



September 2016
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The success story of North Carolina's economy is in front of a world-wide audience, featured in a multi-page profile headlined "North Carolina: Transformation Through Innovation" in a recent issue of *Newsweek* magazine. Articles include interviews with Governor Pat McCrory, Commerce Secretary John Skvarla, Transportation Secretary Nick Tennyson and Economic Development Partnership of N.C. CEO Christopher Chung.

The articles highlight the number of net new jobs added since 2013, the dramatic turnaround in North Carolina's unemployment rate, the lowering of individual and business income taxes, its innovative industries and the state's competitive advantages over its neighboring states when it comes to job recruitment.

"North Carolina is affirming itself as a competitive, innovative state," Governor McCrory said. "People don't know that they use a lot of products made here, from aerospace to bio, to medicine to food. North Carolina already has a big impact on the rest of the

world," he added. Since 2013, North Carolina has added more than 300,000 new jobs and been recognized as one of the fastest growing economies in the country.

Investments through the Connect NC bond and responsible budgeting practices have supported North Carolina's infrastructure and ports. To make North Carolina the third vertex of a national innovation triangle, Governor McCrory recently signed legislation to support entrepreneurs in our state through crowdfunding.

"We set up a vision for what we call The National Innovation Triangle," Governor McCrory said in the lead article. "When we talk about innovation, we talk about the Silicon Valley and the Boston-New York region. We think we can be the third pillar. We have the quality of life, universities, and four economic centers."

In addition to the overall healthy economy of North Carolina, several cities are profiled in the section, including Raleigh (The City

Where Quality of Life Leads to Innovation), Greensboro (A Heartland of History and Industry), and Wilmington (The Right Place at the Right Time).

Other topics featured include the Research Triangle Park, North Carolina's three largest airports, the North Carolina State Ports Authority and several of the state's largest employers and their mayors.

An interactive, online version of the special section featuring North Carolina can be found at: https://issuu.com/elitereports8/docs/north_carolina_for_newsweek



Source: nccommerce.com

Board of Directors

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Carla Byrnes, *Chair*

Al Searles, *Vice Chair*

Bill Green, *Secretary/Treasurer*



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Mike Kraszeski, *Atlantic Veneer, President*

Craven County

Anthony Cruz, *International Machinist & Aerospace Workers Union, Labor Representative*

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John Wilson, *BSH Home Appliance, Human Resources Manager*

Duplin County

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Dr. Lawrence Rouse, *James Sprunt Community College, President*

Al Searles, *Smithfield, VP-Transportation and Feed Manufacturing*

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Angela Bates, *Greene Lamp, Inc., Executive Director*

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Jones County

Frank Emory, *Emory Construction, Owner*

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Dr. Norma Sermon-Boyd, *Jones County Partnership for Children, Director*

Lenoir County

Dr. Brantley Briley, *Lenoir Community College, President*

Bruce Parson, *Blind Shop, Owner*

Mark Pope, *Lenoir County Economic Development Commission, Director*

Onslow County

Rick Stout, *Onslow County Schools, Superintendent*

Shannon Vitak, *Vocational Rehabilitation, Manager*

Karl Zurl, *NC Department of Commerce, Division of Workforce Solutions, Southeast Regional Operations Director*

Pamlico County

Wayne Brackin, *Tideland EMC, Job Training and Safety Director*

Carla Byrnes, *B & B Yacht Designs, Co-Owner*

Kelly Wilkinson, *EAS Global, VP-Operations/Owner*

Wayne County

Fletcher Bizzell, *Wayne Opportunties, Board Director*

Charles Brogdin, *Franklin Bakery, Human Resources Manager*

Melanie Sanders, *Caswell Center, Human Resources Manager*

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 21st 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

- Create an integrated, seamless, and customer-centered workforce system.
- Engage business and community leaders in addressing workforce issues that promote strategies to improve education levels and basic workplace skills.
- Strengthen alliances with economic development to identify and address the workforce needs of current and future industries.
- Develop and implement a community awareness plan that promotes the WDB, NCWorks Career Centers, and partner services.
- Identify and implement effective employment and training strategies that result in employment opportunities for all citizens.
- Build the capacity of the Consortium, Eastern Carolina WDB, staff, and NCWorks Career Center staff and partners.

A Message from the Executive Director

Dear Colleagues,

I hope that you will be inspired when reading through this newsletter. It is filled with many newsworthy articles that only skim the surface of the great work that is occurring in our workforce system.

