

GEORGIA MOUNTAINS ONE-STOP PARTNERS MEETING MINUTES

Georgia Mountains One-Stop Partners met on Tues., May 28, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. at the One-Stop Training Room, 1856 Thompson Bridge Rd. Gainesville, GA 30501. Participants were:

Whitney Blair, Director, WorkSource Ga. Mountains, wblair@gmrc.ga.gov
Danielle Avelar, Adult/Dislocated Worker Program Supv., WorkSource Ga. Mountains, davelar@gmrc.ga.gov
Ebony Tucker, Youth Program Supervisor, WorkSource Ga. Mountains, etucker@gmrc.ga.gov
Chris Highland, Outreach Coordinator, WorkSource Ga. Mountains, chighland@gmrc.ga.gov
Angela Pugh, Youth Mentor, WorkSource Ga. Mountains, APugh@gmrc.ga.gov
Levi Koebel, Regional Oper. Mgr., Tech. College Sys. of GA, LKoebel@worksourcega.org
Tammy Rauch, Regional Coordinator, WorkSource Georgia, trauch@worksourcega.org 404 548-5312
Yolanda Thomas, Counselor I, GVRA, (GA.Voc. Rehab) Yolanda.Thomas@ga.gvs.gov 706 309-2769
Shannon Cole, Dean of Adult Education, Lanier Tech. College, scole@laniertech.edu 770 531-3367
Shelby Ward, Dean of Adult Education, N. Ga Tech. College, shelby.ward@northgatech.edu 706 754-7781
Dr. Fabersha Flynt, Exec. Dir., Adult Ed-Walton Athens Tech. Col., fflynt@athenstech.edu 706 552-0900
Michael Fisher, Street Exit Director, Ninth District Opportunity, Michael.Fisher@ndocsbg.org 706 348-3177
Christine Osasu, Program Director, SCSEP, The Legacy Link, Inc. cosasu@legacylink.org 678 677-8428
Kelly Williams, Dir. of Social Service, Salvation Army, kelly.williams@uss.salvationarmy.org 770 531-0135
***Jennifer Exley**, Case Manager, Salvation Army, jennifer.exley@uss.salvationarmy.org 770 531-0135
Jennifer Childers, Case Mgt. Spec., Salvation Army, jennifer.childers@uss.salvationarmy.org 770 843-3354
Tara Hardwick, Workforce Development and Education Mgr., The Place, tara@theplacega.org 770 887-1098
Ken Gossage, Executive Director Good News at Noon, snissley@goodnewsatnoon.org 770 503-1366
Ann Marie Sheppard, Case Manager, Georgia Mountains Health, asheppard@gamtnhealth.org 706 973-3217
Shameka Harrison, Housing. Nav./Life Skls.Coach,Wellroot Fam.Srvs.sharrison@wellroot.org 470 403-3376
Angela Middleton, Pres,TBird's Touch/NGA Black Bus. Alliance,atmiddleton32@gmail.com 678 617-5691
***Jasmin Cruz-Ruiz**, Case Mgr. United Way, Hall County, jacruz@unitedwayhallcounty.org 678 989-5336
***Elia Morales**, Receptionist, United Way Hall County, erivera@unitedwayhallcounty.org 770 536-1121
***Brianna Gunter**, Case Manager, United Way, Hall County bgunter@unitedwayhallcounty.org 706 372-7610
Kyndra Cohen, Executive Director, Hall Co. Family Connections, hcfcn.director@gmail.com 678 316-6467
Alex Balla, Case Manager, Goodwill Industries, North Georgia, aballa@ging.org 678 863-1335
Angela Valencia, Navigator, Goodwill Industries, North Georgia, avalencia@ging.org 678 507-9003
Beth Tyner, Client/Empl. Rel., Workforce Strategies Group, beth@workforcestrategies.com 678 414-2679
Yury Carmona, Outreach Director, Hall County Library System, ycarmona@hallcountylibrary.org
Dr. Carroll Turner, Vice-Chair, Development Authority, Dawson County, carrollturner@windstream.net
Cassie Yanez, Transitional Housing Adv.,Gateway Domestic Violence Center, cyanez@gatewaydvcenter.org
***Glenda Watts**, Administrative Supervisor, Hall Area Transit, gwatts@gainesvillega.gov 770 503-3355
Benjie Hopkins, One-Stop Operator, Hopkins Associates, hopkinsassociates77@gmail.com 470 577-0823
Dr. Marsha Hopkins, One-Stop Operator, Hopkins Associates, hopkinsassociates77@gmail.com 770 534-5900

