

LUMBER RIVER WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

2010-2011
ANNUAL
REPORT



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MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR



Durham White
Board Chair

As I reflect on the work and the mission of the Workforce Development Board, I see the board as a channel of HOPE for the citizens we serve in

Bladen, Robeson, Scotland, Richmond and Hoke counties. Citizens of all ages, races and economic backgrounds who reach out to us for opportunities. Citizens just entering the world of work, those who have seen their jobs disappear only to see them reappear across borders and those who seek to improve their skill levels. All these folks face an uncertain future as they must train and retrain for employment opportunities that exist today and will present themselves in the future. Some of our citizens have chosen not to seek HOPE, because HOPE is something that must be sought after diligently, without regard to social pressures or patterns. These folks have joined more than 300,000 of our American countrymen who have chosen to allow the word 'not' rule their lives.

"I will 'not' succeed, I will 'not' try any longer or I will 'not' take a job that pays me what I think I am worth." These individuals have adopted a lifestyle void of HOPE and we can only wish them well.

For those who continue to seek HOPE, the LRWDB has and will provide resources to assist in this journey. We are the gatekeepers and administrators of over \$4.6 million targeted for programs to serve WIA youth, adults and dislocated workers along with high school students seeking their Career Readiness Certificate and employers looking to create jobs through training programs. LRWDB has always been vigilant and frugal in administering these funds some time to the frustration of our service providers but always with the future of our organization and board members in focus. As a result we are consistently praised by Federal and State officials for our business practices and the success of the programs that touch our citizens. Current finances have dictated that we encourage our agencies to be innovative and not accept the status quo when providing services to HOPE-seeking participants.

Our challenge as a Board of business professionals, cornerstones of academia in our state, agency leaders, professional staff members and dedicated service providers is to administer dwindling funds wisely and efficiently while continuing to provide opportunities for Hope. We will accomplish this by maintaining our strong commonality of purpose and drawing strength from the fellowship that has developed among Board members with the unwavering focus of preparing our region for the future.

Someone wiser than I penned these words "Hope works in these ways: it looks for the good in people instead of harping on the worst; it discovers what can be done instead of grumbling about what cannot; it regards problems, large or small, as opportunities; it pushes ahead when it would be easy to quit; it 'lights the candle' instead of cursing the darkness." Our mission as a board is to provide the fire needed to light the candle of HOPE.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEMBERS

Durham White, Chair	Barbara Knight	Dr. Charles Chrestman
Cathy Poole, 1st Vice-Chairperson	Teresa Johnson	Albert Beatty
Mary Bellamy, 2nd Vice-Chairperson	Raymond Cummings	David Jones
Edna Todd	John Alford	Joe Manis
Dr. William Findt	Betty McGee	Carolyn Robinson
Sandra Britt	Cindy Batten	James Taylor
Dr. Johnny Hunt	Hiram Hester	Gary Strickland, Jr.
Cathy Fields	Veronica Patterson	Dr. William Dale McInnis
Lawanna Hayes	Evan Davenport	
David Chestnut	Donald Porter	
Van Strickland	Robby Hall	
Jay Todd	Harvey Godwin	

BOARD MISSION & VISION

The mission of the Lumber River Workforce Development Board is to develop, implement and coordinate regional plans to provide a seamless, integrated delivery system for job training, retraining and supportive services for the citizens of the Lumber River Local Area. The vision is accomplished through a multi-sector community effort to produce highly competent, self-sufficient and productive individuals meeting the changing needs of a highly competitive workforce which keeps the region in a state of continued growth and prosperity.



YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERS

A subcommittee of the Lumber River Workforce Development Board, the Youth Council strives to create activities that will enable young people to become successful in their education, workplaces and communities. It is comprised of individuals who are involved with other youth programs and may serve as a voice for the needs of the youth in our communities.