The cover article highlights North Carolina's exceptional progress in growing our economy to one that is recognized nationally and internationally. While NewsWeek Magazine may have featured North Carolina successes, we know that it has required a lot of hard work from business and industry, workers, government, education, workforce and economic development, chamber of commerces, and community partners to make this happen. There is no one group that can take full credit, nor would we want that to be the case.

It's all about working together toward a common purpose of building North Carolina's workforce and economy. This is a never-ending goal that we consistently and successfully work toward.

Our workforce partners such as James Sprunt Community College [page 6] and STEMEAST [page 9] have received grants to expand career pathways in their community and STEM projects in our region. These efforts are a result of strong collaborative partnerships, a detailed strategy, and a commitment to ensure a prepared workforce that can address current and future employer needs.

Often I get asked exactly what does this workforce development board do and my response is that we work with our education, workforce and economic development partners to ensure that our local workforce system is meeting the employment needs of its customers, be it job seekers or businesses. Then I expand with more details of what that work involves. You can view the Board's work in the column to the right. The board manages over \$5 million in Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funding, which is in support of the local NCWorks Career Centers and partners' efforts for creating career pathway opportunities for its customers, no matter the pathway they choose. This requires exceptional workforce professionals who serve with purpose, passion, and compassion for others.

An example of these efforts has resulted in one of our local NCWorks Centers –Wayne County NCWorks being selected to participate in a USDOL study of best practices [page 6]. Across the region, I believe that our NCWorks staff and partners are second to none. They strive to provide the best possible solutions to address their customers' employment needs regardless if it is an employer or a job-seeker. An example of serving with purpose is found in the Carteret NCWorks Career Center articles on page 7.

Workforce development is a multi-faceted endeavor and is inclusive of everyone. There are many angles that I can take in closing out this message, but I would like to end with a quote by Labor Secretary Tom Perez: "Every person is gifted and talented, and it is our responsibility to draw out those gifts and talents."

Take time to shine the light today on someone else and see if you can't draw out those gifts and talents.

Tammy Childers

2016-2017 Board Work

To ensure that the strategies and objectives outlined in the ECWDB Strategic Plan are met, the ECWDB committees, along with the committee's core objectives, are listed below:

Executive Committee:

1. Provide overall strategic direction for ECWDB and determine responsibilities of all committees
2. Oversee personnel and financial management of the ECWDB
3. Responsible for ongoing board development to ensure compliance with WDB By-Laws
4. Oversee the development of the strategic plan
5. Has and may exercise the authority of the board in the management of the affairs of the organization between meetings

NCWorks Career Pathways Committee:

1. Develop and review local program proposals for adult, youth, and dislocated worker services and recommend funding for WIOA programs
2. Identify training options and research best practices that address skills gap and training needs of the existing and future workforce
3. Establish performance measures, develop program policies, and conduct oversight of WIOA program operations
4. Review WIOA Training Provider applications for certification
5. Engage local employers, community colleges, public schools, and other partners in the development and oversight of Career Pathways and WorkReady Communities initiatives

NCWorks Business Services Committee:

1. Engage local employers in defining service expectations of NCWorks Career Centers
2. Certify NCWorks Career Centers and conduct oversight of NCWorks Career Center system operations as it relates to business and job seeker services under an Integrated Service Delivery Model
3. Establish NCWORKS performance standards and review outcomes on a quarterly basis
4. Develop strategies to expand, educate, and promote the NCWORKS Career Center system across the region
5. Ensure NCWorks Career Centers are partnering with local economic development to address new and expanding industry needs

Youth Council:

1. Identify strategies to improve business engagement and youth outreach efforts targeted toward disadvantaged youth
2. Conduct oversight of local youth programs and certify eligible providers of youth services through a competitive procurement process
3. Identify and coordinate youth services throughout the region to leverage resources and address training needs and skills gap concerns of low income youth

NCWorks Commission Approves Workforce Development Board Performance Accountability Measures

Senate Bill 538 passed in 2015 charges the NCWorks Commission to “develop performance accountability measures for local workforce development boards consistent with the requirements of Section 116 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014.”

While these newly approved measures and goals are retroactive to July 1, 2016, the committee will continue to seek commission feedback, review, and improve upon the measures throughout the year. The Performance & Accountability Committee will track and publish performance during FY2016-2017.

Following are the performance measures for the Eastern Carolina WDB. Staff are in the process of developing a score card format to benchmark NCWorks Center performance toward the established measures.

Outreach & Engagement

1. Provide staff-assisted services to a percentage of the labor force that is equal to or larger than the annual unemployment rate for the workforce

development board area.

