# ABILITIES COMMITTEE
## MEETING MINUTES
## THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2026, VIA ZOOM

## ATTENDEES

| Name | Organization | 8-Jan-26 | 12-Feb-26 | 5-Mar-26 | 9-Apr-26 | 14-May-26 | 11-Jun-26 | Jul-2026 | 13-Aug-26 | 10-Sep-26 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Donato, Carl, Chair** | An Affair To Remember | X | X | X | X | X | X | | X | X |
| Askie-Rosario, Andrea | CC Commission for the Blind | | X | | | | | | X | X |
| Banner, Salema | Center for Independent Living, So Jersey | | X | | | | | | | |
| Cirii, Frank | Camden County One-Stop | | X | X | X | | | | | X |
| Cole, Samuel | High Focus Centers | | X | | | | | | X | |
| Daunoras, Heidi | Multiplicity Consulting, LLC | | | | | | | | | X |
| De Feo, Marcello | ARC of Camden County | | X | | X | | | | | |
| Floyd, Kwame | Teacher Apprenticeship Network | | | | | | | | | |
| Forman, Lois | Jewish Family & Children's Service | X | | X | X | | | | | |
| Fugee, Antoinette | Cooper University Healthcare | | | X | X | | | | | |
| Kotsakis, Janet | Food Bank of NJ | | | | | | | | X | |
| Lynn, Meghan | ARC of Camden County | X | | X | X | | X | | X | X |
| Martin, Janeene | Jewish Family & Children's Service | | X | X | X | X | X | | X | X |
| McClelland, Stacy | Enterprise | | | | | | | | | |
| McClintock, Monica | Rowan University | | X | | X | X | | | | X |
| McKelvey, Chris | Borough of Clementon | | | X | | | | | | |
| McKinney, Janine | Rutgers University - Camden | | | | | | | | X | X |
| Newman, Jason | NJ DOL - Veteran Services | | | X | X | X | | | | |
| Perez, Irene | NJDVRS | | X | X | X | X | X | | | X |
| Quiqley, Kimberly | St. John of God Community Services | X | X | | X | | | | | X |
| Rohlfing, Theresa | Center for Independent Living, So Jersey | | X | X | X | | | | | |
| Rosado, Joeliza | Truist Bank | | | | | | | | | |
| Santana, Theresa | Popcorn for the People | X | X | X | X | | | | | X |
| Square, David | JEVS | | | | | | | | | |
| Roman, Xavier | MidPenn Bank | | | | | | | | | X |
| Rubenstein, Molly | Jewish Family & Children's Service | | | | | | | | | X |
| **Storm, Jeanne, Vice Chair** | American Water | | X | | | | X | | | |
| Taylor-Walls, Corinne | Weisman Children's Rehabilitation Hospital | | | | X | | | | | |
| Thompson, Ryan | MidPenn Bank | | | | X | | | | | |
| Weinberg, Oriel | Jewish Family & Children's Service | | | | | | | | | |
| Marlyn Kalitan | Pathways to Literacy Chair | | | | | | | | | |
| Watson, Jess | MidPenn Bank | | | | | | | | | |
| Waxman, Nicole | Enterprise | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hardison, Richelle | WDB Staff | | | X | | | | | | |
| Swisa, Johnathan | WDB Staff | | | | | | | | | X |
| Swartz, Jeffrey S. | WDB Staff | X | X | X | X | X | X | | X | X |
| Vaughn, Debra | WDB Staff | X | X | X | X | X | X | | X | X |

## WELCOME

Carl Donato, Chair, opened the meeting at 9:05 AM. He welcomed new participants and commemorated the anniversary of September 11th with a moment of silence and facilitated round-the-room introductions. New participants, Johnathan Swisa and Mollie Rubinstein, received special recognition. Johnathan's recent hire was highlighted as a practical example of inclusive recruitment and employment, and Mollie was welcomed as a new regular participant representing JFCS's Supported Employment Department. Meghan Lynn moved to approve the August 13, 2026, meeting minutes. Janeene Martin seconded the motion. With no objections, minutes were approved.

