



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, SEPTEMBER 21, 2023, 2:00 PM (ZOOM CONFERENCING)  
1111 MARLKRESS ROAD, SUITE 101, CHERRY HILL, NJ 08003**

**ATTENDANCE**

COMMITTEE INFORMATION AND ATTENDANCE									
Name	Organization	Trustee Member	16-Mar-23	20-Apr-23	18-May-23	15-Jun-23	20-Jul-23	17-Aug-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				
Davis, Gerald	CCOSCC				X	X			
Davis, Taylor	KIPP New Jersey		X	X					
Deitz, Jeff	DVRS			X		X			
Farrar, Gary	Transportation		X						
Field, Nicole	NJDOL					X	X		
Forman, Lois	Jewish Family & Children's Service							X	
Fugee, Antoinette	Cooper			X		X			
Gaskins, Melanie	Camden County College								
Laguna, Connie	Truist Bank		X						
Law, Quinton	Camden Community Partnership						X		
Leonetti, Mike	CCOSCC		X						
Lex, Jim	Camden County Improvement Authority		X						
Lord, Lisa	CCTS								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				X
Perez, Irene	DVRS		X			X	X	X	
Quinores, Cris	WAWA								
Regensburger, Robert	Lockheed Martin	X	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	X
Swartz, Jeffrey S.	WDB		X	X		X	X	X	X
Vaughn, Debra	WDB		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Williams, Leslie	WDB								

**Welcome**

In the absence of Ryan Thompson, the meeting was led by Jeffrey Swartz. He greeted committee members and guests and opened the meeting at 2:13 pm.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Jeff asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the August 17, 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 August 17, 2023 meeting were approved.

**Committee Updates**

**Camden County One-Stop**

Update provided by Jeffrey Swartz

- The budget for the upcoming fiscal year was approved at the Quarterly Board Meeting on September 20<sup>th</sup>.

- The job fair at the Cherry Hill Mall on Sept 15<sup>th</sup> was very well attended. A number of County agencies and other employers were offering employment opportunities.
- The One-Stop has hired several new counselors for SNAP/TANF activities.
- The One-Stop's Chromebook Loaner Program is available for G-Job participants to use for training and job search activities.
- The Youth Work Experience (YWE), spearheaded by Jyi Peterson, is in its 5<sup>th</sup> cohort. The US DOL invited a Camden County Youth One-Stop counselor and YWE participants to participate in a regional panel convened in Philadelphia. Camden County's participation offered an opportunity for recognition on a regional level, and potentially on the national level, for the success of its Youth Work Experience program.
- Parking lot issues with employees are being addressed.
- Gerald Davis commented that the use of Workforce 55+ clients to assist walk-ins at the One-Stop's front desk is working out very well.

#### **Carol McCormick, Camden County College (CCC)**

- Incumbent Worker Training (IWT) continues. Successful completion of the program offers employees opportunities for promotions and pay raises.
  - ShopRite just started 2 new cohorts with one on Tuesday and another today.
  - Since 2020, CCC has run 6 cohorts to upskill 53 Cooper Hospital employees. The 7th cohort will begin next month.
- Camden County College will host Workforce Development Day on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. Networking is scheduled from 9:00 am to 10:00 am.

#### **Jeanne Page Soncrant, Business Services Representative, NJ DOL Business Services**

- Jeanne has spoken with Carol McCormick about training for an employer.
- Jeanne continues to promote OJT opportunities for employers. She and Gerald Davis commented that establishing OJT's with employers has been challenging.
- Virtual information sessions for civil service jobs will take place in October and November.
- Virtual recruitments and information sessions are pending for a number of employers, including Cooper Hospital and Inductotherm. Jeanne has been meeting with Garland Foods, a garlic production company, which opened its Pennsauken location in August.
- Outreach
  - Jeanne has been meeting with a small group of the program coordinators and representatives including Workforce 55+, CC Commission of the Blind and Visually Impaired and the NJ DOL Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Service and NJ DOL Veteran Services, and ex-offender services.
  - Henry Bass is still in training as a Veteran Services Representatives.
  - Jeanne is working with Irene Perez (DVRs) on special initiatives at Cooper Hospital for hiring people with disabilities.