Mary Bellamy, Vice-Chair	Aletha Poole	Crystle Murphy
Lawanna Hayes	Patsy Oxendine	Veronica Hammonds
Edna Todd	Angela Shaver	Adriana Scott
Willa Williams	Alvina Boyd	Joe Glezen
Tiina Mundy	Shannon Newton	
Gwendolyn Johnson	Gerry Johnson	
Dr. Stanley Richardson	Thomas G. Norton	
Merle Summers	Willie Goodyear	
Jon Thorsten	Stevie Craig	
Andrena Scott	Carlita Brewington	
Sherry Lucas	Major Wagner Baskett	
Dr. Terry Franklin	Lillie McKoy	



WIA ADULT & DISLOCATED WORKER PROGRAM

The JobLink Career Center System serves as the one-stop vehicle in North Carolina. With Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funds, the JobLink Centers in the Lumber River Local Area are able to effectively provide assistance to adults and dislocated workers with a focus on three levels of service: core, intensive and training. The philosophy is to offer core services (job search and placement assistance, intake and eligibility determination, basic assessment of skills, labor market information) to the universal population and more intensive and training services to qualifying individuals most in need. JobLink Career Centers can provide quality services such as job-seeking skills, job-keeping skills, and employer services to individuals no matter what their needs may be. By providing access to career training and job placement services, the Centers are the connection.

In order to be branded as a JobLink Center, agencies must comply with chartering guidelines developed by

the state. There are currently three levels of chartering that are obtainable: Level I, II and III. Two



Robeson County JobLink CC was recognized by the Lumberton Mayors' Committee for the Challenged for partnering with Vocational Rehabilitation and assisting persons with challenges

Centers. Scotland County and Hoke County JobLink Career Centers, are chartered at a Level I status. Robeson County JobLink Career Center operates under a Level II Charter. Bladen County JobLink Center has obtained a Level III Charter, which is the highest status awarded by the state. All chartering levels are awarded by the state after meeting lengthy and

extensive planning and review processes. JobLink Centers must comply with the chartering criteria implemented by the state to maintain their current status or continuously improve their services as reflected in the Baldrige principles in order to move up to the next level.

The Lumber River Workforce Development Board oversees the WIA program for its four-county region: Bladen, Hoke, Robeson, and Scotland counties. WIA is a federally funded program designed to address the employment and training needs of adults, dislocated workers and youth.



JOBLINK CAREER CENTERS

Bladen County JLCC
401 Mercer Mill Road
Elizabethtown, NC 28337
(910) 862-3255

Robeson County JLCC
289 Corporate Drive
Lumberton, NC 28358
(910) 618-5500

Hoke County JLCC
310 Birch Street
Raeford, NC 28376
(910) 875-5059

Scotland County JLCC
303 N. Main Street
Laurinburg, NC 28352
(910) 276-4260



Hoke County and Robeson County JobLink Staff

BUSINESS SERVICES

The Business Services Coordinator continues building the database of businesses in Robeson, Bladen, Hoke and Scotland Counties in order to promote better communication between business and service agencies in the local area. Currently, 1,100 businesses are included on the list. A database is being developed for Richmond County, which currently includes 50 businesses. The database has been used to distribute information on different events around the area such as the NCSC Regional Survey, Small Business and Government Resources Conference, Small Business Finance workshops, Job Profiling and Career Readiness Certification, the Sustainable Agriculture and Construction Certificate Programs, NC-CAP Program for small business, and Capital Resources for small business.

The Worldwide Interactive Network (WIN) for WorkKeys continues to be a vital asset to local job seekers looking to enhance their Career Readiness Certificate (CRC) scores. The WIN for WorkKeys instructional courseware helps build workplace skills, and the ACT's WorkKeys assessments provides a common-language for education, workforce, and economic development. To date, 1,870 individuals have been enrolled into the WIN courseware.

The National CRC verifies to employers that an individual has

essential core employability skills in Reading, Math, and Locating Information. ACT has researched over 16,000 occupations, and these three skills are highly important to the majority of jobs in the workplace. The certificate is an easily understood and nationally valued credential that certifies the attainment of these workplace skills.



Currently, a total of 9,641 Career Readiness Certifications have been issued to the workforce in the Lumber River Local Area.

The Business Services Teams (BST) continued to expand this year and work closely with local businesses. Goals for the upcoming year are to continue inviting businesses to be a part of the BST meetings, to conduct other business surveys regionally and by county and to use the data for trainings, workshops, summits, and special events as needed of the employers.

The Business Services Coordinator successfully completed and was certified as a North Carolina Rural Entrepreneurship through Action Learning (NC REAL) Instructor. NC

REAL is partnering with the Business Services Coordinator, Southeastern Entrepreneurial Alliance, Robeson Community College Small Business Center, BioNetwork BioAgricultural Center, and Robeson Cooperative Extension Center to initiate a county-wide entrepreneurial training and support network to create and expand sustainable agricultural based businesses in Robeson County. This project is made possible through the support of the USDA Rural Business Enterprise Grant Program.

