

GEORGIA MOUNTAINS ONE-STOP PARTNERS MEETING

Minutes

Georgia Mountains One-Stop Partners met on Tuesday, May 31, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. at the One-Stop Training Room. Participants were:

Danielle Avelar, Outreach Coordinator, WorkSource Ga. Mountains davelar@gmrc.ga.gov

Diane Jackson, Intake Supervisor/Admin. Asst., WorkSource Ga. Mountains djackson@gmrc.ga.gov

Shelby Ward, Dean of Adult Education, North Georgia Technical College sward@northgatech.edu

Katie Johnson, North Georgia Technical College, Recruiter katherine.johnson@northgatech.edu

Ebony Tucker, Youth Program Supervisor, WorkSource Ga. Mountains etucker@gmrc.ga.gov

Shannon Cole, Dean of Adult Education, Lanier Technical College scole@laniertech.edu

Jim Watson, Transition Coordinator, Lanier Technical College jwatson@laniertech.edu

Mark Winters, Georgia Department of Labor mark.winters@gdol.ga.gov

***Meg Minelli**, Compass Center Dir., United Way of Hall County mminelli@unitedwayhallcounty.org

Steven Cornett, Work Based Learning Coordinator, Gainesville High School Steven.Cornett@gcssk12.net

Natalie Smith, CTAE, Gainesville High School natalie.smith@gcssk12.net

***Kaneesha Robinson**, GoClean Corporation, Executive Director gocleancorporation@yahoo.com

Jackie Powers, Executive Director, Good Samaritan Ministries, jackie@cbamissions.com

Shandra Spear, Transition Supervisor, Ga. Vocational Rehabilitation Agency, Shandra.Spear@gvs.ga.gov

Greg Vitek, Workforce Strategies Group, LLC greg@workforestrategiesgroup.com

Maria Calkins, Gainesville Housing Auth., Resident Services Coordinator MCalkins@gainesvillehousing.org

Carroll Turner, Dawson County Development Authority carrollturner@windstream.net

***Kelley Johnson**, Legacy Link, kjohnson@legacylink.org

Benjie Hopkins, One-Stop Operator, Hopkins Associates hopkinsassociates77@gmail.com

Marsha Hopkins, One-Stop Operator, Hopkins Associates hopkinsassociates77@gmail.com

*New participant with One-Stop Partnership

Welcome and Introductions

Benjie Hopkins welcomed everyone. He reminded the group of the purpose of these meetings – that is: to encourage collaboration between partners and to facilitate referrals for services related to workforce development in the Georgia Mountains region.

Minutes

Minutes from the March 29, 2022 Partners Meeting were emailed previously, and these are posted at the One-Stop website: www.onestopworkgamtns.org under the heading “Our Partners”. Please contact Marsha Hopkins at hopkinsassociates77@gmail.com with questions.

Focus Topic: North Georgia Technical College Programs - Shelby Ward introduced Katie Johnson who presented an interesting program about programs at North Georgia Technical College that are designed to introduce area high school students to the many educational options and opportunities available there. She shared information about a recruitment program inviting eighth graders in the area to visit the campus at NGT to learn more about career training in specific areas that interested them. These were called “Color Tours”. Hands-on activities were offered during the fifteen minute sessions, and groups of students rotated between various color-coded areas of training options. Many eighth graders tend to choose occupations like that of their parents. This program allowed the students to explore additional vocational areas. Three of the eleven middle schools served by North Georgia Technical College participated in the Color Tours program this year. This involved about 500 students. An expansion of the program is planned for next year.

Lunch: Opportunities for collaboration and information exchange between Partners

Partner Updates:

WorkSource Georgia Mountains (WSGM) <https://www.gmrc.ga.gov/wsgm>

Danielle Avelar davelar@gmrc.ga.gov re: Outreach

Program Updates: - college and technical college; BPBP; assistance in getting replacement Social Security Cards, birth certificates, and IDs for those seeking training; Bootcamp Partnership – Lumpkin Co./Satellite Industries/Lanier Tech – welding; Mountain Challenge – North Georgia Tech – Northern & Southern; Transitional Training – Hall County Correctional Institute starts 1st, and Lee Arrendale Correctional Institute starts 2nd; Electro-mechanical Program – need applicants; Monthly email blast available. Also, remember to check WSGM Facebook site for updates: <https://www.facebook.com/WorkSource.GM>

Ebony Tucker etucker@gmrc.ga.gov re: Youth Working with Gainesville High School to fill Electro-mechanical Bootcamp for June. 10 GHS students start welding bootcamp this week; North Forsyth Co HS hosting Welding Bootcamp starts June 6th; 13 participants from Forsyth, Dawson, and Hall; Possible August Welding Bootcamp with LCCA (Lanier College and Career Academy; 4 individuals participating in Virtual Work Experience; GED programs progressing since April, 4 GEDs; Work Source Georgia Mountains accepting applications for all programs

North Georgia Technical College: Shelby Ward <https://northgatech.edu/> Students have a 58% completion rate - #1 in the state Expanding ESL (English as a Second Language) program; Discovery Edventure – July 18- 21, \$180; Kids Cotillion – June 21 – 23, \$150

Lanier Technical College: Shannon Cole and Jim Watson <https://www.laniertech.edu/>