2. Provide staff-assisted services to at least 2% of the youth living in poverty in the counties served by the WDB in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity (WIOA) Youth program.
3. Provide a staff-assisted service to at least 5% of the total private businesses in the counties served by the WDB.
4. At least 10% of all businesses receiving staff-assisted services will be new customers.
5. At least 25% of all private businesses receiving staff-assisted services will be small businesses (<100 employees).

Skills Gap

6. Provide training (class-room, on-the-job, and/or standardized training services to at least 3% of adult participants.*
7. Enroll at least 25% of youth served in the WIOA Youth program in a work-based learning activity.

Process

8. Each WDB will engage in the creation of at least two NCWorks Certified Career Pathways.
9. 100% of the WDB’s career centers will be NCWorks Commission certified career centers.

Outcome

10. Meet Local Area WIOA Federal measures .

“Efforts are underway to ensure that the Eastern Carolina WDB and each NCWorks Career Center within the Eastern Carolina local area meet and exceeds these customer-focused measures,” said Bob Kehres, Assistant Director, ECWDB.

For more information about the NCWorks Commission, please visit the NCWorks Commission website at www.nccommerce.com/workforce/about-us/ncworks-commission/meetings.

Source: NCWorks Commission



Mark Your Calendar!

October 5 - 7, 2016

Sheraton Four Seasons, Greensboro, NC

The NCWorks Partnership Conference traditionally draws upwards of 1,000 Workforce Development Professionals from across the state. Attendees represent labor, state and federal government, education, community-based organizations, community colleges and the private sector. In its 28th year, the Conference continues to offer timely topics and networking opportunities.

Visit www.ncworkforcetraining.com to register online.

Pamlico Community College Receives National Recognition as one of America's Premier Community Colleges in WalletHub's 2016's Best & Worst Community Colleges.



Pamlico Community College has received national recognition as one of America's premier community colleges in WalletHub's 2016's Best & Worst Community Colleges.

With more than 1,200 community colleges in the United States, Pamlico Community College has been judged to be the third best community college in America. Selected by WalletHub, a personal finance national website owned by Evolution Finance, Inc., community colleges across the nation were evaluated under a set of criteria to determine

overall excellence.

WalletHub's analysts compared 821 community colleges across three key dimensions: 1) Cost & Financing; 2) Education Outcomes; and 3) Career Outcomes. These categories were evaluated using 12 metrics, including cost of in-state tuition and fees, student-faculty ratio, and graduation rate.

Pamlico Community College is highlighted for its low student-teacher ratio at 9:1, and its high graduation rate, recognized as No. 5 in the nation. PCC President Jim Ross called this recognition a credit to PCC's outstanding faculty and staff.

"To be judged the third best

community college in our nation is a tremendous honor to our employees and all associated with our college," he said. "This is no surprise to me as I consider PCC's employees to be unsurpassed in our nation," Ross said.

"One of the secrets in higher education is that students can get a great education at community colleges," said Ross. "There are many outstanding community colleges in our state and nation, and to be recognized as one of the very best in America serves to let people know they can receive an outstanding education at PCC."

Source: pamlicocc.edu

Craven Community College Ranked No. 2 in N.C. by Schools.com



Dr. Raymond Staats, President,
Craven Community College

Craven Community College has been named the second best community college in North Carolina by the online magazine Schools.com. College of the Alermarle in Elizabeth City edged out Craven for the number one spot.

To quote the site, "Craven Community College says its primary mission is to provide quality education that is flexible and affordable. Our research suggests it succeeds on both fronts: The school offered nearly 50

online associate degree, diploma and certificate programs in 2016, and it earned the No. 4 spot for distance learning participation." The school was also noted to be No. 1 in all N.C. community colleges for low tuition and overall cost, and for its partnership with East Carolina University to earn bachelors degrees on campus without relocating.

Schools.com ranked the state's 58 community colleges on a 10-point scale using seven data points: percentage of students enrolled in distance education courses; cost of attendance; student-to-faculty ratio; average retention rate for full- and part-time students; graduation rate; number of transfers per 1,000 students into four-year public colleges; and flexibility. Between its two campuses, Craven uses 82 full-time and 234 part-time faculty to teach 4,000 students in curriculum programs, not to mention the thousands of students who attend

only a few hours a semester.

Asked for the college's philosophy, Staats said, "We are a teaching and learning institution. (We're) local. That's what makes us special: We have an ability to be dynamic and responsive." He believes another strength is the college's friendly atmosphere. "One of our newest arrivals was a faculty member and her story was that, even in her interview process, she knew she wanted to work here because of how the employees made her feel welcome," Staats said.

Staats, who is serving his first year at the college's helm, said "I was fortunate to arrive here to a very healthy, vibrant college."

