



**CareerSource Northeast Florida
Executive Committee Meeting
Minutes – September 27, 2023**

Members in attendance:

Kevin Doyle
Tim Hinson
L. Wayne McClain
Elaine Johnson
Joe Pickens
John (Jake) Schickel
Amy Rice

Excused/Absent:

Darryl Register

Staff: Bruce Ferguson, Rebecca Livingston, Cheryl Taylor, Ivette Berrios, Jay Loy, Steven Dionisio, Angie Pineiro, Melissa Terbrueggen, Brandy Buckingham

Welcome and call to order:

9:00 a.m. Chairman Kevin Doyle, welcomed the Executive Committee members and called the meeting to order.

ACTION ITEMS

August 23, 2023, Executive Committee Meeting Minutes:

Motion to approve minutes made by Elaine Johnson; seconded by Amy Rice; motion passed unanimously, and minutes approved.

Florida Workforce Development Summit Highlights:

- This was a great summit put together by our local team. Great job to Cheryl for her instrumental role in the summit. Approximately 650 attendees from across the state were in attendance. Each region recognized one workforce champion for the summit. David Morrison Jr. was recognized from our region.

State Policy Update:

- Regional Planning Areas:

This is part of the REACH Act and most of this is part of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. In WIOA, a local area is allowed to be designated as a region. CareerSource Florida decided any region must have at least 2 continuous local workforce development areas within it. For CSNEFL, this means we will either partner with our regions to our west or to our south. Both regions are currently going through consolidation. This means for this program year, we won't engage in any regional planning because those areas are going through consolidation. We will start looking at these regions and what is required in 2024/2025.

- Education and Industry Consortiums:

This policy requires each local workforce development board to create an education and industry consortium and to appoint local leaders who provide independent information from stakeholders in their local area. The goal is to align educational programming with industry needs at the local level. This will be added to our 4-year plan as an addendum. We currently have the talent advancement network with JaxUSA and it will fit this requirement. We will now post our quarterly reports on our website.

Florida Healthcare Training Initiative:

- We received a healthcare training initiative grant for approximately \$917,000 over a 2-year period through June 2025. We have already enrolled 29 people. We were able to go into our pool of applicants including people that we, previously, were not able to provide scholarships due to our limited funding. The team has had meetings with Baptist hospital on customized training and plans on taking those non-medical areas into patient-forward type of jobs.

SNAP Funding:

- There are some major changes to the food stamp employment training program. Currently, we work with able body adults, without dependents, between 24 and 49 years old. On October 21st, the age range increases between 24 and 59 years old. Additionally, we will have less funding to service more people. We have asked the state how many people are in the new age group 50 to 59 so we can plan how this will be accomplished. It's a struggle to get the work and the administrative part done now. We will have the same or fewer staff to do this for more people. We are not appropriately funded for this program. This issue will be across the entire state.

Operations Update:

- The August 2023 Employment Statistics was presented. We continue to see a robust labor market. There has not been much movement, but we continue to outpace the rest of the state. We had 28,000 net new jobs over the year. We are running in the range of approximately 35,000 to 40,000. This is lower than previous months but still a great number.
- Center visits aren't quite as strong, dropping some over the last couple of months. We are still well above last year numbers. Every center was up except Gateway and Southside locations. We will continue to monitor this.
- Job orders increased – this is our highest month since May. By industry, manufacturing is down a little and we saw a big jump in healthcare.
- Hurricane recovery support team for Hurricane Adelia helped in Steinhatchee and wrapped up last Friday. We sent 3 staff members and helped a total of 300 to 400 customers that came to the site.
- Minimum wage increase is effective this Friday \$12/hr. We have a multi-employee career fair at our Beach Blvd location. Our Forum event is scheduled on October 19th.

Public Comment: None.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m.