

# Eastern Carolina WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD, INC.



*Serving the North Carolina Counties of Carteret, Craven, Duplin, Greene, Jones, Lenoir, Onslow, Pamlico and Wayne*

**May, 2009**

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There's no better worker than a veteran or a retiree from the military. "This is exactly the kind of worker that every business in every state wants to attract," commented Al Delia, policy director for the office of the governor, speaking at the Exiting Military Forum held May 8th, hosted by the Jacksonville Onslow Chamber of Commerce and its partners.

The purpose of the forum was to gain information and share ideas of how to retain exiting military to provide North Carolina's economy with a workforce that is skilled, educated, and hardworking. "The importance of the military to NC cannot be diminished," said Delia. "Exiting military represent something like \$3.3 billion in impact in NC."

In a survey conducted by MCCS in January of exiting military, 72 percent of the 284 surveyed indicated they plan to leave NC, while 19 percent plan to seek employment within NC, 3 percent had already secured employment within the state and 6 percent had no future plans. The majority of those surveyed, 62 percent indicated they would not reconsider remaining in the state even if their job or career path was available to them.

Kim Oliver, marketing director for Marine Corps Community Services, said she believes the missing piece is getting information to the exiting

military in advance so informed decisions can be made.

A major issue facing exiting military who are job seeking is the stereotype some employers may have that they are nothing more than "bullet stoppers," when in reality, Oliver said, they often have more skills than the average employee. "What they do in the Marine Corps has vast importance in the civilian sector," she said.

Delia said exiting service members make up a quality workforce because they are "disciplined, mature, tech savvy and ready to work," adding that they also pass drug tests and background checks with ease.

After listening to presentations by Oliver and Delia, attendees broke off into two groups to discuss ideas for ways to keep exiting military in the state. Those ideas were later presented to the group and will be forwarded to the Military Growth Task Force.

Among the suggestions was increasing communication between service members getting ready to exit the military and organizations that provide information about what is available in the civilian sector. While organizations on base attempt to do this through programs such as the Transition Assistance Management Program, often, service members do not participate in those programs until a few weeks before separating from the

service.

Jamie Farrelly, who retired as a Major from the Marine Corps in September and attended the forum, said he agrees that one of the biggest roadblocks in keeping exiting military in the state is the lack of communication. "If we could communicate the opportunities, to both the separating Marines that are available for education, for family and for employment and the future options that are coming ... you will retain more," he said. "You have a unique opportunity of a very highly educated, very competent work force in the military spouse," he said. "Take care of the families - that's the anchor that's going to keep more people here."

Another suggestion from the work groups was helping exiting military to have realistic salary expectations but also increasing the number of higher paying jobs in eastern NC. Oliver said having a great community, like that of Onslow County, can be a key element in retaining exiting military. "If they're going to stay, it's going to be because of the community. Most of them don't have family here so if they do stay it's because of strong community support," she said. "This community understands like no other. I have never in all my time of travel seen a community that embraces the military like this." *Source: freedomenc.com*



### **Officers**

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Tara Myers, *Vocational Rehabilitation, Manager*

## **Vision**

Our vision for the eastern counties of North Carolina is a highly skilled workforce with an educational attainment level that meets the needs of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century workplace, so that local firms can compete in a technologically advanced global economy.

## **Mission**

Our mission is to ensure that our workforce development system is customer focused, demand-driven and accountable in preparing our current and future workforce to meet the changing needs of a highly-competitive global economy.

## **Value Added**

We add economic value to our communities by ensuring that quality education, job training, and employment opportunities are available for job/training seekers and employers alike, thereby improving the quality of life for our citizens throughout eastern North Carolina.

## **Key Strategies**

- Engage business and community leaders in addressing workforce issues and promote strategies to improve education levels & basic workplace skills.
- Strengthen alliances with economic development to identify and address the workforce needs of current and future industries.
- Implement a community awareness plan that promotes the WDB, JobLink Career Centers, and partner services.



## Director's Corner

Dear Colleagues,

Now more than ever, the importance of the workforce development profession cannot be taken lightly. The men and women who represent our local workforce development system understand the critical role they play in preparing today's workforce for tomorrow's highly skilled jobs. No matter the position, each individual working in this important field is critical to the success of building a highly-skilled, productive workforce that is prepared to compete in a global economy.

Workforce Development Professionals represent a wide range of organizations, including: community colleges, universities, the K-12 school systems, industry and trade associations, state and federal workforce agencies, community based and youth service organizations, advocacy groups, and the local One-Stop system, known in North Carolina as the JobLink Career Center. They represent a group of individuals who possess the knowledge, skills, and unique ability to motivate, challenge, inspire, and help young and old alike to achieve their dreams of a better life. Their contributions are significant because our local, State, and National economies are dependent on a highly skilled workforce.