Using the "If it ain't broke" rule, he said he plans no fundamental changes. "My mission is to find what the next thing is, and take us there," he said.

Source: *New Bern Sun Journal*

Wayne County NCWorks Career Center Selected as One of 50 American Job Centers From Across the Country to Participate in a USDOL Study of the Public Workforce System



The Wayne County NCWorks Career Center was one of 50 American Job Centers [AJCs] from across the country selected to be apart of the Institutional Analysis of American Job Centers (AJCs), a study that Mathematica—along with its partners Social Policy Research Associates, the George Washington University, and Capital Research Corporation—is

conducting for the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL).

This USDOL Study of the Public Workforce System presents a tremendous opportunity to contribute to policymakers' and key program stakeholders' understanding of the breadth of AJC services and activities on behalf of the customers the system serves.

In the coming months, the study team will be visiting the center to meet with staff and its partner agencies. During this visit, the study team will examine center administrative structures and partnerships, performance

management, funding sources and financing arrangements, and service delivery structures, among other topics. The study team will also examine the role that the Local Workforce Development Board plays in the AJC system.

DOL's goals for this study are to document the key institutional characteristics of AJCs, present a comprehensive description of AJCs, and develop typologies of AJCs that capture the types of AJCs currently in operation across the country.

Source: SBoraas@mathematica-mpr.com

James Sprunt Community College Receives USDOL TechHire Grant



Dr. Lawrence Rouse, President, JSCC

On August 30, 2016, it was announced that James Sprunt Community College has received notification that they will be awarded a \$4 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor, which will be split among JSCC, Vance-Granville Community College, Halifax Community College and Alamance Community College as part of the N.C. TechHire Alliance.

The North Carolina TechHire Program will recruit and assess out-of-school youth and other participants with barriers to employment for program enrollment. NCTP incorporates employment and training

with paid internships and job placements. This is paired with soft skills and other services to overcome employment barriers to support both individual employment goals and the development of a skilled local workforce.

Education and training strategies will be matched with the skill needs of employers, as they were engaged during the development of this program. Employers are often engaged in the development of new programs at the colleges in order to keep up with employer demand. The NCTP employer group will also provide continuous feedback so that training can be adjusted and reflect Industry needs. NCTP is appropriate for the target population due to the longstanding support services at each college that are geared to this same population. NCTP Coordinators will also support referrals to external resources to address barriers to completion or attainment of employment.

Dr. Lawrence Rouse stated that

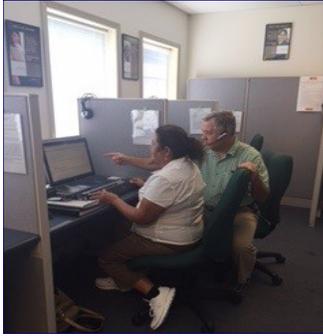
JSCC will focus on health care by providing access to the following credentials: HS diploma/GED, Career Readiness Certificates, Microsoft Office Certification, and programs such as Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA), Certified Medication Aide, Pharmacy Technician Credentials, Phlebotomist Credentials, Medical Assistant, Licensed Practical Nursing Program, and Associates Degree in Nursing with a pathway to a Bachelors of Nursing Degree.

Jay Briley, president of Vidant Duplin Hospital, said he was excited that the college had received the grant. "The hospital and our patients have a long history of benefiting from James Sprunt Community College graduates," he said.

College President Dr. Lawrence L. Rouse said the grant would enable the college to provide more skills and knowledge to a very deserving student population while helping employers to meet their employment needs.

Source: JSCC

Shining the Light on the Carteret County NCWorks Career Center — *Connecting Talent to Jobs*



Larry Woods, NCWorks Career Center Manager, Morehead City

David came to our office in November, 2015. He was a resident with our partner, Hope Recovery Homes. Hope Recovery Homes provides shelter care and recovery from alcohol or other addictions.

David had just been released and he began seeking information about the labor market, employability

opportunities and possible retraining in Eastern North Carolina. David is a professional diver and wanted to continue down that career path. However, he was having a difficult time locating employment locally and could not commute due to his housing and recovery efforts. Also, the seasonal and temporary work being offered along the coast of North Carolina was a barrier to full-time employment for David.

After thorough research regarding his options, David determined that employment within North Carolina would not advance him professionally or financially in his chosen career. Assisted by the NCWorks Career Center in Carteret County, along with its array of partners, David was able to obtain temporary employment in Morehead City and continued to

utilize the resources at the Center to search for career opportunities.