Special events this past year included:

- A Resources and Business Expo was held in Scotland County on September 23, 2010.
- Practical Entrepreneurship, an eight-week course on the practical tools of entrepreneurship, was held August 28—September 9, 2010.
- The Small Business and Government Resources Conference was held at the UNCP Regional Center was held September 20, 2011. The purpose of the conference was to help entrepreneurs learn the skills needed to create, develop and strengthen successful business ventures.

CAREER READINESS CERTIFICATES IN LUMBER RIVER LOCAL

LEVEL	NUMBER
Bronze	2,537
Silver	5,739
Gold	1,365
TOTAL	9,641

AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT

The JobLink Centers continued to operate the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Program this year in addition to providing traditional employment services and WIA Programs. The additional monies provided training opportunities to many individuals needing to enhance their employability skills as a result of the downward spiral of the employment market. The majority of the funds were used to support work experience and the JobsNow Program, an initiative in-

troduced by the NC Community College System in the Fall of 2009 with funds from NC Department of Commerce. Under the JobsNow concept, each community college had selected 12 – 16 short-term occupational courses that were linked to employment demand and growth within their respective service area, and integrated employability skills training and career readiness certification. Each program was designed to be completed in six months or less. Many displaced

workers and unemployed citizens have obtained viable skills as a result of completing the short-term training modules. The ARRA funds expired June 30, 2011.



WIA YOUTH PROGRAM

Lumber River WIA Youth Program serves youth ages 14-21. The program enables youth to expand their opportunities in the workforce by providing activities that will increase their educational level and enhance their job skills and abilities. Activities provided for youth include: work experience, job shadowing, community service, college tours, personal and academic enrichment workshops, academic counseling, leadership development, mentoring, tutoring/study skills training, alternative/secondary school services, and summer employment opportunities linked to academic and occupational learning, follow-up services, etc.

Youth are given the opportunity to meet and interact with other youth at regional activities. While these activities enhance social skills they also provide life skills needed to produce positive choices. This year WIA youth participated in the following

year's theme was "It's a Matter of Choice". The opening session began with Judge Herbert L. Richardson of Robeson County addressing the ramifications of sharing personal information through social media networks and texting.

He shared real outcomes from the judiciary perspective regarding inappropriate use of these media tools. Other topics for the day included "Crossing the Line", which focused on the reality and consequences of gang life, and "Prescription for Life", which discussed the long-term effects of misusing prescription and over-the-counter drugs. After the workshops, selected WIA teens participated in a Fashion Show. Students showcased appropriate

business and weekend/casual attire. Students ended the day with receiving a Wal-Mart gift card and Red Ribbon paraphernalia, which encourages young people to turn away from drugs.

In February, WIA youth participated



Youth Empowerment Summit

As youth exit the program many have completed high school and/or have entered post-secondary education or employment. Additionally, they have taken the WorkKeys assessment and earned a Career Readiness Certificate. This facilitates the path to success within the region and nationally.

regional events: Youth Empowerment Summit, Job Shadowing on National Groundhog Job Shadow Day and Senior Celebration.

In October, over 55 youth gathered at Hoke County High School Media Center to participate in the annual Youth Empowerment Summit. This

(Continued on page 7)

WIA YOUTH PROGRAM (CONT.)

(Continued from page 6)

in National Groundhog Job Shadow Day. Job shadowing is an activity that enriches the lives of youth by acquainting them with the world of work through on-the-job experiences and a school curriculum that ties academics to the workplace. The activity helps young people understand how what they learn in the classroom leads to success in the workplace. National Groundhog Job Shadowing Day is a coordinated effort of Junior Achievement, America's Promise - The Alliance for Youth, the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Labor. Regional youth shadowed workplace mentors such as nurses, doctors, physical therapists, bankers, business owners, cosmetologists, retail clerks, lawyers, etc.



Youth gains work experience

who graduated high school and/or college. The theme was "Senior Survivors Up For the Challenge". It was held at North Carolina FFA Center in White Lake. As graduates entered the park wearing their Senior Survivors tee shirts, they received an I-case and rolling duffel bag. Most of the youth participated in the competitive activity called Amazing Race, which was modeled after the TV show Amazing Race. Seven teams of five students and one team of five WIA staff navigated through six stations that included games such as the five legged race, suitcase race, stay

connected with PVC pipe and marbles, water balloon toss and the glass puzzle. They had to complete the activity at one station prior to advancing to the next station. The first group that completed all activities and reached the finish line were declared the Senior Survivors winners of the event and received a trophy and \$50.00 Visa Gift donated by a local business. It was an

afternoon of fun and excitement. The graduates left the celebration excited and ready to explore opportunities in the workforce and/or post-secondary education.