*New participant attending One-Stop Partnership

Welcome and Introductions:

Benjie Hopkins welcomed everyone, recognized first time attendees, and had everyone introduce themselves.

Minutes from the March 26, 2024, Partners Meeting were emailed previously, and these are posted at

www.onestopworkgamtns.org 'Our Partners'. Contact Marsha Hopkins: hopkinsassociates77@gmail.com

Focus: Transportation – Presentation by Glenda Watts, Administrative Supervisor, Hall Area Transit Ms. Watts presented information about the WeGo transportation program operating in Hall County. Discussed challenges for expansion of services, including difficulty in recruiting drivers*Opportunities for vouchers for riders*Contact Hall Area Transit for more information: 770 503-3355. Link for WeGo PowerPoint here:



WeGo Presentation
to Work Force Devlp

Lunch and Conversations: Opportunities for collaboration and information exchange among Partners

Partner Updates and Announcements:

WorkSource Georgia Mountains (WSGM) <https://www.gmrc.ga.gov/wsgm> **Danielle Avelar, Ebony Tucker, Chris Highland, Whitney Blair and Angela Pugh***Youth Program: Hosted a Career Exploration Week with GED students-Presenters from Daly's Truck Driving School, Overdrive Logistics, Absolute Climate Control*Lanier Tech, Job Corps, and previous students came to talk about careers and experiences*Plan to do this once per quarter. Recruiting employers in different fields to participate. Contact Ebony if interested*Current pause on applications-will resume on July 1st*Boot camps starting at Chestatee/Forsyth for welding in June*Electrical Mechanical in Hall County in late June/early July* Have a 2nd GED teacher until August.

Lanier Technical College: Shannon Cole <https://www.laniertech.edu/>*Looking for volunteer opportunities for ESL (English as a Second Language) students*Developing an IET for Medical Receptionist with Economic Development*291 GEDs since July 1-top of state*96.3% of enrollment target at 2,208*Kickoff on July 11th*Graduation on September 5*Shannon is a graduate of Leadership Hall

North Georgia Technical College, Shelby Ward <https://northgatech.edu/>*Kick off - July 11*GED testing on all three campuses*Open House on all three campuses on August 20th

Athens Technical College: Dr. Fabersha Flynt, <https://www.athenstech.edu/>*Hart County is with Athens Technical College. HSE (High School Equivalency) Testing twice a week

Legacy Link: Christine Osasu <https://legacylink.org/> Paid trainees are available for assignment at non-profits and at government agencies for up to 29 hours per week*For details, call Christine at 678 677-8428

Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG): Levi Koebel, Tammy Rauch <https://www.tcsg.edu/> *Resource for online job search, job posting, learning resources <https://www.worksourceportal.com/> TCSG staff members are on site Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the One-Stop office to assist individuals with their job searches

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency: Yolanda Thomas, <https://gvs.georgia.gov/> Staff member in office at One-Stop one half day each week.

The Place: Tara Hardwick, <https://theplacega.org/> Locations in Forsyth and Dawson County*GED Summer Study Hall starts 6/3/24*ESL Family Literacy Series begins 6/5/24* Money Masters Financial Literacy Course starts 7/12/24*See flyers attached to email for this document

Salvation Army: Kelly Williams, Jennifer Childers, Jennifer Exley <https://southernusa.salvationarmy.org/gainesville-corps/> Shelter, food, counseling provided to those in need*Call **770 531-0135***New commanding officers for Gainesville Corps arriving in June