David's recovery presented him with unique barriers that caused many employers to not consider his employment outright. He received instruction from Carteret Community College in resume writing techniques, using computers for job searching and a plethora of job interviewing skills that helped him find and successfully apply for a diving job in Texas. He successfully discussed his recovery efforts with the potential employer, thus negating its adverse impact, and he was offered a position after interviews by telephone and Skype. David is now employed full time in Texas as a professional diver.

Source: Larry Woods, Manager, Carteret County NCWorks Career Center

Giving Honor to Whom Honor is Due -*Get to Know our Carteret County NCWorks Team*

As the Carteret County NCWorks Career Center manager, I am blessed to work with a dedicated team of professionals everyday who go above and beyond in serving others. Realizing that I am at great risk because I know I can't include everyone, I would like to offer a glimpse of my NCWorks team who encourage me daily: Bridget Stubblefield, who recently earned her Global Career Development Facilitators Credential, and received recognition by the chamber of commerce as Ambassador of the Month for her business relations work to help the Ambassador's Club meet their membership drive.

Bob Pyer's tireless work and effort in serving veterans in Carteret County as the American Legion Post 46-Post Commander for the past 3 years, and coming fourth appointment.

Rebecca Sotirky's recognition as

Legionnaire of the year, and her recent honor of being the Guest Speaker at the American Legion's Memorial Day Service in Morehead City.

Wanda Bennett was asked to take the lead of the Small Business Center effort of the colleges within our region. Carteret County Schools received the Golden Leaf award and their successful implementation of a pre-apprenticeship program with Veneer Technologies was reported by Allison Parker, Carteret County Schools.

The uplifting personality and approach of Libby Steadham as she provides Employer Marketing Workshops to help her customers achieve their goals toward self-support, even if just one customer comes to the workshop.

Cynthia Hopkins, Robert Stubblefield and Wanda Glosson who

work diligently in assisting NCWorks customers who want to go to school through the WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker programs.

These individuals exemplify the high degree of professionalism and quality customer service that customers deserve and can expect when interacting with our Carteret NCWorks team. I encourage you to find your encouragement.

By: Larry Woods, Manager, Carteret County NCWorks Career Center



NC Works Health Sciences Career Pathways – Carteret Community College Leading the Region’s Efforts



During the past two years, Carteret Community College and their key business partners [Carteret County Chamber of Commerce, Carteret General Hospital, Big Rock Sports, Veneer Technologies, Fleet Readiness East, Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board, Downtown Morehead City Revitalization Association, Carteret County Government, Carteret County Schools (CCS)] have worked diligently to create a sustainable career pathway that will result in high-wage, high-growth employment.

These efforts have since evolved into a regional Health Science Career Pathway process. Carteret Community College’s CTE faculty, in collaboration with county high school CTE faculty and industry representatives, developed or revised twenty-three pathway programs of study. Articulated credit was optimized and program contact hours were reviewed and reduced, if possible, to foster progression and completion. Pathway documents were created to map the progression from high school CCP coursework through completion of applied sciences certificates, diplomas or

degrees.

The college’s industry intermediary assisted the career specialist with a survey of county employers to identify opportunities for work-based learning. As a result, a database of employers and the type of WBL available was established. The career specialist also works closely with the County’s NCWorks Career Center and local industry to develop work-based learning experiences.

The College’s career specialist, counselors and CTE Faculty have participated in a variety of activities to increase awareness of career pathway offerings to include:

- Speaking to public school students, faculty and counselors in the following areas: Family and Consumer Sciences (EDU, CUL, HRM), Health Sciences, Agriculture (Aquaculture), Finance (BA), IT, Cosmetic Arts and Spa Services
- Performed 650 middle school interest and learning style inventories
- Conducted College campus tours, academies, and career exploration activities for over 1000 middle and high school students
- Participated in middle school “Career Days”
- Embedded college counselors in local high schools one day per week
- Hosted middle and high school counselors to promote CTE pathway opportunities

- Added “Career Spots” videos as a virtual career center resource
- Updated College website to include a user-friendly “College in High School” section that allows students, counselors and parents to view our career pathways. www.carteret.edu

The career specialist position is funded by State and Perkins funds for the upcoming fiscal year. The college’s relationship with ECWDB provided funding for pathway development and opportunities for further resources through regional pathway certification. College counselors will continue to be embedded in the three county high schools. College personnel have worked closely with ECWDB to complete two NC Works Certified Pathways in Health Sciences and Advanced Manufacturing. Public School and College CTE faculty collaborated effectively to develop pathways that progress students from high school into the workforce by maximizing articulated credit, reducing pathways with excessive contact hours, and providing credentials to provide multiple exit points to employment.

