to attend events can be completed on [www.TriState.org](http://www.TriState.org).

- Carl discussed the Ardella Coleman enthusiasm about having Cooper Health Care to partner with the Abilities Committee. She is eager to assist the committee in events that not only serve Veterans, but people with limited abilities in general. Monica McClintock commented that partnering with other organizations was a great opportunity for the committee.
- Carl commented that as the committee builds a relationship with SHRM, perhaps the events such as proposed career fairs and HR educational events may be better attended. Going into next year, the goal will be to get the word out to SHRM about the what the CCWDB and Abilities Committee have to offer.
- Carl announced that Wawa acted on something that he long advocated for and hired someone to lead special staffing programs, supportive employment, student youth employment and other programs.

### **Camden County One-Stop Updates**

Frank Cirii, Local Area Operations Director, Camden County One Stop Career Center

- The Prince Hall Community Day event in Lawnside on September 10th, will be attended by One-Stop staff. On September 12th, the Stratford Town Hall Meeting for Camden County will be held at 5:30pm.
- The Learning Link is off the ground for HiSET testing, with appointments currently two months out due to August staffing schedules. Staff is being cross trained to be proctors for both this testing and GED testing, which will be added in early Fall. Camera installation and lines to be run to the hardware that needed to be upgraded for GED was stalled. The new delay is the result of a problem with the state vendor which required replacing them. Procurement came to a halt when the selected vendor's paperwork with the state was not complete and the process had to begin again. The work should be completed in early Fall.
- The big outreach campaign is underway to promote all of the One-Stop partners and will launch in the Fall. The program will focus on publicizing resources, especially what is available to SNAP/TANF/GA clients. The One-Stop QR code will appear on all marketing materials for people to easily find information to follow up with.
- The Chromebooks have been delivered for the loaner program but the protective sleeves ordered for the equipment and to prevent loss of the chargers have not been delivered yet. The resolution for an MOU with the library system for the program partnership was approved by the Board of Commissioners and is pending signature by the Library Board. The Chromebooks Loaner Program is expected to launch in October or November.

### **Committee Member Updates**

Oriel Weinberg, Director of Disability Services, JCFS

JCFS was recently approved through DVRS to give benefits counseling to people with disabilities. The approval includes being designated as a "Ticket to Work" provider, which allows them to counsel someone on how to maintain some level of their Social Security benefits while being employed full time.

Jessica Scott, The Arc of Camden County

- Benefits counseling continues, assisting people with understanding their social security benefits and how employment affects them. The Arc just presented a State webinar about benefits counseling,

including the misinformation that job coaches should be aware of in speaking to their clients regarding benefits counseling.

- A Project Search program just started at Jefferson Hospital with student internships throughout the school year. Supportive employment referrals continue.
- Jessica and Dawn Hale will be going to Nashville to make a presentation on the benefits of benefits counseling for employment networks.

Monica McClintock, Rowan University

- Monica commented the new year at SHRM starts this evening with meetings the first Thursday of every month. She noted there are 3 upcoming job fairs at Rowan (*the 2022 Accounting, Finance, and MIS Career Expo Sep 29 10:00am-2:00pm, the 2022 Career Fair, Oct 06 10:00am-2:00pm, and 2022 Government and the Non-Profit Agencies Career Fair, Oct 27 10:00 am-2:00 pm*).

Lois Forman, Job Bank Coordinator, JFCS

- Lois reminded the committee to send information about training sessions, job fairs and position openings to her for posting in the JCFS Job Board
- Project EM is resource through the National Association of Jewish family and Children Services that provides free virtual workshops on topics related to employment. Every month, a varied list of workshops is available.
- The JFCS Family Assistance Program gets new referrals every day for food, rental assistance and employment resources.
- Donations for an upcoming food drive may be left at East Miami Avenue. The food drive is normally held during Yom Kippur.

Jeff Swartz, Executive Director, Workforce Development Board

- The Quarterly Board Meeting is on the 21st of September and board members need to confirm their attendance with Alex as there will be a vote to approve the budget and a quorum is required. Kevin Kurdziel, Director of Middlesex County WDB and President of GSETA (Garden State Employment and Training Association), will be the featured speaker. Kevin will speak about the GSETA Conference coming up in October, as well as some of the things GSETA is looking at regionally in NJ and nationally. It is important to confirm attendance with Alex, to ensure there is a quorum.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Frank Cirii made the motion a motion for adjournment, seconded by Monica McClintock. The motion carried with a unanimous vote to the affirmative and the meeting was adjourned at 9:26am.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next Abilities Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 13, 2022, at 8:30am. The meeting will be conducted via Zoom.

Submitted by,

Debra Vaughn

Administrative Assistant to the Executive Director