

GEORGIA MOUNTAINS ONE-STOP PARTNERS MEETING

Minutes

Georgia Mountains One-Stop Partners met on **Tues., July 30, 2024**, at 11:00 a.m. at the One-Stop Career Center Training Room, 1856 Thompson Bridge Rd. Gainesville, GA 30501. Participants were:

***Kerisha Alez-El**, Family Support Cons., CAPS, Children & Parents Support Kerisha.Alvez-El@dec.al.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 Operations Mgr., Technical College System of Georgia, LKoebel@worksourcega.org

Tammy Rauch, Regional Coordinator, Region 2, WorkSource Georgia, trauch@worksourcega.org

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

Loretta Smith, Career Services Specialist, Athens Technical College, losmith@athenstech.edu

***Donnie Moyd**, Case Manager, GVRA- Ga. Vocational Rehabilitation Agency, donnie.moyd@gvs.ga.gov

Alisha Hontz, Senior Community Service Employment Program, Legacy Link, ahontz@legacylink.org

***Brooke Samples**, Participant Specialist, Legacy Link, bsamples@legacylink.org

Cindy Bryant, Gateway Domestic Violence Center, cbryant@gatewaydvcenter.org

Michael Fisher, Ninth District Opportunity, Street Exit, Michael.Fisher@ndocsbg.org

Rene Idleburg, Shelter Manager, My Sister's Place, rlidleburg@my-sisters-place.org

Candace Turner, Case Manager, My Sister's Place, cturner@my-sisters-place.org

Kelly Williams, Case Management Specialist, Salvation Army, kelly.williams@uss.salvationarmy.org

Ann Marie Sheppard, Case Manager, Georgia Mountains Health, asheppard@gamtnhealth.org

Donna Bryant, Director, Habersham Co. Family Connection, dbarrett@habershamschools.com

Elaine Hortman, Mentoring Coordinator, Center Point, elaine@centerpoint.ga.org

Shameka Harrison, Housing, Nav./Life Skills Coach, Wellroot Family Services, sharrison@wellroot.org

Angela Middleton, Pres, TBird's Touch/NGA Black Business Alliance atmiddleton32@gmail.com

***Amos, Kathy**, Community Volunteer, Greater Together, bantryb@gmail.com

Jasmin Cruz-Ruiz, Case Manager., United Way, Hall County, jcruz@unitedwayhallcounty.org

Brianna Gunter, Case Manager, United Way, Hall County bgunter@unitedwayhallcounty.org

Yury Carmona, Outreach Director, Hall County Library System, ycarmona@hallcountylibrary.org

***Lisa M. Echols**, Director of Youth Services, Hall County Library System lechols@hallcountylibrary.org

Andrew Davenport, Founder, A New Veteran, ANewVeteran@gmail.com

***Paige Smith**, Grants Specialist, Hall County Board of Commissioners, psmith@hallcounty.org

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

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

*New participant attending One-Stop Partnership

Welcome and Introductions:

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

Minutes for all Partner meetings: posted at website: <https://onestopworkgamtns.org/> under 'Our Partners'

Focus: Childcare – Presentation by Kerisha Alez-El, Family Support Consultant, Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS), Georgia Department of Early Care Learning (DCAL)



All About
CAPS-PowerPoint.ppt

Ms. Alez-El answered questions from the group concerning the process for applying for and receiving childcare assistance*This process can be slow and complicated*Several partners expressed concern about existing requirements that individuals must first have childcare in place to qualify for certain programs*There were questions about the source of childcare funding and about what authority had made decisions that can make service delivery more difficult *We are following up on these concerns, and will report back to group.

Note: <https://gateway.ga.gov/access/> for childcare assistance registration*Phone: 833-442-2277.

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

Partner Updates:

WorkSource Georgia Mountains (WSGM) Danielle Avelar, Ebony Tucker, Chris Highland, <https://www.gmrc.ga.gov/wsgm> Adult Program - accepting applications for training programs*Increase in number of applicants over previous year*Working closely with Technical Colleges*Youth Program – 20 students completed welding training this past summer*Six students completing Electro*Mech. End of Aug.*Two youth hired through Work Experience program – One at Absolute Climate Control and one at Comfort Control.

Lanier Technical College: Shannon Cole <https://www.laniertech.edu/> 361 students as of today, 15.4% of target for year. Tina Schnepfer (Hall Co.) named Teacher of the Year*Alla Kuckerova (Forsyth Co.) named EAGLE*GED graduation is Sept. 5th at 7:00 p.m. at the Ramsey Conf. Center (356 graduates last year)*Still seeking state approval for Medical Receptionist IET and Volunteer to Career Pathway IET.

Athens Technical College: Loretta Smith, <https://www.athenstech.edu/>*Workshops related to employment and career services are available.

Legacy Link: <https://legacylink.org/>Alisha Hontz and Brooke Samples*Trainees are available at non-profits and at government agencies for up to 29 hrs./week*Contact Christine Osasu at **678-677-8428**.

Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG): Levi Koebel, Tammy Rauch <https://www.tcsg.edu/> Resource for job search and job posting information: <https://www.worksourcegaportal.com/> TCSG staff on site and/or available by telephone Mon. through Fri. at One-Stop office to assist with job searches.

Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA): Donnie Moyd, 404 780-6477, 2756 Atlanta Highway, Gainesville, GA 30504. <https://gvs.georgia.gov/locations/gainesville-vr-office> Also, in person GVRA staffing available at One-Stop Career Center on Thursday mornings. Donnie Moyd is also a contact for NPHC – Greek Organizations **678-887-8718**.

Ninth District Opportunity – Street Exit: Michael Fisher, <https://www.ndo.org/web/housing.html> Providing services and resources to support those who are experiencing homelessness in the region*Assistance in obtaining and protecting essential documents*Stations staffed weekly with laundry and bathing facilities.

The Place: <https://theplacega.org/> Locations in Forsyth and Dawson County*See flyers below:



GED 2024-2025.pdf



ESL 24'25'
EngSpan.pdf

Salvation Army: Kelly Williams, <https://southernusa.salvationarmy.org/gainesville-corps/> Shelter, food, counseling provided to those in need*Call **770 531-0135***New officers -Captains Aaron and Rebekah Abram.

My Sister's Place: Candace Turner, Rene Idleburg, <https://www.my-sisters-place.org/> Shelter for women and children located in Hall County***770 532-5111**.

Hall County Library System: Yury Carmona, <https://www.hallcountylibrary.org/Georgia Gateway> Georgia Gateway kiosk is located at Gainesville Library*Will also have them in North Hall and Blackshear locations*Kiosks can be used to review, change, or renew state benefits*Library staff can come to any community events to provide information services and story times*Digital cards are available.

United Way of Hall County: Brianna Gunter, Jasmin Cruz-Ruiz, <https://www.unitedwayhallcounty.org/> United Way staff back in 527 Oak St. following renovation of the building*Walk-ins accepted third Thursdays.

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

A New Veteran: Andrew Davenport, ANewVeteran@gmail.com Helping veterans to better understand and access their disability entitlements

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**

Angela Middleton: atmiddleton32@gmail.com, Tbird's Touch/North GA Black Business Alliance (NGBBA)*Community volunteer and local business owner*Assists and promotes entrepreneurs and new business owners*Distributed books to students signed by local authors*Contact Angela: **678 617-5691.**

Georgia Mountains Health: Ann Marie Sheppard, <https://gamtnhealth.org/dahlonega/>Two locations in Dahlonega*New pediatrician starting Sept. 24*Family Practice Clinic for all ages*VA CCN – VA Urgent Care*Behavioral Health ages 10+*Counseling and psych NP*Can see anyone regardless of ability to pay*Also bill major insurance, Medicare and Medicaid accepted (all)*Assistance with applying for: SNAP, CAPS, TANF, Medicaid, ACA, Disability, Medicare. Ann Marie - **907 347-2326**, asheppard@gamtnhealth.org

Habersham County Family Connection: Donna Barrett <https://habersham.gafcp.org/>*July outreach events: Piedmont University orientations*First Hispanic Alliance Back to School event*Habersham Co. Sheriff's Dept Back to School event*North GA. Technical College Dorm Move-In*Information tables at these events for community agencies*Link for Habersham Co. Family Connection Community Resource Brochure: <https://habersham.gafcp.org/resources/>

Center Point: <https://centerpointga.org/> Elaine Hortman*Mentoring at Center Point needs adult volunteers to become mentors for Hall County*All training is provided by Center Point at no cost*Mentors may request a specific school*Once trained, mentors are matched with a mentee and asked to mentor for a school year – Once/weekly for 30-45 minutes during the school day*Our mentoring is about building relationships*Mentors may play board or card games. They support good grades, attendance, and conduct. Call **770 535-1050**.

Kathy Amos, Community Volunteer & Advocate for individuals experiencing homelessness*Working with Greater Together Fund for Racial Equity – bolstering the work of Black and Latino-led nonprofits in Hall County and making investments to support local nonprofits having impact on eliminating inequitable systems.

Hall County Board of Commissioners: Paige Smith, <https://www.hallcounty.org/409/Board-of-Commissioners>

One-Stop Career Center: Benjie and Marsha Hopkins, <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 Ga Mtns., Lanier Tech. College, North Georgia Tech. College, Athens Tech. College, Technical College System of Georgia (now offering employment assistance formerly under GDOL), Ga. Voc. Rehabilitation Agency, The Legacy Link, plus other organizations in the region*GED classes on site *Contact Benjie or Marsha Hopkins, **470 577-0823** or hopkinsassociates77@gmail.com

Announcements: Dates for Upcoming Meetings: **Tues, Sept. 24, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. at One-Stop**
Our Nov. meeting will be Nov.19th*Please note, change from our usual “last Tuesday” to avoid Thanksgiving week.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:50 p.m.

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