

# Eastern Carolina WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD, INC.



Serving the North Carolina Counties of Carteret, Craven, Duplin, Greene, Jones, Lenoir, Onslow, Pamlico and Wayne

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## Gov. Perdue Highlights Education as Key to NC's Manufacturing Success in Keynote to Influential Policy Group

A different kind of manufacturing, fueled by North Carolina's emphasis on education, is helping drive the state's economy, Gov. Bev Perdue told the Southern Growth Policies Board at its 2011 conference. "I haven't had a conversation with a manufacturing business leader where they didn't ask about our education system in North Carolina," Gov. Perdue said. "Because manufacturing for us isn't just about furniture anymore – today it's about specialized airplane seats and aircraft components. We're not just making traditional textiles, we need folks today who can produce high-tech fabrics and lightweight components for wind turbines. Today, the jobs that come with these companies often require more than just a high-school degree."

North Carolina has been the most productive manufacturing state in the Southeast for over a decade. While the sector has been challenged by the recent recession, more than 430,000 people in North Carolina rely on a manufacturing job for their livelihoods. One in every five private sector jobs in rural North Carolina is in manufacturing. Gov. Perdue told the crowd at the conference that, as North Carolina works to bring modern manufacturers into the state, she and her administration recognize that growing companies will always demand more advanced skills and training from the

workforce. If North Carolina wants to lead in innovative manufacturing, or any sector, the state must invest in the research and development that produces new projects. "We must invest in the brainpower of our workforce," Gov. Perdue said. "That means no matter how hard the budget winds are blowing, we cannot retreat from education and the training it brings. For North Carolina, education is product development and workforce training."

Perdue's emphasis on education was echoed by other speakers such as Jeffrey M. Lacker, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond. He emphasized the importance of investing in "human capital," in education funding that is balanced with both short term results, such as vocational training, and long term benefits. "Investment in early childhood education is an area where research suggests substantial social returns over several decades," Lacker said in comments that mirror the results of North Carolina's nationally acclaimed Smart Start and More at Four programs.

Gov. Perdue pointed to a number of initiatives that are helping the manufacturing sector in this challenging economy. She first highlighted North Carolina's nationally recognized community college system and its customized training programs. North Carolina community college campuses work closely with private businesses to customize

classes to meet their industry needs.

In addition, Gov. Perdue profiled the Industrial Extension Service at N.C. State University. IES works with manufacturers all over the state to deliver better results in quality, productivity, safety, growth and more. She emphasized the need not to retreat from investing in education. "Education and economic development go hand-in-hand," said Gov. Perdue. "Going backwards on our commitment to education would be counterproductive to our job creation efforts."

One Gov. Perdue-led initiative that was focused on was Biz Boost. Biz Boost started as job aversion/job retention pilot project in the Charlotte region during the recession. After a successful pilot project, Gov. Perdue took the initiative statewide and it is now aimed at helping many of the non-urban counties. In just 13 months of Biz Boost:

- 1,324 companies are participating
- 5,100 jobs created and retained
- Nearly \$70 million in capital formation
- 814 government contract received for \$213 million
- More than 1/3 of participants are in manufacturing

Gov. Perdue said for the South and for American to maintain its competitive edge, "we must out-education, out-innovate, and out-build the competition."

Source: [nccommerce.com](http://nccommerce.com)



### Officers

Joseph Wiggins, *Chief Elected Official*  
Mona Padrick, *Chair*  
Carla Byrnes, *Vice Chairman*

### Carteret County

Mike Kraszeski, *Atlantic Veneer, Vice President*  
Myles Stempin, *Carteret County Economic Development, Executive Director*  
Dwayne Oglesby, *Fleet Readiness Center East, Organization & Workforce Planner & Analyst*

### Craven County

William Greene, *BB&T, Vice President*  
Kimsey Welch, *Vocational Rehabilitation, Retired*  
Ronald Knight, *Communications Workers of America, Labor Rep.*

### Duplin County

Alex Asbun, *Duplin Gen. Hospital, Director of Health Care Programs*  
Dr. Lawrence Rouse, *James Sprunt Community College, President*  
Thomasina Williams

### Greene County

Bud May, *Greene Lamp, Inc., Executive Director*  
Judy Darden, *Darden Bookkeeping, Owner*

### Jones County

Frank Emory, *Emory Construction, Owner*  
Thelma Simmons, *Jones County DSS, Executive Director*  
Dr. Norma Sermon-Boyd, *Jones County Partnership for Children, Director*

