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Rivers East Workforce Development Board Partners With Pitt County Economic Development to Provide PPE to New Hires

Washington, N.C. – The Rivers East Workforce Development Board has partnered with Pitt County Economic Development to distribute funding for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for individuals that do not qualify for Supportive Services through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Examples of PPE may be items such as hard hats, safety vests, and steel toed boots that are the responsibility of the new employee to provide.

Kelly Andrews, Executive Director of Pitt County Economic Development shares that “required work boots or other protective gear should not be a barrier to employment. This small investment goes a long way for those that need it to secure employment, and it could be the key to financial stability for that person and his/her family.”

The grant, in the amount of \$2,500, will be available as a reimbursement to employers in Pitt County that have identified a need for new employees. These employers should submit the required form and proof of purchase to apply for reimbursement, limited to \$150 per individual.

Jennie Bowen, Director of the Rivers East Workforce Development Board, states “We are happy to team up with Pitt County Economic Development to provide this resource for those that traditionally do not qualify for our services. For some, the inability to purchase PPE may be holding them back from gaining employment. We hope that this funding will be able to assist in filling the gap for the new hire.”

For more information, visit riverseastwdb.org/business-services/ppe-grant/.

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Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Visit tinyurl.com/rewdbstenvensamendment for a list of grant disclosures.