

# EASTERN CAROLINA

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD, INC.

2023-2024

## *Annual Report*



Phone: 252-636-6901 | Fax: 252-638-3569

1341 South Glenburnie Road

New Bern, North Carolina 28562

[www.ecwdb.org](http://www.ecwdb.org) | [facebook.com/ecwdb/](https://facebook.com/ecwdb/)

[instagram.com/ecwdb/](https://instagram.com/ecwdb/) | [x.com/ECWDB](https://x.com/ECWDB)

[linkedin.com/company/eastern-carolina-workforce-development-board-inc](https://linkedin.com/company/eastern-carolina-workforce-development-board-inc)

# Contents

01 | Contents

02 | About ECWDB

03 | Message from the Board

04 | NCWorks Career Centers

05 | NCWorks Career Center Locations

06 | Our Region Overview

07 | Industry Sector Partnerships

08 | Local Reentry Council

09 | Job Fairs/Events

10-16 | Success Stories

17 | NCWorks Performance Dashboard

18 | Title 1 WIOA Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth Training Enrollments

19 | Financial Report June 30, 2024

20 | Board of Directors/Consortium Members

21 | ECWDB Staff/Thank You



A proud partner of the  
AmericanJobCenter®  
network

**OUR VISION** for Eastern North Carolina is a qualified workforce with an educational attainment level that meets the needs of local firms so they can compete in today's marketplace.

**OUR MISSION** is to develop the workforce through a collaborative, customer-focused approach that facilitates partnerships between job seekers, workers, employers, and educators, aligning workforce requirements to economic needs.

**OUR VALUE** is added to the community by ensuring that our public workforce system is responsive in meeting the education and training needs of our job seekers and employers alike, thereby leading to a better quality of life and ensuring employers have access to the skilled workforce they need, resulting in a thriving economy.

# About ECWDB



The Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board, Inc. (ECWDB) is a regional non-profit organization located in New Bern, North Carolina, and serves the counties of Carteret, Craven, Duplin, Greene, Jones, Lenoir, Onslow, Pamlico, and Wayne.

The ECWDB is governed by a twenty-eight-member board of directors in partnership with local elected officials. These local leaders represent local business and industry, education agencies, economic development agencies, vocational rehabilitation, and community-based and labor organizations.

The ECWDB serves as the designated administrative/fiscal agent for the federal workforce development funds appropriated by the North Carolina Department of Commerce to oversee the region's NCWorks Career Centers and ensure employment and training services are available within the nine-county local area. The ECWDB contracts its programs with reputable organizations throughout the nine counties who deliver job seeker and business services in their local NCWorks Career Center.

The ECWDB and NCWorks partners are committed to making a positive impact in the lives of others by addressing workforce challenges, promoting strategies to improve educational attainment levels, assisting job seekers in preparing for and entering employment in a career pathway of their choice, and engaging with local businesses to ensure they find the quality talent they need to thrive in an ever-changing economy.

# Message From The Board

During the 2023-2024 program year, the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board experienced a significant event as Executive Director Tammy Childers announced her retirement after 30 years with the organization. Tammy's last day was February 14, which was the anniversary of her first day of work, Valentines Day, 30 years before. It is meaningful that Valentines Day was her first and last day of work since her work for this organization and the people of Eastern North Carolina can only be described as a labor of love!



On January 14, Bill Green assumed the role of Executive Director. Bill is a native of Eastern North Carolina and after a long career in commercial banking has undertaken to continue the work that Tammy has done so well. Bill is a former private sector board member of the organization and has worked in many non-profit organizations over his career. He was a business services officer with BB&T and Truist for 36 years and holds business degrees from East Carolina University including his MBA.

Also, during this time, Business Services Representative, Dr. George Kramer announced his retirement after over 15 years with the board. George was instrumental in business outreach in our region.

We are pleased to present this annual report of the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board, Inc. to reflect the results of our work during the 2023-2024 Program Year. Our staff, our board members, our elected officials, our NCWorks center staff, our service providers and our many other partners have combined efforts into one workforce development system in our nine-county area. Collectively we have served our region through collaboration and hard work throughout the program year. These efforts result in quality service delivery to our job seekers and to employers in both the public and private sector. Thank you for joining in this work!

Thank you,

Al Searles, Chair

Bill Green, Executive Director

# NCWorks Career Centers



NCWorks Career Centers are facilities that provide young adults, job seekers, training seekers, and employers access to a variety of services. These facilities are critical in the workforce development process, and provide necessary services to many people in need.

## JOB SEEKER SERVICES

- Training opportunities
- Job search and placement assistance
- Career counseling and planning
- Internships and work experiences linked to careers
- Referrals to and coordination of activities with partner programs and services
- Workforce and labor market data
- Information and assistance regarding filing claims for unemployment compensation
- Information on financial aid assistance for training and education programs

## EMPLOYER SERVICES

- Employee recruitment and screening
- Tax credit and hiring incentives
- Research materials on industry trends
- Workshops, seminars, and job fairs
- Skills testing of job candidates using Worldwide Interactive Network (WIN)
- Consultations regarding layoffs or plant closings
- Employer training services can be provided for current employees with incumbent worker training, on-the-job training, and customized training

## NEXTGEN YOUTH SERVICES

The NCWorks NextGen Youth Program provides young adults with the best possible opportunity to find a job and career path. We help young adults set and accomplish goals, understand how to be a responsible employee, and start down a solid career path with a promising future. A dedicated career advisor supports each young adult through these steps.