Recent training class for 7 students in first aid/CPR/AED, Forklift, OSHA 10. Two students funded by Clipper Petroleum. Plan to do this again in July, partnering with Goodwill to fund this cohort; plan to repeat in July, again partnering with Goodwill; Had 74 GED Lanier Technical College grads attend Lanier Tech this Summer Semester; 7 IETs (Integrated Education & Training)- CNA- Nurse Aide, Early Childhood & Education Basics, Welding (Mig) Auto. Electrical/Electronic Service Tech, Mfg. Workplace Skills, Auto Collision Repair Asst, Auto. Refinishing Asst. *available to GED students

Have had 245 GED completions -- #1 in state, 4 away from target enrollment of 1415 students, 5 IETS, hope to add two more in Automotive Tech, Workplace literacy ESL at King's Hawaiian

Vocational Rehabilitation: Shandra Spear contact number: 404 780-6661 <https://gvs.georgia.gov/>

Beth Williams is retiring from Vocational Rehabilitation on May 31, 2022. Her loyal participation as part of the One-Stop Partnership is greatly appreciated, and everyone wishes her a long and pleasant retirement. New Transition Supervisor for Cleveland/Gainesville starts 6/1/22; GVRA currently scheduling summer camp sessions call GROW (one week each) at various locations around the state; Multiple job openings at GVRA on Team Georgia <https://team.georgia.gov/> – Gainesville is District 4

Georgia Department of Labor: Mark Winters <https://dol.georgia.gov/locations/gainesville> Local GDOL offices are open to the public Mon. – Fri. 8:00 – 4:30. Service is limited. Filing claims, assisting those looking for employment. No workshops or group meetings currently. Labor Commissioner Mark Butler is not seeking re-election. Mark Winters is retiring 6/30/22. Many thanks to Mark for his participation in the partnership. New person is Kevin Hankinson. Kevin.Hankinson@gdol.ga.gov

Legacy Link, Inc.: Kelley Johnson <https://legacylink.org/> Provides work training hours to participants 55+ to increase marketable skills to assist them in obtaining unsubsidized employment. Participants must be 55+, at or below 125% federal poverty guidelines. Host site recruitment is ongoing. Seeking 501c3 organizations or government agencies – state or federal as host sites for workers. Legacy Link provides services in 90% of Georgia's counties.

Gainesville High School: Steven Cornett, WBL (Work Based Learning) Coordinator

<https://ghsweb.gcssk12.net/advanced-studies/work-based-learning-new>

Work Based Learning (WBL) has grown. This is a class where students can get class credit while working in

internships and getting paid. These internships cover a wide variety of industries and fields of work. Have added a second WBL coordinator. Highest numbers ever. 265 individual students participated for a total of over 76,000 hours with documented pay of over \$846,000. Students are gaining work experience, and for many of them, this will lead to a full time job. Learning soft skills, employability skills/ being an adult.

Natalie Smith, CTAE (Career, Technical, Agricultural Education) Program Coordinator, GHS: Just conducted annual review. Have had 390 GHS students to complete pathways this year. These are 10th, 11th, and 12th graders. Valuable to have students get hands-on experience working. Of this year's 490 graduates at GHS, 59% completed at least one Career Pathway. The Dual Enrollment Program had five new partners and 220 students this year. These students earned approximately 1600 hours of college credit and they completed 24 technical career trajectories. Added more electrical and welding in addition to the CNA (Certified Nurse Assistant) program. Also, successful with AP (Advanced Placement) Program where students take test after completing a high school class and can earn college credit based on their score. Reach Scholar Program - state program for eighth graders reaching toward college but lack a strong support system. Though these students have academic coaches and external mentors, it is still a challenge to have them understand opportunities available to them.

Compass Center, United Way of Hall County: Meg Minelli <https://www.unitedwayhallcounty.org/>
United Way of Hall County now has an ID project— assisting homeless and low income individuals who need a replacement birth certificate, ID, or Social Security Card. Contact: **678 989-5336**

Gainesville Housing: Maria Calkins <https://www.gainesvillehousing.org/> Subscribe to Jobs/Job Training Newsletter: <https://www.gainesvillehousing.org/newsletters/subscribe>

Good Samaritan Food Ministries: Jackie Powers, Executive Director www.gsfoodministries.com
Doubled number of new clients from an average of 70 per month – served 141 last month; Inviting people to come out for job recruitment; Added medical – a nurse doing screenings – blood pressure, blood sugars, and heart rate, and then referring clients to healthcare services. Offering Summer Service Days – opportunities for groups and individuals to volunteer in various capacities; Dealing with food shortages

Workforce Strategies Group, LLC: Greg Vitek www.workforcestrategiesgroup.com
Sector Strategy Grant – manufacturing continues as focus; also, skilled trades focus; high school work based learning and CTAE (Career, Technical and Agriculture Education); special population access; focused technical training; bootcamps and apprenticeships. Newsletter: [Regional MFG Sector/Workforce Strategies Group Monthly Newsletters](#).

Go Clean Corporation, Kaneesha Robinson <https://www.gocleancorporation.org/> Targeting low income families. Looking for partnerships; Back to School Event – July 9, 2022 at Desota Park; Safe place; GED/Job training; Afterschool program – homework help.

Dawson County Economic Development/ Community Consultant, Dr. Carroll Turner
Dr. Turner commented on the value of meeting together to share information related to workforce development in our region. He expressed appreciation for being able to participate and to disseminate what he learns.

One-Stop Career Center, 1856 Thompson Br. Rd., Gainesville. Operates from 8:00 am until 6:00 pm Mon.- Fri. For One-Stop Center appointments and information, call: **770 538-2727** <http://onestopworkgamtns.org/>

Date for Next Meeting

Next One-Stop Partners Meeting scheduled for Tues., July 26, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. One-Stop Training Room

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:00 p.m.