

RIVERS EAST WORKFORCE NEWS

January-March 2020

Serving Beaufort, Bertie, Hertford, Martin & Pitt County



This quarter's numbers

TOTAL NUMBER IN TRAINING

Adult	204
Dislocated Worker	60
Youth	84
Total	348

INDIVIDUALS SERVED BY CENTER

Beaufort	899
Bertie	283
Hertford	360
Martin	733
Pitt	2,489

BUSINESSES SERVED

220

NEW LOOK

Both the Rivers East Workforce Development board and the NCWorks Career Centers got a new look for 2020! The Region Q Workforce Development Board voted to change its name and logo effective January 1, 2020. The new name and logo is representative of the many rivers that flow throughout the region and connect our communities.

In addition, a new NCWorks logo and brand was unveiled in late October and rolled out statewide as we entered the new year. Unlike previous logos, this brand is specific to the NCWorks system. With the updated colors, the NC is curved, representing a horizon and your future.

A fresh new look with the same great services!





ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION WITH GOVERNOR COOPER

Governor Roy Cooper (center) visited the Pitt Community College campus January 30 for a round table discussion on the state's Finish Line Grant program. PCC students who have benefited from Finish Line funding shared their stories with the governor and PCC administrators. From left to right are: Rivers East Workforce Development Board Director Jennie Bowen, Advertising and Graphic Design student Onyx Hannah, Associate Degree Nursing student Heather Hobbs, Electrical Systems graduate Isaiah Summrell, Governor Cooper, Business Administration/Human Resource Management student Jasmine Dye, Horticulture Technology student Jonathan Oxendine, PCC President Lawrence Rouse and PCC Board of Trustees Chairman Gary Evans.



RAMP EAST GRADUATES

Seven students recently completed the RAMP East Advanced Manufacturing Institute at Beaufort County Community College. The Advanced Manufacturing Institute is an employer-driven program that is designed to create a talent pipe line to fill open positions in our area. Congratulations to the graduates!

SPEED JOBBOING AT BEAUFORT COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Brandi Bragg, Career Pathways Facilitator; Christy Harris, RAMP East Recruiter; and Thomas Leigh and Patrick Buford with the NextGen Youth Program participated in a speed jobbing event held at Beaufort County Community College on February 27. Over 100 students from Beaufort County High Schools rotated between 45 employer booths to learn about the many career opportunities available to them in the community. This is the second year the Washington-Beaufort County Chamber of Commerce and Beaufort County Schools have teamed up to put on this event for local high school students. The Rivers East team was glad to participate and share information on our programs, services, career pathways and local job opportunities in the region.

OUR CENTERS

Beaufort County
1502 N Market Street
Washington, NC 27889
(252) 940-0900

Bertie County
105 E Granville Street
Windsor, NC 27983
(252) 794-0799

Hertford County
109 Community College Road
Jernigan Building B, Room 135
Ahoskie, NC 27910
(252) 862-1257

Martin County
407 E Boulevard
Williamston, NC 27892
(252) 792-7816

Pitt County
3101 Bismarck Street
Greenville, NC 27834
(252) 355-9067

*Act as if what you
do makes a
difference. It does.*
-William James



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TPM ACADEMY

Our director, Jennie Bowen, was one of 19 graduates from the NC Chamber's first cohort of the workforce development program, the TPM Academy®. This program is facilitated by the U.S. Chamber Foundation based on their Talent Pipeline Management® (TPM) framework. The Academy uses TPM's approach to train workforce leaders from across the country to drive partnerships with education and training providers based on industry need and build scalable, sustainable talent pipelines that support the students, workers, and businesses in their community.

"The TPM Academy of North Carolina graduates are established leaders in their communities dedicated to advancing the growth of their local economy," says Cheryl Oldham, senior vice president of the U.S. Chamber Foundation. "We look forward to continuing our partnership with them as they demonstrate their leadership in this rapidly changing economy and develop effective talent pipelines aligned to industry demand."



RAPID RESPONSE SERVICES PROVIDED FOR VIDANT, CAMPING WORLD & AC MOORE

The first quarter of 2020 saw the region lose over 300 jobs in Pitt County. In January, A.C. Moore Arts and Crafts closed its doors ending approximately 40 jobs. This was followed by an announcement in February that the warehouse portion of Camping World, Inc (formerly Overton's) would be closing its doors in March displacing 104 employees. Also in March, Vidant Health announced a reduction in force affecting 191 employees from across the Vidant service area, with the majority being based in Pitt County.

For each of these closures, the Rivers East Workforce Team held Rapid Response sessions to ensure affected employees were provided the information needed to take the next step into their future. These events included partners from our NCWorks Career Centers, Pitt Community College, Vocational Rehabilitation, and Pitt County Department of Social Services.

RIVERS EAST APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS

Rivers East Workforce Development Board and its administrative entity, the Mid-East Commission, have registered their WIOA Career Advisor Apprenticeship Program. This is the FIRST in the state designed for frontline staff in the Career Centers. Rivers East provides training opportunities to the communities it serves, and wanted to offer that same level of training to its own career advisors. By partnering with the NCWorks Training Center to utilize their Welcome to Workforce training as the primary training components, we are able to offer a registered apprenticeship credential to the local career advisors. This is a two year program with the option to complete early. Information on registration has been sent to all Career Center staff via Constant Contact.

In addition, at the ApprenticeshipNC Banquet in early March, a Rivers East Workforce Development Board Member, Kim Toler received the Special Recognition Award. Kim is the Training Manager at Nutrien in Aurora and also serves on the Apprenticeship Council as well as the NCWorks Commission for the state. Congratulations Kim, and thank you for all you do not only for our region but throughout the entire state!





KRISTA WOOD RECOGNIZED FOR 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

At the Martin County NCWorks Partnership Meeting in March, Larry Donley, Regional Operations Director for the Northeast Prosperity Zone recognized Center Manager, Krista Wood for 25 years of service.

Thank you, Krista, for all you do for the residents of Martin County!

NEW TEAM MEMBERS

Welcome to our new Pitt County NCWorks Center Manager, Callie Northern-Herring. Callie started on March 12. Callie has over 30 years of relevant experience in workforce development, the community college system, human services and as an entrepreneur. She has an undergraduate degree in Psychology from North Carolina A&T State University and a graduate degree in Public Administration from South University. Callie has a proven record of engaging community partners, understands local businesses and will make a positive impact on staff, clients and the community. Callie is looking forward to connecting job seekers and employers to the many services that are provided by the Pitt County NCWorks Center.



In January, Rivers East Workforce Development Board welcomed a new NextGen Youth Program Operator-Educational Data Systems, Inc. (EDSI). The EDSI team hit the ground running, deploying their "Transition Team" to begin work immediately, while searching for new team members in the region. They have welcomed the following staff to their local team thus far: Thomas Leigh (Beaufort), Latoya Hayes (Bertie), Peter Singletary Jr (Martin), Leeanna Alligood (Pitt) and Carroll Conley (Pitt). EDSI continue to recruit for a Career Advisor in Hertford County and a Program Manager.

MEET OUR NCWORKS CAREER CENTER STAFF



Beaufort



Hertford



Martin



Pitt