

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 14, 2024

Contact: Brandi Bragg, Maritime Business Engagement Coordinator

Phone: 252-217-6886

Email: brandi.bragg@nencpathways.org

Website: www.wavesofopportunitync.com

Waves of Opportunity North Carolina Kickoff

HERTFORD – Funded by an \$11 million grant through the U.S. Economic Development Administration’s American Rescue Plan Good Jobs Challenge, this groundbreaking training system will launch as a gateway for jobs in the maritime industry — maritime welder, electrical technician, wind turbine technician, sheet metal fabricator, structural fitter, commercial driver, and more.

Led by [the Hampton Roads Workforce Council](#), the Regional Workforce Training System includes local partners, [Northeastern Workforce Development Board \(NWDB\)](#) and [College of the Albemarle](#), as subawardees. Other local partners include a variety of employers who are connected to the maritime industry through production of goods and services or through connections with the defense industry. Urban Leagues of the Central Carolinas is also connected through this grant and offers a variety of services and assistance for job seekers and local businesses.

These partners will be hosting a “Kickoff” event for Waves of Opportunity North Carolina at College of the Albemarle – Dare campus on Monday, March 4 at 2pm. Local leaders from Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hyde, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell, and Washington Counties are invited to attend this event and learn more about the opportunities available for people in their communities. The event will include an overview of the training, employment, and other opportunities available through the grant. An optional tour of the welding lab will be available for anyone interested. More information about future hiring events will also be shared.

###

Additional Information:**About the Hampton Roads Workforce Council**

Established by the Hampton Roads Workforce Development Board, the Hampton Roads Workforce Council oversees federally funded workforce development programs for all localities in the Hampton Roads region. The Hampton Roads Workforce Council provides strategic workforce development solutions designed to assist businesses in accessing qualified workers and job seekers in search of suitable job openings and training opportunities to bolster their earning potential.

About Northeastern Workforce Development Board

The Northeastern Workforce Development Board (NWDB), a group of community leaders appointed by local elected officials, oversees the NCWorks Career Center system in 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. Please visit us at nwdbworks.com.