This newsletter highlights only a small sample of the successes that occur in our Workforce Development system on a daily basis. To all of our JobLink partners, educators, career counselors, case managers, employment specialists, administrators, policymakers, board members and elected officials who represent this important sector, we appreciate all that you do on a daily basis for the citizens of our region. Your commitment and dedication to helping others achieve their career and employment goals is needed now more than ever.

Thank you for all you do!

Tammy Childers

Pam and Tammy



*"A friend loves at all times"*

This newsletter is dedicated in loving memory to my dear colleague, friend, and sister, Pamela Whitaker who passed away from her battle with breast cancer on May 19, 2009. Pam was the Executive Director of Turning Point Workforce Development Board, Inc. located in Rocky Mount, NC, where she served for the past 24 years. She was one of the founding members of Vision East Workforce Development Board partnership, which formed in 2005. Pam's life was a life of service to her family, work, community, and most importantly to God. She exemplified all of the qualities of a committed workforce development professional and was an inspiration to all who had the pleasure to work with her. Her quiet nature, compassionate heart, gentle spirit, and inner strength were attributes that made her a great leader and advocate in North Carolina's Workforce Development system. Pam will be dearly missed by all of us who were blessed to work with her and call her our friend. To her family and staff, we offer our deepest sympathy.

# State of North Carolina



BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE  
GOVERNOR

## WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONALS MONTH

2009

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

### A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, North Carolina's economic development and the ability of our businesses and industries to compete in the global economy depend on the availability of a qualified and skilled workforce; and

WHEREAS, the complexity and fast-paced changes to our financial system and labor markets put new demands on individuals and employers at all levels; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina industry depends on the assistance of knowledgeable and dedicated professionals who understand the needs of our workforce and employers; and

WHEREAS, the ability of workforce development specialist to facilitate the process by which to navigate a multifaceted economy is critical to job seekers, employees, and employers across our state:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim May, as "WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROFESSIONALS MONTH" in North Carolina, in recognition of the efforts and accomplishments made by those in all workforce development organizations and partnerships that play such a vital role in our economy.



*B. E. Perdue*  
BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this first day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-second.





## Celebrating Workforce Professionals Month

Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Professionals Association holds annual appreciation luncheon.

On May 27, the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Professionals Association held its Annual Workforce Professional's Celebration at the offices of the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board. It was a time to recognize the many contributions of WIA Staff, JobLink partners, and the many successes of the customers we serve.

The event began with recognizing Susan Johnson, President, Wanda Glosson, Vice President, Angela Ellis, Secretary, and Shastine Lee, Treasurer for all their leadership, hard work, and contributions in keeping the Association strong for another year. Followed by voting in the incoming 2009-2010 Association Officers—Wanda Glosson, President, Sandra Shepard, Vice President, Wendy Walker-Fox, Secretary, and Stephanie Taylor-Graham, Treasurer.

After the installation of the new officers, awards were presented to seven outstanding participants for their personal accomplishments in achieving their education and employment goals. Those recognized were: Tracey Albert-Walton, Submitted by Sandra Shepard, Employment Security Commission – Onslow County JobLink; Eric Brown, Submitted by Ika Grant, Lenoir Community College – Lenoir County



Bob Lowery, Director of Second Blessing Thrift Store/Outreach Ministries



JobLink; Raven Freeman, Submitted by Shastine Lee, Greene County Schools; Patricia Milton, Submitted by Susan Johnson, Employment Security Commission Carteret County JobLink; Antoinette Norris, Submitted by Nadine Sullivan, Coastal Community Action; Jessica Valdez, Submitted by Tezra Egleton, Lenoir Community College – Lenoir County JobLink; and Jason Willis, Submitted by Wanda Glosson, Carteret Community College.

The event's guest speaker was Mr. Bob Lowery, Director of Second Blessing Thrift Store/Outreach Ministries in Morehead City. His message was simple, "We are in the business, because we want to make a difference in the lives of others." Mr. Lowery recognized the many contributions of the JobLink partners and shared his own testimony. He challenged and inspired the group to serve with compassion, empathy, and perseverance.

Source: ECWDB

## American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Forum Held in Onslow County

On May 27, the Jacksonville-Onslow Chamber of Commerce Governmental Affairs Committee presented "Forum Onslow: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act/Stimulus Funds for Onslow County - How much? When? Who? And How?" at the Jacksonville City Hall. The event was sponsored in partnership with Progress Energy, and the Jacksonville Daily News.