# NCWorks Career Center Locations



## Carteret County

3813 Arendell Street  
Morehead City, NC 28557  
252-222-6038

## Craven County

2836 Neuse Blvd.  
New Bern, NC 28562  
252-514-4828

## Duplin County

192 Magnolia Extension  
Kenansville, NC 28349  
910-275-6470

## Greene County

818 HWY 91 N  
Snow Hill, NC 28580  
252-747-3434

## Jones County

509 HWY 58 N  
Trenton, NC 28585  
252-448-5021

## Lenoir County

231 HWY 58 S  
Kinston, NC 28502  
252-775-6021  
252-527-7320

## Onslow County

461 Western Blvd.  
Jacksonville, NC 28546  
910-347-2121

## Pamlico County

5049 HWY 306 S  
Grantsboro, NC 28529  
252-249-1851

## Wayne County

2128 Wayne Memorial Dr.  
Goldsboro, NC 27534  
919-731-7950



A proud partner of the  
AmericanJobCenter®  
network

# Our Region

## REGIONAL LABOR MARKET OVERVIEW

» Eastern Carolina WDB | July 2024 Data\*



### MONTHLY TRENDS

NC Department of Commerce | Labor & Economic Analysis | 919.707.1500 | lead@nccommerce.com

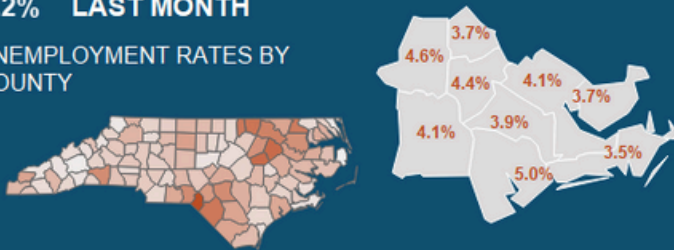
Unemployed Individuals **11,765**

**4.4%**

North Carolina 3.7%  
United States 4.3%

4.2% LAST MONTH

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES BY COUNTY



Employed Individuals **257,927**

Labor Force  
**269,692**

**-4,974**

CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT FROM PREVIOUS MONTH

**-58**

CHANGE IN EMPLOYMENT FROM ONE YEAR AGO

NUMBER OF EMPLOYED OVER LAST 5 YEARS



past 90 days from September 3, 2024

#### WHO'S HIRING

- Wayne County Public Schools 361
- UNC Health Care System 245
- CarolinaEast Health System 213
- Butterball, LLC 152
- McDonald's Corporation 136
- Walmart Inc. 124
- Food Lion 115
- Carteret Health Care 107

#### WHAT JOBS

- Registered Nurses 201
- Retail Salespersons 182
- Licensed Practical and Vocational Nurses 105
- Fast Food and Counter Workers 97
- Physicians, All Other 86
- Customer Service Representatives 84
- First-Line Supervisors of Food Prep and Servers 81
- First-Line Supervisors of Retail Sales Workers 80

#### METRO JOBS

Goldsboro MSA

100  
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS MONTH

Industry Detail

Jacksonville MSA

-100  
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS MONTH

Industry Detail

New Bern MSA

0  
CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS MONTH

Industry Detail

\*July 2024 data is preliminary. Taxable Retail Sales data reflect June 2024 and Job Openings data reflect June 2024.

#### TAXABLE RETAIL SALES

\$945,686,051

**5.0%** CHANGE FROM ONE YEAR AGO

#### JOB OPENINGS

**9,873**

-219 CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS MONTH

County	Population	County	Population
Carteret	69,721	Lenoir	54,105
Craven	103,193	Onslow	209,492
Duplin	48,728	Pamlico	12,217
Greene	20,022	Wayne	116,614
Jones	9,091	<b>Total</b>	<b>643,183</b>

# Industry Sector Partnerships

Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board (ECWDB) was selected as one of 14 North Carolina Workforce boards to receive a \$35,000 grant to enhance business services and industry partnerships. This strategic funding aims to strengthen the region's diverse economic landscape, encompassing hospitality and tourism, manufacturing, clean energy, small businesses, farming operations, and coastal industries.

The grant supports initiatives to convene local and regional employers, mainly focusing on the unique needs of Eastern Carolina's core industries. The region's economic strength lies in its varied sectors, from traditional farming and seafood processing, hospitality and tourism to emerging clean energy opportunities, and manufacturing. Small businesses, agricultural operations, and the coastal seafood industry form the backbone of the local economy, with aquaculture representing a significant growth sector that bridges traditional practices with innovative technologies.

The initiative will facilitate collaboration between employers in specific industries, geographic regions, and business sizes to identify and address regional labor market needs. ECWDB is catalyzing the launch and enhancement of these partnerships.

ECWDB will utilize this funding to create a sustainable impact through industry engagement, needs assessment, and program development. The focus will be on supporting traditional industries while fostering innovation and growth in emerging sectors. This comprehensive approach will ensure that workforce development efforts serve established industries – hospitality and tourism, farming, seafood, and small businesses – and emerging manufacturing and clean energy opportunities.

The initiative represents a significant opportunity for Eastern Carolina to strengthen its economic foundation while preparing for future growth. By bringing together diverse industry stakeholders, from small business owners and hospitality to agricultural producers and seafood processors, this program will help ensure that workforce development efforts align with the region's unique needs and opportunities, supporting sustained economic growth across all sectors.

Through this grant, ECWDB is helping bridge the gap between traditional industries and emerging opportunities, ensuring that Eastern Carolina's workforce is prepared to support its heritage industries and future economic development. This balanced approach will help maintain the region's distinctive economic character while fostering innovation and growth across all sectors.