Effective July 1, 2011 Richmond County will join Lumber River WDB Service Area. Both Richmond County Community Support Center and Rockingham District Partners in Ministry will provide WIA Youth services.



WIA YOUTH CONTRACTORS

BLADEN COUNTY
Bladen Community College

HOKE COUNTY
Hoke County Schools

ROBESON COUNTY
Robeson Community College
UNC Pembroke

SCOTLAND COUNTY
Scotland County Schools

In May, the Annual Senior Celebration honored 119 youth

STATE ENERGY SECTOR PARTNERSHIP



The LRWDB has been participating as one of four project teams in the State Energy Sector Partnership (SESP) grant. Funds are provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and were awarded to the LRWDB by the

North Carolina Department of Commerce back in July 2010.

By January 2013, the grant intends to serve a minimum of 210 participants in the green construction and sustainable agriculture sectors by connecting local area residents to training and paid work experience opportunities within these emerging industries. Of the 210

participants, a minimum of 135 will receive training and credentials in a green construction related field and 75 within sustainable agriculture. UNC-Pembroke and partnering community colleges (Bladen Richmond, and Robeson) have been instrumental in helping to facilitate the trainings.

(Continued on page 8)

STATE ENERGY SECTOR PARTNERSHIP (CONT.)

(Continued from page 7)

Approximately 125 participants have enrolled in the construction program with 72 of those participants completing training and earning an industry-recognized credential. Participants who entered as incumbent workers have made an immediate impact by utilizing their new skills and helping their business with quality improvements or expanding their services. The heating and air trade in particular has benefited from the program's Building Performance Institute training as technicians gained new skills and best practices related to home performance and diagnostic equipment.

Following an intense, week-long training at the North Carolina Solar Center, LRWD staff was able to im-

mediately place participants into internships with a solar energy company based out of Charlotte. Though initially unemployed, some of these participants have gone on to securing contract work with these companies and are going through interviews to become crew leaders.

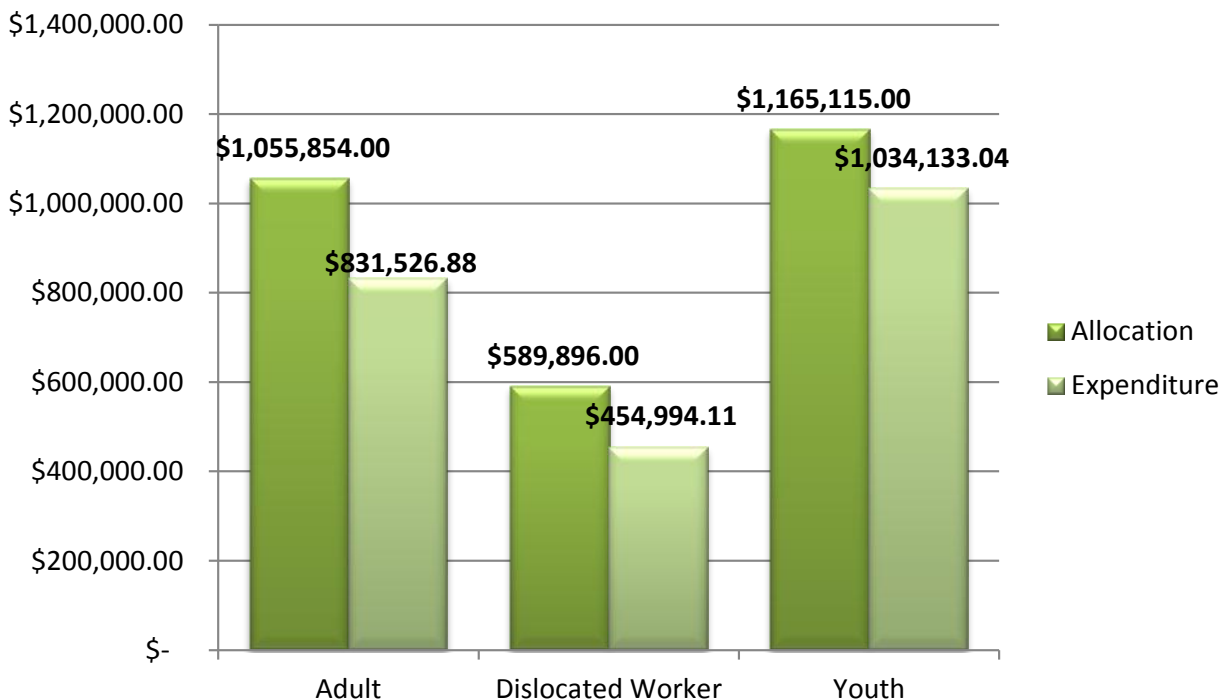
The Sustainable Agriculture program has enrolled approximately 42 participants and is currently conducting its second, 16-week class. Thus far, participants have earned credentials such as: NC REAL (agricultural entrepreneurs), GAP Tier 1, beekeeping, and organic certifications. Several participants are small farmers that have come together and started a highly successful tailgate farmer's market every Thursday morning in Pembroke. Another participant was re-

