

October 20, 2020



Northeastern Workforce Development Board

ALBEMARLE COMMISSION
REGION R COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

News from the Northeast

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Colleagues,

I hope you, your friends, family and loved ones are all doing well. This past quarter has certainly been a challenge, but I know that we all have much to be thankful for. I am particularly thankful for the commitment and dedication of our outstanding staff. As Governor Cooper has declared October to be Workforce Development Professionals Month, I would like to take the opportunity to thank all of the workforce professionals in our region and throughout NC for all that you do!! In our region, as a small token of our appreciation, we are highlighting one of our team members on our Facebook page each day to recognize their hard work and commitment to helping to change the lives of those in our community. I am truly thankful to be part of such a great team!

I am also thankful that as of this week, we have been able to open our Career Centers to public access. As you know, we have worked hard to continue serving our employer and job seeker customers virtually through the COVID-19 pandemic, but there is just no substitute for being able to serve customers face to face. We also have a new location – after many years on McArthur Drive, the Career Center in Elizabeth City has moved to 111 Jordan Plaza. The new location is wonderful, and with more space, we will be able to better serve our customers. Whether you are in need of our services or not, I encourage you to stop by the new center to meet our friendly staff and look around.

In closing, I hope you enjoy this newsletter and find it to be informative. We have much more going on than we could possibly fit in a newsletter but I believe this is a good snapshot highlighting some of our work. In looking forward to the final quarter of the year, and the holidays, I hope you remain well and are able to some time off to enjoy life with your loved ones and look forward to a new year ahead – 2021 is just right around the corner!!

Best Wishes,

Dave Whitmer, Director
Northeastern Workforce Development Board



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

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- First Flight Rotary Club
- BCCC Partnerships
- On The Job Training
- NCWorks Success Story
- Elizabeth City NCWorks Career Center Move

Backpacks for Good

August provided several opportunities to help agencies in need. NCWorks and NWDB donated backpacks to Currituck County Schools for students needing to borrow laptop computers. In addition, Backpacks containing information about NCWorks services were donated to the 9th annual Back to School Bash for the community held on ECSU's campus.



Mebla Smith, General Manager,
WRVS, ECSU Radio

GOVERNOR'S AWARDS OF DISTINCTION

NCWorks Awards of Distinction, given by the Governor's Office, honor outstanding examples from the NCWorks Career Center system. The Northeastern Workforce Development Board (NWDB) is proud to announce that two Awards were designated for the NWDB region, which includes Outstanding Employer and another for Outstanding Young Adult.

This year David Meads of Hertford won the category of Outstanding Young Adult. According to his NCWorks NextGen Career Advisor, Erica Banks, "David Meads is a very humble and enthusiastic young adult. After earning his high school equivalency, he went on to College of Albemarle and enrolled in the Welding Technology Certification program, earning a 4.0 grade point average. David participated in a NextGen Work Experience at Hoffer Flow and due to his work ethic, is currently completing On-The-Job Training program at Hoffer Flow providing him full time sustainable employment."

CB's Auto Tire & Service in Elizabeth City won in the category of Outstanding Employer. Amber Morse, Business Engagement Coordinator states, "CB's Auto Tire & Service has served the Elizabeth City community for 11 years.

"Owner Calvin Boone is dedicated to serving his community..."
Amber Morse, Business Engagement Coordinator

First Flight Rotary



Business Engagement Coordinator, Amber Morse and NCWorks Career Advisor, Paige Griffin presented business services information to the First Flight Rotary club on September 2, 2020.

**Like Northeastern
Workforce Development
Board on Facebook!**



Owner Calvin Boone is dedicated to serving his community and youth population, as well as improving the local workforce by seeking out partnership opportunities with the Northeastern Workforce Development Board (NWDB) to recruit and train future employees."

Winners of the Governor's NCWorks Awards of Distinction are traditionally honored at the NCWorks Partnership Conference. This year the conference is being held virtually, with the awards ceremony scheduled for October 21, 2020 presented through a virtual platform and videos.