To date, the College CTE faculty have received valuable feedback from area employers as to their needs for employees (i.e. soft skills, cross-training) and the interaction that they would like with program faculty.

Source: CCC



Duke Energy Foundation Awards \$75,000 Grant to Further STEM Education in Eastern North Carolina.



On August 1, 2016, the Duke Energy Foundation presented the Eastern North Carolina Employers & Superintendents Council (ENCESC) with a grant for \$75,000. Millie Chalk, Duke Energy district manager of government and community relations, presented the ENCESC with a check at their August council meeting. The ENCESC is the guiding council for the STEM East Network which supports multiple STEM (science, technology, engineering, math through Strategies That Engage Minds) programs in 11 school districts including Beaufort, Carteret, Craven, Duplin, Greene, Jones, Lenoir, Onslow, Pamlico, Pitt and Wayne Counties. The Duke Energy Foundation is a charter member of the council and long-term partner of the STEM East Network.

Dr. Steve Hill, Executive Director of the STEM East Network, says, “the support we receive from our strategic partners like the Duke Energy Foundation allows us to pave the way for a fully integrated STEM classroom to career pathway in eastern North Carolina. We are grateful to have partners that are eager to sustain our initiatives.

Research indicates a significant need for more STEM education in earlier grades and continuing uninterrupted to graduation. Many efforts have been established at higher grade levels that are integrated with both 2-year and 4-year colleges in eastern North Carolina. The grant will allow STEM East to continue the

expansion of the public/private network throughout eastern North Carolina and prepare students for success as they enter a rapidly evolving workforce.

STEM East will use the grant to fund STEM education starting in the earlier grades and continuing uninterrupted to graduation. Through a united regional approach, the STEM East Network will continue to address these obstacles with intentional, research-based planning and implementation models that add considerable value to k-12 STEM education.

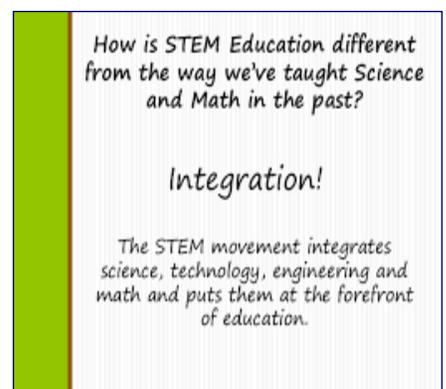
Dr. Ethan Lenker, Superintendent for Pitt County Schools, and co-chair of the council, stated, “We would like to thank Duke Energy for partnering with our network of school systems and employers. This grant will move our regional work forward and add considerable value in serving our eastern North Carolina public school students and future employees.”

The NC Science, Mathematics and Technology (SMT) Center and the Smithsonian Science Education Center will work with STEM East districts and employers in a Strategic Planning Institute (SPI) for vertical alignment and expansion of a preK-Career STEM education process. The SPI is a researched model for training and plan development. Network leadership teams will complete a three-day SPI and follow-up events developing a five-year strategic plan. This five-year plan will guide STEM East districts and be inclusive of the existing STEM programs supported by the Network. Vertical alignment of STEM programs between elementary

and secondary schools will build a scaffold education structure for students offering relevancy, engagement and clearer STEM career pathways.

STEM East, a component of the NCEast Alliance, is a regional economic development agency serving 28 counties in eastern North Carolina, which is developing partnerships with manufacturers, hospitals and other organizations as well as educational institutions to improve student-learning pathways that will lead to employment. Through the collaboration of multiple businesses, education districts, economic development organizations, chambers, foundations, state and local governments, utilities, and many others, students will engage in real-world learning modules that directly align with STEM career opportunities in Eastern North Carolina.

For more information or to learn about other STEMEAST initiatives, visit www.stemeast.org.



Onslow County Tackles Veterans Homeless

In February 2016, organizations that serve homeless veterans throughout the state were invited to Raleigh, NC to participate in the NC Rapid Result Veterans Boot Camp. Representatives attending this boot camp were challenged by the North Carolina Coalition to End Homelessness and the North Carolina Division of Military and Veterans Affairs to establish aggressive goals for ending veteran homelessness within 100 days.

Upon returning to Onslow County, the Onslow Veteran's Taskforce (OHVET) was convened for the purpose of developing a comprehensive strategy for permanently housing 12 Veterans by May 2016. This included implementing a more efficient system for tracking veterans seeking permanent housing; developing a flow chart whereby service providers could screen and refer veterans to the appropriate agency for services; and development of a Veterans Resource Guide.

