

Communicate with Us!



1341 South Glenburnie Rd.
New Bern, North Carolina 28562
Telephone 252-636-6901 fax 252-638-3569
email: admin@ecwdb.org
website: www.ecwdb.org



ECWDB STAFF:
TAMMY CHILDERS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ROBERT KEHRES, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
ANITA BRADLEY, OFFICE MANAGER
LISA HARVEY, MIS COORDINATOR
TRINA HALE, FISCAL MONITOR
MARIE-Antoinette HATCHER, WTW COORDINATOR
JOE MCCARTHY, YOUTH COORDINATOR
JESSE BODE, WIA FISCAL MONITOR
MONIQUE GRANNUM, PROGRAM ASSISTANT

THIS PUBLICATION HAS BEEN COMPILED FOR ECWDB, INC. BY
TAMMY CHILDERS & MARIE-Antoinette Hatcher

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Youth Service Providers Meeting
September 19, 2002, 10:00 a.m.
ECWDB Office, New Bern, NC

Economic Development Meeting
September 24, 2002, 11:00 am
ECWDB Office, New Bern, NC

Equal Opportunity Training for WIA
Service Providers
September 25, 2002, 10:00 am to 11:30 am
ECWDB Office, New Bern, NC

Money Smart Initiative Training
September 27, 2002, 9:00 am-4:00 pm
ECWDB Office, New Bern, NC

Youth Council Meeting
October 8, 2002, 6:00 p.m.
ECWDB Office, New Bern, NC

ECWDPA Executive Committee Meeting
October 3, 2002, 10:00 a.m.
ECWDB Office, New Bern, NC

NC Workforce Development
Partnership Conference
October 23-25, 2002
Joseph S. Koury Convention Center
Greensboro, NC

ECWDPA Meeting
November 7, 2002, 10:00 a.m.
ECWDB Office, New Bern, NC

ECWDB Annual Banquet
November 14, 2002, 6:00 p.m.
New Bern Riverfront Convention Center
New Bern, NC



Warm
Birthday
Wishes!!!

Joe McCarthy, August 13
Tammy Childers, August 20
Bob Kehres, September 1
Jesse Bode, September 26

Deepest Condolences

Samara Sutton and family for the recent
death of her father, Forrest Sutton.

ChamberCast 2002 Workforce Development Series—Untapped Resources in Today's Economy—

View real time panel discussions on critical
workforce development issues by joining the
Center for Workforce Preparation (CWP)
and a panel of workforce experts:

Higher Skills-Bottom-Line Results: Setting a National Agenda to Improve Workplace Literacy

September 18, 2002, 1:00 pm-2:15 pm

This is a good opportunity to learn more
about ways to create better workplace education
programs and initiatives that will serve the
needs of adult learners and create a stronger,
more valuable workforce in the future.

For questions, please contact Tammy
Childers at 252-636-6901.

This series is sponsored by the Center for Workforce
Preparation, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Washington
DC under a grant from the Ford and Annie E.
Casey foundations.

Eastern Carolina
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD, INC.

Training Education Employment Career Planning

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

Bright Future

Volume 4, Issue 5, Sep 2002

Inside this issue:

Roger Shackleford-New Executive Director of the NC Commission on Workforce Development	1
Biotech Creating Jobs For North Carolina	1
Director's Corner: A Can Do Attitude For A World Class Workforce	2
Facts on Workforce Continuing Education Training	2
ESC Honors NC Employers	3
UI Rates for July 2002	3
ESC Jacksonville Receives John Fleming Award	3
ECYC Applies for Youth Summit	4
Lenoir County School's Project Success	4
JSCC WIA Youth Teams with Area Employers	5
JSCC Offers Computer Camps for Kids	5
WIA Youth Gets Hands-On Work Experience	5
AmericaCorporation Closes Its Goldsboro Plant	6
Spotlight: The EC Job Training Consortium	6
Quick Facts: NC Bio Technology Industry	7
WtW & WIA Updates	8
ECWDPA Holds Its First Meeting for PY 2002	8
Onslow County Job Fair—Another Collaborative Success	9
JobLink Success Stories	9
JobLink Outcomes	10
JobLink Updates	11
Mark Your Calendars	12

Roger Shackleford—New Executive Director of the NC Commission on Workforce Development

Mr. Roger Shackleford was appointed as new Executive Director of the NC Commission on Workforce Development on July 8 by Secretary Jim Fain. In addition, he will serve as a Senior Policy Advisor to the Secretary and the state legislature.

Since 1998, Mr. Shackleford has been a senior partner for a Skilled Workforce, a Michigan

non-profit organization that focuses on producing highly skilled workforce. He previously worked with the NC Department of Commerce for five years as policy associate to the Governor's Commission on Workforce Development.

Secretary Fain feels confident that Mr. Shackleford will provide thoughtful leadership to North Carolina's workforce development

efforts. He stated that workforce development is vitally important to the economic development of the state.

Mr. Shackleford holds a Bachelor's Degree in Social Policy Planning from Shaw University and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the North Carolina State University.

Biotech Creating Jobs For North Carolina

North Carolina now has the largest concentration of biotechnology industries in the Southeast, ranking among the top five states in the nation. Jobs in the industry offer some of the best pay in manufacturing, starting at about \$22,000 a year and averaging \$40,000. Estimates say that over the next 15 to 20 years, the state's biotech industry will generate \$15-20 billion in annual sales and its workforce will top 100,000.

