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Closing of the Bertie County NCWorks Career Center

Washington, N.C. – To better align staff and services, the Rivers East Workforce Development Board has made the difficult decision to permanently close the Bertie County NCWorks Career Center located in Windsor.

With limited staffing and a decline in individuals visiting the Center requesting services, the Board elected to move to a part-time presence in Bertie County effective July 1, 2020. During the current pandemic, all Centers in the region have been closed to in person services so the Board has added several new virtual service options to provide staff assisted services to job seekers and employers. Virtual services will continue after the Centers open for those who wish to receive assistance without requiring an in person visit to one of our Career Centers.

We are currently working to secure a location for a satellite office to provide in person services at least two days a week. As soon as those details are finalized, we will make the announcement of the location, dates and times.

In the interim, residents or employers needing services can contact our Hertford County or Martin County NCWorks Career Centers by phone, email, text or chat.

To contact staff by phone, call 1.855.NCWORKS. To receive service by email, contact the Hertford County Center at ncworks.1400@nccommerce.com or the Martin County Center at ncworks.9400@nccommerce.com.

To request services by text, in Hertford County text 252.506.8781 or in Martin County text 252.618.0606. The following keywords should be used:

JOBS: for employment assistance

NEXTGEN: if you are 16 to 24 years old and need assistance with job training or obtaining your GED

TRAIN: if you are over 18 and need assistance with training to obtain a job **VET**: if you are a veteran or eligible family member and in need of services

HIRE: If you are an employer and have immediate hiring needs

Individuals can also visit <u>www.ncworks.gov</u> and "live chat" with a Career Center Professional.

Jennie Bowen, Workforce Development Director, states, "It is never an easy decision to permanently close a location. We were able to transition our team members to other locations and they remain available to assist you. At this time, virtual services remain available as we work to secure a location to provide in person services on a part time basis. I encourage anyone needing assistance to please reach out to either our Martin County or Hertford County Centers."

The board's office is located at 1502 N. Market St., Suite A in Washington. For more information, call (252) 974-1815.

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