### Lenoir County

Dr. Brantley Briley, *Lenoir Community College, President*  
Bruce Parson, *Blind Spot, Owner*  
Debbie Beech Burrell, *FACILITATE, CEO*

### Onslow County

Don Harris, *Stanadyne Diesel, Retired*  
Ralph Leeds, *Employment Security Commission, Manager*  
Mona Padrick, *Jacksonville-Onslow Chamber of Commerce, President*  
Dr. Kathy Spencer, *Onslow County Schools, Superintendent*

### Pamlico County

Jason Hannah, *Hannah Service Center, Owner*  
Carla Byrnes, *B & B Yacht Designs, Owner*  
Wayne Brackin, *Tideland EMC, Job Training and Safety Director*

### Wayne County

Fletcher Bizzell, *Excell-Linde, HR & Safety Manager*  
Gerald Jones, *Southco Distributing Company, Human Resources Director*  
Tara Myers, *Vocational Rehabilitation, Facility Director*

## Vision

Our vision for the eastern counties of North Carolina is a highly skilled workforce with an educational attainment level that meets the needs of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century workplace, so that local firms can compete in a technologically advanced global economy.

## Mission

Our mission is to ensure that our workforce development system is customer focused, demand-driven and accountable in preparing our current and future workforce to meet the changing needs of a highly-competitive global economy.

## Value Added

We add economic value to our communities by ensuring that quality education, job training, and employment opportunities are available for job/training seekers and employers alike, thereby improving the quality of life for our citizens throughout eastern North Carolina.

## Key Strategies

- Engage business and community leaders in addressing workforce issues and promote strategies to improve education levels & basic workplace skills.
- Strengthen alliances with economic development to identify and address the workforce needs of current and future industries.
- Implement a community awareness plan that promotes the WDB, JobLink Career Centers, and partner services.
- Identify and implement effective employment and training strategies that result in employment opportunities for all citizens.



[www.ncvisioneast.org](http://www.ncvisioneast.org)

## Directors Corner

Dear Colleagues,

Happy Summer! It's hard to believe that we are at beginning of what will be another successful program year in serving the citizens of Eastern North Carolina.

With change being the only constant in all of our lives, we can look forward with great anticipation that our economy will continue to improve and our employment rates will continue to rise as many North Carolina businesses are reporting growth. The expansions are evident whether you are driving through Lenoir County seeing manufacturing plants flourishing, or visiting the coast and witnessing the tourism season in full bloom, people are working and enjoying the fruits of their labor. All of which are possible because of the quality of Eastern North Carolina's workforce.

Likewise, the role of workforce development has never been more critical than it is today. We continue to compete for jobs not by the availability of our workforce, but by the quality of our workforce. During the past five years, our board has been tracking educational attainment levels, and across the region, the data shows an increase in high school diploma rates, as well as an increase in post secondary education rates. Simply put, Education Matters now more than ever, and Eastern North Carolina citizens are taking this matter seriously.

In addition to improving educational attainment levels, our local area is proving to be "Work Ready" with more than 15,000 individuals attaining their Career Readiness Certificate! Companies across the region are now reporting the benefits of hiring workers with a CRC from better job matching when hiring to ensuring high rates of job retention. Manufacturers are profiling positions and matching the right worker to the right job. The results are improved productivity, efficiency, and profits.

As you read through this newsletter, you will see a glimpse of activities that have occurred in the local area to include the successful Veterans Initiative Project, the ASPIRE CRC Initiative, NCSU's Make It Real Manufacturing Tour, JobLink Services, and highlights of the Onslow County Trades Days and the Eastern Carolina Youth Council Quiz Bowl events.

As the PY2010-2011 program year comes to a close, on behalf of the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board of Director, I would like to say a very special thank you to our staff, JobLink partners, and WIA Service Providers for another successful year.

May God Continue to Bless You.

Tammy Childers

# State of North Carolina



BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE  
GOVERNOR

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONALS MONTH

2011

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

## A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, North Carolina's economic development and the ability of our businesses and industries to compete in the global economy depend on the availability of a qualified and skilled workforce; and

WHEREAS, the complexity and fast-paced changes to our financial system and labor markets put new demands on individuals and employers at all levels; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina industry depends on the assistance of knowledgeable and dedicated professionals who understand the needs of our workforce and employers; and

WHEREAS, the ability of workforce development specialists to facilitate the navigation of a multifaceted economy is critical to job seekers, employees, and employers across our State;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim May 2011, as "WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONALS MONTH" in North Carolina, in recognition of the efforts and accomplishments made by those in all workforce development organizations and partnerships that play a vital role in our economy.