North Carolina's growing biomanufacturing industry will get a \$42 million boost this year, and possibly another \$108 million more over the next six years, from Golden LEAF, the foundation that invests money from the tobacco settlement for the long-term economic advancement of North Carolina, as announced by officials on August 14 at a news conference in Raleigh.

Governor Mike Easley stated that this announcement will provide a jumpstart to make North Carolina the biomanufacturing capital of the world. The biomanufacturing funding is the centerpiece of an \$85.4 million economic stimulus package from

Golden LEAF to strengthen North Carolina's economy and the state's competitiveness in the biosciences.

Another initiative will be a \$10 million investment in a proposed biodiesel plant in Eastern North Carolina which Golden LEAF officials say will be a boom to soy bean farmers and put the state on the cutting edge of the alternative fuels industry.

More specifically, Lawrence Davenport, Chairman of the Golden LEAF Board of Directors enumerated the benefits of the Golden LEAF's economic package as follows:

- Allow the people of NC to capitalize on advances in the biotech industry.
- Create a major new market for NC agricultural products and put this state on the cutting edge of alternative fuels industry.
- Make NC a more attractive place to locate new industries.
- Make it easier for new businesses especially in rural areas to get the capital they need.



More information continued on page 7.

Source: www.biotech.org

Director's Corner: A "Can Do" Attitude for a World-Class Workforce

With unemployment rates continuing to rise in our Local Area, more people are opting to participate in training programs in order to prepare for entry, or reentry into the workforce. In this region, most of that training occurs at our seven Community Colleges which continue to rise to the challenges of addressing the training needs of their communities.

I continue to be impressed by the "can do" attitudes of the staff at the Community Colleges and their ability to pass that same attitude on to their students. I am also very proud of our Board's involvement in this partnership. During Program Year (PY) 2001, we sponsored 1,374 adults and dislocated workers in training programs through our local community colleges. Because community colleges are able to provide a variety of high quality training options at very affordable prices, we were able to assist a record number of people needing training or retraining to compete in today's tough job market.

During the Program Year that ended on June 30, 2002, we spent \$2,395,879 of federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funds to provide employment and training services at an average cost per participant of \$1,743. These funds assisted participants with tuition, fees, books, supplies, and in some cases with child care and transportation to and from school. Additionally, the funds provided them with professional JobLink career counselors lending plenty of support and encouragement.

I must add that the working relationships with, and contributions from the other key JobLink partners are as equally important and valued. During this last year, Employment Security Commission offices and staff have been inundated with record numbers of unemployed and underemployed workers seeking employment opportunities and assistance. They, too, have successfully risen to the challenges of addressing the needs of the region's workforce. And I could say more about the other key partners for the value that they bring to the partnership, because the fact is, we ALL have equally important roles that we must fulfill in ensuring a superior world-class workforce with a "can do" attitude.

Let me give you an example of how competitive the global economy has become and how it affects our roles. You may recall that, a few months back, Bosch-Siemens-Hauslathgerate (BSH) announced its expansion to Craven County bringing with it an additional 1,400 positions and \$150,000 in private investment. In addition to BSH's expansion to Craven County, it is expected that some of their suppliers will relocate within the region as well, thereby creating the need for more workers. Two weeks ago, I had the pleasure of meeting one of the BSH executives who is relocating from Germany to work at their New Bern plant. As we spoke, I learned that this union between the three corporations truly is unique to this site. Generally, the three competitors share the "white goods" market producing top-of-the-line merchandise such as refrigerators, washers, dryers and dishwashers.

Like all companies, quality products are key to their global success. Realizing that this international partnership is investing in Eastern North Carolina and has manufacturing plants operating around the globe, just imagine their benchmarking system established to measure their overall productivity and profits.

Over the next several months, I am sure that our community colleges will be assisting BSH in designing industry specific training programs for their workers, and the JobLink partners will be working to supply the available skilled workforce. As we all work together to meet their needs, it will be our "can do" attitudes that will ensure BSH, and others, have the quality workforce they expect.

At a time when most manufacturing companies are closing down their local operations and moving them outside of the United States, it seems that we have been given an opportunity to show the world that Eastern North Carolina's workers are world-class and capable of producing superior products proudly made in America.

Mr. Jim Garner, a member of our Board, and its Executive Committee, and Owner of Creative Outlet, a manufacturing company in Morehead City, sums it all up with a sign that he displays on his desk, "**IT CAN'T BE DONE!**"

Facts on Workforce Continuing Education Training

The Students

- Short-term occupational continuing education training enrollments in 2001 exceeded 542,000.
- Approximately 57,000 students enrolled in Information Technology-related training in 2001—a 45% increase since 1995.
- Training demand for health & safety training exceeded 140,000 enrollments last year.
- More than 100,000 Fire/Rescue, Law Enforcement and Emergency Medical Technicians received certification or recertification training in 2001.
- Over 10,000 trained in Certified Nurse Aide training.
- More than 20,000 trained in business management, leadership and supervision skills.
- 21,000+ trained in construction, electrical and mechanical and manufacturing skills.

