

3rd Quarter 2021



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. Another quarter has passed and our staff continue to do outstanding work throughout our 10-county region. We continue providing much needed services to job seekers and businesses alike.

With the current tight labor market, many employers are coming to us for help with recruitment. We are conducting hiring events weekly, sometimes more than one a day. Some of the hiring events have had very good turnout with job seekers and some events have not had the job seeker attendance that we want. We need your help to promote these hiring events and all of the great services offered through our NCWorks Career Centers.

One of the ways we promote these hiring events and other services is through social media, mainly through Facebook. We have four Facebook pages that we use to disseminate information.

- Northeastern Workforce Development Board
- NCWorks Elizabeth City, Edenton/Chowan, OBX
- NCWorks Dare County
- NWDB Youth Services

If you have not done so already, please like these Facebook pages and help us get this important information out into our communities.

We also promote our services through a texting platform that we have. You can text "NCWorks" to 56512 and you can easily access through your phone a web portal with up-to-date information on hiring events, workshops and many other resources.

We certainly appreciate your help with this as there is more work to be done than any of us can do on our own.

Best Wishes,

Dave Whitmer, Director
Northeastern Workforce Development Board



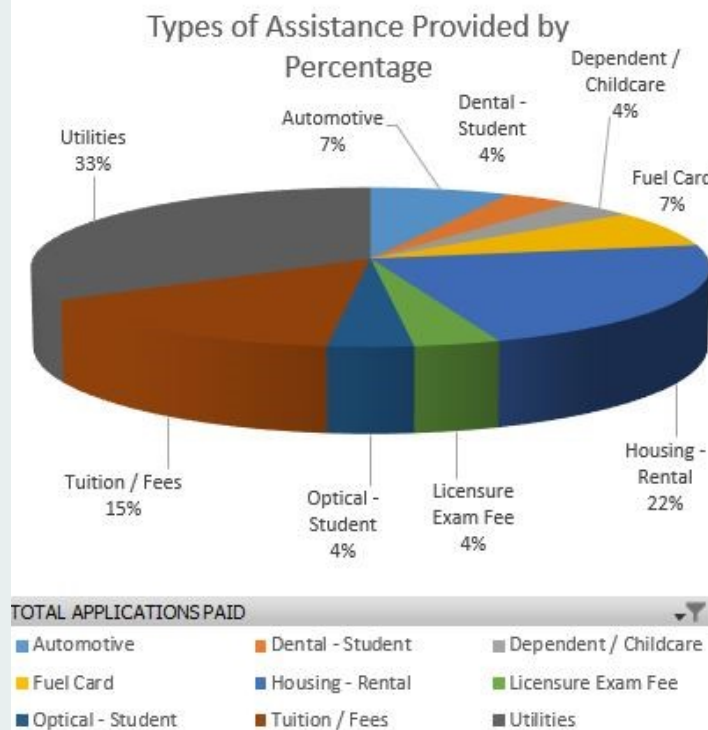
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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- ECSU Events
- Numbers at a Glance
- Regulator Marine Tour
- National Night Out
- Hiring Events

FINISH LINE GRANTS



Source: NC Commerce

According to NC Commerce, “Too often, financial emergencies like unexpected healthcare costs, childcare expenses, or car breakdowns prevent community college students who are on the cusp of completion from reaching that milestone. In July of 2018, Governor Roy Cooper announced the **Finish Line Grants** program to help community college students complete their training when facing unforeseen

financial challenges.” The Northeastern Workforce Development Board is pleased to participate in the Finish Line Grant Program. The NWDB has had the privilege of providing 136 grants to help students “cross the finish line,” since its inception in 2018. The graphic to the left shows the percentage and type of assistance provided to students in our region through Finish Line Grants, from September 2020-June 2021.

“Excellence is to do a common thing in an uncommon way” -
Booker T. Washington

ECSU

NCWorks Career Advisor Edith Evans participated in the ECSU Back to School Bash on August 22nd. NCWorks staff love the opportunity to talk about NCWorks Career Center services out in the community!