*Beverly Eaves Perdue*

BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this fourteenth day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand eleven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-fifth.

# Manufacturers Exchange Ideas and Business Cards

## At Fleet Readiness Center East in Cherry Point



More than 60 people toured the massive Fleet Readiness Center East in Cherry Point on June 7 as part of the Manufacturing Makes It Real Network. And 15 manufacturers from throughout North Carolina shared their products, hopes and needs with the group. As a result, business was conducted. FRC East, "the vertical lift center of excellence," provides world-class maintenance,

engineering and logistics support for Navy and Marine Corps aviation. Most of the 3,500 employees are civilians living in nearby communities. For more than 60 years the FRC East has played an important role in the Nation's defense. Their workforce has earned a reputation of excellence in providing world-class maintenance, engineering, and logistics support for Navy and Marine Corps aviation, as well as other armed services, federal agencies and foreign governments. Their skilled workforce uses state-of-the-art technology to ensure that FRC East is without equal in providing quality, cost-effective support.

While touring the composite line that makes the Harrier jet, FRC East officials shared some of their problems. A few visitors believe they may have some answers. In fact, Angela Padgett with FRC East said no fewer than eight con-

tacts made at the event probably will lead to answers to their problems and new business for the contacts. The Network is supported by manufacturers who join and receive promotional benefits and easy access to IES services. Network members include Keihin Carolina System Technology, Inc., Air Components & Systems, Cormetech, Inc., Diebold, Falcon Metal Corporation, Flextronics International, Glen Raven Technical Fabrics, Goulston Technologies, Inc., Max Daetwyler Corporation, NACCO Materials Handling Group, Schneider Electric USA, TE Connectivity, Wayne Brothers, Inc. and Wilmington Box Co.

More than 60 people toured the massive Fleet Readiness Center East in Cherry Point on June 7 as part of the Manufacturing Makes It Real Tour.

Source: [mfgmakesitreal.ies.ncsu.edu](http://mfgmakesitreal.ies.ncsu.edu)

Below is the list of companies that attended the [Fleet Readiness Center East Network](#).

- ACW Technology Inc.
- American Metal Treating, Inc.
- Atlas Box & Crating
- Carteret Economic Development Council
- CGP, Inc.
- Colonial Capitol Services, LLC
- Damco, Inc.
- DuPont Performance Polymers
- Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board, Inc.
- Environmental Solution, Inc.
- Genie Products Inc
- Glen Raven Technical Fabrics, LLC
- Go Green Lighting
- Goldsboro Machine Works Inc
- Hanes Brands
- JMC Tool & Machine Co.
- Johnston County Industries
- Keihin Carolina System Technology, Inc.
- keenFLOW LLC
- Lenoir Community College
- NC State University - IES
- North Carolina Community College
- North Carolina's Eastern Region
- Polaris Associates
- SELDS, Inc.
- Self-Help
- Spatial Integrated Systems, Inc.
- Spirit AeroSystems Inc.
- Stronghaven
- UL DQS
- US Logistics
- Veneer Tech, Inc.
- Welsh Paper Co

## ARRA Funded Veteran's Initiative Project Successfully Serves 331 Veterans and Military Spouses

Having served 331 veterans and military spouses, the highly successful ARRA funded Veterans Initiative Project comes to an end June 15, 2011. The Veterans Initiative Project (VIP), a collaborative partnership between the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board, North Carolina's Eastern Region Military Growth Task Force, the NC Department of Commerce, the US Department of Labor, Coastal Carolina Community College, and the Employment Security Commission/JobLink Career Centers, began September 15, 2009 and targeted 300 veterans and military spouses.

The VIP provided training and skill certification opportunities in high demand, high growth sectors, with eligible veterans and military spouses receiving assistance in achieving their education and training goals of obtaining a certificate, degree, or diploma; resulting in employment, job retention, and increased earnings. At program end, 242 VIP participants completed their training and entered employment. Of those entering employment, 109 entered training related employment.

The success of the Veterans Initiative Project is evidenced by the high outcome of veterans and military spouses who have gained employment after receiving training through the program. Following are examples of successes, highlighting VIP participants from Coastal Carolina Community College and the Employment Security Commission/JobLink, Goldsboro and New Bern offices:

**John Clukey:** John is an Army veteran



Michaela McAllister  
VIP Participant

who came to VIP for the Basic Law Enforcement Training program. He was working part time for a temp agency and had to stop in order to participate in the BLET program. His wife worked 12 hour shifts and John requested assistance with their \$1,144/month childcare fee. With VIP covering his childcare, John was able to complete the BLET program and obtain employment with the Jacksonville Police Department upon graduating.