The Colleges

- Short-term occupational training or retraining is available statewide.
- Skill training courses are offered at a low cost of \$50 to \$65.
- There are over 1400 approved courses—recent course additions include the NC Manufacturing Certification Program and BioWorks: Process Technician Training.

The Companies

- More than 70 North Carolina companies surveyed for development of new short-term metalworking and plastics training programs as part of the North Carolina Manufacturing Certification Program.
- Short-term certification courses are designed to meet Cisco, Nortel, Microsoft, and other IT industry certifications.

Trends

- There is a continued demand for industry IT certifications and health and safety training.
- Enrollments in language training have had a 56% increase since 1998.
- Increased demand for required recertification training in areas such as plumbing, heating and air-conditioning, electrical contractors and many others.

Other Trends

- Development of customized workplace Spanish training for business and industry and public safety agencies.
- Partnering with the agencies, boards and commissions to enhance training required for occupational certifications.

Source: Economic and Workforce Development/Continuing Education, Division at North Carolina Community College

JOBLINK CAREER CENTER UPDATES

as submitted by JLCC Partners for period of April 2002-June 2002

Carteret County JLCC hosted by Employment Security Commission

The Carteret County JobLink continues to utilize the ESC's Customer Comment Cards to review, judge and address concerns with the service it provides in the JobLink. During this period, 143 comment cards were returned and the JobLink has a 99% approval rating. The remaining 1% were comments about long waiting times and lack of job openings in the area that meet the client's needs. Numbers of comment cards have decreased as many clients are repeat customers and they do not wish to fill out another survey card. There were no complaints relating to the customer service of the JobLink.

This JobLink continues to be actively involved with employers. During this period, the ESC/JobLink partners actively contacted employers to solicit job orders. This has increased the number of job orders received by the center.

Craven County JLCC hosted by Employment Security Commission

The Craven County JLCC continues to establish a strong relationship with employers through regular employer visits and telephone contacts. Employers who conducted employment interviews at the JLCC include News Market America, Sprint and Swift Transportation. A total of 285 employer visits and 437 promotional telephone contacts were made during this quarter.

The Veterans Section provides bi-monthly transitional assistance classes to military service personnel separating from active duty at MCAS Cherry Point. These classes provide information on a wide variety of topics including job seeking skills, job interviewing, dressing for success and others. In addition, the Veterans Section provides separation and pre-retirement briefings.

Duplin County JLCC hosted by James Sprunt Community College

The Duplin County JLCC has made great strides in promoting career development. Partners and staff continue to meet and discuss ideas to enhance the center. The Job Developer works closely with area employers to obtain job orders and to increase career opportunities for our customers. The Duplin County JobLink Career Center will continue to work diligently to meet the needs of the public.

Lenoir County JLCC, Greene and Jones Affiliate Sites hosted by Lenoir Community College

On April 3, Reid Taylor, WIA/OJT Representative spoke to the Manufacturer's Association of Kinston, NC. A JobLink subcommittee was formed to look for more marketing strategies to area employers. Renee Sutton and Frances Gaskins represented the JobLink at the Camp Lejeune Job Fair. JobLink partners and approximately 40 participants attended the Eastern Carolina Women's Empowerment Conference in New Bern. Participants were complimentary about the experience.

Onslow County JLCC hosted by Coastal Carolina Community College

A new Employment Specialist was hired to work with Work First participants. JobLink partners served on the Rapid Response Team for the closing of Carolina Brand Foods in Holly Ridge. Seventeen group orientations were conducted among 325 employees. Onslow Senior Services became a part of the Management Team. The JLCC co-sponsored the job fair at Camp Lejeune on April 4, 2002 where 130 employers attended the fair attracting 2,364 job seekers.

Pamlico County JLCC hosted by Pamlico Community College

Staff is beginning to routinely schedule appointments at the JLCC and an increased use of the Resource Center is being observed. Emphasis is now on rechartering and identification of concern and barriers for rechartering. The Business Plan is being written. An information meeting was held for cross-training with 100% attendance from partner agencies.

Wayne County JLCC and Mount Olive JobLink Affiliate Site hosted by Employment Security Commission

During the quarter, the recession showed some signs of ending as the business community began to rehire laid off workers and recruit for new workers. While unemployment remained at a ten year high with rates as high as 6.3% in Wayne County, hopefully the worst has passed. It is anticipated that the economy will improve during the next two quarters barring any unforeseen problems. This improvement should lower the unemployment rates and business should begin to gear up in the manufacturing sector. Wayne Community College which operates both the Adult and Dislocated Worker programs has added a 4th staff person to operate their programs. The demand for retraining has grown throughout the current recession requiring additional staff to maintain the programs.



"One nation, under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all."

God bless America!