DRIVE-UP JOB FAIR CONNECTS SANDERLING, JOB SEEKERS

A drive-up job fair made it easy for area residents to receive on-the-spot employment offers Thursday, August 13. As a bonus, the employer even offered to provide free transportation to and from the work site.

Sanderling Resort held a daylong job fair in the parking lot of the NCWorks building on McArthur Drive in Elizabeth City. The resort company had representatives on hand who were taking applications for housekeeping staff and extending offers to several job-seekers.

Two afternoon applicants who received offers were Tekayla Knight and Nancy Britt, both of Edenton. Both said they were pleased with how simple the event made the hiring process.

“It was pretty easy, considering how many people are out of work,” said Britt, who has been working in housekeeping for 10 years.

Britt said she has been out of work since November after suffering an injury. The Sanderling offer was the opportunity she needed to get back to work, she said.

One benefit of working for Sanderling is it provides free transportation to and from work to employees who don't live in Duck, which is about an hour's drive from Elizabeth City.

Janice Beasley, the resort's housekeeping director, said the company has been providing that service for nearly 20 years.

Each morning a van meets employees in the public parking lot at Church and Water streets and returns them to their vehicles in the afternoon.

“It's a nice deal,” said Britt, adding it's one she and Knight will take advantage of.



Ashley Matthews, who also received a job offer, said she will ride the van to the Sanderling, too.

“My car is currently broken down,” she said.

Matthews, who lives in South Mills, said her current job is not providing enough hours. That's why she applied for a housekeeping position with Sanderling. She learned about the job fair on Facebook, just one of several ways NC Works promoted it.

The hiring event was held outdoors from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and attracted dozens of job seekers.

“It's going great,” said Heidi O'Neal, outreach coordinator for NC Works. That was just before noon and already another three people had received offers to join the Sanderling team.

O'Neal said 21 people had scheduled staggered appointments to speak with Sanderling recruiters. Applications also were taken from residents who happened to see the event signs when driving by the building and stopped in without appointments.

“It's been very successful and they are our only employer today,” said O'Neal, referring to Sanderling

Resort.

Joining Beasley was Jamie Banjak, a human resources officer for Sanderling Resort. The travel distance between Duck and Elizabeth City is a challenge for the company when it comes to finding potential employees, Banjak said.

“We figured we'd come to them,” she said, referring to the job fair.

The event was a normal hiring campaign and unrelated to COVID-19, the Sanderling representatives said.

The pandemic did factor in how the job fair was presented, said O'Neal. For example, she said, the event normally would have been held indoors.

Assisting Sanderling and NC Works were representatives of the Hertford-based Northeastern Workforce Development Board.

Amber Morse, business engagement coordinator for the NWDB, said the group wanted to make the application and hiring process simple for job-seekers.

“We wanted to reduce as many barriers as possible,” she said. For example, laptops were available if applicants didn't have a smart phone with them.

Also, the applications, interviews and background checks were all conducted on site.

Morse said businesses can contact her at 252-312-4308.

For more information about job opportunities, text NCWORKS to 56512. The text will be returned with a link to the Northeastern Workforce Development Board's website that includes job search information.

SOURCE: Daily Advance

WELCOME NEW STAFF



Thomas Feeny



Amanda Hurdle



Kimberly McKee



Tesheena Edmondson



Jennifer Kuhnen

The NCWorks Career Centers and Northeastern Workforce Development Board welcomes NCWorks Career Advisors, Thomas Feeny, Amanda Hurdle, Kimberly McKee, Administrative Associate, Tesheena Edmondson, and Disabled Veterans Outreach Specialist, Jennifer Kuhnen to the team.

Thomas Feeny is a native of Raleigh and graduated from NC State University with his Bachelor's Degree in Sociology. Previously, he worked at The International Technological University in San Jose, California where he served as the Career Development Specialist. Thomas will work as a Career Advisor at the NCWorks Career Center in Elizabeth City.

