



## County of Mercer Workforce Development Board

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Virgen Velez  
Acting Director

Brian M. Hughes  
County Executive

Keith Secret  
Chairperson

### WDB Health Care Committee ♦ Kathy Fiery, Chair

May 17, 2023 (Zoom) - 12:00 p.m. ♦ Meeting Minutes

#### Attendance

**Kathy Fiery** (NJ Health Care Association), **Andrea Bash** (MCCC), **John Brzyski** (Spring Pointe), **Keith Secret** (Kinetics Industries, Inc.), **Lisa M. Williams** (Maplewood Assisted Living @ Princeton)

*Staff:* Virgen Velez

Welcome – Chair Kathy Fiery welcomed the group.

#### Review and Approval of January 18, 2023 Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Keith Secret, seconded by Andrea Bash. Motion passed and minutes were approved.

#### Update: One Stop Activities – Virgen Velez

The Job Fair will be held in-person on May 24<sup>th</sup> (3:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.) at the Cure Arena.

- Over 200 individuals registered and more are expected to “walk-in”
- Over 100 employers attended last year

This year’s Early Mercer Reads initiative will consist of asking volunteers to upload book recording for the EMR Video library, which would be accessible during the month of June to child care centers and the public at large.

A lottery for the Summer Youth Jobs Connection (SYJC) was held because over 400 applications were received.

- Selected youth will be contacted to come in to submit required documentation
- Participating youth will attend an orientation
- Program starts July 3<sup>rd</sup> for camps and July 10<sup>th</sup> for other sites
- Worksite placement is not an issue

Training Orientations (virtual) resumed on a bi-weekly basis. They are not industry specific as they had been most recently. New marketing flyers are being developed to increase and reignite awareness of One Stop services.

- Funding is not an issue as of now
- In-person orientations are being slated for the summer

The Youth Career Awareness event will be postponed until early September 2023.

### **WDB Local Plan – Draft**

- It is available for public review for 30 days (through June 8<sup>th</sup>)
- Any substantial comments will be added to the end of the plan
- It will be submitted to the NJ DOL after the review period

### **Update: MCCC Allied Health Activities – Andrea Bash**

Two Open Houses were held at the end of March – not a great turnout; attendance was higher at the JKC/Trenton location vs. the West Windsor campus. A couple of individuals have signed up.

Trenton Neighborhood Initiative (TNI) funds from Capital Health Systems are still available (\$40k has been spent thus far) and hoping for a renewal funding cycle on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Efforts to recruit students, CNA instructors and sites are still conducted.

Apprenticeship opportunities are being explored with Penn Medicine for pharmacy technicians, patient care technicians, and ENT.

- Individuals will get paid for both their class time and for their OJT experience
- WDB can potentially fund employers who are not able to provide financial compensation

### **Member Discussion**

Kathy is awaiting list of names from 2<sup>nd</sup> round of CNA instructor training; the last class produced 29 instructors, none of which were looking to work in Mercer County.

The Assisted Living Conference was held on May 16<sup>th</sup> with over 150 attendees.

Spring Pointe mask restrictions have been lifted but vaccinations are still required.

### **Meeting Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

### **Meeting Dates PY 23**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday on bi-monthly basis: 12:00 p.m. – 1: 00 p.m.**

July 19, 2023 – Canceled for Summer break

September 20, 2023

November 15, 2023

January 17, 2024

March 20, 2024

May 15, 2024

***\*STAY SAFE\****