Through the hard work of dedicated local service providers such as CAN-DO, the NC Works Center,



Reginald Roy accepts Proclamation



Members of Onslow Veteran's Taskforce

Trillium Health Resources, East Carolina Human Services Agency, Family Endeavors, Tri-Counties Crusaders, and the Veterans Administration HUD VASH Case Manager we are pleased to report that Jacksonville and Onslow County exceeded this goal by permanently housing 14 veterans within 100 days.

OHVets goal continues to remain the same in the next 100 days: to house 12 veterans, including three to five chronically homeless veterans.

OHVets was recognized for their efforts in Onslow County and their progress was announced during a presentation at the Jacksonville City Council meeting on August 16th at City Hall in downtown Jacksonville.

Reginald Roy, NCWorks Career Advisor- Disabled Veteran Outreach Specialist, serves as co-chair for the OHVETs and accepted the proclamation from Mayor Phillips. "We're not just doing this for a short period of time and then moving on to something else," Roy said. "I wanted to see this through . . . I didn't want to see it fall through the cracks," he said. Roy asked that anyone who knows of a homeless veteran in need, anyone willing to work with organizations to rent out residences to the formerly homeless or agencies not already part of OHVets but would like to become involved contact him at 910-347-2121.

Source: Onslow NCWorks Career Center

Congratulations to Bridget Stubblefield Who Recently Earned her Global Career Development Facilitator Credential



Bridget Stubblefield, Career Advisor, Carteret NCWorks Career Center

Congratulations to Bridget Stubblefield who recently earned her Global Career Development Facilitator Credential, which is recognized in six continents. Ms. Stubblefield is a career advisor, job coach and employment

consultant with the NCWorks Career Center. Her new credential is awarded by the Center for Credentialing and Education.

"It is an important milestone in my career. I have worked for the NCWorks Career Center of Carteret County, formerly Carteret County JobLink Career Center and Employment Security Commission, for 20 years this year," said Ms. Stubblefield. "I love my work and I am excited to gain more training and knowledge to assist me in better serving the citizens of Carteret County and North Carolina."

The Global Career Development Facilitator offers country-specific standards and recognition for career

development professionals worldwide. GCDF credential holders are trained to help people, both individually and in a group setting, to make informed decisions when considering their own career development. Through the use of best practices, various assessment tools, and career development models GCDFs equip each individual with the knowledge and skills to embark on their professional journey.

Source: Carteret County NCWorks Career Center

The only way to do great work is to love what you do."

— Steve Jobs

LABOR MARKET OVERVIEW

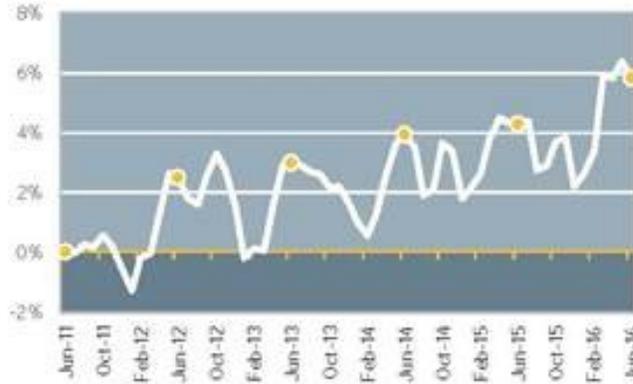


Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board

August 2016

Regional Labor Market Snapshot

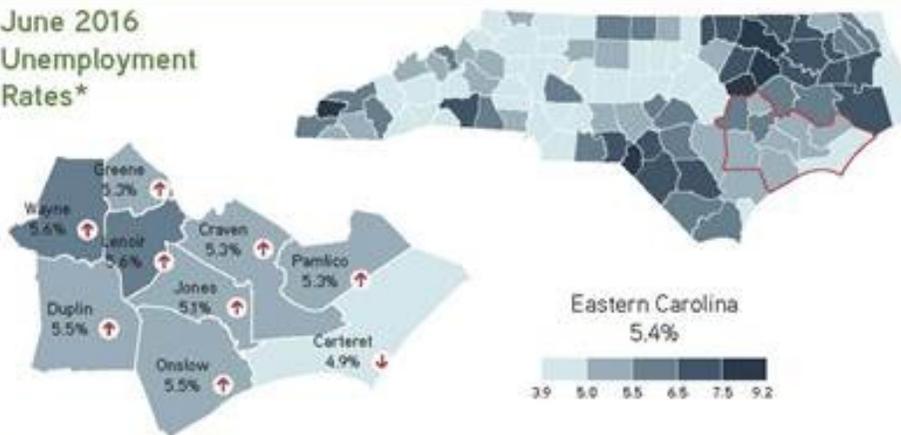
5-Year Percent Change in Number Employed*