**Marion Atkinson:** Marion is a six-year Army veteran. Her specialty, while in the Army, was Material Control and Accounting Specialist. After separating from the Army she worked several years in the manufacturing industry before becoming unemployed. Marion decided that it would be best to return to a field of work similar to what she had done while in the military but found that her computer skills required improvement. With financial assistance from the Veterans Initiative Project, she enrolled in computer applications courses at Lenoir Community College. Shortly after completing these

courses, Marion obtained employment with the Food and Drug Administration as a Clerk.

**Mathew Gladkowski:** Mathew, a veteran of the United States Army, needed assistance from the Veterans Initiative Project to help him get through the RN program at Craven Community College. Mathew had one semester until graduation and was getting by with the few supplies he could afford. He was thrilled that VIP paid for everything he needed and also helped supplement his cost of travel since he drove 73.7 miles roundtrip daily for school. Mathew graduated May 2010 with an Associates Degree in Nursing and passed the NCLEX exam. He began working at the Carteret General Hospital's ER in June 2010.

**Michaela McAllister:** Michaela is a military spouse whose dream was to become a nurse because she loved helping people. She was in the second year of the Associate Degree in Nursing Program at Coastal Carolina Community College and saw her dream slipping away. Due to her husband's military re-enlistment, she was ineligible to continue to receive funds from the Pell Grant. She was thrilled to learn about the Veterans Initiative Project. VIP was able to cover tuition, fees, and childcare expenses for Michaela. Immediately after graduating, Michaela obtained a full time position at Onslow Memorial Hospital as a registered nurse.

Source: Wendy Walker-Fox, ECWDB

Contractor	Total Proposed Enrollments	Total Actual Enrollments	Total Completed Training	Total Entered Employment	Total Entered Training Related Emp
Coastal Carolina Community College	125	145	116	76	56
ESC- Craven County	87	101	66	38	28
ESC - Wayne County	88	85	54	31	19
<b>Total</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>103</b>
Veterans	165	239	163	106	73
Military Spouses	135	92	73	39	30

# ASPIRE – Assessing Skills for Performance in a Rebounding Economy

## A National Model in the WORKS!

Assessing Skills for Performance In a Rebounding Economy (ASPIRE) is designed to expand and accelerate the use of WorkKeys assessments and NC Career Readiness Certifications (CRC) in ten counties in NC's Eastern Region (NCER). The ASPIRE alliance was established in July 2009 and expanded in 2010 in response to NCER's Workforce Innovation Grants program. The partnership includes Carteret (Carteret CC), Craven (Craven CC), Duplin (James Sprunt CC), Greene, Lenoir, Jones (Lenoir CC), Onslow (Coastal Carolina CC), Pamlico (Pamlico CC), Pitt (Pitt CC) and Wayne (Wayne CC) counties.

What makes the alliance unique is that it crosses community college service areas, county lines and workforce development board (WDB) lines (Eastern Carolina WDB and Mid-East Region Q WDB) to ensure that WorkKeys and the NC CRC initiative gain momentum in Eastern NC. ASPIRE emphasizes vertical and horizontal integration of WorkKeys and CRC in a number of workforce components including K-12 schools, community colleges, Workforce Development Boards, economic development organizations, non-profits, and business and industry. Led by Wayne Community College and capitalizing on successful working models (such as the Wayne Occupational Readiness Keys for Success Initiative (WORKS) in Wayne County and the Human Resource Development (HRD) program at Lenoir CC), ASPIRE focuses on increasing work readiness in eastern NC communities through CRC attainment for adults and high school students and job profiling for in-demand job sectors.

The eight colleges in the ASPIRE alliance have issued 20% of all CRCs issued in NC. Through the ASPIRE partnership, the number of CRCs issued in the 10 partnering counties has increased from just over 9000 prior to 7/1/2010 to more than 17,500 in the 7/1/2010 – 6/30/2011 time period. The number of public high schools in the ASPIRE counties participating in CRC testing increased from 10 to 38 over the same period with the number of high school students earning a CRC growing to 6700. The number of employers endorsing the CRC grew from

approximately 20 to more than 60, two new profilers were trained and 22 job profiles were conducted. Strategies included quarterly meetings of the group to share models, methods, processes and troubleshooting; implementation of best practices for sustainability; monthly reporting of activities and successes; quarterly reports to NCER and the workforce boards; and combined employer and public awareness events. Re-allocation of ASPIRE funds based on areas of greatest need, and leveraging other resources from NCER, the workforce boards, and the NC Community College System maximized the impact of available funds. One of the major premises of ASPIRE was that some of the successes of the nationally recognized, award winning WORKS partnership in Wayne County could be replicated by others. With three of ASPIRE's ten counties now among the top 10 in NC for CRCs awarded, ASPIRE can boast that mentoring these communities resulted in tangible results.