IT'S ALL IN THE DETAILS EVENT

Area middle school students were among the hundreds of people who toured the NCWorks Career Center in Elizabeth City on Wednesday.

Mathew Fowler, the career center manager, said middle school students “definitely need to get familiar” with the career center’s services.

That’s because it’s during high school that many students begin formulating their plans for beyond graduation, he said. The career center can assist those students in planning their career objectives.

Fowler was speaking Wednesday morning during the center’s “It’s All in the Details” event, which was held both inside and outside the center’s location at 111 Jordan Plaza. The three-hour event featured about a dozen area employers and partnering agencies, plus informa-

tional tours of the center and its services. As of 10:45 a.m., Fowler said about 100 people had already visited. That included the middle school students who arrived by bus.

Fowler summed up the event as an opportunity for the public to learn more about NCWorks’ available resources and its community partners.

One of those community partners is College of The Albemarle, which had representatives on hand Wednesday to discuss the college’s new commercial driver’s license program. The 10-week course prepares graduates to find jobs driving commercial trucks.

“That’s one of our leading programs that we are sponsoring”, Fowler said.

IT'S ALL IN THE DETAILS EVENT CONT...

Nick Lister, 36, of Elizabeth City, was among the residents speaking with COA representatives about the CDL program. Lister, who is currently employed, said he was attending the event because his mother asked him if he'd like to join her there.

Since Wednesday was a day off from work for Lister, he decided he would join her at the center — to “do something productive on my day off,” he said.

Lister said he was enjoying his time touring the center. He said the open house was good for the community because it was helping people find jobs and get back to work.

While he isn't planning to enroll in COA's truck driving program, it is something he would consider as a future career change, Lister said.

“I figured maybe with just a little bit of work, I could be my own boss one day,” he said. “Have my own truck.”

Lister said he was surprised to hear some of the ways the career center could assist him, such as providing a gas allowance to get back and forth to Edenton, where COA hosts the CDL program.

COA's CDL truck driving program opened last November. The program is 10 weeks long and this fall will welcome its fourth student cohort, said Scott Breon, a former truck driver and the program's coordinator. “Cohort” is a group or class of students.

Breon said Wednesday's event was great because it raised awareness for many people who may not have heard of the still-new CDL program. Completion of COA's CDL program earns graduates “Class A” tractor-trailer qualified status.

“So, you can drive anything that's legal on the road,” Breon said, of the scope of driver qualifications a CDL earned from COA affords.

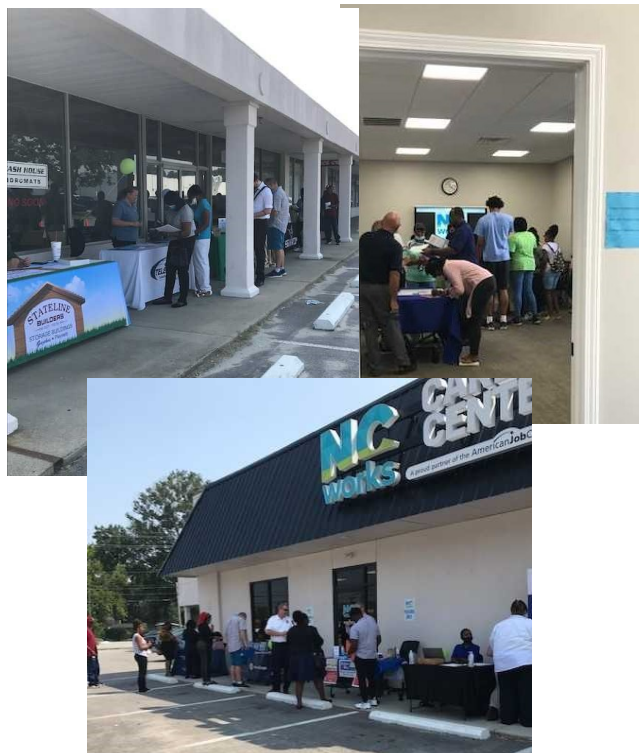
The program has a 100% graduation rate and everyone who has graduated and was seeking a job has been hired, he said.