JOBLINK CAREER CENTER OUTCOMES

as submitted by JLCC Partners for period of April 2002-June 2002

Carteret County JLCC hosted by Employment Security Commission

	<u>Job and Training Seekers</u>	<u>Employers</u>
Count of Customers Seeking Services in Center:	4054	Number of Job Orders Placed: 403
Number Placed in Jobs through Center:	367	Number of Job Orders Filled: 221
Number Placed in Training through Center:	28	Other Employer Services: 756
Number Utilizing Career Resource Room/Area:	1860	**Includes numbers served
Number Receiving Other Services	2194	by ESC

Craven County JLCC hosted by Employment Security Commission

Count of Customers Seeking Services in Center:	7669	Number of Job Orders Placed: 665
Number Placed in Jobs through Center:	771	Number of Job Orders Filled: 504
Number Placed in Training through Center:	16	Other Employer Services: 722
Number Utilizing Career Resource Room/Area:	2445	**Includes numbers served
Number Receiving Other Services	1132	by ESC

Duplin County JLCC hosted by James Sprunt Community College

Count of Customers Seeking Services in Center:	1237	Number of Job Orders Placed: 77
Number Placed in Jobs through Center:	53	Number of Job Orders Filled: 23
Number Placed in Training through Center:	22	Other Employer Services: 12
Number Utilizing Career Resource Room/Area:	315	
Number Receiving Other Services	934	

Lenoir County JLCC, Greene and Jones Affiliate Sites hosted by Lenoir Community College

Count of Customers Seeking Services in Center:	2966	Number of Job Orders Placed: 10
Number Placed in Jobs through Center:	31	Number of Job Orders Filled: 17
Number Placed in Training through Center:	133	Other Employer Services: 4
Number Utilizing Career Resource Room/Area:	1563	
Number Receiving Other Services	214	

Onslow County JLCC hosted by Coastal Carolina Community College

Count of Customers Seeking Services in Center:	1194	Number of Job Orders Placed: 200
Number Placed in Jobs through Center:	147	Number of Job Orders Filled: 24
Number Placed in Training through Center:	55	Other Employer Services: 158
Number Utilizing Career Resource Room/Area:	925	
Number Receiving Other Services	499	

Pamlico County JLCC hosted by Pamlico Community College

Count of Customers Seeking Services in Center:	185	Number of Job Orders Placed: 10
Number Placed in Jobs through Center:	4	Number of Job Orders Filled: 0
Number Placed in Training through Center:	19	Other Employer Services: 0
Number Utilizing Career Resource Room/Area:	141	
Number Receiving Other Services	21	

Wayne County JLCC and Mount Olive JobLink Affiliate Site hosted by Employment Security Commission

Count of Customers Seeking Services in Center:	2251	Number of Job Orders Placed: 727
Number Placed in Jobs through Center:	868	Number of Job Orders Filled: 735
Number Placed in Training through Center:	37	Other Employer Services: 5
Number Utilizing Career Resource Room/Area:	4300	**Includes numbers served
Number Receiving Other Services	480	by ESC

Employment Security Commission (ESC) Honored NC Employers at 2002 Employer Awards Reception

The Employment Security Commission honored eighty-one NC businesses for their positive contributions to local economies and extraordinary support of the mission and programs of the Employment Security Commission.

ESC Chairman Harry E. Payne Jr. presented the 2002 Employment Security Commission Employer Award during a reception held at the NC State University Faculty Club in Raleigh on June 26.

Chairman Payne stated that each of the employers shared in ESC's goals of keeping workers productive and shaping our state's economic success through expansion and an effective partnership with government.

Award winners are nominated by ESC office managers and input from the local job

Service Employer Committee (JSEC) members. The first ESC Employer Awards were given in 1987.

The following Eastern Carolina Local Area Employers received the awards:

[Carteret County](#)

Carteret General Hospital

Frank Door Company

[Craven County](#)

Morris Blueberry Farms

[Duplin County](#)

Dean Pickle & Specialty Products Company

[Lenoir County](#)

I.H. Services, Inc.

[Wayne County](#)

Goelich's Inc.

IMPulse NC, Inc.

Source: Job Servant, Summer 2002



Unemployment Rates as of July 2002

Source: Employment Security Commission LMI

County	Labor Force	Unemployment Rate	Labor Force	Unemployment Rate
	July 2001	July 2001	July 2002	July 2002
Carteret	28,730	3.2%	28,940	4%
Craven	36,710	4.6%	37,050	5.6%
Duplin	21,840	6.0%	23,130	7.6%
Greene	9,240	6.8%	9,260	7.1%
Jones	4,350	4.4%	4,460	7.0%
Lenoir	29,900	7.9%	29,940	8.1%
Onslow	48,060	3.9%	49,060	5.9%
Pamlico	5,420	3.7%	5,380	3.2%
Wayne	49,150	6.6%	49,430	7.3%
Eastern Carolina Local Area	233,400	5.3%	236,650	6.4%
State of NC—not seasonally adj.	4,040,900	5.9%	4,036,200	7.0%
State of NC—seasonally adj.	3,983,900	5.7%	3,985,900	6.8%
National—not seasonally adj.	143,181,000	4.7%	143,885,000	6.0%
National—seasonally adj.	141,651,000	4.6%	142,390,000	5.9%

ESC Jacksonville Receives John Fleming Award

The Employment Security Commission (ESC) in Jacksonville received the ESC John Fleming Award of Excellence at the Employment Security Management Conference held during the week of September 3-5 at the Sheraton Capital Center in Raleigh. ESC offices are nominated by regional management for this award based

on quantitative and qualitative criteria as well as productivity and innovation. The John B. Fleming award was inspired by the standard of excellence demonstrated by John Fleming who was an Employment Security Services Director for 14 years. He served 39 years with ESC.

The ESC Jacksonville office, under the management of Ralph E. Leeds, has previously received the same award in 1991.

In addition, ESC Jacksonville is a partner of the Onslow County JobLink Career Center and a WIA Dislocated Worker Program Service Provider for Onslow County residents.