ASPIRE has contributed positively to the regional economy by tying CRC and skill attainment to adult employment and to career development for high school and community college students; by bringing together stakeholders in economic and workforce development; and by informing educators, community leaders, employers and communities of the benefits of CRC and job profiling. ASPIRE's successes laid the groundwork for an early work-ready communities initiative and provided traction for CFed, NCER and ECWDB to develop a Work-Ready Communities Demonstration Project, the first of its kind in NC.

Improved employment and training opportunities occurred in a variety of ways. New employers such as Spirit Aerosystems, and Sanderson Farms in Lenoir County used CRC to identify large numbers of new workers with good foundational skills; in Wayne County, AAR, Cooper Standard Automotive, Franklin Baking and Mt. Olive Pickle Company profiled jobs to skill up their incumbent workers and to access the growing pool of credentialed workers for their companies. Pitt County Memorial Hospital profiled several non-medical positions to target areas for continuous

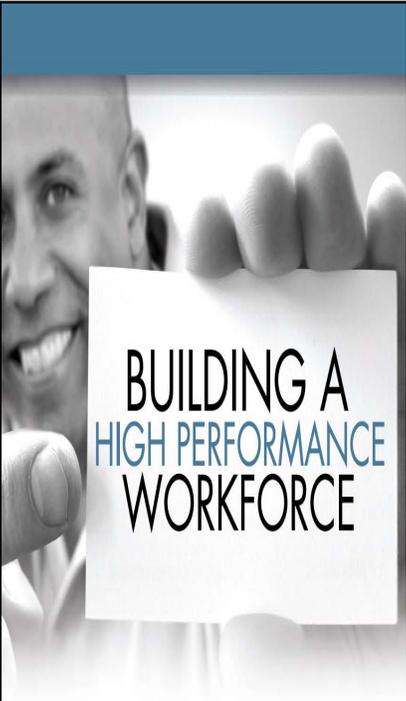
improvement. At job fairs across the region, "CRC preferred" is becoming the norm for employers who wish to identify a more highly qualified worker. As evidenced in the statistical data, students, job-seekers, and workers are enrolling in their local community colleges for skill gap training to prove their skills and to earn CRC.

The ASPIRE partnership has united stakeholders in eastern NC around a common goal of improving and proving the skill level of the region's workers. In communities where the message is being shared, county commissioners, school board members, community college presidents, business leaders, unemployed workers, parents, and students are beginning to understand what CRC represents and why CRC is important to them and to their communities economic future. The common language of WorkKeys and CRC, and the shared goals of the ASPIRE partnership has encouraged these connections between and among all the stakeholders, from individuals to local government to corporations.

Because NCER and the ECWDB viewed the ASPIRE efforts as an investment in human capital, these organizations have continued to make funding available in support of outreach efforts, pre-assessment software, training for both educators and employers, and funding for additional CRCs and employer profiles. High Schools are reporting higher end of the grade testing results, community colleges are reporting an increase in enrollments in their workforce programs, and employers are reporting less turnover in employees. The return on this investment is evidenced by the increased number of CRCs awarded showing that the Eastern region is now leading the State in demonstrating a skilled workforce. As a result, communities are engaging in dialogues about workforce development with their schools, colleges, workforce and economic development partners, and business leaders in ways that had not been previously possible.

*Source: Diane Ivey, WORKS Coordinator, WCC*

Number and Level of Career Readiness Certificates Issued Throughout North Carolina, the Eastern Carolina Local Area, and the individual Counties of the Eastern Carolina Local Area



**BUILDING A  
HIGH PERFORMANCE  
WORKFORCE**

Certificates Issued	North Carolina	Eastern Carolina Local Area	Carteret County	Craven County	Duplin County	Greene County	Jones County	Lenoir County	Onslow County	Pamlico County	Wayne County
Bronze	19373	3855	98	295	208	165	48	902	273	24	1842
Silver	46596	8702	289	846	497	258	85	1735	783	86	4123
Gold	15757	2469	71	306	145	50	27	371	277	54	1168
<b>Total</b>	<b>81726</b>	<b>15026</b>	<b>458</b>	<b>1447</b>	<b>850</b>	<b>473</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>3008</b>	<b>1333</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>7133</b>