The purpose of this forum was to inform citizens of the various ARRA programs funded to benefit the citizens of Onslow County. Speakers included Kristoff Bauer, City Manager, City of Jacksonville; Joe Ramirez, Community Liaison, Marine Corps Base, Camp

Lejeune, Marine Corp Air Station, New River; Laura Payne, Human Services Director, Coastal Carolina Community College; Tammy Childers, Executive Director, Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board, Inc.; and Dr. Kathy Spencer, Superintendent, Onslow County Schools.

Speakers highlighted the allocated funding levels, how the funds will be used, the types of services/projects planned, and the estimated timeframe for activities. Attendees had the opportunity to ask questions. This event is just one of several that is planned for the region.

Source: ECWDB

***"North Carolina is set to receive more than \$8 billion in federal recovery money, and I intend for our state to not only be prepared to use this money to put our people back to work, but also to spend the money with the utmost accountability and transparency," said Gov. Perdue.***

## Governor Perdue Launches “12 in 6” JobsNow Initiative

Community Colleges to offer 12 career paths taking less than 6 months

In April, Gov. Bev Perdue launched “12 in 6,” a workforce development initiative designed to benefit North Carolinians who have lost their jobs due to recent layoffs and plant closures or other job seekers. The initiative will create community college programs in 12 career pathways, each requiring less than six months to complete.

The N.C. Community College System and the N.C. Department of Commerce are collaborating on the program as part of Gov. Perdue’s larger JobsNOW initiative, which focuses on job creation and economic development.

The new training programs will be available at all 58 community colleges by the end of September. The state’s 24 workforce boards, JobLink Career Centers, and Employment Security Commission offices will connect job seekers with the training programs and employment opportunities.

“Jobs now in North Carolina – that’s the goal. We know that people who have lost their jobs need to get back in the workforce as quickly as possible,” said Gov. Bev Perdue. “This rapid training initiative provides them with a clear path to success in new, sustain-



able careers.” “This initiative is another strong example of how, working together, state agencies can leverage resources and federal recovery funding to serve our citizens,” she added.

The 12 career areas were selected based on current and/or anticipated market demand: Nursing Assistant, Phlebotomy, Healthcare Billing/Coding, Office/Clerical Support, Masonry/Tile Cutting, Plumbing, Carpentry, Welding, Food Service, Autobody Repair, Manufacturing/Materials, and HVAC/Industrial Maintenance. Others may be added later.

“The road to recovery runs through North Carolina’s community colleges,” said Dr. Scott Ralls, president of the N.C. Community College System. “It makes perfect sense for the community colleges to work closely with the Governor in pushing her goal of getting North Carolinians back to work. The JobsNOW initiative will help our

state’s workers gain employment now and as the recovery begins to gain momentum.”

“North Carolina is well-known for having an outstanding workforce,” said Keith Crisco, secretary of the N.C. Department of Commerce. “This program is a great way to help those who have lost their jobs due to the economic downturn and who are eager to get back to work quickly, but who may need to enhance their skills or plan to pursue a new career.”

Commerce’s Workforce Development Division has allocated \$13.4 million in federal recovery funds to the program and on Friday, April 17 the N.C. State Board of Community Colleges is expected to approve the funds for the “12 in 6” initiative that will go to each of the system’s community colleges.

Funding is expected to be distributed to campuses on July 1. Funds will be used to develop courses and materials, provide student services and assist with identifying jobs and placing new trainees in them.

*Source: governor.state.nc.us*

### Gov. Perdue Launches JobsNOW Portal

Gov. Bev Perdue launched the JobsNOW Portal ([JobsNOW.nc.gov](http://JobsNOW.nc.gov)), a user-friendly resource for job seekers, those exploring new career options, and entrepreneurs looking to start, grow or relocate a business in North Carolina. “JobsNOW will help get our economy back on track and lay the foundation for a strong and sustainable economic future,” said Gov. Perdue. “The JobsNOW Portal will be a valuable tool for job seekers and businesses looking to expand or relocate.”

The JobsNOW Portal is part of Governor Perdue’s JobsNOW initiative, which brings together state agencies, local governments, business leaders and citizens to create new jobs, put people back to work and train and retrain our workers for success.

Other JobsNOW initiatives include Perdue’s recently announced Green Energy Plan, the “12 in 6” Worker Training Program, the Charlotte Area Workforce Recovery Plan and the N.C. Office of Economic Recovery and Investment.

Visit: [www.JobsNOW.nc.gov](http://www.JobsNOW.nc.gov)

## 311 Individuals Earn Their Career Readiness Certificate in Onslow County

In Onslow County, a total of 357 individuals participated in the ACT WorkKeys assessment during the 2008-09 school year. Among the participants were 304 Trades & Industrial Education Level II/III students from Onslow County high schools and 7 exiting Marines and spouses. Military participants accessed the WorkKeys assessment through the Transition Assistance Program (TAP) at Camp Lejeune.

