

September 4, 2019



# News from the Northeast MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Colleagues,

We are very excited to present to you the first quarterly Northeastern Workforce Development Board (NWDB) newsletter!! Our staff have worked very hard on this inaugural issue and I think you will find it to be very informative. For quite some time now, we have discussed the idea of having a newsletter but had yet to do so. Now, with all of the great work and projects we have going on throughout our region, it has become apparent that we must do a better job at "telling our story." The work that we do is so very important and needs to be shared. I often tell our staff that we help people change their lives and it is important to lift up people's success. I firmly believe this.

It is my hope that this newsletter not only helps to keep stakeholders throughout our region informed of the work we do, but also to create new partnerships and opportunities for collaboration. I often hear that no one in the state has as strong of partnerships as we do here in the northeast. I may be a bit biased, but I certainly agree with that.

In the northeast, we have to work together because resources are limited, and if we don't work together, we are doing a disservice to those we serve. We have to put aside our territorial boundaries and pool our resources and efforts to better serve those who are counting on us — and there are a lot of people counting us. A colleague of mine, Walter Dorsey, also says that everyone is invited to the table but you have to check your ego and your cell phone at the door.

Even though the northeast does have some of the strongest partnerships in the state there are always opportunities to build new partnerships and strengthen existing partnerships. I hope the information provided in this newsletter and in those to come, will spark new ideas, ignite new partnerships, and create new opportunities for those we serve.

Best wishes,

Dave Whitmer, Director

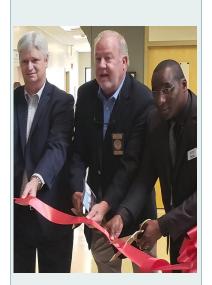


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# SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Partnerships within the Northeast Region
- Adult Back to School Event
- · Gates County WRC
- Staff Trained to use IBM Talent Assessments
- NextGen Student Obtains a Paid Work Experience



## CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER OPENS AT COA

College of The Albemarle, in partnership with the Northeastern Workforce Development Board and NCWorks, has opened Career Development Center on the Elizabeth City campus.

During a ribbon cutting ceremony last week, an estimated 75 guests toured the new center, located in the AE Building on the Elizabeth City campus. Visitors had an opportunity to see the career-focused resources that will be available to both students and community residents

The Career Development Center will offer a number of services, including career assessments, career guidance/counseling, resumé assistance, interview skills, and job search assistance. Weekly workshops will also be available at the center.

Zach Bray, chairman of the North-

eastern Workforce Development Board, said the Career Development Center's opening will contribute to the 10-county region's growth because it expands the footprint of the NCWorks Career Centers.

Matthew Fowler, NCWorks Career Center manager for Elizabeth City and Edenton-Chowan, will oversee the center at COA, while the college will provide staff to help guide the center's users to career path opportunities.

The center will be open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and every Friday from 9 a.m. to noon.

For more information, contact Kelvin Brown at COA at 335-0821, ext. 2243, or the NCWorks Career Center at 331-4798.

Source: Daily Advance 8/12/19

"The whole secret of a successful life is to find out what is one's destiny to do, and then do it." -- Henry Ford



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#### BACK TO SCHOOL BASH HELD IN EDENTON

On Friday, August 09, 2019 the NCWorks Career Center Edenton-Chowan hosted a Back to School Bash in Edenton at College of the Albemarle for adults and youth ages 16-24. This event was an informational session to familiarize individuals with the NCWorks Career Center and services available to assist individuals in their career needs. Upon arrival individuals were greeted at the registration table. At the registration table staff utilized NCWorks Online to verify active accounts and register new individuals. Customers were given a ticket to complete by visiting each table to be entered into a drawing for a grand prize. Tables were organized as follows: Talent Engagement, Talent Development, NextGen, Business Solutions, Veteran Services, College of the Albemarle, & Vocational Rehabilitation. Each table provided information on that particular area of services. In addition, NCWorks logo items were presented as a bonus at each table to assist with individuals returning to school. Items such as notebooks, folders, pencils, 3 ring binders, highlighters, pens, and backpacks were given away. Refreshments were also served. The event hosted a total of 29 participants. Source: MyQueita McPherson



**Caption (left to right):** Participants of the boot camp pose with COA instructors at the Regional Aviation and Technical Training Center on August 7.