**NORTH CAROLINA  
CAREER READINESS  
CERTIFICATE**



in partnership with



North Carolina Community College System



Career Planning, Training & Placement Services

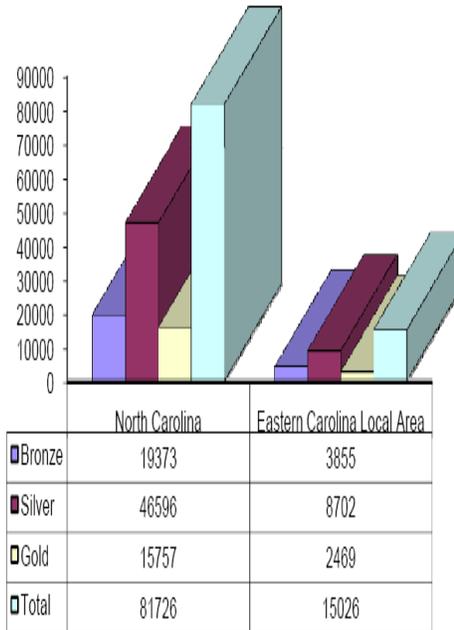


**Eastern Carolina  
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD, INC.**

252-636-6901

[www.crcnc.org](http://www.crcnc.org)

Number and Level of Career Readiness Certificates Issued as of June 13, 2011



Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board, Inc.

Onslow County JobLink Center Holds Annual Awards Luncheon on May 20th



Ralph Leeds and Kelly Hamilton

**ESC DVOS Kelley Hamilton received the JobLink Staff Member of the Year Award.**

**Title V Senior Aide Patti Shaw received the Customer Services Award.**

Both individuals received certificates and framed prints from our very own local "artist" Mr. Ralph Leeds.



Ralph Leeds and Patti Shaw

North Carolina



Career Planning, Training  
& Placement Services

- ◆ Tax Credit and Hiring Incentive Information
- ◆ Resource for Job-Ready Candidates
- ◆ Employee Recruitment & Retention Assistance
- ◆ Rapid Response Consultations for Business Layoffs or Plant Closings
- ◆ Customized Training for Employees
- ◆ Workplace Literacy

Call your local JobLink Career Center today!

**Carteret County JobLink Career Center**

Phone: (252) 726-7151

**Craven County JobLink Career Center**

Phone: (252) 514-4828

**Craven County JobLink Information Site**

Phone: (252) 444-6005

**Duplin County JobLink Career Center**

Phone: (910) 296-1478

**Greene County JobLink Career Center**

Phone: (252) 747-5689

**Jones County JobLink Career Center**

Phone: (252) 448-4791

**Lenoir County JobLink Career Center**

Phone: (252) 527-7320

**Onslow County JobLink Career Center**

Phone: (910) 347-2121

**Onslow County JobLink Information Site**

Phone: (910) 938-6309

**Pamlico County JobLink Career Center**

Phone: (252) 745-9934

**Wayne County JobLink Career Center**

Phone: (919) 731-7950

NC's JobLinks are an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids & services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

(TTY) 1-800-735-2962

(Voice) 1-800-735-8262

## Employers Consider On-the-Job Training When You are Ready to Hire

### OJT Funding available until June 2012

Employers within the nine Eastern North Carolina counties may be eligible to be reimbursed for the training of new hires under a federal grant being offered through area's local JobLink Career Centers and the Employment Security Commission offices. Sandra Shepard, an employment consultant at the Onslow County JobLink/ESC office in Jacksonville, said the On-the-Job Training Program encourages businesses to hire dislocated workers by offering reimbursement for a portion of their wages during the training period. If we find employers willing to hire one of our participants, they could be reimbursed up to 90 percent of training costs," she said. The amount of reimbursement depends on the size of the business and skills of the worker. The training period cannot exceed six months. It's a benefit for the employer and a new job opportunity for workers who have

faced prolonged unemployment. New hires must meet certain qualifications, such as being unemployed for 19 weeks or more.

It's an opportunity for local employers to take advantage of one of the resources that is out there and hire some folks who really need to be working right now," said Tammy Childers, executive director of the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board. North Carolina was one of the states awarded U.S. Department of Labor National Emergency Grant funds, and the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board was one of four recipients in North Carolina to receive funds. Childers said the board awarded an \$885,760 contract to the N.C. Employment Security Commission for the local offices that cover its nine-county region to deliver the service through June 30, 2012.