Business listening and engagement sessions have been held in Craven, Lenoir, and Pamlico and are scheduled for Onslow and Carteret.

# Local Reentry Council

Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board (ECWDB) continues to expand its reentry support initiatives across its service area. Recently awarded a \$250,000 grant for Wayne County's Local Reentry Council (LRC), ECWDB is one of three Workforce boards selected for this funding.



**NORTH CAROLINA**  
**DEPARTMENT of**  
**COMMERCE**

This complemented the \$200,000 grant supporting reentry efforts in Carteret and Onslow counties.

The N.C. Department of Adult Correction (DAC) is actively working to establish and strengthen LRCs throughout the region, focusing on expanding services to Duplin, Lenoir, Jones, and Greene counties. These efforts align with Governor Roy Cooper's Executive Order No. 303, which directs whole-of-government coordination to improve reentry services for formerly incarcerated individuals.

Local Reentry Councils serve as organized networks of individuals and agencies that provide supervision and coordination for reintegrating formerly incarcerated individuals at the local level. "Local Reentry Councils help people exiting incarceration get back on their feet and keep our communities safer," said Governor Roy Cooper. "As employers move to North Carolina in record numbers, they are looking for new and skilled workers while many formerly incarcerated people are eager to change their lives, get a job and join their communities."

This initiative is part of North Carolina's commitment to Reentry2030, a national program to improve reentry success. "One of our Reentry 2030 goals is to establish Local Reentry Councils that serve all of North Carolina's 100 counties, to support people leaving prison with the resources they need to be successful," said Secretary Todd Ishee of the Department of Adult Correction.

The grants are funded through the State Fiscal Recovery Fund (SFRF), part of the federal American Rescue Plan Act, which provided \$5.4 billion to North Carolina. The initiative works with the N.C. Commerce Department's existing Reentry Initiative and NCWorks Career Centers to provide comprehensive support for justice-involved jobseekers. Through this whole-of-government approach, the collaboration between the Department of Commerce and the Department of Adult Correction aims to strengthen the economy, enhance community safety, and provide meaningful second chances.

# Job Fairs and Events

Every year our NCWorks Career Centers hold countless job fairs, hiring events, workshops, and other community events. This year was no different, and we are proud to acknowledge the great work of our NCWorks Career Center and Service Provider staff and partners that made all of it happen!



# Success Stories

## ALEJANDRO

Alex is from Albertson, NC. At the age of 14, Alex went to Mexico with his parents, and it was there he learned to speak fluent Spanish making him bilingual. The family returned to the US where he completed high school through the 11th grade at Northern High in Durham, NC, attaining a weighted GPA of 3.14. He was an Early College student working on his associate degree. He left school in 2020 due to Covid-19.



Alex worked as a Server at IHOP after leaving high school. He did so well that he trained new servers, learning some valuable communication skills. It was during this time that Alex decided he wanted to complete his High School studies. Alex entered the Transitional and Career Studies Hybrid Program, registering in June 2023 and graduating in August 2023.

His teacher contacted the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Program (WIOA) Youth Career Advisor, believing that Alex would be a suitable candidate for the WIOA program, which he was, and he was enrolled in July 2023.

Through talks with Alex, his advisor discovered his goal is to become a lawyer. Alex enrolled in the Criminal Justice Technology Associate in Applied Science program. Alex wishes to transfer to a 4-year University to complete his bachelor's degree. Alex participated in a paid work experience (WEX) in Fall 23 working as a shipping and receiving assistant for Lenoir Community College (LCC) Facilities. The Director of Facility Operations was disappointed when Alex opted to spend full time on his studies and leave the work experience early. Extra time on studies paid off and Fall 2023 Semester, Alex scored a 4.00 GPA carrying a load of 17 credits.

Since that first semester, Alex has received straight A's in Spring 24, Summer 24, and he is carrying straight A's for Fall 24. He is on the President's Honor Roll and was inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. Alex wants to eventually go to law school and become a lawyer. He understands that competition for law school is intense, and he wants to excel. He is president of the NextGen Club at LCC and a senator for the Student Government Association. Much to the joy of the Director of Facilities, he is also back working a WEX as an office assistant doing special projects.

Alex stated "The WIOA program has given me the necessary resources to be able to focus on my studies and to succeed in every aspect of achieving higher education".

# Success Stories

## FREDERICK

Frederick was a justice involved individual who had been out of work for 10 years. He was enrolled in an ARPA on the job training (OJT) with a local Duplin County employer, C. Johnson Sheffield CPA PC as an Accountant Trainee. Frederick started his OJT on January 22, 2024, making \$25.00 an hour and completed the OJT on June 27, 2024. He was hired full-time with Mr. Sheffield's CPA firm as an Accountant.

## JORDAN

Jordan is a parenting youth from Greene County that enrolled in Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) in November 2022 after receiving an acceptance letter into the Associate Degree Nursing Program (ADN) at Wayne Community College (WCC).

Jordan needed financial assistance to attend and complete the program. She was employed at Greendale Nursing Home, as an LPN but because of her class schedule of attending 5 days a week, and caring for her young son, she was only able to work as a PRN on weekends. She received transportation assistance as well as assistance with the cost of the required exams.

Jordan successfully completed the ADN Program May 2024, and passed her NCLEX (state Exam) and became a Registered Nurse in June 2024. She stated she could not have achieved her goal without the help of WIOA's financial assistance and continuous encouragement from her career advisor.

