

December 12, 2019



Northeastern Workforce Development Board

ALBEMARLE COMMISSION
REGION R COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

News from the Northeast

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Colleagues,

This quarter sure has flown by!! We have accomplished a lot and I have to say, that I am very proud of our team for all of their hard work. In this newsletter, you will see some of the highlights of what we have been doing in the NWDB 10-county region.

I am particularly excited about the Career Center Expo we held in Roper in partnership with Beaufort County Community College and Washington County schools. Our Career Center staff are working hard to understand the challenges of job seekers and businesses in our three counties south of the sound (Washington, Hyde, Tyrrell) and diligently working to spread the word in these counties of the resources available through our NCWorks Career Center system. Our goal is to host one of these events in each of these three counties on a quarterly basis.

I am also very excited about this year's Real-World Simulation. This was NextGen's fourth year hosting this event and I believe it was the best. There is a tremendous team of volunteers who work tirelessly throughout the year planning this event. Many of the volunteers have been part of the team since the first year. I believe they continue to volunteer every year because they know the importance of ensuring that our youth have the opportunity to understand what it takes to become self-sustaining adults in the "Real World". I certainly wish that I had the opportunity to take part in an event such as this when I was in young.

Unfortunately, since our last newsletter, we have also experienced much sorrow. In early September, Hurricane Dorian hit the Outer Banks creating devastation, primarily in Ocracoke. As you will see in this newsletter, we were glad to be able to send staff to Ocracoke to try to help those affected. Like a lot of the work we do, this was done through a team effort with Region Q and Turning Point Workforce Development Boards. We send a sincere thank you to those boards for helping in our community's time of need.

Also, this quarter, NWDB experienced a terrible loss with the passing of board member, Steve Bryan. Steve was a loyal and active member of NWDB for many years and has touched the lives of many in his community. Steve was truly an incredible man. Our hearts are heavy and our prayers are with his family.

Lastly, on a brighter note, I hope that you all have a very Merry Christmas and holiday season. I hope you are able to take some time off, enjoy your friends and family, and rejuvenate for the new year to come!!

Best wishes,

Dave Whitmer, Director



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Partnerships within the Northeast Region
- Veterans Assistance
- Finish Line Grants
- Hiring Events
- NC Commerce Highlights Success Story

Finish Line Grants are still available!

Governor Cooper started the Finish Line Grant (FLG) initiative to help students reach graduation when facing unforeseen challenges. FLGs can be used for auto repairs, housing, medical needs, dependent care, or other financial emergencies students face that could prevent them from achieving their educational goals. Students enrolled in community colleges across North Carolina may be eligible. Students must be in good academic standing and have completed 50 percent of their degree or credential.

OCRACOKE RAPID RESPONSE

The state's official "career center on wheels," the NCWorks Mobile Unit was deployed to Ocracoke Island in October to help its residents devastated by hurricane Dorian. NCWorks staff, along with staff from the Division of Employment Security (DES) were on hand to assist Ocracoke Residents with Rapid Response Services such as access to free internet, unemployment registration, career counseling, resume preparation, and NCWorks.gov.



Caption (left to right): Kenny Kee, Dare County NCWorks Career Center Manager, Pamela Dorsey, Pitt County NCWorks Assistant Manager, Albert Burns, DES Call Center Analyst, and Morelva Campbell, Assistant Director of DES Call Center.

"The best way to predict your future is to create it." -- Abraham Lincoln

WELCOME NEW STAFF

The Northeastern Workforce Development Board welcomes NCWorks Career Advisors Angus Spencer and LaQuita Clark to the team. Angus Spencer is originally from Columbia, NC and a graduate of Mid-Atlantic Christian University in Elizabeth City. Transitioning from being a Summer Coordinator/School Age Teacher at Creative Learning Center in Raleigh, NC, he states, "I hope to bring to the team a new fresh philosophy. Along with a youthful spirit, I believe my optimistic perspective would be a great addition to the development of the team." Spencer will be working with youth and adults in Gates, Washington, and Chowan Counties. LaQuita Clark is originally from Elizabeth City,

NC and graduated from Elizabeth City State University and Liberty University obtaining a Masters Degree in Special Education. LaQuita is transitioning from being a special education teacher for the last 9 years, with Bertie County schools. She states, "My philosophy about life is simple, everyone is important and has purpose, I am excited about being able work with individuals holistically to advance their careers, and help them develop long lasting success." LaQuita will be working at the NCWorks Career Centers in Pasquotank and Chowan Counties.





