



## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Supporting the Development and Retention of a World Class Workforce

Jeffrey S. Swartz, Executive Director

Carl A. Donato Jr., Chair

### Operations Committee Meeting Minutes

Friday, July 11, 2025, 9:00 AM (Zoom)

#### ATTENDANCE

NAME	ORGANIZATION	TRUSTEE	10-Jan-25	14-Feb-25	14-Mar-25	11-Apr-25	9-May-25	13-Jun-25	11-Jul-25
DeBaere, Gregg	Atlantic Coast Communications NJ, Inc.	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Buscher, Steven	NJ DOL-Unemployment								
Cirri, Frank	Camden County One Stop	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Connors, Kristi	NJ LWD-Employment Services	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Deitz, Jeff	NJDVRS	✓			X	X	X		
Gutierrez, Inocencia	Camden County One-Stop				X			X	X
Maguire, Laurie	Camden County One-Stop			X	X	X	X	X	
McFarland, Salama	Camden County Board of Social Services		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Peterson, Jyi	Camden County One-Stop		X		X	X	X	X	X
Regensburger, Robert	Lockheed Martin	✓		X	X	X	X	X	X
Romolini, Eric	Camden County One-Stop		X	X		X	X	X	X
Sinclair, Nidia	Camden County Resource Center		X	X	X	X		X	X
Weil, Bob	Conner, Strong & Bucklew	✓	X	X	X		X	X	X
Wemple, Anita	CPAC	✓		X					
Hardison, Richelle	WDB		X		X			X	X
Michelle Rohan	WDB		X	X	X		X	X	
Swartz, Jeffrey S.	WDB		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Vaughn, Debra	WDB		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Williams, Leslie J	WDB		X			X	X	X	X

#### WELCOME

Jeffrey Swartz welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order at 9:05 AM.

He asked for a motion to approve the June 13, 2025 meeting minutes. The motion to approve the minutes was made by Eric Romolini and seconded by Jyi Peterson. With a majority vote to the affirmative, with Bob Weil abstaining, the motion carried, and the minutes were approved.

#### **Youth Internship Program Progress Update**

Leslie reported that 100 participants have been placed in summer youth internships with 29 employers. The interns have completed work readiness training and received their first stipend payment. Richelle will be conducting site visits to monitor the program. Jyi reported on youth program activities, including orientations and training programs, and mentioned an upcoming partnership with Cooper for youth work experience opportunities.

#### **Regional and Local Plans**

Jeffrey noted that the regional and local workforce plans will need to be updated later this year, pending guidance from the State. The Operations Committee will likely lead the local plan update process. Eric provided an update on funding, stating that they are fully funded for the fiscal year with WIOA dollars, though Workforce New Jersey funding is only extended for 3 months currently. Several grant applications were unsuccessful. A job fair is planned for September 12th at Cherry Hill Mall.

#### **SNAP Program Funding Shifts**

Salama discussed potential changes to the SNAP program administration and funding in New Jersey. She explained that a new bill could shift more financial responsibility to states and counties, with New Jersey facing a potential \$78 million impact. The payment error rate calculation is also under scrutiny, as it currently includes administrative errors and could lead to states paying a portion of SNAP benefits if their error rate exceeds 6%. Salama provided examples of how individual counties might be affected financially by these changes.



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### **SNAP Work Requirements Discussion**

Salama discussed changes in work requirements for SNAP recipients aged 18-54, who are considered able-bodied adults without dependents. The agency is reaching out to clients and providing resources to help them meet these requirements before the benefits are potentially terminated. Jeffrey noted that states may need to find funding to supplement benefits no longer provided by the Federal Government. Salama also mentioned potential work requirements for Medicaid recipients, raising questions about who will manage this process. The committee discussed concerns about the effectiveness of work requirements, citing Arkansas as an example where such policies did not lead to increased employment or health coverage, but instead resulted in more uninsured individuals.

### **Organizational Changes and Updates**

The committee discussed upcoming changes and uncertainties in their organization, with Kristi expressing concern about potential short-notice assignments. Kristi shared updates on staffing, intern projects, and a new video for their website. The committee also discussed a recent meeting with central DOL staff and directors, noting it was long overdue. There is debate about the use of G-Jobs across different counties, with Nidia explaining their approach to using G-Jobs as a triaging method for serving participants.

### **Customer Service Performance Metrics June**

Kristi presented monthly customer service numbers for June, reporting 2,933 customers with an average of 147 per day. The breakdown showed 41% for unemployment insurance and 32% for the resource center. For the fiscal year, they served approximately 35,000 people with a daily average of 140. Employment services data revealed 132 on-site customers, with 79% of the total services provided virtually. Unemployment insurance had a 62% show rate, serving 988 people in June, and 12,777 for the year with a 59% overall show rate.

### **Internship Updates and Operations Review**

Jeffrey provided an update on the Atlantic City Electric Spark Internship Scholarship Program, mentioning that they are working with Atlantic City Electric to promote it, though he is unsure if the agreement has been signed yet. Bob Regensberger reported that operations at Lockheed Martin are running smoothly, with new projects underway and continued support for the active Navy fleet. He also noted that staffing in Camden exceeded expectations, with additional positions being added.

### **Meeting Rescheduling and Program Updates**

Jeffrey proposed skipping the August meeting and rescheduling the September meeting to the 5th due to a conflict with a job fair. The group agreed to this change. Richelle mentioned that workforce proposals are ready for scoring, and the group decided to proceed with scoring despite not having funds to award contracts yet.

### **Next steps**

- Richelle to conduct program monitoring visits at each of the summer youth internship sites.
- Jeffrey to follow up on getting the CNA training reinstated on the ETPL.
- Richelle to coordinate with Eric and Nidia to score the Workforce New Jersey proposals.
- Operations Committee to reconvene on September 5th for the next meeting.



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- Jyi to coordinate with Cooper for youth work experience placements after medical field training completion.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Jeffrey asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Bob Weil and seconded by Nidia Sinclair. The meeting adjourned at 10:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted by: Michelle Rohan, Committee Coordinator