Jordan is ready to exit WIOA, she is enrolled in a BA program at Capella University, she's been taking courses for the past year in a joint program at WCC with an expected date of completion in August 2024. She has decided to pursue Family Nurse Practitioner once her BA in Nursing is attained.

## TAYLOR

Taylor graduated from Greene Central High School in May 2020 and was referred to the WIOA Youth Program through Teen Court in Greene County. She was determined eligible for the WIOA-Next Gen Program in June 2020. continued on next page..



# Success Stories

## TAYLOR continued...

Taylor enrolled in a Certified Nurse Aide (CNA) class at Lenoir Community College in Snow Hill and began a paid work experience (WEX) at a doctor's office in Greenville. She successfully completed her CNA class and passed the state exam. Taylor completed her second WEX at Hookerton Family Practice (HFP), after which she was hired. While working at HFP, Taylor completed the Pre-Nursing curriculum at Lenoir Community College and was accepted into the ADN Program at Wayne Community College. Taylor had to leave her job to attend ADN classes five days a week, dedicating all her time and attention to her studies. She worked hard, studied tirelessly, and sacrificed time with her family and friends to achieve her goal of becoming a Registered Nurse (RN). Taylor received assistance with tuition her first semester of nursing school and received supportive service with the cost of transportation while attending the second semester and clinical rotation.

Taylor successfully completed the ADN Program and graduated in May 2024. She passed her NCLEX (state exam) on her second try and became a RN in July 2024. She was hired full-time at Greenville Women's Care (OBGYN) in Greenville, NC, in August 2024. Taylor plans to return to college to attain her BA in nursing. Taylor said, "I would like to thank the WIOA program and Ms. Tracey for helping me reach my goals, and I want to encourage anyone facing barriers in their life to never stop dreaming and keep working toward your goals!"

## SAVANNAH



Savannah of Goldsboro was enrolled in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth program. In March of 2022 she earned her High School Equivalency Diploma. In May of 2022 Savannah began school studying Criminal Justice Technology. She has earned all A's, maintaining a 4.0 grade point average since enrollment. She balances her academics while serving as President of Lenoir Community College's Student Government Association and while being heavily involved in all campus activities. Savannah has been accepted into Western Carolina University and will pursue a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice. She has a goal to work with the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation as a detective/investigator specializing in Human Trafficking and Crimes Against Children Division.

# Success Stories

## HONESTY

Honesty was a 20-year-old single mother who enrolled in the Youth/Next Gen program. She completed the Medication Aide class at James Sprunt Community College, then enrolled in a work experience (WEX) contract. This contract was with Sessoms Medical in Rose Hill where she received training and experience as a medical receptionist. Upon completion of her WEX in June 2024, Sessoms Medical Associates, PLLC placed her in a permanent position.

## JAMYRIA

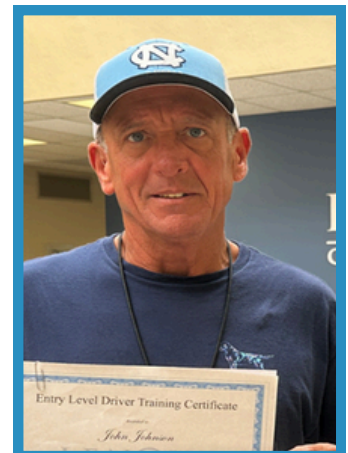
JaMyria Skinner came to the NCWorks Career Center Wayne County seeking employment and training. JaMyria was referred to the WIOA Title 1 program as she expressed an interest in training. In September 2023, she enrolled in the WIOA NextGen Youth Program. JaMyria faced many barriers, had little to no support from her family and wanted more for herself. Although she sometimes lacked the essentials, she did not let it deter her. She was determined to be successful.

JaMyria wanted to enroll in the Dental Assistant program at NC Dental U in Goldsboro, North Carolina. In October 2023, with the assistance of the WIOA NextGen Youth Program she was able to enroll in the Dental Assistant program. She successfully completed her training in November 2023 and received her Dental Assistant 1 Certification.

In November 2023, JaMyria was able to participate in a work experience (WEX) and was placed at Carolina Dental Arts. She received positive evaluations from her worksite supervisor for her good work ethic. Upon completion of her WEX, the worksite was so pleased with her performance they offer JaMyria a full-time position as a Dental Assistant in January 2024 and she is still employed with Carolina Dental Arts to date.

## JOHN

John Johnson came to the career center in 2022, shortly after being released from prison, to gather information about how the Adult WIOA program could help him with CDL training as a step to reach his goal of obtaining his Commercial Driver's License. John came to the realization that financially he could not complete training and maintain his apartment without having an income, so he decided to put his training on hold and work odd jobs such as house painting, pressure washing, dry walling, etc. He was able to sustain his income for a while until he needed to have surgery. While recovering from his surgery, that took him out of work for a year, continued on next page...



# Success Stories

## JOHN continued..

he decided that it was time to pursue CDL training again. John knew that he could not work a 9-5 job while training and he would not be able to keep his apartment and make his car payment without having a steady income, so he had to make some sacrifices such as giving up his apartment, which led him to the temporary shelter, Friends of the Homeless in Kinston.

On May 8, 2024, John was enrolled in the WIOA Adult program to receive assistance with CDL training and began classes at Lenoir Community College on May 13, 2024. During training, John still worked odd jobs when and where he was able to help with his financial needs, however, he never let it interfere with his training. John's instructors added that he was always willing to help, to learn, and to do what he could for others.