Source: Ralph Leeds, ESC Manager, ESC Jacksonville



Youth Updates

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 5

Eastern Carolina Youth Council Applies for Youth Summit

The U.S. Department of Labor-Atlanta Region in partnership with the U.S. Department of Education, National Center on Secondary Education and Transition School and Main Institute will conduct the southeast regional youth summit: A Comprehensive Youth Investment Strategy-A Community-Centered Approach on October 15-17. The summit is designed to focus on positioning the community/state in building a youth investment system with a foundation based on local workforce investment strategies, youth focused initiatives and education reform efforts that promote student rigor, performance and success. In addition, it will provide an opportunity for teams to probe into local planning, refining and modifying existing plans while working with national experts and networking with colleagues.

Members of the Eastern Carolina Youth Council (ECYC) have applied to attend the summit. The EYC has made great strides in understanding its role under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) and how it delivers youth services to these young people. The Youth Council is ready to take the next step in youth education and development by developing a "seamless" system which brings together community resources and leadership to accomplish that goal for all young people in our area.

Attending this summit would provide the tools and knowledge that the Youth Council needs to continuously expand and improve on youth development and meet the needs of all young people in our community.

The Eastern Carolina Youth Council Team consists of the following members:

Courtney Patterson—Dobbs School

Michele Hardy-Griffin—Kinston/Lenoir County One-on-One Mentoring Program

Joy Williams—Greene Lamp, Inc.

Brenda Outlaw—Greene Lamp, Inc.

Myra Poole—Lenoir Community College

John Hill—Greene County Schools

Lisa Purvis—Craven County Schools

Lea Thornton—Wayne Community College

Joe McCarthy—ECWDB, Inc.

The summit will be held at the Charlotte Hyatt Regency Hotel in Charlotte, NC.

Source: Joe McCarthy, WIA Youth Coordinator

Youth Spotlight: Lenoir County School's Project Success at Camp Don Lee and Others

Lenoir County School's Project Success had a wonderful opportunity to take part in Camp Don Lee's Common Ground Adventure/Challenge. This program builds on the activities of the low-ropes challenge course experience of working together to gain understanding of cooperation skills and teamwork concepts. The challenge course involves a series of exercises which provide participants with physical obstacles and mental puzzles that require whole group collaboration and participation in order to be successfully completed.

The staff of Don Lee Center have been trained and experienced in facilitating and leading small groups. They understand how to guide and lead students in solving their problems. They are skilled at helping students become aware of their own actions and attitudes. They work to help students have success and to feel good about themselves and the group they work with. In a short period of time trust and interdependence are built within the group.

Camp Don Lee has been a trusted source of Leadership Training for Eastern Carolina's WIA youth participants in recent years.

In addition to camp activities, Project Success gives the students field trips to informative sites such as the Legislative Building in Raleigh where they learned about how a bill is enacted to law and how their local government in Lenoir County fits into the scheme of state government. Other sites include the Museum of Natural Sciences and the State Capitol.

Source: Patsy Erwin, Lenoir County Schools WIA Case Manager



WIA Youth participants in front of the Legislative Building where they gained knowledge on how a bill is enacted into law.



Patsy Erwin and Cathy Goodman, WIA Youth Case Managers with two of their WIA Youth participants, Rose Rouse and Ashley Jones.

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 5

Onslow County Job Fair—Another Collaborative Success!

The Onslow County JobLink Career Center together with the Marine Corps Community Services and the City of Jacksonville sponsored the county's annual Onslow County Job Fair on August 22 at the Jacksonville Commons Recreation Center. There were approximately sixty-three employers from Onslow County and 2,100 job seekers who attended the event. In addition, informational booths from different non-profit and community-based organizations such as Vocational Rehabilitation Center, Employment Security Commission and Department of Social Services provided resource information on available supportive services relating to employment which includes child care and transportation services. The fair garnered positive and favorable remarks from both employers and job seekers. 84%

of the employers surveyed indicated that the fair enabled them to meet their hiring needs. Ms. Laura Payne, Onslow County JobLink Career Center Coordinator stated that the job fair has grown a great deal and was a collaborative event. Ms. Payne added, "We do it basically with no budget but all the partners contributing in-kind".

"The job fair has grown a great deal and is a truly collaborative event."

Laura Payne, Onslow County JobLink Coordinator



JobLink Success Stories

Crystal Carter, a WIA participant and JobLink work-study has been named an All-American Scholar of Lenoir Community College (LCC). The LCC Information Systems Director has hand picked Crystal to assist in the maintenance of the computer network campus-wide.

Tolya Adams has been accepted into the Associates Nursing Degree Program. Tolya is a single parent of two and an honors student at Lenoir Community College.

Travis Moore, a welding student at LCC was working at McDonald's and was very discouraged. He was referred to Wal-Mart but never heard anything. It was discovered that his application had been lost. His persistence gained him an interview and a job at Wal-Mart's lawn and garden center. JLCC staff, Frances Gaskins saw Travis recently and shouted, "Hey, Ms. Job Lady, I love my job here!"

Donna Garner, a WIA participant was referred to an HRD employability skills class in Lenoir Community College and obtained a part-time employment as personal care aide within the first week. She is an allied health student and has been accepted into the LPN program beginning Fall Semester of 2002.