# MANUFACTURING BOOT CAMP PARTNERSHIP

College of The Albemarle (COA) and NCWorks offered a manufacturing boot camp for area Career and Technical Education teachers August 5-8, 2019, at COA's Regional Aviation and Technical Training Center in Currituck. The boot camp was funded by a grant awarded to the NWDB from the NC Division of Workforce Solutions.

Eleven teachers from the surrounding school districts attended the four-day manufacturing boot camp, representing, Camden, Currituck, Dare, Edenton -Chowan, Pasquotank, Perquimans, and Washington counties. The teachers experienced first-hand some of the opportunities offered through manufacturing's high-tech and high-wage careers. The boot camp allowed the teachers to gain hands-on knowledge and to experience the manufacturing employment opportunities in the surrounding areas. This will enable teachers armed with this new knowledge to share their new experiences with their high school students who are preparing for the future.

Throughout the boot camp, teachers participated in activities that allowed

them to learn about concepts from drawing and design to applying those concepts while working in the Computer Aided Drafting lab, then transferring those concepts to actual production in the Machining lab. They also completed tours of regional employers which allowed them to see the career options available within our area. Tours included Hockmeyer Equipment Corporation in Elizabeth City, Hoffer Flow Controls, Inc. in Elizabeth City, Sumiotomo Technologies, Inc. in Chesapeake, VA, and the Aviation Logistics Center on the U.S. Coast Guard Base-Elizabeth City.

"This a great opportunity for representatives from our local high schools to get a sample of the College to Career experience that students can benefit from," said Michelle Waters, Dean, Business, Industry and Applied Technologies; Campus Administrator, Regional Aviation and Technical Training Center. "The grant through NCWorks allowed teachers to experience CTE programs that provide students an alternative to a traditional four-year college or university setting."

# Annual Real-World Simulation October 2, 2019 at Camp Cale:

The Real-World Simulation is a one-day event that offers young adults hands-on practical learning around areas of fiscal decision-making pertaining to education, careers, and lifestyle choices in the adult world....before it counts!

#### **Volunteers needed!**

Call Janaye Clark at (252) 333-5656 to volunteer.

# **WIOA**

Did you know that the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) is designed to help job seekers access employment, education, training and support services needed to succeed in the labor market and to match employers with the skilled workers they need to compete in the global economy?

Source: USDOL

# **Gates County WRC**

As of August 21, 2019, Gates County achieved certified ACT Work Ready Community (WRC) status, joining an elite group of counties who have demonstrated they have a robust workforce development initiative in place that links education and workforce development, while aligning to economic development needs and matching people to jobs.

The Northeastern Workforce Development Board congratulates Gates County on demonstrating its commitment to developing a strong workforce pipeline, desirable to employers, economic developers and current and future citizens of the county. Gates County joins Chowan, Perquimans, Washington, and Hyde counties in Work Ready Community Certification.

Gates County will be recognized and presented with an award at **ACT Workforce Summit** on October 29th, 2019. The Northeastern Workforce Development Board and numerous other partners were vital to ensuring goal attainment for Gates County's Work Ready Community certification.

# NCWORKS INTERN

The NCWorks Career Center of Elizabeth City had the pleasure of hosting a summer intern, Maurice Perry II. Maurice is a junior economics major at NC A&T State University and grew-up in Plymouth. Maurice was instrumental in creating resume writing workshops for job seekers this summer. Maurice stated, "I would have never thought that being here would give me this much exponential growth.

NCWorks has given me confidence, knowledge, and training that I can carry back to NC A&T and beyond." During his internship Maurice attended all staff meetings and was able to gain a Mental Health First Aid training certificate, and attended a Case Management 1 certification taught by Dr. Beverly Ford. Maurice is excited about getting back to NC



A&T, but he will take what he learned and apply it to his classwork and future endeavors.