John successfully completed his training, although the training was extended due to mechanical issues with one of the trucks used for training, and he obtained his Commercial Driver's License in July 2024. John feels that his career advisor and the WIOA program have been a "Godsend," and he doesn't know where he'd be without this opportunity. John's determination to achieve his goals overshadowed any fears of failure, and it paid off. In October 2024, John was hired full time by Taylor Trucking and has recently moved into his new apartment.

## SHAWN



Shawn Fuller's story exemplifies the resilience of the human spirit and determination. Facing personal challenges at an early age, Shawn refused to let his challenges define his future but motivate him instead. He enrolled in the WIOA NextGen Youth Program in March 2022, Shawn was 16 years old and had a fourth-grade reading and math level due to years of missed education when he began his academic journey. His determination and dedication enabled him to complete his GED in just three months.

Shawn did not settle with just obtaining his GED, he wanted to continue this journey to achieve his childhood dream of serving his community. The WIOA NextGen Youth Program was able to assist Shawn in the pursuit of his dream by providing essential resources for career planning, job shadowing, and tuition assistance. Shawn's passion for public safety blossomed when he began volunteering at a local fire department. Inspired by the compassion and bravery of the first responders. Shawn decided on a career dedicated to helping others. continued on next page...

# Success Stories

## SHAWN continued..

In January 2024, Shawn enrolled in the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) program at Carteret Community College (CCC) with the assistance of the WIOA NextGen Youth Program. He successfully completed the Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Program in May 2024. To further enhance the knowledge and skills gained from the EMT training, Shawn enrolled in the CCC Fire Academy in August 2024. He is scheduled to complete this training in December 2024. He continues to volunteer at the local fire department and is hopeful to become employed as a first responder so he can fulfill his dream of serving his community.

Shawn's journey serves as a testament to the power of determination, dedication, and the importance of a support network. His story is a reminder that we can all achieve our dreams through dedication, determination and perseverance.

## JOSH

Joshua Haddeman was filled with a profound sense of accomplishment as he reflected on his path to becoming a police officer. His journey was far from straightforward taking him through a myriad of labor-intensive roles from construction sites to flooring and landscaping. Despite the physical toll, his faith and family were his pillars, grounding him and teaching him invaluable lessons in hard work and service.



The turning point came when he pursued his dream of law enforcement and met the officers at the Jacksonville, NC Police Department. They recognized Josh's potential and sponsored his tuition for the BLET program. This act of faith propelled him onto a path that was both demanding and immensely rewarding.

Navigating the BLET program was no small feat, especially with a daily hour-long commute to classes. However, the assistance he received through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Adult program at Carteret Community College "was a game-changer." He was grateful for the referral from the BLET Coordinator, Amy Snider-Wells. The assistance from the grant allowed him to fully immerse himself in his training with a focused and determined spirit. Graduating from the BLET program in February 2024 was more than just a personal milestone; it was a triumph shared with everyone who had supported him along the way. Law enforcement is not merely a job to him; it's a calling to serve and protect. Josh began his new career with the Carteret County Sheriff's Department in May 2024.

# Success Stories

## RAYTHEON

Raytheon Bell came to the NextGen Program in August 2023. He already had his high school diploma and was ready to work on his future. Raytheon wanted to work at one of the local manufacturing companies where he could have a long career. He felt that having his Forklift Operating credentials would be a good way to get in with one of these companies. He enrolled in the forklift course at Craven Community College - VOLT Center where he gained experience with several types of forklift machines, as well as material handling safety, security and operations management to name a few.

After the completion of the Forklift Operator training, his career coach asked if he would like to try work experience (WEX) at one of the local manufacturing companies, Chatsworth Products, Inc. (CPI). He was excited and nervous! CPI took him in and not only utilized the training that he learned from college but taught him some “real life” experience working in manufacturing. He learned teamwork, how to be accountable, communicate, be organized and be a great employee! After completion of his WEX, the Shipping and Receiving Manager at CPI was so impressed with Raytheon that he offered him a full-time position.

## KIARA

Kiara started her journey into nursing knowing the path wouldn't be easy. With a competitive program ahead and a daily three-hour commute, her resolve was tested from day one. A pivotal moment came in 2022 when she reached out to WIOA for financial assistance. This support became a cornerstone, allowing her to focus on her passion for nursing without the stress of financial burdens.



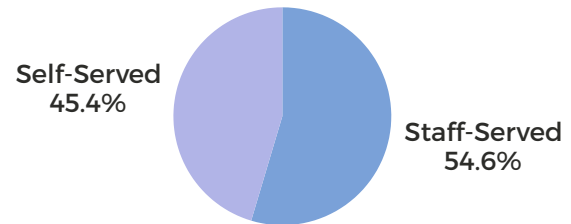
Her commitment to this path was not just about managing a demanding schedule but fully embracing every opportunity to learn, grow, and demonstrate her dedication. Her journey was filled with early mornings and late-night studies, which led to a defining moment at a Job Hiring event. She applied for positions in multiple departments at the hospital of her dreams, and received job offers from every one of them. Kiara chose the Neo-natal department knowing it was a chance to make a real difference from the very start of a child's life. Kiara's journey has been about more than just becoming a nurse, it's been a journey of resilience, hard work and positive spirit. As she prepares to start her career in the Neo-natal Department, she's reminded of the incredible support system that helped her along the way.

