

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD***Supporting the Development and Retention of a World Class Workforce**Jeffrey S. Swartz, Executive Director**Carl A. Donato Jr., Chair***ABILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES, THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025 (ZOOM)**

| Name                       | Organization                                     | Trustee Member | 9-Jan | 13-Feb | 13-Mar | 10-Apr |
|----------------------------|--|----------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| <b>Donato, Carl, Chair</b> | An Affair To Remember                            | ✓              | X     | X      | X      | X      |
| Askie-Rosario, Andrea      | CC Commission for the Blind                      |                | X     |        | X      | X      |
| Aston, Arthur              | Build Jake's Place                               |                |       |        |        |        |
| Bowan, Jennifer            | The Arc of Camden County                         |                |       |        |        |        |
| Cirilli, Frank             | Camden County One-Stop                           | ✓              | X     | X      |        | X      |
| Coleman, Ardella           | Cooper University Healthcare                     |                |       |        |        |        |
| Deissroth, Rob             |  |                |       |        |        |        |
| Deitz, Jeffery             | Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services   | ✓              |       |        |        |        |
| Farber, Dan                |  |                |       |        |        |        |
| Fiore, Daniel              |  |                |       |        |        |        |
| Floyd, Kwame               |  |                | X     |        |        |        |
| Forman, Lois               | Jewish Family & Children's Service               |                | X     | X      |        | X      |
| Fugee, Antoinette          | Cooper University Healthcare                     |                |       |        | X      |        |
| Galvin, Tim                | Cooper University Healthcare                     |                |       |        |        |        |
| Gregory, Geralyn           | Wawa   |                |       |        |        |        |
| Hoban, Colette             | Lenape Regional High School Dist./Project Search |                |       |        |        |        |
| Lavarin, Esther            | CC Commission for the Blind                      |                |       |        |        |        |
| Legge, Patti               |  |                |       |        |        |        |
| Lynn, Meghan               | ARC of Camden County                             |                | X     | X      | X      | X      |
| McClintock, Monica         | Rowan University                                 |                | X     |        | X      | X      |
| Metzger, Frances           | Cooper University Healthcare                     |                |       |        |        |        |
| Page-Soncrant, Jeanne      | NJDOL - Business Rep.                            |                | X     | X      | X      | X      |
| Perez, Irene               | NJDVRS   |                | X     | X      | X      | X      |
| Quiqley, Kimberly          | St. John of God Community Services               |                | X     | X      | X      | X      |
| Scott, Jessica             | The Arc of Camden County                         |                |       |        |        |        |
| Snow, Colleen              | Dept of Health & Human Services                  |                |       | X      |        |        |
| Storm, Jeanne, Vice Chair  | American Water                                   | ✓              |       |        |        |        |
| Tyndell, Maurice           | Bestworks Industries                             |                |       |        |        |        |
| Weinberg, Oriel            | Jewish Family & Children's Service               |                |       | X      | X      | X      |
| Marlyn Kalitan             |  | ✓              | X     |        |        |        |
| Rohan, Michelle            | WDB Staff  |                | X     | X      | X      | X      |
| Swartz, Jeffrey S.         | WDB Staff  |                | X     | X      |        | X      |
| Vaughn, Debra              | WDB Staff  |                | X     | X      |        | X      |

**Next steps**

Oriel to confirm availability and coordination for the September 25th targeted hiring event at the Jonathan Sinai Building.

Irene to create and distribute save-the-date and employer registration information for the September 25th targeted hiring event once Oriel confirms details.

Committee members to send their organization's logos to Irene for inclusion on the targeted hiring event flyer, if desired.

Irene to seek funding or volunteers for food at the targeted hiring event.

Monica to connect with Mike Willman regarding the July 23rd nonprofit event.

Committee members to consider potential speakers for the June quarterly meeting and share suggestions with Jeff.

Carl to drop off clothing donations for the professional clothing drive.



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## **WELCOME**

Carl Donato, WDB Chair, greeted the attendees and called the meeting to order at 8:37AM.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

Carl asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2025 meeting. The motion was made by Oriel Weinberg and seconded by Kimberly Quigley. With a majority vote to the affirmative, the motion carried, and the minutes were approved.