# NCWORKS OUTREACH COORDINATOR

In an effort to reach out to our rural counties that do not house a NCWorks Career Center, the NWDB acquired a grant through the NC Division of Workforce Solutions for the position of a NCWorks Outreach Coordinator. The NCWorks Outreach Coordinator works closely with the 15 libraries in the NWDB 10 county region to offer the services of the NCWorks Career Center at the libraries. The sessions held at the libraries are called NCWorks for Job Seekers and offer one on one assistance with registration into the NCWorks Online job portal, career planning, job search assistance, and resume writing. To learn more, feel free to reach out to the NCWorks Outreach Coordinator, Heidi O'Neal at honeal@accog.org or stop by one of the upcoming workshops.

## **NCWorks for Job Seekers**

Washington County Library Plymouth, NC

Tyrrell County Library Columbia, NC

9/25/19

Hyde County Library Engelhard, NC

9/26/19

Barco Library Barco, NC

9/27/19 Moyock Library Moyock, NC

10/08/19

Gates County Library Gatesville, NC

Tyrrell County Library Columbia, NČ

10/16/19

Hyde County Library Engelhard, NC

Kill Devil Hills Library Kill Devil Hills, NC

11/12/19

Manteo Library Manteo, NC

11/13/19

Washington County Library Plymouth, NC

11/14/19

Hatteras Library Hatteras, NC

Tyrrell County Library

Columbia, NČ

11/27/19 Hyde County Library Engelhard, NC

#### IBM TALENT ASSESSMENTS

All staff participated in IBM Talent Assessment training on August 15, 2019. All Career Centers and affiliated sites in the NWDB region are now offering IBM Pre-Employability Assessments that employers can use to determine whether applicants possess the skills they need to be successful in their jobs. Every occupation has an assessment to validate skills. There are over 1,500 tests available for specific and general needs. IBM Pre-Employability Assessments are vital to employers and job seekers to reduce training and turnover issues. Tests available include Typing, Data Entry, Telephone Etiquette, Cash Handling, QuickBooks, Assembly and Matching, Basic Warehouse Knowledge, and many more. The assessment software was purchased through a grant awarded to the NWDB from the NC Division of Workforce Solutions.



"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence then, is not an act, but a habit." -Aristotle

#### NEXTGEN SUCCESS STORY: DAISIA

Daisia is a 19-year-old native of Perquimans County. After graduation Daisia had ideas for her future however, she was unsure of how she was going to execute those goals. She found out about NCWorks NextGen (Powered by Northeastern Workforce Development Board) services through her grandmother and applied for assistance to help her effectively transition from High School to a career in Nursing. She was enrolled in NextGen and soon after Daisia began to develop more of an idea for her future during discussions and meetings with her Career Advisor, Erica Banks.

Daisia came to NCWorks NextGen with limited to no work skills. She began working with her Career Advisor on her Organizational Skills, Communication Skills, Time Management and to prepare her for the workplace.

After receiving her certifications, she was able to obtain a paid

NextGen Work Experience for up to 28 hours per week at Elizabeth City Health & Rehabilitation Center where she performed her clinical for the Nurse Aide I course. She is assisting in the Activities Department with patients who are geriatric, have dementia and an array of other inabilities that come with old age.

Daisia has chosen to earn stackable credentials in the Healthcare Pathway so she can use these skills now to become gainfully employed while attending school and progressing toward her ultimate career goal in Nursing. Her next step is to complete the Medication Aide State Exam offered by Pearson Vue. These credentials will make Daisia more prepared for nursing, employment and self-sufficiency.

Source: Erica Banks



#### **Board of Directors**

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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



# **NCWorks Career Centers and Outposts**

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

Elizabeth City NCWorks Career Center 422 McArthur Drive Elizabeth City, NC 27909 Phone: 252-331-4798

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

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

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

College of the Albemarle Elizabeth City 1208 N. Road Street Elizabeth City, NC 27909 Phone: (252) 335-0821 College of the Albemarle Manteo 132 Russell Twiford Rd. Manteo, NC 27954 Cell: (252) 312-6852

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

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

Beaufort County Community College Roper P.O. Box 503, 100 Hwy 32 N.

Roper, NC 27970 Cell: (252) 312-6859

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

Gates DSS

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