Keisha Boone is a mother of two young small children and wife to a disabled husband who struggled to overcome her barriers in order to obtain her degree in Accounting. She participated in the WIA Adult program at James Sprunt Community College and graduated in May. She went to the Duplin County JobLink Career Center to complete her resume. Her efforts and determination earned her a job as Accounts Receivables Clerk for Cintas (formerly RUS) of Clinton. She sent a letter to the Duplin County JLCC Staff extending her appreciation for all the help she obtained while she was a WIA participant.



Dear Deborah,

I am writing to tell you Thank you. I appreciate everything you did to help me, while I was enrolled at James Sprunt. I also wanted to let you know that I have a job. I am working at Cintas (formerly RUS) of Clinton. I am an Accounts Receivable Clerk. Please tell Renita that the classes she held really helped me. It may have seemed like she was teaching the little things (to the class), but let them know that sometimes it is the little things employers are looking at. When I got hired I was up against people that had more education (BA) and more experience. I was told I was offered the job because I did so well in my interview. One of the main opponents for the job was not hired because she asked "How many sick days she would have?" Again thanks for everything.

Keisha Boone



& WIA Updates

Welfare-to-Work (WtW) Evaluation Reports Released

The Department of Health and Human Services has finalized and released the two Evaluation Reports, a congressionally mandated national evaluation of the WtW program. Both reports were prepared by Mathematica Policy, Inc. and the Urban Institute and Support Services International. The first report is entitled, "The Implementation of the Welfare-to-Work Grants Program", while the second report evaluates the costs of the WtW program. To access the reports, log on to wtw.dolcata.gov.

WtW Reporting and Validation Technical Guidance Handbook and Software Available for Download

In an effort to provide technical assistance to WtW grantees on performance reporting, the Division of WtW in partnership with Mathematica Policy Research, Inc. (MPR) has developed a reporting and validation technical guidance handbook.

The handbook defines the specific data elements and calculation required to produce participant count, participant summary, participant characteristics and performance calculations of the WtW cumulative report. The software generates the participant count and sorts participant records into performance outcome categories as well as calculates error rates between reported counts and validation counts for data elements and performance measures.

Both the handbook and software could be downloaded by logging onto the wtw.dolcata.gov website.

Source: U.S. DOL, Employment & Training Administration

Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Funds Are Being Spent Per GAO Report

The new GAO Report, "Interim Status of Spending and States' Available Funds" confirms that WIA funds are being spent and that no surplus funds exist in the system. The report, GAO-02-1074 indicates that the US Department of Labor (DOL) does not have accurate information on the states' WIA spending level due to reporting inconsistencies. US DOL has overestimated the funds that the states have available to spend. Even if expenditures are understated, WIA funds are being spent within the three year time frame. As of March 31, 2002, states had spent essentially all of their program year 1999 funds within the three years allowed and 83% of their program year 2000 funds in under two years. In addition, several factors affect the expenditure levels of each state and how they are reported. These factors may include lengthy contract procurement, fluctuations in funding levels that inhibit the local areas from committing funds and funds held by the state for statewide activities and responding to mass lay-offs and plant closings. Because Labor lacks reliable data on obligations, it uses expenditure data to gauge budgetary needs. As a result, it fails to take into account longer term commitments made to customers and service providers which in turn underestimates budgetary needs.

The report notes that the states want to spend their funds wisely and are seeking help and guidance from the Labor Department.

Source: NACo Friday Report

ECWDPA Holds Its First Association Meeting for PY 2002

The Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Professionals Association (ECWDPA) held its first meeting for Program Year 2002-2003 on September 5, 2002 at the ECWDB office in New Bern. In addition to Workforce Investment Act (WIA) and Welfare-to-Work (WtW) Program contractors, representatives from other community based organizations such as Wayne County Department of Social Services, Onslow County Department of Social Services, Coastal Community Action, Coastal Women's Shelter, Eastern Carolina Human Services Agency and CETC Employment Opportunities attended the meeting.

The meeting was presided by its electing president Richard Darden who provided an overview regarding the purpose of the Association to bring together local partners in an effort to gather resources and best practices to provide quality services to the economically disadvantaged individuals of our community. He stated that this year's association theme is about diversity—partners from different agencies collaborating with one another towards one primary goal of meeting the needs of a diverse group of clientele and moving them to success.

One of the highlights of the meeting was an individual photo session of all members present to be used for the Eastern Carolina Local Area Annual Report.

The next association meeting will be held on November 7 at 10:00 a.m.



JSCC WIA Youth Teams with Area Employers

Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Youth participants in James Sprunt Community College had a rewarding opportunity as a result of their involvement in work experience programs with five different area businesses. Work experience activities offered youth participant special employment opportunities in addition to career exploration and the development of appropriate behavior in a work environment. Financial rewards were also part of the outcomes of these activities.

Participants are initially scheduled to work ten hours per week for a 10-week period. They were paid through the WIA program and received support and follow-up from WIA staff. This experience is used to link academic and occupational learning.

Special appreciation is extended to the following Duplin County businesses for their participation in the program: The Graham House Inn, Duplin County Library, Services for the Aged, Goshen Medical Center and Wallace Parks and Recreation. Plaques were presented to these businesses and work site supervisors where they were recognized during the May Coalition meeting.