# NCWorks Performance Dashboard

Employment/Labor Data	PY22	PY23
Employed	257,237	260,536
ECWDB Unemployment Rate	3.8%	3.6%
NC Unemployment Rate	3.3%	3.5%
US Unemployment Rate	3.8%	4.3%
ECWDB Region Jobs Available	11,991	10,760

ECWDB NCWorks Career Center Data	PY22	PY23
New Registered Job Seekers	4,591	5,699
New Resumes added to NCWorks	5,763	6,994
Number of Job Seekers Served	14,518	16,276
Total Services Provided (Breakdown of service delivery shown in pie chart below)	118,849	148,411

NCWorks Businesses Served	PY22	PY23
Employers Served	1,039	1,261
Services to Employers	18,303	21,586
New Registered Employers	98	87
Internal NCWorks Job Postings	6,687	7,472



Educational Attainment	Population	%
Less than 9th Grade	16,343	4%
9th Grade to 12th Grade	31,378	7%
High School Diploma	123,426	29%
Some College	102,614	24%
Associate's Degree	50,631	12%
Bachelor's Degree	67,618	16%
Graduate Degree and Higher	36,047	8%

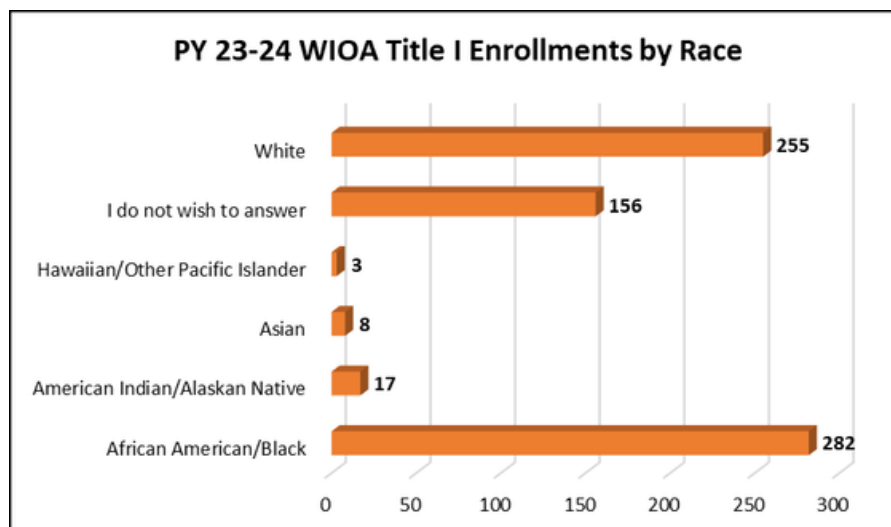
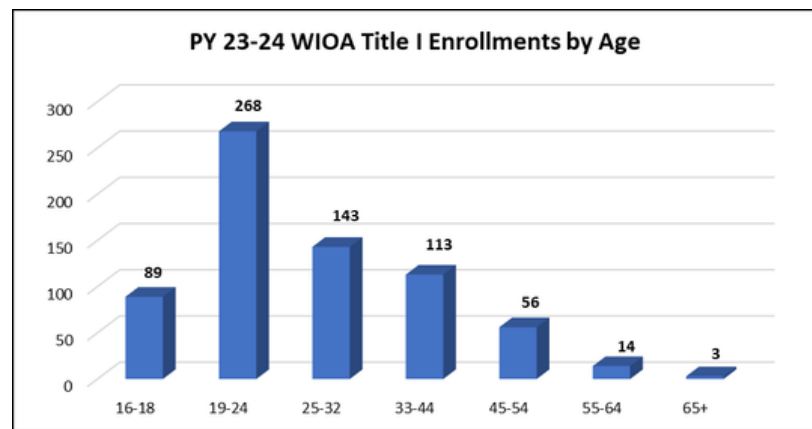
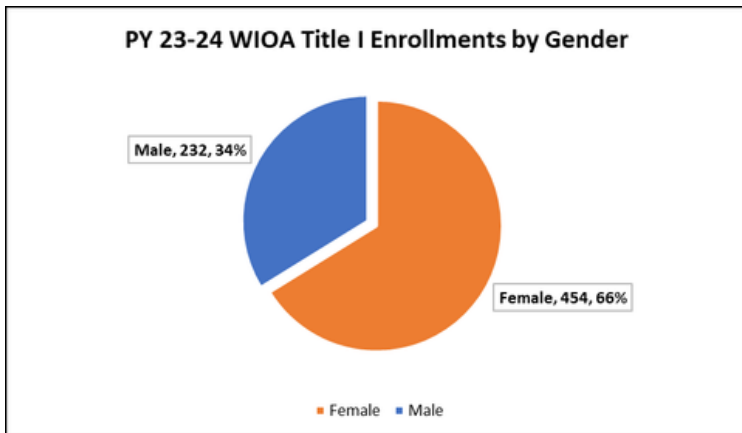
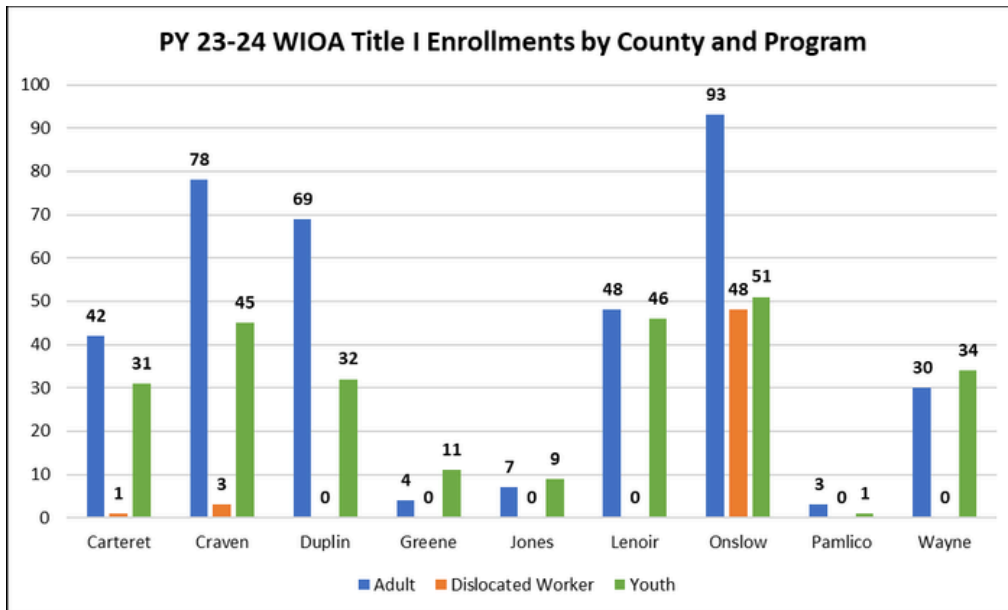
### Top 5 Occupation Fields:

1. Retail
2. Healthcare
3. Manufacturing
4. Accommodation & Food
5. Public Administration

### Top 5 Skills of Available Candidates:

1. Customer Service
2. Production
3. Management
4. Transportation
5. Sales

# Title I WIOA Adult, Dislocated Worker, and Youth Training Enrollments

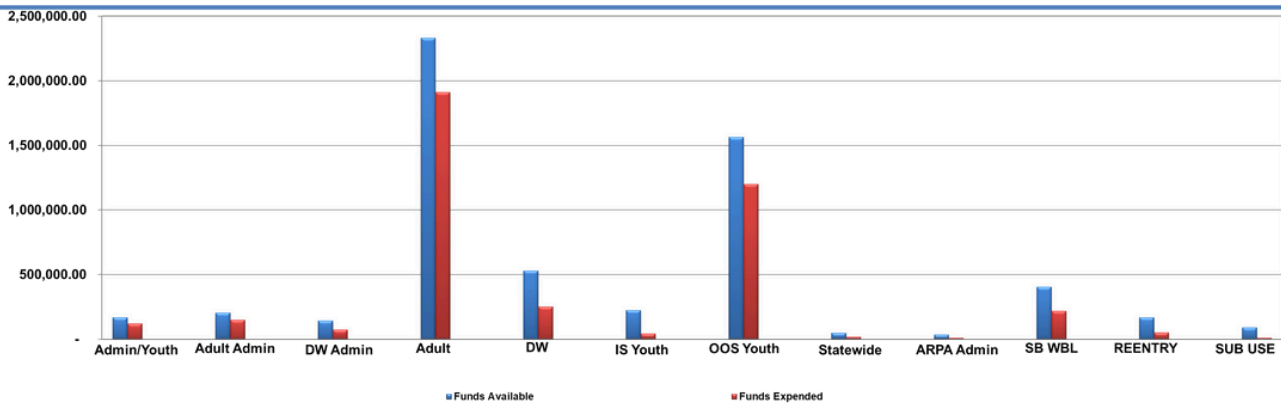


# Financial Report | June 30, 2024

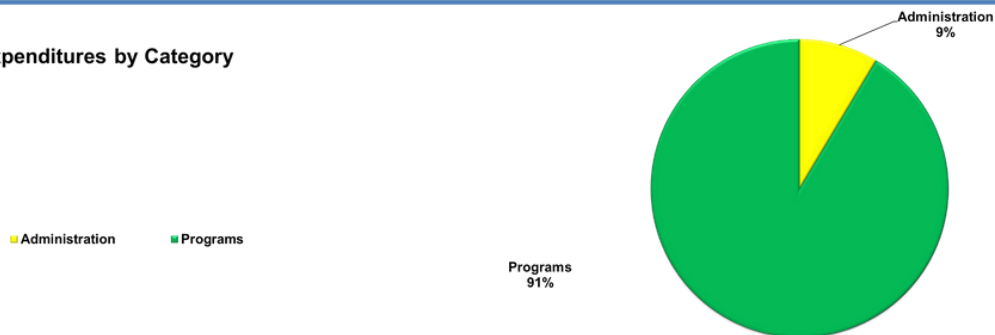
Funds Summary		Funds Available	Funds Expended	Funds Remaining
4010	Admin/Youth	168,347.93	120,152.54	48,195.39
4010	Adult Admin	203,450.11	147,706.16	55,743.95
4010	DW Admin	142,121.59	72,404.33	69,717.26
4020	Adult	2,332,296.90	1,911,423.49	420,873.41
4030	DW	530,316.98	252,321.12	277,995.86
4040	IS Youth	223,772.04	42,598.17	181,173.87
4040	OOS Youth	1,563,365.20	1,199,979.34	363,385.86
4050	Statewide	47,407.07	17,526.10	29,880.97
ARPA 3110	ARPA Admin	34,759.05	8,389.51	26,369.54
ARPA 3130-8152	SB WBL	405,668.41	217,900.59	187,767.82
ARPA 3130-8154	REENTRY	168,249.21	52,106.97	116,142.24
ARPA 3130-8156	SUB USE	89,968.95	9,521.98	80,446.97
<b>Subtotal</b>		<b>5,909,723.44</b>	<b>4,052,030.30</b>	<b>1,857,693.14</b>
<b>General</b>		<b>29,373.07</b>		<b>29,373.07</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>5,939,096.51</b>	<b>4,052,030.30</b>	<b>1,887,066.21</b>