**"PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS" TRANSITION EVENT PLANNING** - Meghan Lynn

Meghan presented the initial concept for "Pathways to Success," a small transition-focused event intended to help families of youth with disabilities understand post-high-school resources before graduation. The proposed program would serve approximately 10–12 families and introduce resources such as DVRS services, college pathways, Arc services, self-advocacy, and employment supports. Members agreed that

November would provide a more realistic planning window than October.

- **Date:** Jeff recommended aligning the event with the regularly scheduled November 12th Abilities Committee meeting.
- **Time:** Meghan recommended an evening program to improve access for working parents. She also noted that daytime parking at the Arc is constrained by ongoing programs.
- **Venue:** The Arc of Camden is the proposed location, subject to upper-management approval.
- **Audience:** The committee discussed whether to focus on high school seniors, students in 18–21 transition programs, or a broader transition-age group. The final target audience remains to be determined.
- **Program content:** Irene recommended including Project SEARCH and inviting DVRS (Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services) transition specialist Toni Scott. Kimberly proposed a caregiver self-care and burnout component. Heidi recommended featuring a student success story.
- **Resource access:** Janeene proposed an agency resource table for pamphlets, flyers, and direct service connections. She also noted JFCS' participation in several Project SEARCH programs in South Jersey.
- **Peer networking:** Carl emphasized the value of parent-to-parent networking and informal exchange of service information.
- **Planning structure:** Jeff proposed creating a subcommittee to support Meghan with event development and logistics.

**Decision:** The committee tentatively scheduled the event for the evening of November 12th at the Arc of Camden County, pending venue approval. Meghan will coordinate a planning subcommittee. The event plan will include Project SEARCH, caregiver-support resources, a student success story, a resource table, and an invitation to Toni Scott.

**WORKFORCE BOARD DEVELOPMENT SESSION**

Carl announced an October development session for committee members interested in becoming a board member, committee chair, or other board leader. Carl, Jeffrey, and Pat Abusi (Vice Chair), will meet the Tuesday following this meeting to finalize the date, delivery format, and agenda. Jeff noted that the session will explain board composition requirements, including private and public-sector representation, as well as leadership responsibilities. All interested committee members will be welcome.

**COMMITTEE ACTIVITY UPDATES**

**NJ DVRS (Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services) UPDATE** - Irene Perez

- A DVRS Transition Fair for professionals is scheduled for October 7th at the Cherry Hill Library. Approximately 75 attendees, including IEP professionals, are expected. Topics will include DVR and DDD services. Parent participation remains subject to confirmation.
- A National Disability Employment Awareness Month recognition event is scheduled for October 28 at the Cherry Hill Library. The event will honor employers, clients, job coaches, and DVRS counselors.
- Disability-focused job fairs will be held in Middlesex County, with approximately 45 employers and Ocean County, with approximately 30 employers. Both will be held at community colleges.
- At Jeffrey's request, Irene will send flyers for the October 7th and October 28th events to Debra for

committee distribution and social media promotion.

**LITERACY COMMITTEE UPDATE -** Heidi Daunoras

Heidi reported that the Literacy Committee's strategic-planning subcommittee presented an updated plan emphasizing inclusive literacy support for workforce members and community residents across the lifespan, from early childhood reading to adult literacy. Janeene requested referrals in Gloucester County for a Project SEARCH graduate whose reading challenges are limiting employment opportunities. Kimberly recommended Joe Spencer at Rowan College of South Jersey, and Jeff identified Literacy Volunteers of America, including its presence at the Camden County One Stop, as another possible resource. Kimberly will send Joe Spencer's contact information to Janeene.

**HUMAN RESOURCES AND UNIVERSITY UPDATES** - Monica McClintock

- The Tri-State HRMA monthly kickoff meeting was scheduled for that evening (9/11) at 5:30 p.m. at Adelphia. The presentation topic was "Think You Need Change Management? Think Again — Why Leadership Alignment and Behavioral Precision Drives Real Adoption." The event was open to all, with registration available through tri-statehr.org.
- Rowan University's job fair is scheduled for September 29th,11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m., on the main campus in Glassboro.
- Rutgers–Camden's job fair is scheduled for October 13th, 12:00–3:00 p.m., on the main campus in Camden.