Source: Jerome Shepard, Eastern Carolina Youth Council Chair

JSCC Offers Computer Camp for Kids

James Sprunt Community College's Telecenter, one of only five in the state and funded by the Rural Internet Access Authority (RIAA) is honored to offer "Computer Camp for Kids" to two Duplin County elementary schools.

Students from Rose Hill-Magnolia Elementary School and Warsaw Elementary School will get the opportunity to learn and explore the world of computers and technology. Students from Rose Hill-Magnolia will attend the first session which begins on September 23 through September 26 while students from Warsaw will attend the second session on September 30 through October 3.

The sessions will culminate with a field trip to Exploris in Raleigh, NC on October 3 where the students will be able to experience the world's first interactive museums.

The JSCC Telecenter operates in conjunction with the Duplin County JobLink Career Center. The goals of the telecenter are to provide digital literacy to county residents who do not have internet access at home and provide digital workforce preparedness to transitioning farmers, military personnel and new or existing businesses and industries. E-NC Campaign selected Duplin County in October 2001 to receive such funds.

Source: Renita Allen, JSCC HRD Instructor/Recruiter



WIA Youth Students Get Hands-On Work Experience

Dorrie Pearsall and Michael Shelley were among the first Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Youth participants in Duplin County to complete a paid work experience activity under the federally funded WIA Youth program operated by James Sprunt Community College (JSCC) which serves 16-21 year old out-of-school youth.

A Magnolia resident, Ms. Pearsall expressed her enthusiasm with the program. She stated that she enjoyed the clerical tasks that was assigned to her at the Duplin County Services for the Aged. Ms. Pearsall's work experience had been limited to working at fast food restaurants. As a result of the additional work experience she gained from the WIA Youth program, Ms. Pearsall is considering to study and become an administrative assistant.

Michael Shelley is a Faison resident who has been interested in the medical field as a dental hygienist. The work experience he gained at Goshen Medical Center strongly motivated him to possibly become a full-fledged dentist. Mr. Shelley assisted in answering the phone, filing, copying, preparing medical folders and greeting the customers. He stated that he learned a lot about good work ethics such as dressing appropriately and being punctual.

According to Sue Goodman, WIA Youth Case Manager of JSCC, eight students have been assigned at five work experience sites which include area businesses and non-profit organizations. Under the work experience contract, businesses agree to take a student in an entry-level job. The student's hourly salary is paid through WIA funds.

In addition to the work experience activity, JSCC's WIA Youth program also provides tutors to help students pass their GED or complete high school. Students can also attend a ten-day seminar on Survival Skills for Youth which covers topics such as respecting yourself, keeping a job, planning and reaching goals and legal rights and responsibilities.

Source: JSCC's Fall Semester News

Americal Corporation Closes its Goldsboro Plant

Americal Corporation has announced the closing of its Henderson headquarters in Goldsboro. Americal is a textile knit and sewing plant that manufactures women hosiery and has operated in Goldsboro since 1973. Its major customers include K-Mart, Wal-mart and other major retailers. According to corporate officials, off-shore/foreign competition with China and Turkey was the contributing factor for the plant to close. In addition, there has been a decline in the hosiery industry. As a result, Americal decides to focus its production on ladies' socks. The closure will affect 96 employees.

In light of this, the Rapid Response Team conducted a meeting on August 28 with Americal plant managers and supervisors. The team consisted of representatives from the Division of Employment and Training (DET), Employment Security Commission Goldsboro Office, Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board, Inc., Wayne County Department of Social Services, and Wayne Community College.

During the meeting, emphasis was placed on the availability of transitional assistance through the JobLink Career Center, partner agencies, unemployment insurance compensation, NAFTA, TAAA and Workforce Investment Act provisions for the dislocated workers. Employee orientation sessions are planned to begin on September 10.

Due to the continuous increase of lay-offs in the Eastern Carolina region, the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board, Inc. has requested additional WIA Dislocated Worker funds in the amount of \$550,000 to aid in providing dislocated worker services through June 30, 2003.

Americal Corporation

Worker's Profile

Average Age: 45

of Males: 40 # of Females: 56

of Hourly Employees: 73

of Salaried Employees: 22

Average hourly wage: \$9.23-\$9.55

without a High School Diploma: 10

Skill Base: Knitting and sewing machine operators; Quality Control, Maintenance, Administrative, Managerial and Supervisory Staff

Severance Pay: None—unused vacation will be paid out in last pay check.

Spotlight: The Eastern Carolina Job Training Consortium

The Local Elected Officials (LEO) from each of the nine counties of the Eastern Carolina Local Area namely Carteret, Craven, Duplin, Greene, Jones, Lenoir, Onslow, Pamlico and Wayne comprise the Eastern Carolina Job Training Consortium. The Consortium has designated the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board, Inc. to receive the WIA Title I funds. However, it still retains its fiscal responsibility over these funds and has the option to designate another entity to receive the grant. In addition to its fiscal responsibility, the individual counties of the consortium make appointments and elect the members of the Workforce Development Board (WDB). The relationship between the LEO and the WDB is critical in establishing the local vision, providing leadership, agreeing on performance measures for the local workforce system and conducting on-going oversight of the local board's activities. The LEO also serves as liaison to the other local elected officials and in a broker role among state/local policy-makers or one-stop partners. In conjunction with the local board, the LEOs will connect with the Governor/Commission on rapid response issues and negotiate performance measures.