Note: Funds expended are reduced by interest and/or program income attributed to individual funds in the amount of:

520.12



## Expenditures by Category



# Board of Directors

## Officers

**Al Searles**, Chair  
**Jason Trull**, Vice-Chair  
**Bill Green**, Secretary Treasurer  
**Judy Darden**, Secretary Treasurer

## Carteret County

**Mike Kraszeski**, Vice President, Veneer Tech Corporation  
**Jessica Adams**, Director, Carteret County Department of Social Services  
**Sheila Glazewski**, Director of Administration, Parker Offshore, LLC

## Craven County

**Jason Trull**, Human Resources Manager, Chatsworth Products, Inc.  
**Anthony M. Cruz**, International Machinist & Aerospace Workers Union  
**Lesley Hunter**, Vice President Human Resources, CarolinaEast Health System

## Duplin County

**Al Searles**, Owner, AJS Farms, LLC  
**Jay Carraway**, President, James Sprunt Community College  
**Brenda Upchurch**, Human Resources Manager, Sturdy Corporation  
**Joe Wood**, General Manager, United States Cold Storage, Inc.

## Greene County

**Rick Davis**, Tide Tamer  
**Angela Bates**, Executive Director, Greene Lamp, Inc.  
**Judy Darden**, Owner, Darden Bookkeeping

## Jones County

**Dr. Norma Sermon-Boyd**, Executive Director, Jones Co. Partnership for Children  
**Frank Emory**, Owner, Emory Construction  
**David Hill**, President, DP Hill Manufacturing

## Lenoir County

**Dr. Rusty Hunt**, President, Lenoir Community College  
**Craig Foucht**, Director of Business and Project Management, NC Global TransPark Economic Development Region  
**Jenna Stafira**, Human Resource Manager, MasterBrand Cabinets, Inc.

## Onslow County

**Veronica Perez**, Site Director, Concentrix  
**Samuel King**, Plant Manager, MSA Safety Jacksonville Manufacturing LLC  
**Wes Watson**, Regional Operations Director, SEPZ NC Department of Commerce Division of Workforce Solutions

## Pamlico County

**Carla Byrnes**, Co-Owner, B & B Yacht Designs  
**Kimberly Poole Riggs**, Vocational Rehabilitation, Unit Manager, NC Department of Health and Human Services  
**Dr. Jeremy Johnson**, Superintendent, Pamlico County Schools

## Wayne County

**Melanie Sanders**, Human Resources, Caswell Development Center  
**Charles Brogden**, Director of Human Resources, Franklin Baking Company, LLC  
**Amy Hartley**, Executive Director, Wayne Opportunity Center

# Consortium

**Chief Elected Official - Bob Cavanaugh**

**Carteret County - Bob Cavanaugh**  
**Craven County - Beatrice Smith**  
**Duplin County - Jesse Dowe III**  
**Greene County - Jerry Jones**  
**Jones County - Mike Haddock**  
**Lenoir County - Roland Best**  
**Onslow County - Lisa Carpenter**  
**Pamlico County - Candy Bohmert**  
**Wayne County - Bevan Foster**

# ECWDB Staff

**Tammy Childers**, Executive Director

**William Green**, Executive Director

**Phillip Prescott**, Assistant Director

**Lisa Harvey**, Program Coordinator

**Debbie Simpkins**, Fiscal Monitor

**Trina Hale**, Accounting Technician

**Erik Heck**, ARPA Business Services Representative

**George Kramer**, Business Services Representative

**Maureen Bell**, Program Assistant

**David Jones**, Public Information Specialist

## Thank You

### TO OUR BOARD/CONSORTIUM MEMBERS, ECWDB STAFF, NCWORKS CAREER CENTER STAFF, SERVICE PROVIDERS, AND PARTNERS;

We want to express our sincere appreciation for your professionalism, dedication, and contributions to building a strong network of NCWorks Career Centers and partnerships to serve the citizens of eastern North Carolina. It is because of your steadfast desire to help others succeed that we succeed together. Your compassion and willingness to help others comes through in all that you do. Keep shining your light on others.



A proud partner of the  
**AmericanJobCenter**<sup>®</sup>  
network

*An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. (TTY) 1-800-735-2962 (Voice) 1-800-735-8262. This is funded by the Employment and Training Administration of the US Department of Labor as part of an award totaling \$5,799,096.51 with 0% financed from non-governmental sources.*



[www.ecwdb.org](http://www.ecwdb.org) | [facebook.com/ecwdb/](https://facebook.com/ecwdb/) | [instagram.com/ecwdb/](https://instagram.com/ecwdb/) | [x.com/ECWDB](https://x.com/ECWDB)  
[linkedin.com/company/eastern-carolina-workforce-development-board-inc](https://linkedin.com/company/eastern-carolina-workforce-development-board-inc)

Phone: 252-636-6901 | Fax: 252-638-3569

1341 South Glenburnie Road

New Bern, North Carolina 28562

[www.ecwdb.org](http://www.ecwdb.org) | [facebook.com/ecwdb/](https://facebook.com/ecwdb/) |

[instagram.com/ecwdb/](https://instagram.com/ecwdb/) | [x.com/ECWDB](https://x.com/ECWDB)