Gateway Domestic Violence Center: Cassie Yanez, <https://www.gatewaydvcenter.org/> Serving survivors of domestic violence*Support groups – Mon. & Thurs. 5:00 - 7:30 **Crisis line: 770 536-5860**

Good News at Noon: Ken Gossage, <https://www.goodnewsatnoon.org/> Kudos to Danielle Avelar and her team (at WorkSource Georgia Mountains) for the mobile forklift/welding training that was just completed. It met a big need (ongoing) in the homeless community

Georgia Mountains Health-Dahlonega: Ann Marie Sheppard*<https://gamtnhealth.org/dahlonega/> Back 2 School Bash-July 13-Backpack school supplies-free*Food Pantry-Basic info needed- New (name, household size, etc.)*Community partners with Gateway to help with Medicaid/SNAP, etc.*VA Urgent Care*Family Practice/Sliding Fee Scale/ages 3 and up

Goodwill North Georgia (Oakwood): Angela Valencia and Alex Balla, <https://goodwillng.org/>*Weekly job fairs*Information session about training, Fridays at 1:00 a.m.*Recruiting participants for forklift and welding training

Hall County Family Connections/Butler Center: Kyndra Cohen, <https://hall.gafcp.org/>Juneteenth Celebration-6/15/2024 3:00 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Butler Center*Community Resource Fair Participant interest

Ninth District Opportunity, Inc., Michael Fisher, <https://www.ndo.org/web/> www.StreetExit.org
Facebook: Street Exit – please visit*Expanding projects to empower communities to address homelessness
Dawson, Lumpkin, Habersham, Hall, White, Stephens are current projects

Hall County Library System: Yury Carmona, <https://www.hallcountylibrary.org/> The Hall County Library will be offering free lunch this summer for anyone under 18 years old on Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. at Blackshear Place Library and on Thursdays at 11:45 at Gainesville Downtown Library*Also, please note: New Public Conduct Policy in place - See email attachment for details

United Way of Hall County: Jasmin Cruz-Ruiz, Elia Morales, Brianna Gunter, <https://www.unitedwayhallcounty.org/> Representation for special populations: elderly, disabled, homeless, partnership of The Salvation Army w/other nonprofits in Gainesville area*Potential fixed route brainstorming

Wellroot Family Services: Shameka Harrison, <https://wellroot.org/> Individuals between the ages of 18-24 who are currently employed but are having issues with housing may be eligible to receive assistance with rent for up to a year*Contact sharrison@wellroot.org 470 403-3376 or aspwers@wellroot.org to make referrals.

Workforce Strategies Group: Beth Tyner, <https://workforcestrategiesgroup.com/> Manufacturing Boot Camp Graduates interviews scheduled in Forsyth County, 6/18/24, and Chestatee High School 6/ 25/24*
Newsletter information: <https://workforcestrategiesgroup.com/newsletter/>

Tbird's Touch/NorthGA Black Business Alliance-NGBBA:Angela Middleton atmiddleton32@gmail.com
Community volunteer and local business owner*Assists and promotes entrepreneurs and new business owners*Contact Angela for more information: personal 770 654-1179*work 678 617-5691.

One-Stop Center <http://onestopworkgamtns.org/>1856 Thompson Br. Rd., Gainesville*8:00 am until 6:00 pm Mon.- Fri., call: **770 538-2727*** Connections/referrals for Partner services including: WorkSource Georgia Mountains, Lanier Technical College, North Georgia Technical College, Athens Technical College, Technical College System of Georgia (now offering employment assistance formerly under GDOL), Ga. Vocational Rehabilitation Agency, The Legacy Link, plus many other organizations in the region*GED classes on site
*Contact Benjie or Marsha Hopkins, **470 577-0823** or hopkinsassociates77@gmail.com

Announcements:

Date for Next Meeting

Next One-Stop Partners Meeting - Tues, July 30, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. One-Stop Training Room

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:45 p.m.

Please mark your calendars for additional meeting dates for 2024: **September 24, 2024, and Tuesday, November 19, 2024.** Please note - we are adjusting our November meeting to the third Tuesday this year to avoid Thanksgiving week.

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