cently hired by a local winery, and yet another has started his own greenhouse operations thanks to a partnership with NC A&T University and the NC BioAg Network.



Farmer's Market

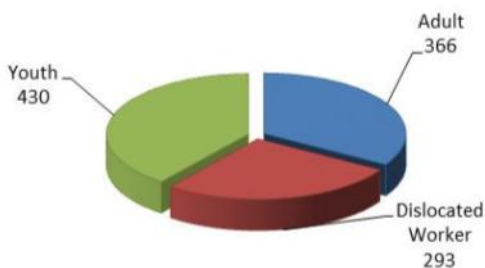
WIA ALLOCATIONS AND EXPENDITURES



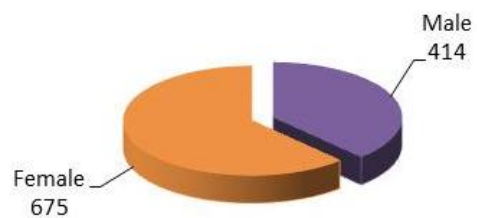
WIA ENROLLMENT

Contractor	Programs	Carry Forward Follow-Up	Carry Forward	Current PY Enrollment	Enroll Program Count	Exit WIA Count	Active WIA Participants
Bladen JobLink	DISLOCATED WORKER		53	27	80	43	37
Bladen JobLink	ADULT		37	30	67	25	42
Bladen JobLink	YOUTH		25	13	38	14	24
Bladen JobLink Totals		154	115	70	185	82	103
Hoke High School	YOUTH	18	31	23	54	20	34
Hoke JobLink	DISLOCATED WORKER		18	14	32	14	18
Hoke JobLink	ADULT		21	8	29	15	14
Hoke JobLink Totals		55	39	22	61	29	32
Robeson Community College	YOUTH	62	53	56	109	43	66
Robeson JobLink	DISLOCATED WORKER		39	50	89	64	25
Robeson JobLink	ADULT		122	59	181	128	53
Robeson JobLink Totals		272	161	109	270	192	78
Scotland High School	YOUTH	40	51	45	96	29	67
Scotland JobLink	DISLOCATED WORKER		54	38	92	61	31
Scotland JobLink	ADULT		54	35	89	71	18
Scotland JobLink Totals		165	108	73	181	132	49
UNCP	YOUTH	64	95	38	133	57	76
GRAND TOTAL		830	653	436	1089	584	505