#### **Antoinette Fugee, Cooper Hospital**

- Cooper Hospital has partnered with Brimm Medical Arts Academy to be the clinical site host for their Patient Care Tech Program. An anticipated 8-10 students will take the course with an on-site college instructor. Students must be 18 years old as of December 2023 to participate in the program. Successful students will earn a high school diploma and be eligible for hire as Critical Care Technicians.
- In partnership with American Training Institute, Kipp High School will launch a CMA Program in January 2024. Cooper Hospital will serve as the clinical site host for the program. Students who successfully complete training and receive their certification will have employment opportunities at Cooper.
- The Joint Health Board ran a summer bridge program last year and they are considering expanding the

project this year to include an adult CMA Program. Cooper Hospital is in talks with the Joint Health Board to see if they can assist.

- Cooper Hospital is wrapping up its CCT (Critical Care Technician) Program with Camden Community Partner's Camden Works. The program was initially an externship that turned into a hiring opportunity at Cooper Hospital. There were 15 students interviewed in April, with 8 being selected for this rigorous program, and 3 of those students have officially completed all of the requirements. They are in the process of interviewing and may ultimately become brand new critical care techs on staff at Cooper.
- Jeff commented that Cooper Hospital, HopeWorks and the WDB are partnering to complete its first EMT Training Program cohort in the next week or two and the second cohort is set for January. Antoinette commented that she has been trying to secure scholarships because the cohort has 72 people on the waiting list and 22 of them are Cooper Hospital employees.
- Cooper's first successful Cisco IT apprentice is on track to become their employee when his 1-year apprenticeship period ends.

#### **Nicole Field, US DOL**

- Nicole commented that she started what is now the first registered apprenticeship EMT program in the State. She noted that if anyone was interested in collaborating on an EMT Apprenticeship Program that offers a national, portable credential, they should reach out to her.
- National Apprenticeship Week starts in November. Nicole offered access to marketing materials available on the national website if anyone is participating in events.
- Various outreach resources for DEI (Diversity/Equality/Inclusion) are available.
- Nicole started a youth program in several high schools in Bridgeton and Cumberland County. She offered to assist anyone who would like to establish a youth program or apprenticeship in Camden County. She can create an official workbook and will assist in getting the program accredited.

#### **Lisa Lord, Camden County Technical School (CCTS)**

Lisa commented that Jeanne Page-Soncrant has provided her with resources to update the CCTS' website and social media with information for graduating students and alumni who are seeking opportunities in the workforce, including civil service and apprenticeships.

#### **Bill Moen, Camden County College (CCC)**

- On Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, CCC will hold a Workforce Development Day event the William G. Rohrer Center at 1889 Rte.70 E in Cherry Hill. There will be 48 attendees, many of whom are local employers and Jeff will provide remarks on the partnership between Camden County College and the County to provide incumbent worker training and other programs.
- Beginning on Monday, planning will begin for National Apprenticeship Week event, which is scheduled for Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am on the CCC Blackwood campus. The flyer and other materials will be distributed. Nicole Field offered to represent the State's Office of Apprenticeship and participate in CCC's event program.
- CCC's team attended the kick-off meeting the Pennsylvania Submarine Talent Pipeline Program. It is the program's third year and CCC's second year of participation. Initiatives that CCC will be working on over the course of the next year will be discussed when they meet next week.
- This week, CCC joined the Maritime Exchange for the Delaware River, which is an organization that represents the ports and works very closely with the unions of port workers.
- Over the past year, CCC has worked to incorporate submerged arc welding into its welding trade training program. Students completing the submerged arc welding program will be eligible for employment at a work site in Paulsboro, NJ.