**ST. JOHN OF GOD COMMUNITY SERVICES UPDATE -** Kimberly Quigley

Kimberly announced a Thanksgiving food drive for families with children. Requested donations include staple foods and small seasonal treats such as hot cocoa packets. Kimberly will send the flyer to Debra Vaughn for committee distribution.

**JFCS UPDATE** - Janeene Martin

Janeene announced the JFCS Vocational Breakfast on Friday, November 20th. The event will celebrate individuals receiving employment support and recognize employers and job coaches. Committee members and their networks are invited; interested attendees should contact Janeene directly using the email shared in the meeting chat.

**CAMDEN COUNTY ONE STOP CAREER CENTER UPDATE** - Frank Cirii

- A job fair was scheduled for September 12th, 10:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m., in the Cherry Hill Mall atrium. A preregistration link was shared in the meeting chat.
- The One Stop will participate in a Saint Vincent de Paul/South Jersey Food Bank distribution event on September 15th, 11:00 a.m.–2:30 p.m. County partners, including the Board of Social Services mobile van, will provide services to food-insecure and unhoused residents.

**DISCUSSION**

- **Future format:** Jeff invited consideration of future in-person meetings at the Workforce Board's Cherry Hill office or at a committee member's site, provided the location offers adequate meeting space and parking.

## OUTSTANDING CHALLENGES AND OPEN QUESTIONS

- The final target age group for "Pathways to Success" remains unresolved, particularly whether the event should focus on high school seniors, students in 18–21 programs, or both.
- Use of the Arc of Camden County as the November 12th venue requires upper-management approval.
- An evening event is likely to increase parent access but may create scheduling conflicts for some committee members.
- Daytime parking constraints at the Arc limit the feasibility of a daytime program.
- A Project SEARCH graduate in Gloucester County needs appropriate literacy support to address reading-related barriers to employment.
- Irene's ability to participate extensively in Camden County programming is limited by her responsibility for eight counties.

## ACTION ITEMS

| Owner | Action | Timing/Status |
|---|---|---|
| Meghan Lynn | Confirm Arc of Camden availability for the November 12th evening event; form and coordinate the planning subcommittee; invite Toni Scott; incorporate caregiver support, a student success story, Project SEARCH, and a resource table. | Before event promotion and final agenda development |
| Janeene Martin | Discuss "Pathways to Success" with Toni Scott; share JFCS Vocational Breakfast details with interested members. | As soon as practicable |
| Irene Perez | Send October 7 and October 28th DVRS event flyers to Debra. | Upon flyer availability |
| Kimberly Quigley | Send Joe Spencer's contact information to Janeene for the Gloucester County literacy referral; send the Thanksgiving food drive flyer to Debra Vaughn. | As soon as practicable |
| Debra Vaughn | Distribute event flyers for DVRS and food-drive once received | Before events |
| Jeffrey Swartz | Post DVRS event information on Workforce Board social media; explore accessible in-person meeting locations with adequate parking. | Ongoing |
| Carl Donato<br>Jeffrey Swartz<br>Pat Abusi | Finalize the October Workforce Board Development Session date, format, and agenda. | Tuesday following the meeting |
| Mollie Rubinstein | Share contact information in the meeting chat and connect with members, including anticipated LinkedIn outreach from Janine McKinney. | Following the meeting |
| Committee members | Contact Meghan to join the "Pathways to Success" subcommittee; email ccwib@ccwib.com if not yet registered for the September 16th quarterly meeting. | Promptly |

**Motion to adjourn: Frank Cirii** **Second: Monica McClintock** **Adjourned:** 10:00AM

**The next Abilities Committee meeting will be held on Zoom on Thursday, October 8, 2026, at 9:00 AM.**

**The next quarterly Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 16, 2026, at 9:00AM on ZOOM.**

Respectfully submitted by Debra Vaughn, Executive Assistant