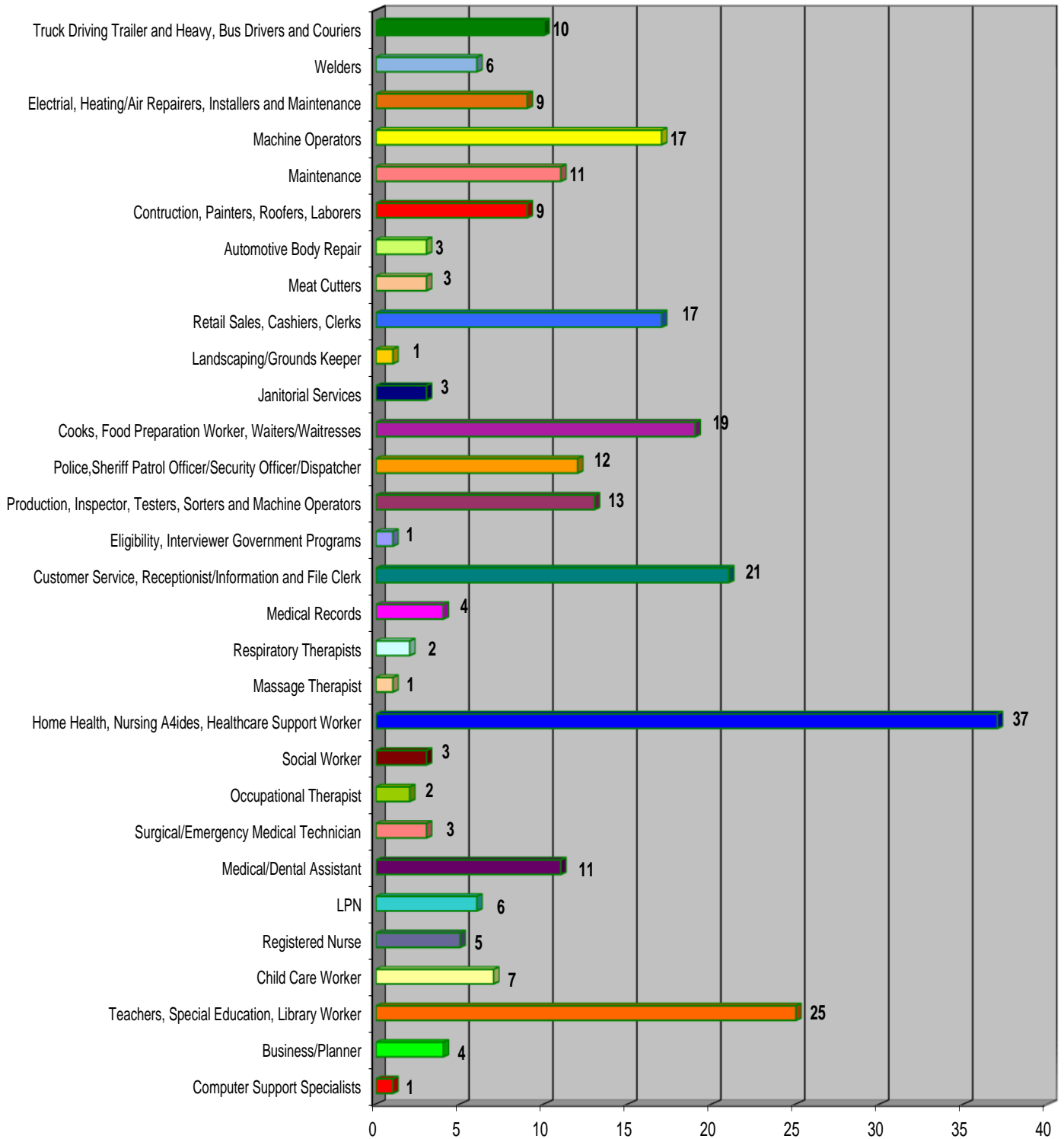
WIA PROGRAM SERVICE LEVELS



WIA PROGRAM BY GENDER



WIA EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES



COLLABORATION

Lumber River has continued to partner this year on regional initiatives, including the Allied Health Regional Skills Partnership, the All American Gateway Workforce Region, and Vision East.

The Southern NC Allied Health Regional Skills Partnership is a collaborative group that is working to create system changes that will help unemployed and underemployed adults find livable wage careers in allied health jobs. The partnership includes seven counties (Bladen, Cumberland, Hoke, Robeson, Scotland, Moore, and Richmond) and three Workforce Boards. Together, the partners have accomplished the following during July 2009–June 2011:

- Improved access to the region's only Physical Therapy Assistant (PTA) program. The program, based at Fayetteville Technical Community College, is now available to students in the eastern and western parts of the region.
- An increased graduation rate has been observed in the PTA program. Dr. Heidi Shearin, PTA Program Chair at FTCC reports that the 2011 graduation rate was 16 of 18 students and states that "the PTA program retention rate is higher than it has ever been."
- A new career ladder model was developed and implemented among partner hospitals in the region that has helped fill vacant jobs. The career ladder model employs second year PTA students as "PT Aides" at local employers with the ultimate goal of promoting them to PTAs upon graduation from FTCC.

- A new Hospital Inpatient Medical Coding Specialist certificate program was developed by FTCC in response to the region's growing need for skilled inpatient coding professionals.
- Training gaps among medical coding specialists were addressed with continuing educa-



tion to strengthen the knowledge and skill level of the existing coding workforce and prepare coding professionals for advancement into higher-wage jobs.