Amanda Hurdle is a native of Perquimans County and graduated from Elizabeth City State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Special Education and a Master's Degree in Special Education from Grand Canyon University. She previously worked as a teacher in Camden County and an Instructor for the College and Career Readiness department of College of the Albemarle. Amanda will be working as a NextGen Career Advisor covering Camden and Pasquotank Counties.

Kimberly McKee moved to the Outer Banks from Southwest Missouri where she was raised. Kimberly graduated from Washington University in St. Louis with her Master's Degree in Social Work. Kimberly's most recent position was with New Kent Department of Social Services as a Family Service Specialist II working with Adult and Children's Protective Services. Kimberly will work as a Career Advisor at the Dare

County NCWorks Career Center.

Tesheena Edmondson is a native of Detroit Michigan and graduated from Roanoke Chowan Community College, with a CNA degree, and College of the Albemarle, with an Associate's Degree in Human Service Technology. Tesheena participated in the WIOA training program through the NCWorks Career Center and previously worked as a CNA assisting older adults. She states, "I am excited to work at the same office (NCWorks) that assisted me with getting my Associates Degree. I am proof that the staff at NCWorks are invested in seeing dreams and goals come true for their customers." Tesheena will be working as an Administrative Associate at NCWorks Career Center in Elizabeth City.

Jennifer Kuhnen is originally from New Hampshire, but grew up in Virginia, where she spent the majority of her Navy career after enlisting. She retired from active duty after serving 20 years and serving onboard 4 ships. Following her military career, she completed her Bachelor's degree in Legal Studies and her Master's in Public Administration with a concentration in Law. Jennifer is a proud veteran whose goal is to break the stereotype of disabled veterans and promote women veterans. Jennifer will serve out of Elizabeth City, Edenton and Nags Head NCWorks Career Centers.



VIRTUAL LEARNING

The NCWorks Career Center in Elizabeth City recently held two virtual workshops for job seekers. The first workshop, “Resume Round-Up” was held September 3, 2020. Sheryl Stevens, Assistant NCWorks Career Center Manager, taught the attendees the “dos and don’ts” of resume writing. A special guest, Elizabeth Kurzer from the NC Department of Commerce, Division of Workforce Solutions, attended the workshop, which added the opportunity for a state representative to witness firsthand

the impact of job seeker workshops in the NWDB region. The second workshop, “Drive-Up Interview Workshop” was held September 10, 2020. This workshop was held virtually due to rain. In this workshop, Sheryl Stevens provided job seekers guidance on how to prepare for an interview and how to prepare for typical interview situations. Even in these unusual times the NCWorks Career Centers continue to find ways to impact and serve our region.

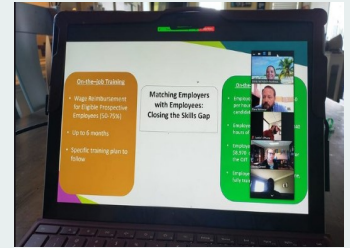
CAREER ADVISOR: SUCCESS STORY

For 30 years, NWDB Career Advisor Diane Hollowell worked for a large national employer. Then, her position was eliminated due to restructuring. As she started investigating options for reemployment, she found out about the NCWorks Career Center in Elizabeth City. Diane immediately began utilizing the Career Center’s services. First, she attended a Federal Resume Writing Workshop and met with Sheryl Stevens, the Assistant Manager, to review her resume. Diane then registered for and attended the WIOA orientation, which gave her the option to go back to college and obtain a degree in another career field. Latoria Rountree became her Career Advisor. As she continued to use the services of the NCWorks Career Center, she utilized ncworks.gov to search for job openings and apply for them online. She went on several interviews with organizations

such as the Pasquotank County DSS, the Albemarle Commission, and the Division of Workforce Solutions before decided to accept a position with the Albemarle Commission as a Career Advisor. Diane credits the help from Career Center staff in helping her find and land a job, saying, “I am thankful for the encouragement and dedication from the center staff in helping me find employment. I am excited to get to do the same for the people I will serve as a Career Advisor.”