Eastern Carolina Region

Source: LAUS, Labor & Economic Analysis, NC Dept. of Commerce

June 2016 Unemployment Rates*



Trending

UNEMPLOYMENT*

June 2016

Eastern Carolina Total = 14,513

	Current	Previous
Region	5.4%	5.0%
NC	5.2%	4.7%
US	5.1%	4.5%

REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT*

Eastern Carolina Total = 253,876

1,400 Fewer People Working in June than previous month

2,666 More People Working than same period one year ago

METRO JOB GROWTH*

Goldsboro Total = 42,800

100 Fewer Jobs in June than previous month

Jacksonville Total = 50,100

200 More Jobs in June than previous month

New Bern Total = 45,200

200 More Jobs in June than previous month

TAXABLE RETAIL SALES

Eastern Carolina Total = \$502,753,813

2.9% Higher

than same period one year ago

Source: NC Dept. of Revenue
Note: May 2016 data most current available at time of release.

ONLINE JOB ADS

8,466 Online Advertised Vacancies over past 90 days

3,241 Fewer Vacancies than same period one year ago

Source: The Conference Board Help Wanted Online

Who's Hiring

past 90 days from July 27, 2016

General Dynamics	158
U.S. Marine Corp	140
Onslow County Public Schools	107
CarolinaEast Health System	103
Lowe's	97
Supplemental Health Care	91
CarolinaEast Medical Center	77
Wayne Memorial Hospital	77

Source: The Conference Board Help Wanted Online

*June 2016 data are preliminary, while all other data have undergone annual revision. All data produced in this publication are generated by LEAD unless otherwise stated.

This workforce product was funded by a grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. For more information, please visit <http://www.tcccommerce.com/lead/eto>

What Jobs

past 90 days from July 27, 2016

Registered Nurses	606
Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	494
Retail Salespersons	260
First-Line Supervisors, Retail Sales	213
Physical Therapists	163
Maintenance & Repair Workers	145
Computer User Support Specialists	137
Network & Computer Systems Admin.	137

Source: The Conference Board Help Wanted Online

NCWorks Career Center Locations

Carteret County

NCWorks Career Center
309 Commerce Avenue, Morehead
City, NC 28557
Phone: (252) 726-7151

Greene County

Greene County Career Center
818 Highway 91 North, Snow Hill, NC
28580
Phone: (252) 747-5689

Onslow County

NCWorks Career Center
461 Western Boulevard, Jacksonville,
NC 28546
Phone: (910) 347-2121

Craven County

NCWorks Career Center
2836 Neuse Boulevard, New Bern, NC
28562
Phone: (252) 514-4828

Jones County

Jones County Career Center
509 Highway 58 North, Trenton, NC
28585
Phone: (252) 448-4791

Pamlico County

Pamlico County Career Center
P. O. Box 185
Grantsboro, NC 28529
Phone: (252) 745-9934

Duplin County

NCWorks Career Center
192 Magnolia Extension, Kenansville,
NC 28349
Phone: (910) 296-1478

Lenoir County

NCWorks Career Center
231 Highway 58 South, Kinston, NC
28502
Phone: (252) 527-6223 ext. 104

Wayne County

NCWorks Career Center
2006 Wayne Memorial Drive,
Goldsboro, NC 27534
Phone: (919) 731-7950

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

September 8, 2016 6:00 pm	WDB/ Consortium Board Meeting <i>ECWDB offices, New Bern</i>
September 15, 2016 3:30pm	Health Science Pathways Meeting <i>ECWDB offices, New Bern</i>
September 22, 2016 6:00 pm	Youth Council Meeting <i>ECWDB offices, New Bern</i>
October 6, 2016 6:00 pm	NCWorks Business Services Committee Meeting <i>ECWDB offices, New Bern</i>
October 13, 2016 6:00 pm	NCWorks Career Pathways Committee Meeting <i>ECWDB offices, New Bern</i>
October 20, 2016 6:00 am	Executive Committee Meeting <i>ECWDB offices, New Bern</i>
January 12, 2017 6:00 pm	WDB/ Consortium Board Meeting <i>ECWDB offices, New Bern</i>

ECWDB Staff:

Tammy Childers, Executive Director
Robert Kehres, Assistant Director
Lisa Harvey, WIOA Coordinator
Trina Hale, Accounting Technician
Debbie Simpkins, Fiscal Monitor
Anita Bradley, Administrative Assistant
Joanne Payne, Program Assistant
Schemique Angoe, Program Assistant
George Kramer, Business Services Consultant

Communicate with Us!



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