- A Medical Laboratory Technologist Reverse Transfer program is being explored and planned at Sandhills Community College.
- Relationships were built and strengthened among organizations and individuals participating in the SNCAHRSP.

The All American Gateway Workforce Region includes four workforce development boards (Lumber River, Cumberland, Pee Dee, and Triangle South) together with the economic development partner –

Fort Bragg Regional Alliance (previously BRAC RTF). These partners have developed a Memorandum of Agreement for communication, collaboration, and support for efforts in education, workforce and economic development in the eleven counties surrounding Ft. Bragg. In addition to the MOA, this region has developed a logo, webpage, held a BRAC Question and Answer Forum, and hosted two Regional Literacy Summits. The Gateway Region has embarked on a Literacy and Lifelong Learning Campaign—Get 'Not' Out of Your Life.

Vision East continues to be a vibrant regional partnership for the eight workforce development boards in eastern North Carolina. Partners established the following goals for 2010-2012:

- Establish the Career Readiness Certificate as the recognized region-wide currency for employer hiring;
- Expand the current web-based platform to include social networking and community engagement tied to a "T2T" theme;
- Engage employers in choices for connecting them to our region's youth from elementary school through college;
- Provided two-way coordination vehicles for maximizing the value of our military presence for regional growth.



DR. STANLEY A. RICHARDSON AWARD WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEMBER OF THE YEAR

This award is named in honor of the late Dr. Stanley A. Richardson, a devoted board member and a longtime educator from Bladen County. He was an avid advocate for youth and education during his tenure. As a result, the spirit and memory of Dr. Richardson will remain strong.



Durham White

The Workforce Development Board Member of the Year is Mr. Durham White. He has generously given his time and his expertise to the board since 1997. He currently serves as the chairperson on the board. In his role, Mr. White is responsible for leading and managing the board within the scope of its mission. He also serves as the primary liaison for the board and represents the board at important events.

In addition to serving on the board, Mr. White is also a member of the Vision East Workforce Development Boards, is active with United Way and is a member of Great Marsh

Baptist Church where he serves as Deacon.

Mr. White is employed by Southeastern Regional Medical Center where he works as the Assistant Human Resource Director. He always has a sincere interest in the progress of all workforce development programs, the communities and lives of the people which these programs touch. He supports the community and its people through his job as well as committees he willingly serves.

Congratulations Mr. Durham White!

*The Lumber River Workforce Development Board
Proudly Congratulates all Award Winners!*

BLADEN COUNTY WIA AWARD WINNERS

Smithfield Good food. Responsibly.™

Smithfield Packing Company - Tar Heel Division, Business of the Year, is a pork and turkey processor in Tar Heel. During the program year, the company has partnered with the Bladen JobLink and other agencies to provide employment and training opportunities. Smithfield Packing continues to support the community through donations and sponsorships.



Mattie McLaurin, Adult of the Year, is a single mother who experi-

enced a series of excessive hardships. With the help of WIA, she enrolled at Bladen Community College and earned an associate degree in Nursing. Her hard work and perseverance resulted in landing a job at Wesley Pines Retirement Community.



Allison Paige Guyton, Younger Youth of the Year, was in pur-

suit of a better future for her and her daughter. She set a course to finish her high school education and obtain an associate degree in nursing. Her self-determination paid off when she gained a job at Bladen County Hospital as a Registered Nurse.

HOKE COUNTY WIA AWARD WINNERS



The City of Raeford, Business of the Year, extensively utilizes the on-the-job training and work experience programs, retaining workers upon completion. The company has an intricate partnership with the Hoke JobLink hiring older workers and workers with barriers to employment.

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Edna Dailey, Adult of the Year, returned to school after being laid off from her job of 34 years. With the support of WIA, she enrolled at Sandhills Community College. Even through challenges, Edna endured and earned an associate degree in Early Childhood Education.

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Rontario Blue, Older Youth of the Year, struggled with some personal and educational issues, but found the support he needed in the WIA program. He diligently participated in work experience while attending classes and ultimately obtained his high school diploma.

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Brittany Edwards, Younger Youth of the Year, is a very determined individual. She is very active in the WIA program, participating in many training workshops including leadership, work experience and personal development. After graduation, Brittany plans to attend college.

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ROBESON COUNTY WIA AWARD WINNERS



The Robeson County Department of Public Health, Business of the Year, utilized the Work Experience Program through the Robeson JobLink to train new employees and have successfully hired one employee through the program.

utilized the Work Experience Program through the Robeson JobLink to train new employees and have successfully hired one employee through the program.