Beaufort County Community College



NWDB Director, David Whitmer, Assistant Director, Emily Nicholson and Career Advisor Phillip Holloway recently presented virtually to Beaufort County Community College staff about the many ways they can collaborate for the benefit of our region’s students, job seekers and businesses.

On The Job Training



Calvin Boone, owner of CB’s Auto and Tire Service saved over \$5,000.00 on training expenses by hiring Martrell Heatly through the NCWorks OJT Grant. They are pictured above with NWDB staff Erica Banks and Amber Morse.

The Elizabeth City NCWorks Career Center has a New Location!



The NCWorks Career Center in Elizabeth City moved to 111 Jordan Plaza at the end of September. The new number is (252) 621-6350.

Board of Directors

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Larry Donley
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Larry Lombardi
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Montique McClary
Apprenticeship
City of Elizabeth City

The **Northeastern Workforce Development Board (NWDB)** is a group of community leaders appointed by local elected officials. The NWDB serves North Carolina's 10 most northeastern counties: Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hyde, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell, and Washington Counties. The purpose of the NWDB is to provide policy, planning and oversight for local workforce development programs and to address workforce issues as identified by the communities that they represent. NWDB's mission is to foster employment of northeastern North Carolinians by enriching the skills and suitability of candidate employees for the businesses of the region.

Our Vision

Citizens and businesses of the Northeast region will rely on the board to promote the growth of well-paying jobs in new and existing businesses. Citizens in the region will be able to find satisfying employment here, and will choose not to move away.

Our Mission

The NWDB fosters employment of Northeastern North Carolinians by enriching the skills and suitability of candidate employees for the businesses of the region.

Our Core Purpose

To resolve workforce issues and challenges to meet Northeastern North Carolina employment needs.

Our Values

- One community, one team
- Forward looking and responsive to customer needs
- Embrace creativity • Nurturing hope for the future
- Integrity first and excellence in all we do
- Data driven, fact focused, relevant results



Northeastern Workforce
Development Board
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NCWorks Career Centers and Outposts

Albemarle Commission
512 S. Church Street
Hertford, NC 27944
Phone: 252-426-5753

College of the Albemarle Manteo
132 Russell Twiford Rd.
Manteo, NC 27954
Cell: (252) 312-6852

Elizabeth City NCWorks Career Center
1305 W. Ehringhaus Street
Elizabeth City, NC 27909
Phone: 252-621-6350

Hyde County DSS
35015 US Hwy 264
Engelhard, NC 27824
Cell: (252) 312-6859

Dare NCWorks Career Center
2522 South Croatan Hwy.
Nags Head, NC 27959
Phone: (252) 480-3500

Hyde County Govt. Bldg.
P.O. Box 5, 30 Oyster Creek Road
Swan Quarter, NC 27885
Cell: (252) 312-6859

Edenton-Chowan NCWorks Career Center
118 Blades Street, Building 3
Edenton, NC 27932
Phone: (252) 482-2195

Beaufort County Community College Roper
P.O. Box 503, 100 Hwy 32 N.
Roper, NC 27970
Cell: (252) 312-6859

Currituck DSS
2793 Caratoke Highway
Currituck, NC 27929
Phone: (252) 232-3083

Tyrrell County Finance Building
108 Water Street
Columbia, NC 27925
Cell: (252) 312-6859

College of the Albemarle Elizabeth City
1208 N. Road Street
Elizabeth City, NC 27909
Phone: (252) 335-0821

Gates DSS
P.O. Box 185, 122 Main Street
Gatesville, NC 27938
Cell: (252) 312-7357

Visit nwdbworks.com or networks.gov