Students prepared for the WorkKeys assessment by practicing online with a program called WIN. The WIN Career Readiness Courseware is a WorkKeys skills-based program used in conjunction with the WorkKeys Readiness Certificate initiatives across the nation to help students build and certify their skills. The WIN Courseware provides foundational skills instruction for Applied Mathematics, Reading for Information, and Locating Information. Also, the program includes five levels of a soft-skills curriculum that address workplace skills and ethics.

After a month of WIN preparation, students applied their knowledge, skills, and abilities towards the ACT WorkKeys examination. This assessment measured students' competency levels in Applied Mathematics, Reading for Information and Locating Information. Students took the WorkKeys tests on three separate days, 45 minutes per session.

Successful completion of these assessments serve as documentation for potential employers that the student is career ready. This nationally recognized industry-driven system awards three levels of certification--bronze, silver and

gold. If students attain bronze, silver or gold certification, they receive a certificate signed by Governor Perdue. After locally processing the score sheets at Coastal Carolina Community College, the results were exceptionally gratifying. Onslow County had a total of 55 students and military to score at the gold level, 192 at silver, and 64 at bronze, for an overall success rate of 87%.

The students earning certification are being recognized during each high school awards ceremony. Those students awarded a gold certificate are also presented a gold and white honor cord to be worn at graduation.

WorkKeys will be a useful and efficient employment tool for local business and industry. Attainment of the Career Readiness Certificate is verification that the student has the knowledge, talent, and skill to succeed in the 21<sup>st</sup> century workplace.

Onslow County is in need of young minds that are work ready and competent in many aspects of the construction workforce. The Career Ready Certificate will provide potential employees validation for successful entry into the \$3.25 billion housing project on base. CRC recipients are today's future and tomorrow's workforce.

For more information, contact:

*Jordan Murray*

Work Ready Project Specialist

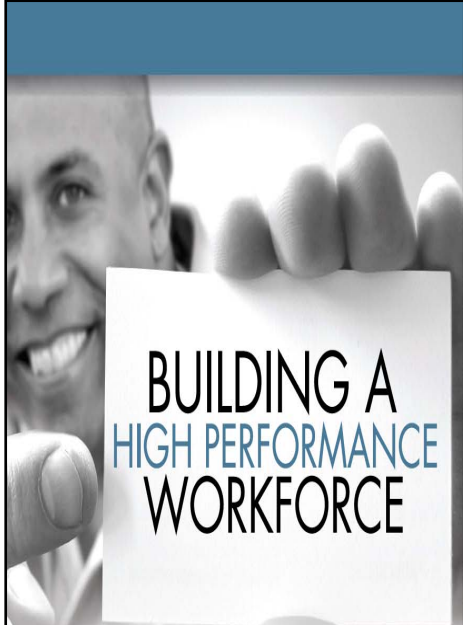
Career Technical Education

Phone: (910) 347-3141 ext. 225

Fax: (910) 347-4705


Email: [Jordan.Mercer@onslow.k12.nc.us](mailto:Jordan.Mercer@onslow.k12.nc.us)

**3,886 NC Career Readiness Certificates  
Issued Throughout the Nine County  
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## West Craven High School Students First to Receive Career Readiness Certificates in Craven County Schools



The Career Readiness Certificates (CRC) initiative is more than just another test for students. It is a way to measure real-world work skills needed to be successful in a job. The WorkKeys assessment tests in three areas: Reading for Information, Locating Information, and Applied Mathematics.

North Carolina's CRC is a portable national credential that promotes skills and career development for individuals and confirms to employers that the individuals possess basic workplace skills. Students earn either a gold, silver or bronze certificate depending on their scores.

Michael Haynes who teaches Drafting and Career Management at West Craven High School introduced his students to the program with the assistance of George Kramer from Craven Community College. Seven students took the test. Six received a silver certificate and one a bronze. These are the first students in Craven County to participate. The students are: Carlos Cabrera, Eddi Cabrera, Kerra Cox, Heather Jackson, Kayla Jackson, Jakeish Keys, and Jamika Roundtree.

Statewide 24,000 certificates have been issued since the program began several years ago. Wayne County leads the region with over 2,900 certificates having been awarded. Many employers rely on the CRC as a screening tool for job applicants. These students have demonstrated that they are ready for the workforce. Craven Community College hopes to receive a grant to pay for the WorkKeys assessments so that more students can take advantage of this opportunity.

*Source: Darlene Moss, Craven County Schools*



Students: Carlos Cabrera, Eddi Cabrera, Kerra Cox, Heather Jackson, Kayla Jackson, Jakeish Keys, Jamika Roundtree.