Coty Chavis, Adult of the Year, was unemployed and had limited work experience. After learning about WIA, he visited the JobLink in need of help. Once enrolled, he began training and was hired by Sentinel Fence Company through a on-the-job training contract.

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Bridget Chavis, Older Youth of the Year, found the motivation she needed within the WIA program to return to school. Although faced with obstacles, she obtained her high school diploma. She is currently enrolled in Nursing Assistant classes.

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James Hipp, Younger Youth of the Year, is very diligent and dedicated in achieving his goals. Despite barriers, he has succeeded in school and gained valuable work experience. James plans to attend college after graduation.

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SCOTLAND COUNTY WIA AWARD WINNERS



Pilkington North America, Inc., Business of the Year, manufactures and markets glass and glazing products. The company makes use of the on-the-job training program and works with the JobLink to recruit applicants and provide training.



David Wells, Adult of the Year, is deserving of this award because he has a genuine passion to teach children. The WIA program made it possible for him to achieve his goal of obtaining an associate degree in Early Childhood Education.

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Suqittah Nimetullah, Older Youth of the Year, faced many challenges in life as a single parent. Through the support of WIA, she prevailed and was able to complete all requirements for an associate degree in Human Services.

many challenges in life as a single parent. Through the support of WIA, she prevailed and was able to complete all requirements for an associate degree in Human Services.



Andrea Stubbs, Younger Youth of the Year, is deserving of this award because of her tenacity. With the help of WIA, she was able to obtain her high school diploma and is currently enrolled in a nursing program.

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STAFF HONORED FOR YEARS OF SERVICE

Workforce Development Staff Dana Powell, Patricia Hammonds, Holly Hunt and Paula Russ were honored for years of service during the Lumber River Council of Governments' Annual Meeting.



Dana Powell
25 Years



Patricia Hammonds
10 Years



Holly Hunt
10 Years



Paula Russ
10 Years

JOB FAIRS

Several job fairs were held in the Lumber River Local Area during the program year. Local businesses were present to accept resumes and meet with potential employees. JobLink and/or Workforce Development Staff were available to answer questions and provide information about the services offered through the JobLink Career Centers.

Robeson County JobLink Fairmont Job Fair
Heritage Community Building
July 16, 2010

Scotland/Hoke County JobLink Career Fair
National Guard Armory - Laurinburg
September 24, 2010

Bladen County JobLink Career Fair
Bladen Community College
April 20, 2011

Robeson County JobLink Fairmont Job Fair
Heritage Community Building
June 15, 2011



Robeson County JobLink Fairmont Job Fair

2011 GOVERNOR'S AWARD WINNER



Allison Paige Guyton
2011 Governor's Award Winner

The Lumber River Workforce Development Board congratulates Allison Paige Guyton for being selected to receive the 2011 Governor's Award for Excellence in Workforce Development. She accepted the Outstanding Youth Participant award at the North Carolina Workforce Development Partnership Conference on October 13, 2011, in Greensboro, N.C.

Nominated by Bladen Community College, Allison Paige was selected from many deserving individuals from across the state. With the help of WIA funds, she earned an Associate Degree in Nursing and is currently employed by Bladen County Hospital.

Congratulations Allison Paige!

OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS

Many thanks to outgoing Workforce Development Board Members: Robby Hall (not pictured), Scotland County Dept. of Social Services; Albert Beatty (not pictured), previously the Private Sector Representative for Bladen County; Joe Manis, previously the Private Sector Representative for Scotland County and Cathy Fields, previously the Organized Labor Representative for Bladen County. Their years of voluntary service to the board are greatly appreciated!



Joe Manis



Cathy Fields

RICHMOND COUNTY JOINS LUMBER RIVER

The Lumber River Workforce Development Board is proud to announce its newest addition - Richmond County. Previously, the County was affiliated with the Pee Dee Workforce Development for about a decade since the accompanying council of governments dissolved and it joined the Lumber River COG. Richmond's elected officials were already a part of the Lumber River COG and the agency was already providing other services in Richmond County, so it was a natural fit to bring the county's workforce development services under the same consortium. The Employment Security Commission in Rockingham will continue to be the host agency of the Richmond County JobLink Career Center. The JobLink Center will provide WIA Adult & Dislocated Worker services. Both Richmond County Community Support and Rockingham District Partners in Ministry will provide WIA Youth services.



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