Marcus Cutrell, NCWorks' local veterans' employment representative, provided students a tour of the facility, which included a visit with U.S. Army recruiters. The recruiters spoke to the students and answered their questions.

Also attending on Wednesday was Victor Hinnant, a regional reentry specialist for the N.C. Department of Commerce. Hinnant assists residents currently employed or who are looking for work who may have a criminal background. Hinnant said there is currently a statewide effort underway to create regional offices that provide residents with criminal background concerns a “one-stop shop” environment where all their questions and needs can be addressed.

The businesses and agencies participating in Wednesday's event included the U.S. Army, the Economic Improvement Council's Head Start program, Regulator Marine, Waterbrooke Assisted Living, Telephonics, Stateline Builders, Albemarle Regional Health Services, Elizabeth City State University, Albemarle Area United Way, River City Community Development Corps and the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services.

Source: Chris Day Daily Advance
July 20, 2021



A proud partner of the
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network

NWDB 3rd Quarter 2021 Numbers at a Glance

Total in Training

Adult: 100

DW: 20

Youth: 100

Total: 220

Total Job Seekers Served:

3,192

Total Services Provided to Job Seekers: 18,613

Businesses Served: 181

Total Services Provided to Businesses: 2,313

Regulator Marine Tour



NCWorks Career Center staff in Elizabeth City and Edenton visited Regulator Marine on July 23 for a tour and learning session about boat building, Regulator's company culture, and their hiring and recruitment needs.

NCWORKS CUSTOMER SURVEY

NCWorks customers have a new way to communicate their satisfaction for NCWorks services via a new survey tool. Customers can text "NCWorks Survey" to 56512 to rate their Career Advisor and NCWorks Career Center services level of satisfaction. NCWorks Career Center customers will receive a business card with the survey information when they enter the NCWorks Career Center, urging them to participate in the new survey process. Customers can rate the center performance A-C. Career Center managers are excited about the new process to give

customers a voice. NCWorks Elizabeth City, Interim Manager Sheryl Stevens stated, "we are excited to participate in the new customer satisfaction survey process, the staff were so excited they added it to their email signature lines." Thanks to the NCWorks Career Center in Elizabeth City's efforts all staff placed the survey reminder in their signature lines at the most recent regional staff meeting. Staff will be recognized quarterly based on survey results including an appreciation event for the center with the highest survey average.

HOW DID WE DO TODAY?

CAREER ADVISOR: _____

Please rate your career center experience by texting

"NCWorks Survey"
to 56512

Your feedback will be used to help us to continually improve services, recognize deserving staff, and best assist our customers.

Connecting talent to jobs!

CAREER PATHWAYS & STAFF DEVELOPMENT

In 2021, NCWorks Career Center staff in our region completed a rigorous training initiative around career development and career pathways. As part of their "capstone project," staff developed scenarios (real or hypothetical) explaining how a student or job seeker might utilize services and/or community partners to develop their pathways. Right, is a submission from Sheryl Stevens, Assistant Career Center Manager for Pasquotank NCWorks. Sheryl's submission was recently highlighted in the September edition of NC Career Pathways update "Pathways in Action" scenarios section.

ALL ROADS LEAD TO SUCCESS

www.ncncareerpathways.org



Robert visited the NCWorks Career Center knowing he wanted a job but unsure of what type of work he wanted to do...

His Career Advisor invited him to:

- Register in NCWorks
- Complete an Orientation
- Hear an overview of services



Robert completed the Traitify personality and career assessment, which showed his personality blend as Action Taker/Visionary. He realized that he was interested in careers under the Advanced Manufacturing Pathway.

"Pathways in Action" - based on a true story by Sheryl Stevens, Pasquotank NCWorks



The Career Advisor guided Robert to develop a detailed resume and apply for several local positions while he looked at options for training.