## Golden LEAF Announces Outreach Sessions Open Grants Program to begin July 1

The Golden LEAF Foundation announced it will host outreach sessions to provide information about its Open Grants Program, one of the Foundation's newest grantsmaking programs. The Open Grants Program will replace the Foundation's Annual Grants Cycle and allows for acceptance of year-round proposals. The Open Grants Program also creates new procedures intended to make it easier for organizations to request funding.

The Foundation will hold the briefings in Asheville, Dobson and Greenville. These sessions will explain the Foundation's funding priorities, the new grantsmaking process and grant management procedures. Those unable to attend the sessions are welcome to contact Foundation staff to discuss any questions they may have.

"The outreach sessions raise awareness of the Foundation as a re-

source for qualified nonprofits and governmental entities and provide potential applicants an opportunity to interact with Foundation staff, ask questions and receive first-hand information," said Golden LEAF President Dan Gerlach. "Given our commitment to an open-door policy, we value these sessions as a chance to hear from communities and organizations across the state and assist them with any questions they may have about the Foundation's grantsmaking."

The Golden LEAF Foundation is committed to using the funds entrusted to it for projects that show the most potential for strengthening North Carolina's long-term economy, especially targeting tobacco-dependent industries, economically distressed, and/or rural communities. The Foundation focuses grantsmaking in three areas: agriculture, job creation and retention and workforce prepared-

ness. Proposals providing other opportunities to support and develop economic strength for its target communities are also welcomed. In light of the economic downturn, Golden LEAF will be looking for projects that complement and leverage federal and state stimulus programs to increase the impact of its grantsmaking.

Nonprofit organizations and governmental entities are eligible for consideration of Golden LEAF grants and are invited to attend the free sessions.

Prospective applicants are encouraged to review funding priorities and guidelines for the Open Grants Program posted on the Foundation's Web site, [www.goldenleaf.org](http://www.goldenleaf.org). The site also offers online and downloadable submission forms. The Foundation will begin accepting requests for funding on July 1, 2009 for the Open Grants Program.

*Source: [goldenleaf.org](http://goldenleaf.org)*



# Lenoir Community College Receives \$24,100 to Help Dislocated Workers Start their Own Business

## Growing America Through Entrepreneurship

On May 18, 2009, the State Board of Community Colleges approved funding of \$24,100 for the Small Business Center at Lenoir Community College to operate the second year of the Growing America Through Entrepreneurship (GATE) Project.

In 2008, the North Carolina Department of Commerce (Division of Workforce Development), in conjunction with the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS), the North Carolina Rural Center, Inc. and the NC REAL Enterprises, Inc. applied for and received a special targeted grant from the U.S. Department of Labor -- Employment and Training Administration (USDOL/ETA) to operate Project GATE for Dislocated Workers in rural areas.

The GATE Project started at Lenoir Community College Small Business Center with identifying and marketing

the program. After a short orientation with The Rural Center and NC Real; LCC began getting the word out with an orientation DVD shown to various groups and individuals who have been referred to GATE. With strong small business resources and access to counseling services already in place, LCC is helping dislocated workers fulfill their self-employment goals.

Participants who receive a GATE scholarship will be eligible for a new, three-hour seminar titled From Losing My Job to Owning My Job, the North Carolina REAL Entrepreneurship course, vocational courses related to the particular business they are starting, and free ongoing coaching and confidential counseling from the Small Business Center. This may include developing a business plan, financial counseling or credit repair, and help on other issues specific to the business.



Source: LCC

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#### **Craven County JobLink Career Center**

Phone: (252) 514-4828

#### **Craven County JobLink Information Site**

Phone: (252) 444-2384

#### **Duplin County JobLink Career Center**

Phone: (910) 296-1478

#### **Greene County JobLink Career Center**

Phone: (252) 747-5689

#### **Jones County JobLink Career Center**

Phone: (252) 448-5021

#### **Lenoir County JobLink Career Center**

Phone: (252) 527-7320

#### **Onslow County JobLink Career Center**

Phone: (910) 347-2121

#### **Onslow County JobLink Information Site**

Phone: (910) 938-6309

#### **Pamlico County JobLink Career Center**

Phone: (252) 249-9934

#### **Wayne County JobLink Career Center**

Phone: (919) 731-7950

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## Onslow County JobLink Career Center Receives International Association of Workforce Professionals Service to Veterans Award

Congratulations to the Jacksonville Employment Security Commission Veteran's Team!

Serving Veterans is what the Onslow County JobLink Center hosted by the Jacksonville Employment Security Commission does best. The Onslow County JobLink Veteran Section is comprised of Local Veteran Employment Representatives: Larry Woods, Georgia Kennedy, James Harris, and Disabled Veterans Outreach Specialist Kelley Hamilton. This team of highly motivated veterans serves the veteran population of Onslow County and beyond, and has developed a track record of successful accomplishments which was noted by receiving the distinguished International Association of Workforce Professionals "2008 Services to Veteran's Award".