Shepard said she is working in Onslow County to find employers for at least 25 participants through the program. Shepard said the contract process is a simple one for employers. "It's not a lot of paperwork, and the turnaround (for reimbursement) is prompt," she said. Mary Brown of the ESC office in Carteret County said she's had businesses express interest in the program and she is hopeful that they and others will take advantage of the opportunity as hiring begins to pick up in the spring. "It's really a win-win for everybody," she said. While the employer can receive reimbursement for a portion of the wages of the new hire during the specified training period, who a company hires is entirely up to them.

Source: jdnews.com

## Encouraging Employers to Back Those Who Serve

### Onslow JobLink partners with Department of Labor in promoting Employer Support for Guard and Reserve Program

The economy of our nation is a source of contention for many people today. Depending upon whom you may listen to, the economy is recovering at a slow but steady rate, the economy is readying for a second dip recession, or it is a paradoxical jobless recovery of government subsidies and stimulus plans. Regardless of your point of view, there is one undeniable truth: There is an infinite amount of resources to be found in the employment of service members from the National Guard and Reserve.

These particular service members are your neighbors and friends. They are neither heralded nor do they shout out their own accolades of service to our country. These are citizen soldiers who work, play and learn inside our own community. They bring a sense of patriotism to the community that is only found in those who serve. They bring a sense of dedication to the community by their willingness to sacrifice self in service to others in local, state, national and international crises. They bring a sense of stability to the community by their usually short-term drill and

exercises, returning to their families, neighbors, and their employment within a couple of days or couple of weeks. They bring a sense of advanced technology to the community through their hands-on work and training with some of the most advanced, technologically sophisticated operations and networks, as well as a number of other leadership skills, education and experience not available in our community. They also bring a measure of economic stability to the community through the benefits for which they are eligible and the pay and allowances they bring home to local economies.

During the months of April and May, the Veterans' Unit of the Onslow County JobLink Center partnered with John Matson from the Department of Labor in promoting the Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve program. The ESGR is a group of businesses and individuals that come together for the express purpose of supporting our Guard and Reserve service members by encouraging their continued service to our community and country as well as heralding their service. The

Onslow County Job Link Veterans' Unit encourages linking opportunities for Guard and Reserve service members that extends beyond the individual serving his or her country and the employers who are important mechanisms in support for these individuals at home.

For more information, or if you would like to become associated with the ESGR or simply proclaim your support for this fine organization and its purpose, please contact Larry Woods or the veterans outreach specialist at the Onslow County JobLink Center.



Source: Larry Woods, ESC

## Eastern Carolina Youth Council Sponsors 5th Annual Quiz Bowl

The Eastern Carolina Youth Council sponsored its fifth annual Quiz Bowl on Saturday, June 18, 2010. The event was held at Craven Community College from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

The youngsters competed against teams from Craven, and Green County Schools, as well as older youth from Lenoir Community College and Greene Lamp, Inc. The fun didn't stop just with the youth, they competed against teams comprised of adults representing the ESC Dislocated Worker program and Board/Youth Council members. The teams were ready for some friendly

but fierce academic competition.

Through this event, the participants were able to increase their knowledge and build upon their team work skills. It was a great day for all involved.

This year's winners were:

- **1st Place:** Greene Lamp Youth Team .
- **2nd Place:** Employment Security Commission Adult Team, Jacksonville, NC
- **3rd Place:** Lenoir Community College Youth Team.

We would like to thank Craven Community College for hosting this year's event. Also, a special thank you is extended to all the Youth Council, WDB members, and staff who volunteered their day to make a positive difference in the lives of our youth.

Source: ECWDB



Greene Lamp, Inc. Youth Team



Onslow County JobLink/ESC Dislocated Worker Team



Lenoir Community College Youth Team

## Onslow County Holds Fifth Annual Trades Day Event Champions At Work!

On April 2, 2011, the Jacksonville\*Onslow Chamber of Commerce, along with its partners, Onslow County Home Builders Association, W.T. Humphreys, Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board, Onslow County Schools, and Coastal Carolina Community College were proud to present the 5th Annual Trades Day: Champions At Work! Competition. This event gives students in vocational education a change to "show their stuff" as well as earn some great prizes and money. This year there were over 90 high school students from both Onslow and Jones counties that participated in six different categories: automotive repair, construction, drafting, electrical, masonry, and welding. They competed in a variety of ways from building a picnic table or wiring a room to building a brick wall.



## Carteret Community College Graduates Ready to Put Learning to Use

### WIA Dislocated Worker Program Makes a Difference

Graduation day was full of new beginnings and second opportunities as 200 students received diplomas during Carteret Community College's recent commencement program. Robert Maxwell, a Workforce Investment Act (WIA participant) and resident of Newport has launched his own GPS tracking business with the skills he learned through the college's Computer Information Technology Program and graduated with honors and as the program's Outstanding Student of the Year.