Caption: Students from the NWDB 10 County region ready to participate in the Real World Simulation, October 2, 2019.

REAL WORLD SIMULATION

How can you graduate high school, finish college, get a good job and still be broke? About 120 students from surrounding counties found out last week during the “Real World” exercise put on by the NCWorks NextGen at Camp Cale. Students got to pick how much education they wanted to get and what they wanted to do, and that created a salary. For someone getting a higher-level college degree in the area of human services, that gross pay would be \$44,500 a year. They learned about withholding taxes, Social Security and Medicare, which would reduce the monthly total to \$2,731. Then they learned about insurance, housing costs, Social Security and a host of other things. Want a new cell phone? That will cost you. Think you deserve the premium cable T.V. package. That comes at a price. Want a puppy? That comes with food and a vet bill. The bottom line, it all costs money. Lora Aples, a coordinator for the Real-World program, said eight organizations or schools took part in the event. The format for the event has shifted since Real World was first held at Camp Cale in 2016. “We changed it up to create smaller groups.” All the students had to attend a workshop on budgeting. She said schools do focus on most of the topics covered in Real World, “but they say they can’t do it to this magnitude.” It took 45 volunteers

to run the simulation last Wednesday. They took part playing roles like a car salesman, or a cable T.V. provider. Arthur Manigault, who works in the cable T.V. industry, was one of those at the table “selling” that service. “This is my second year as a volunteer,” he said after “selling” a student a \$60 package for cell phone service. Meanwhile Jeffrey Lucas, a 20-year-old student at College of the Albemarle, was going over his budget worksheet, the Gates County native wants to get into physical therapy. Brittany Taylor was involved in the budget workshop as a volunteer. She works at the State Employees Credit Union in Hertford and said it’s not just young people who could benefit from “Real World.” “We have some adults who could use some help as well,” she said. Even the best laid plans can go wrong. For that, students had to spin the “Life Happens” wheel. It could land on a good thing (a bonus) or a bad thing (your car broke). Aples said they got donations from Southern Bank in Plymouth, Albemarle Community Trust, Chick Fil-A, Regulator Marine, Hardees and McDonalds to put on the event. “The community is coming together to better prepare our youths and young adults to understand how education, career pathways and life choices all work together in becoming sustaining adults.”

Source: Perquimans Weekly

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEWS



NWDB participated in an economic development forum alongside Currituck County’s Economic Developer, EDPNC, Hyde and Dare County, for the OBX Leadership group. The panel focused on local and regional economic and workforce development initiatives.

PARTNERSHIP CONFERENCE

NWDB Board Members and staff, along with NCWorks Career Center staff, attended the NCWorks Partnership Conference in October. The conference consists of Workforce Development Professionals from across the state. Attendees represent labor, state and federal government, education, community-based organizations, community colleges and the private sector.



Veterans Assistance

The Veterans Education and Training Services (VETS) provides employers with assistance in the recruitment and hiring of qualified transitioning service members and veterans in our region.

NCWorks Career Center can help:

Meet with the Local Veterans' Employment Representative, Marcus Cutrell, to learn more about the benefits of hiring veterans.

Take a look at the **Employer Toolkit** : Assists and educates employers who have made the proactive decision to include transitioning Service Members, Veterans and wounded warriors in their recruitment and hiring initiatives.