During the past year, the veteran's section served 1,855 veterans, providing 1185 individuals with referrals to supportive services, 1,121 referrals to jobs, and a variety of other direct services resulting in 35% of those entering employment, 30 veterans enrolling into the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) programs, 7 veterans completing their WIA training, with 100% entering employment. "This was achieved through the continual efforts to develop, improve, and sustain programs within the community to improve veteran employment and training opportunities," said Larry Woods.

A major accomplishment of the veteran section was being the first Transition Assistance Program site in North Carolina to fully implement the Department of Labor approved Transition Assistance Program on board both Camp Lejeune Marine Corps Base and Marine Corps Air Station, New River. During this past year, the veteran section provided direct instruction to 9,010 separating service members. This instruction was provided over a two and a half day workshop totaling 1,280 hours of instruction this past year in the areas of personal assessment, labor market research, job search techniques, application and resume preparation, interviewing, and job negotiation. Due to the initiative and drive of the veteran's section to continually seek better methods

of instruction, and using technology the section's own staff developed "VBA Interface" which was placed on the National Veterans Training Institute website for national use at <http://nvti.cudenver.edu/TapFacilitator/home/index.htm>.

In addition to the 9,000 plus service members provided transition assistance by the veteran's section, an additional special outreach to the training elements of Camp Lejeune provided 67 injured service members individual transition assistance that facilitated their successful transition home by placing them in direct contact with their respective veteran representative in their home town.

As a result of innovative practices, dedication, and commitment to excellence, the veteran's section has been recognized for meeting 100% of the North Carolina Veteran Performance Standards, recognized by ESGR as a Patriotic Employer, and by the United States Army for their efforts in aiding transitioning service members and their recruitment efforts in the local community.

These accomplishments only briefly describe the unique contributions of the Onslow County JobLink and Jacksonville Employment Security Commission Veterans staff. Their efforts have now resulted in being nominated and receiving the prestigious International Association of Workforce Professionals "Service to Veterans Award" which recognizes specialized needs awareness, resource promotion, employment opportunity, customer services outreach, and partnering with and for veterans. "I am very proud of our local Veteran's team and the quality employment and training services that they provide to veterans on a daily basis," commented Ralph Leeds, ESC Manager and Coordinator of the Onslow County JobLink Career Center.

Source: Larry Woods, Onslow JobLink/ESC

### Learn How to Participate in Job Fairs on Base and Hire Transitioning Military Personnel

North Carolina is home to more than 100,000 active-duty military personnel. Each year, thousands of these skilled, educated and disciplined men and women transition to the civilian sector. This workforce represents a strong competitive advantage for North Carolina companies. Contact the following offices to learn how your company or organization can participate in upcoming job fairs and hire transitioning military personnel:

#### Camp Lejeune Transition Assistance Program

**Contact:** Ms. Lee Tuthill  
**Phone:** 910-449-9709  
**Email:** [lee.tuthill@usmc.mil](mailto:lee.tuthill@usmc.mil)

#### Cherry Point Air Station Marine Corps Community Services

**Contact:** Ms. Kyndal Downum  
**Phone:** 252-466-4401  
**Email:** [kyndal.downum@usmc.mil](mailto:kyndal.downum@usmc.mil)

#### New River Air Station Marine Corps Community Services

**Contact:** Mr. Gerry Malpass  
**Phone:** 910-449-5255  
**Email:** [gerry.malpass@usmc.mil](mailto:gerry.malpass@usmc.mil)

#### Seymour Johnson AFB Transition Assistance Program

**Contact:** Mr. Richard Lambert  
**Phone:** 919-722-1123  
**Email:** [Richard.lambert@seymourjohnson.af.mil](mailto:Richard.lambert@seymourjohnson.af.mil)

## Pamlico Community College Students Recognized for Academic Excellence by North Carolina Community College System

Two Pamlico Community College students were recognized for academic excellence in the 2008-09 academic year by Kennon Briggs, the state community college system's vice president and chief of staff.

Dannett Williford and Alicia Dixon join honorees from the 57 other North Carolina community colleges being recognized for academic achievement combined with outstanding student leadership and citizenship skills.

Williford is a graduating Medical Assisting Major sponsored by WIA at Pamlico County JobLink Career Center; Dixon is studying Business Administration.

Williford graduated as the Student Government Association president and

was honored along with first-year business student, Dixon, for the academic excellence award.