## **Summary**

### **Family Health and Work Updates**

In the meeting, Jeffrey discussed Jeanne's promotion and the increased travel it entails. Monica reported a good turnout for the upcoming conference, with more people registering than in previous years. Lois asked about sponsoring someone from outside the country for employment, and Monica explained the challenges and requirements of the H1B visa process.

### **Congrats to Jeanne on Promotion**

Carl welcomes everyone and acknowledges various upcoming holidays. The group then takes a moment to congratulate Jeanne Page-Soncrant on her promotion and new position in a regional role. Several members express their gratitude for Jeanne's contributions and wish her well in her new role. After the acknowledgments, Carl prepares to move on to the main agenda items, starting with Megan's update on future events.

### **Westin Presentation and GSETA Conference**

Meghan and Jeanne are preparing for a presentation for Tri-State SHRM on May 1st at the Westin. They have made some adjustments to the presentation and are excited about the changes. Meghan is also planning to present at the GSETA Conference in October, with Jeffrey's support. Meghan's brother, who presented at a recent Tri-State meeting, will also be presenting at the May conference. Meghan and Jeanne are seeking additional examples for their presentation. The team is preparing for the event, with Jeffrey, Carl, and others attending and assisting at the table.

### **Targeted Hiring Event at Jonathan Sinai**

The group discussed plans for a targeted hiring event on September 25th at the Jonathan Sinai Building. Irene and Oriel provided details about the venue, which can accommodate 25 employers and has interview rooms. Oriel



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mentioned logistical challenges, including the need for volunteers to set up and concerns about protecting the new gym floor. The group brainstormed solutions, such as encouraging attendees to wear soft-soled shoes. They also discussed food arrangements, with Oriel offering to sponsor coffee and drinks but suggested additional funding may be needed for lunch. The date is confirmed, but there are concerns about its proximity to Jewish holidays, which may affect setup.

### **Event Planning and Funding Discussion**

Oriel discussed the challenges of setting up an event in the evening and the need for funding for food and assistance with tables and chairs. He also suggested splitting off rooms for screenings and dedicated rooms for interviews. Irene confirmed the event date and planned to send out a save the date, employer registration, and a flyer. Carl praised the success of a previous event and asked for updates from the committee. Oriel announced the hiring of a caterer for their organization and the goal of offering food as an internship opportunity. Monica reminded the team about a half-day event for nonprofit organizations on July 23rd and requested more information. Jeffrey suggested connecting Monica with Mike Willman, who oversees the Nonprofit Association for South Jersey.

### **Project Updates and Upcoming Events**

Carl, Andrea, Meghan, and Michelle discussed their respective projects. Andrea mentioned a virtual hiring event, but no date has been set yet. Meghan shared that they have collected more than last year for their clothes collection and are organizing a Walkathon fundraiser.

### **Networking Event and Job Fair**

Michelle and Meghan attended a networking event where they highlighted Tri-State SHRM's clothing drive and Camden County Workforce Development. They brought clothing they had collected, including handbags, shoes, and jewelry. Meghan can drop off the clothing at her place at 245 West White Horse Pike, Berlin, NJ 08009. Irene is organizing a justice impacted job fair at the Cure Insurance Arena, aimed at 75 employees. She is halfway there and is seeking more employers to hire second-chance individuals. The job fair will be from 2:30 to 5 PM. Michelle will distribute the flyer. Irene inquired about the procedure for clients with disabilities working for the youth program, specifically if a job coach would be provided. Michelle and Jeffrey confirmed that accommodations; including job coaches, are made on a case-by-case basis.



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### **Summer Youth Work Experience Program**

In the meeting, Michelle then updates the group on the Summer Youth Program, mentioning they have thirty applicants and twenty-five worksites so far, with a goal of one hundred hires. Michelle discussed the positive experience of a family with a child on the spectrum who went through an internship program in previous years.

### **Executive Director Update**

Jeffrey spoke about the Summer Youth Work Experience Program and mentioned the upcoming quarterly meeting in June and the uncertainty about their funding allocation. Carl suggested a fun event, the tulip festival at Dalton Farms.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Carl asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Monica McClintock and seconded by Jeffrey Swartz. The motion carried with a majority vote to the affirmative and the meeting was adjourned at 9:29AM.

Respectfully submitted by, Michelle Rohan, Committee Coordinator