The Eastern Carolina Job Training Consortium meets quarterly at the ECWDB Office. Its most recent meeting was held on September 5. Oscar Herring, Chief Elected Official for Lenoir County is the Chair of our Consortium. The following Chief Elected Officials (CEO) make up the Eastern Carolina Job Training Consortium:

Carteret County

Dave Fowler, CEO & John Whitehurst, Alternate CEO (Interim)

Craven County

Lee K. Allen, CEO & Harold Blizzard, Alternate CEO

Duplin County

Myrle Beringer, CEO

Greene County

Denny Garner, CEO & Lee Worsley, Acting County Manager

Jones County

Horace Phillips, CEO & Larry Meadows, Alternate CEO

Lenoir County

Oscar Herring, CEO & John Bauer, Alternate CEO

Onslow County

Delma Collins, CEO

Pamlico County

Donna Bridges, CEO & Randy Beaman, Alternate CEO

Wayne County

Atlas Price, Jr. CEO & Lee Smith, Alternate CEO



Quick Facts: North Carolina's Bio-Technology Industry

- ⇒ North Carolina ranks among the top five biotechnology regions in the United States, along with San Francisco, Boston, San Diego and Maryland.
- ⇒ North Carolina has about 140 biotechnology companies that generate more than \$2.5 billion in annual revenues. These companies employ about 17,000 North Carolinians and represent an annual payroll of more than \$850 million.
- ⇒ Of the State's biotechnology companies, 47 are publicly held and 93 are privately owned. Of the public companies, nine are headquartered in North Carolina, and they have a combined market capitalization of about \$2 billion.
- ⇒ About one-third of the state's biotechnology companies are major, multinational biotechnology companies. These include Ajinomoto, Bayer CropScience, BASF, Bayer, Becton-Dickinson, Biogen, Diosynth, GlaxoSmithKline, Syngenta, Novozymes, Novo Nordisk Pharmaceutical Industries, bioMerieux, Sphinx Labs, and Wyeth-Lederle.
- ⇒ About two-thirds of the state's biotechnology companies are smaller, home-grown companies. The North Carolina Biotechnology Center has seed-funded 62 of these early stage companies with low-interest loans totaling about \$8 million, helping them raise more than \$550 million in other funding.
- ⇒ The Biotechnology Center has created a \$26 million venture capital fund to finance early stage bioscience companies in the state. The North Carolina Bioscience Investment fund has invested \$16 million in 10 new companies and attracted co-investments totaling \$44 million from other investors.
- ⇒ North Carolina is a worldwide leader in agricultural (ag) biotechnology and is second nationally to California. Three of the world's largest agricultural chemical companies—Bayer CropScience, BASF and Syngenta—have major biotechnology R&D facilities in the state. Smaller, entrepreneurial ag biotech companies such as Athenix, Bioplex, Cropsolution, Embrex and Paradigm Genetics are also thriving in North Carolina. Altogether, North Carolina is home to 13 ag biotech companies that employ about 2,500 people.
- ⇒ In addition to its 140 biotechnology companies, North Carolina has the world's greatest concentration of Contract Research Organizations (CRO) and testing companies. Its 72 companies generate annual revenues of more than \$4.5 billion. These CRO and testing companies employ about 15,000 North Carolinians and have a collective payroll of about \$750 million.
- ⇒ Four of the world's largest CRO and testing companies—Lab Corp, Quintiles Transnational, PPD and aaiPharma are headquartered in the state and have a combined market capitalization of about \$10 billion.
- ⇒ More than 32,000 North Carolinians work at biotechnology companies and CRO/testing companies representing a payroll of more than \$1.6 billion. These workers pay more than \$100 million in income taxes to the State of North Carolina each year.
- ⇒ The biotechnology industry in North Carolina is growing 10 to 15% a year. By 2025, as many as 125,000 North Carolinians are projected to work in biotechnology, and annual revenues should approach \$24 billion.
- ⇒ Many of the new jobs in biotechnology will be in biomanufacturing, the making of biological products such as drugs, diagnostics, vaccines, vitamins, amino acids and enzymes. About 4,000 North Carolinians work at biomanufacturing plants encompassing more than 1.2 million square feet, with another 800,000 square feet under construction.
- ⇒ Almost 5,000 faculty conduct research in the life sciences at North Carolina's colleges and universities, providing the scientific expertise and infrastructure to drive the state's biotechnology industry.
- ⇒ Each year, North Carolina's universities conduct \$750 million of industry and government-sponsored research in the life sciences, placing the state fifth in the nation.
- ⇒ Four of the state's major universities—Duke, North Carolina, North Carolina State and Wake Forest—are collectively investing \$745 million in new genomics and bioinformatics research programs.
- ⇒ A new North Carolina Genomics and Bioinformatics Consortium created by the North Carolina Biotechnology Center is uniting more than 70 companies, universities and service organizations to advance the state's infrastructure and capabilities in genomics, proteomics, and genomics research and business.
- ⇒ The State of North Carolina has a long-term commitment to the development of biotechnology for economic and societal benefit statewide. The North Carolina Biotechnology Center was established in 1981 as the first of the world's 200-plus government-sponsored biotechnology initiative.

Source: www.biotech.org