Williford, a mother of two, describes her Pamlico Community College experience with these words, "There is not an option for defeat. I am setting the example for my children. PCC opened the door for me to reach career goals and has led me every step of the way. The instructors have never been too busy to go one-on-one with me when I needed extra help. And besides all that, the warm atmosphere at this college adds to my success." She will now attend Craven Community College and, with some course work through East Carolina University, she will achieve her goal of becoming a registered nurse.



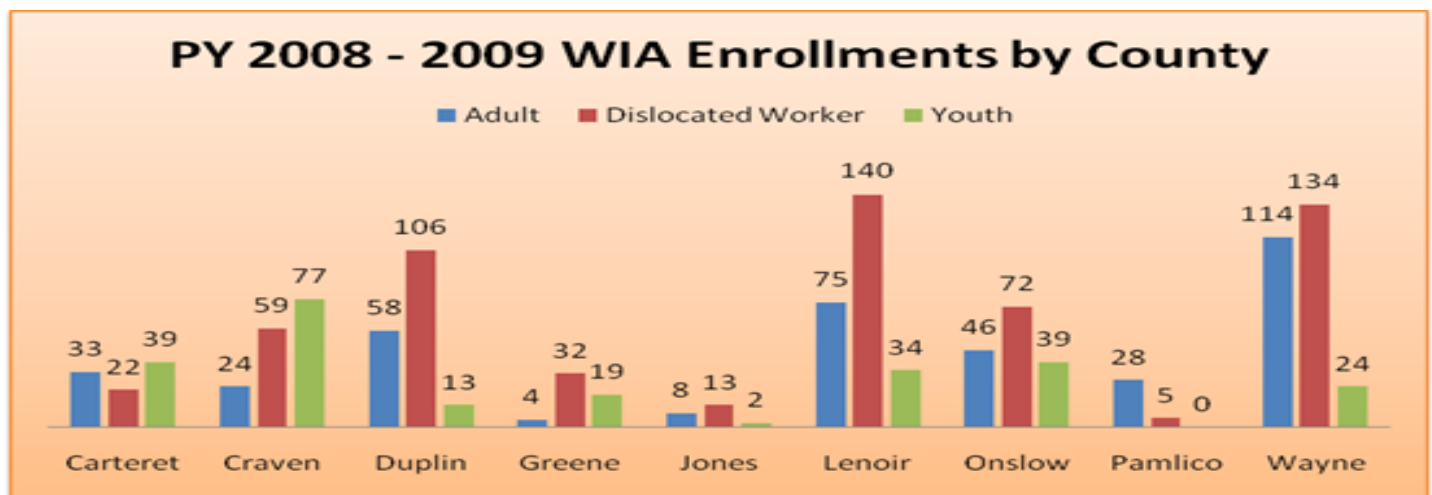
Dannett Williford, left, thanks Cristy Lewis of the Pamlico JobLink Career Center.

Source: PCC

### *"Mission of Workforce Investment Act"*

*... increase the employment, retention, and earnings of participants, and, as a result, improve the quality of the workforce, reduce welfare dependency, and enhance the productivity and competitiveness of the Nation."*

## Since July 1, 2008, 1,220 Individuals have been served through the Workforce Investment Act



## Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board Awards Contracts to operate the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Programs

In February the Eastern Carolina Workforce Development Board, (Board) received notice that federal funds would be forthcoming, as part of the American Recovery Reinvestment Act (ARRA) to provide employment and training opportunities to low income adults, disadvantaged youth, and dislocated workers. Direction was received from the Department of Commerce, Division of Workforce Development to immediately begin planning programs based upon projected allocations. In April, the Board received its ARRA allocation totaling \$2,775,566.

During their March 5th meeting, the Board approved ARRA contracts based upon county fair share allocations to operate the Adult and Dislocated Worker programs, which are delivered through the local JobLink Career Centers in the nine-county region.

The Board opted to release a Request for Proposals to operate a Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP). At their May 7 meeting, the Board awarded contracts totaling \$947,611.00 for the operation of the ARRA summer youth programs to serve the nine-county local area.

It has been nearly ten years since the local area has operated a large Summer Youth Program. Through the SYEP, service providers will place nearly 300 youth in entry-level employment at pub-

lic and non-profit worksites and for some older youth employment at private for-profit business based upon their career interests.

For the most part, the SYEP is a young person's first exposure to the world of work. The program provides work experience that may not have otherwise been possible. The SYEP offers a unique opportunity to provide a mix of services intended to address the academic and vocational needs of at-risk youth. To be eligible for these ARRA funded youth services, youth must be aged 16 through 24, low income, and meet at least one of six specified barriers to employment.

In addition to summer employment, other activities include academic enrichment activities with an emphasis on career/vocational exploration (incorporating career information on regional high demand sector occupations such as health care, advanced manufacturing, skilled trades, and opportunities in the "green economy"), and work readiness skills training to result in a NC Career Readiness Certificate. Youth may also benefit from tutoring, study skills training, comprehensive counseling and guidance, and adult mentoring.