For Maxwell, the achievements follow a mid-life job layoff that sent him back to school at age 51. He was working for Hatteras Yachts when the company closed its Swansboro facility and after moving to the New Bern facility, he lost his job during a big layoff in March 2009. He received a



Robert Maxwell

letter about workforce training programs available to help with school and decided to head to CCC and take on studies in the computer field, an interest he had long had. "It gave me the encouragement and self-esteem to step out and know I could start my own business," he said.

Among the graduates were also 14

new Associate Degree Nursing graduates, who are eligible to take the licensure exam to become registered nurses; 10 respiratory therapy graduates, who will be taking the licensure exam to become respiratory care practitioners; and five aquaculture technology graduates who will be transferring to the University of North Carolina at Wilmington to continue studies in marine science. Dr. Tom Steepy, a former mayor of Beaufort and a former county commissioner, was presented with the 2011 Dr. Joseph T. Barwick Civic Award in recognition of his many contributions to the community.

Source: [jdnews.com](http://jdnews.com)

## ARRA Summer Youth Employment Program of 2009 Still Making A Difference

### A Success Story in the Making.....Then and Now

Chantalle enrolled in the ARRA summer youth program at James Sprunt Community College in June 2009. She was a recent high school graduate who was planning to enroll in college in August.

Chantalle used the six weeks she was in the summer youth program to learn as much as she could. She was assigned to work as a Receptionist Assistant in the President's office. In this capacity, her duties/responsibilities included: word processing; filing; answering telephone - directing calls and taking messages; making copies, demonstrating good customer service to constituents; and assisting with daily office tasks.

Her worksite supervisor, Ms. Kim Holmes, Administrative Assistant to the President commented that, "She was self-motivated and conscientious. She was also goal-oriented and focused on her career path."

Dr. Lawrence Rouse, President at James Sprunt Community College stated, "Chantalle was an excellent choice as blended in well with the staff and constituents who frequent our office. She was very diligent in carrying out her assigned tasks and was also very pleasant in her demeanor."

Submitted by: Renita D. Allen Dawson, M.A.Ed., Coordinator of Basic Skills, James Sprunt Community College

#### Below is an update on Chantalle:

Hi Ms. Renita!

I am doing great! I am currently home for the summer and I'm working at Prima Tech in Kenansville. I am an undergrad student at UNC Pembroke. In the fall semester I will be a second semester Junior (planning to graduate early) majoring in Information Technology and running track & field.

The Summer Youth program was a wonderful experience. I was able to get first-hand experience in an office setting doing some of the things I will be doing in the future. If I had the opportunity to do it again I wouldn't change anything. I appreciate you as well as the JSCC Summer Youth program faculty & staff for giving me that excellent opportunity that has had a significant impact on my accomplishments thus far and I know it will continue to help me in a successful future.

Thank you for everything!

Chantalle



**Eastern Carolina**  
**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD, INC.**

**ECWDB Staff:**

Tammy Childers, Executive Director  
 Robert Kehres, Assistant Director  
 Lisa Harvey, WIA Coordinator  
 Trina Hale, Accounting Technician  
 Joe McCarthy, Youth Coordinator  
 Debbie Simpkins, Fiscal Monitor  
 Ellen Sink, Administrative Assistant  
 Wendy Walker-Fox, VIP Coordinator

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**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

**Eastern Carolina Workforce  
 Development Board**

at the ECWDB offices in New Bern

**July 7, 2011, 6:00 pm**

**JobLink Committee**

at the ECWDB offices in New Bern

**August 11, 2011, 6:00 pm**

**Oversight Meeting**

at the ECWDB offices in New Bern

**August 18, 2011, 6:00 pm**

**Executive Committee Meeting**

at the ECWDB offices in New Bern

**August 25, 2011, 6:00 pm**

**Youth Council Meeting**

at the ECWDB offices in New Bern

**August 30, 2011, 6:00 pm**



**Thank You...**

*I can't shake every hand.  
 I can't put flowers on every grave.  
 I can't console every family member.  
 But I can say thank you.*

*You have given me the freedom I enjoy today.  
 Your blood was shed in place of mine.  
 Your family grieved so mine could rejoice.  
 All I can say is thank you.*

*There are not words big enough.  
 There is not a hug strong enough.  
 There is not a smile wide enough.  
 All I can offer is thank you.*

*You are my hero.  
 You are in my thoughts.  
 You are in my prayers.  
 For all you've done, thank you.*

~ Lily Michaels