#### **Andrea Askie-Rosario, Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired**

- October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM). The Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired will present Blindness Awareness Month (BAM). On October 12<sup>th</sup>, the agency's

various units and departments will highlight their services with materials and interactive activities. Andrea's VR (vocational rehabilitation) unit will hold a scavenger hunt to illustrate the services that a client would receive.

- The morning activities will highlight and celebrate individual staff milestones and accomplishments.
- The afternoon activities will be open to educate the public about services available for the visually impaired.
- Information about the event will be distributed.

### **Crystal McClinton, Camden County Probation Jobs Liaison**

- Crystal commented that she was attending the meeting to familiarize herself with the committee and gain information for clients of their jobs program.

### **Bob Regensburger, Lockheed Martin**

- Lockheed Martin continues to transition jobs, labs and equipment from its Baltimore facility to its Moorestown location. A new facility is currently under construction in Moorestown to house manufacturing and lab activities.
- There are open positions for STEM professionals (engineers, computer science and technology). Career opportunities at Lockheed Martin's Camden and Moorestown locations can be found on the company's website, [www.lockheedmartin.com/en-us/careers](http://www.lockheedmartin.com/en-us/careers).

### **Jeffrey Swartz, Executive Director, Workforce Development Board**

- Jeff commented that the Camden Loop has completed 7000 rides to date. According to the passenger survey data, customer satisfaction rating is a 10 of 10. The service is a hybrid of an Uber and a taxi. A small fleet of 10-12 passenger vans picks riders up at designated sites to transport them to other neighborhoods in Camden for \$2.00. The Camden Loop will travel outside of Camden to the ShopRite in Garden State Pavilion on Route 70 in Cherry Hill.
- The Atlantic City Electric Training Initiative has changed focus to its SPARK program, which offered an internship and externship program that is running this summer. The program will also offer scholarships for people who are seeking careers in utility-related fields.
- Garden State Employment and Training Association (GSETA) will be having its annual conference on October 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> at the Hard Rock Hotel in Atlantic City. Registration can be done online at [www.gseta.org](http://www.gseta.org) (follow the prompts for the conference registration). Well over 600 people are registered for the conference. Registration will be open until Labor Day (Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>). A full catalogue of the course offerings is available for review on the website at <https://www.gseta.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/GSETA-2023-Conference-Catalog.pdf>.
- Upcoming events (posted on the WDB website and social media):
  - Friday, 9/22 – Camden County College will host Workforce Development Day at the William G. Rohrer Center, 1889 Route 70 East in Cherry Hill. WDB staff will attend.
  - Friday, 9/22 – The 2023 Stand Down for South Jersey event will be held at the Cherry Hill Armory at Grove Street and Park Blvd in Cherry Hill. WDB staff will attend the event.
  - Thursday, 9/28 – WDB staff will attend the event the CC Mental Health Resource Fair will be held at Voorhees Town Center from 11-3.
  - Saturday, 10/14 – International Day will be held at Eastern Regional High School. The event will celebrate cultural diversity and feature ethnic food and other activities.
  - Wednesday, 10/18 – Haddon Heights High School will host Career Day
  - Thursday, 10/19 – Katz JCC will host the Disability Inclusion Resource Fair from 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm
  - Saturday, 10/21 – WDB staff will attend the Winslow Township Job Fair will be held at the Bud Duple Senior Center at 33 Cooper Folly Road from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.
  - Friday, 10/27 – WDB staff will attend the Winslow Twp High School will host its Annual Career &

Trade Expo.

- Jeff commented that if anyone would like event information, would like to attend or has information to distribute at events of interest, to contact the office.

**The Next Meeting**

The October meeting has been canceled due to conflict with the GSETA Conference dates. The next Business Services and Outreach Team meeting is scheduled on Thursday, November 16, 2023, at 2:00 pm via Zoom.

**Adjournment**

Jeff asked for the motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Bill Moen, seconded by Antoinette Fugee. By majority vote to the affirmative, the motion was carried, and the meeting adjourned at 2:53 pm.

**SUBMITTED BY:**

Debra Vaughn  
Administrative Assistant to the Executive Director