Robert didn't qualify for WIOA help with training, but his Career Advisor helped him land a job paying over \$20/hr so he could save for school.

NOW HIRING!



While working, Robert received another offer for an Apprenticeship, allowing him to work while receiving paid training. Now Robert is very happy!

"Pathways in Action" - based on a true story by Sheryl Stevens, Pasquotank NCWorks

NEXTGEN CORNER

After pausing group activities for over a year, the NextGen team was excited to be able to bring 5 participants together for an outing this quarter! The group started their day with a tour of Elizabeth City State University where they were shown around campus and had the opportunity to learn about various aspects of college life including living in the dorms, how meal plans work, sporting events, greek life, various academic programs, and some basics of the admissions process. Following the tour, the group headed to College of the Albemarle's Elizabeth City Campus for lunch and a Career Café on the topic of Career Exploration. The participants took a career interest inventory and discussed career pathways and labor market information related to their intended career clusters. The day wrapped up with a couple of rounds of Fun Em-

ployed. This funny interviewing game requires players to draw from a deck of cards to select a number of qualifications that are often silly or difficult to market. They then must interview for a job selected from another deck of cards using the qualifications they drew. The person selected for the position wins the game! Everyone had a lot of laughs and the youth were able to practice basic interviewing skills and thinking on their feet. Overall, it was a great day and the team is looking forward to hosting more in-person events this year.



DARE COUNTY SUCCESS STORY

T.S. (a job seeker) came into the Dare County Career Center on September 22, 2021 and met with Career Advisor Pamela Stemmerich. She had recently resigned her position with a local employer and was frustrated because she felt she had no career advancement with her current job. Pamela discussed optional career plans with TS and discovered during the conversation that she had outstanding computer technical skills. TS was already exploring remote work options since she still has a child in elementary school. The remote work from home options were convenient for her to be home when her child was released from school midafternoon, as well as the options of working in the evening. She stated she was fully equipped with a home computer and internet access. Pamela had TS return to the Career Center the next day and together they created a new resume to highlight her skills in remote work. Pamela told TS about

the CVS Health remote position as a Technical Support Representative. A job Fair was going to be held at the Dare County Career Center on October 6, 2021 and Pamela suggested that she attend. The following week, Pamela phoned TS and she informed her that she had started a remote work from home position with another company, however she was still interested in the CVS Health position. TS could not attend the job fair because she was working the new remote job. Pamela informed Career Advisor Lucy Wallace that TS could not attend the job fair on October 6, 2021. Lucy provided John Denitti (with CVS Health) the resume on behalf of TS. TS was hired by CVS Health with a start date of early November.



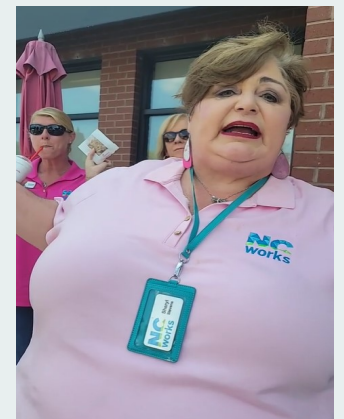
National Night Out



NCWorks NextGen staff members Janaye Clark and Amanda Hurdle participated in the Perquimans County National Night Out celebration in August by promoting NCWorks and NextGen Services available to the community.

Chick-Fil-A

The NCWorks Career Center staff hosted a hiring event for Chick-Fil-A in Elizabeth City on August 18, 2021 with 18 job seekers attending and 8 people hired on the spot. Interim Career Center Manager Sheryl Stevens credits the great turn out to the Facebook Live events promoted by all staff. Did you see their live stream?



Like us on Facebook!
@NWDBworks

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Currituck County

Rex Anderson
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Tameka Gibbs
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Inc.

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HDM Associates

Montique McClary
Apprenticeship
City of Elizabeth City

Carson D. Rich
Higher Education
Elizabeth City State University

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
111 Jordan Plaza
Elizabeth City, NC 27909
Phone: (252) 621-6350

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

Visit nwdbworks.com or networks.gov