Consider applying for the HIRE Vets

Medallion Program:

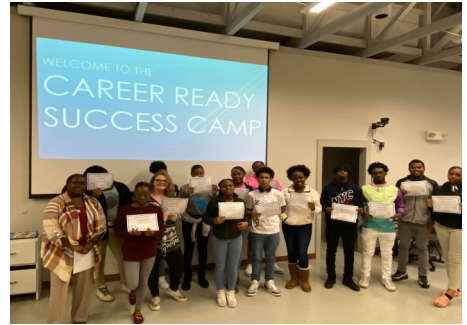
Recognizes employers who recruit, retain, and employ veterans, and who offer charitable services in support of the veteran community.

Like the Northeastern Workforce Development Board on Facebook!



WASHINGTON COUNTY PARTNERSHIPS

NCWorks, Beaufort County Community College, and Washington County Schools recently partnered to host a Career Readiness Success Camp, November 12, 2019 at the Beaufort County Community College Washington County Campus. The Scholars had to successfully complete a four hour training which comprised of three sessions: Interview and Resume Building, Work Etiquette and Attire, and Job Search/NCWorks Registration. Thirty-six upperclassmen attended and received their certificate of completion at the Career Ready Success Camp.



CAREER CENTER CERTIFICATION

On November 6, 2019, at the NCWorks Commission Meeting, the NWDB was recognized for completing the Career Center Certification process by meeting the commission's criteria for quality customer service. Governor Roy Cooper addressed the NCWorks Commission before NC Secretary of Commerce, Tony Copeland, and Chairman of the NCWorks Commission, Tom Rabon, recognized the NWDB for their achievement.



Caption (left to right): Kenny Kee, Dare County NCWorks Career Center Manager, Larry Donley, Division of Workforce Solutions Regional Operations Director, Matthew Fowler, Elizabeth City/Edenton-Chowan NCWorks Career Center Manager, David Whitmer, Director Northeastern Workforce Development Board, Tony Copeland, NC Secretary of Commerce and Tom Rabon, Chairman of the NCWorks Commission.



CAREER ADVISOR: SUCCESS STORY

Paige Griffin, a Career Advisor at the [#NCWorks](#) Career Center in Dare County, recalls making a difference in a particular jobseeker's life: "A Buxton resident, working the same seasonal retail job for five years, wanted to get out of the seasonal job rut. He would save as much in the summer as possible, but was barely getting by during the winter months. Through the Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) Program, we offered him financial assistance, career coaching and encouragement. He enrolled in training at Carolina Trucking, passed the course with flying colors at the top of his class, and now holds a full-time job at Flatiron and is off public assistance."

This is what North Carolina's workforce development professionals do every day: they help North Carolinians find new career possibilities and connect them with resources to get training and improve their quality of life....And that's why we celebrate them all year long. Source: NC Department of Commerce



"All labor that uplifts humanity has dignity and importance and should be undertaken with painstaking excellence." - Martin Luther King, Jr.

TELEPHONICS HIRING EVENT

The NCWorks Career Center and College of The Albemarle (COA) partnered to provide a recruitment event for job seekers interested in opportunities with Telephonics Corporation. A communication system company, Telephonics announced in August its plans to invest \$5.5 million in a new facility located in Elizabeth City.

The event was held Wednesday, November 20, 2019 with over 170 people in attendance. Attendees had the opportunity to speak with Telephonics Corporation team members and learn about careers and training opportunities for positions as Electronic Assembler, Production and Repair

Technician, or Quality Control Inspector provided by COA and Telephonics.



Job Search Stations

Did you know that job search stations are available to job seekers in many of the outpost locations in the NWDB Region? These stations have computers with internet access and a printer ready for use by job seekers to search NCWorks for job opportunities or to write a resume! Next time you are in Gates, Currituck or Hyde County DSS look for the job search station in the lobby. Job search stations are also located in the Hyde County Government Complex building and at the Ocracoke Community Library!

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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



Northeastern Workforce
Development Board
ALBEMARLE COMMISSION
REGION R COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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

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 Gvt. 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