Since April, 224 adults and dislocated workers have been enrolled into the ARRA programs. These individuals are receiving assistance with tuition, books, supplies, and for some, supportive services, which may include childcare, transportation, etc. We expect to see the ARRA enrollments continue to rise.

Following is a breakdown of ARRA award amounts totaling funds received at \$2,775, 566:

### Adult Programs

Carteret Community College	\$30,657
Coastal Carolina Community College	\$79,095
James Sprunt Community College	\$47,279
Lenoir Community College	\$93,209
Pamlico Community College	\$7,632
Wayne Community College	\$93,162
Employment Security Commission	\$52,691
Total	\$403,725

### Dislocated Worker Programs

Employment Security Commission (serving Carteret, Craven, Duplin, Onslow & Pamlico)	\$571,284
Lenoir Community College (serving Greene, Jones & Lenoir)	\$385,391
Wayne Community College	\$189,999
Total	\$1,146,674

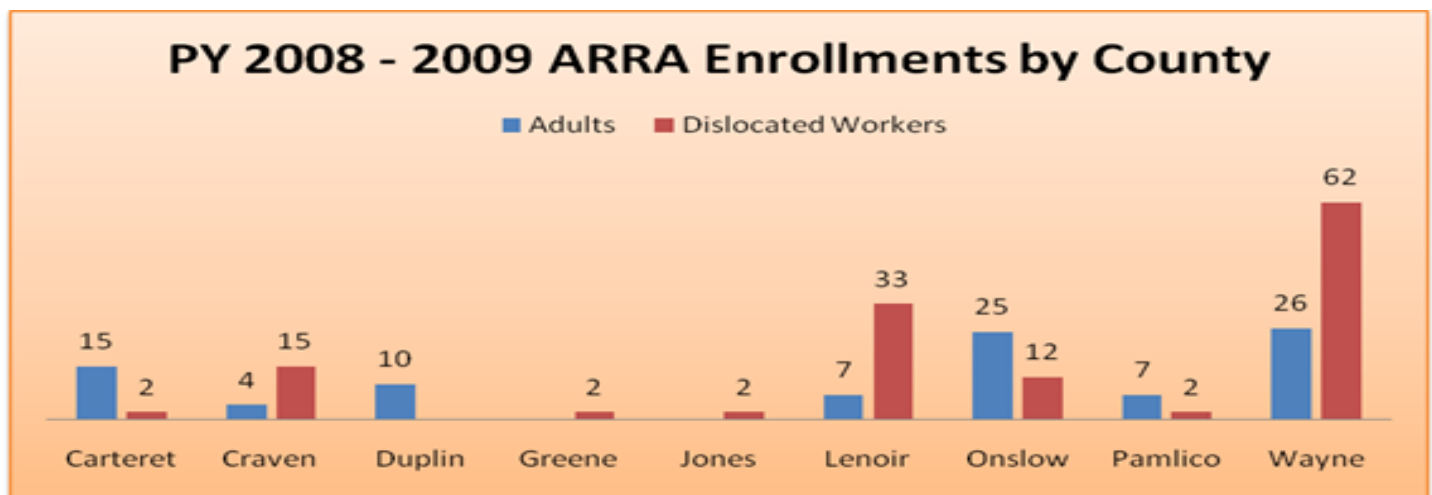
### Summer Youth Employment Programs

Carteret Community College	\$122,251
Greene Lamp, Inc.	\$262,449
James Sprunt Community College	\$85,840
Jones County Schools	\$75,484
Lenoir Community College	\$91,299
Onslow County Schools	\$164,225
Wayne County Schools	\$146,063
Total	\$947,611

<b>Admin</b>	\$241,082
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Source: ECWDB

## Since April 1, 2009, 224 Individuals have been Served through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act







### **ECWDB Staff:**

Tammy Childers, Executive Director

Robert Kehres, Assistant Director

Lisa Harvey, WIA Coordinator

Trina Hale, Accounting Technician

Joe McCarthy, Youth Coordinator

Debbie Simpkins, Fiscal Monitor

Ellen Sink, Administrative Assistant

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[www.ecwdb.org](http://www.ecwdb.org)

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

#### **Eastern Carolina WDB Meeting**

at the ECWDB offices in New Bern  
July 9, 2009, 6:00 pm

#### **JobLink Committee Meeting**

at the ECWDB offices in New Bern  
August 6, 2009, 6:00 pm

#### **WIA Oversight Meeting**

at the ECWDB offices in New Bern  
August 13, 2009, 6:00 pm

#### **Executive Committee Meeting**

at the ECWDB offices in New Bern  
August 27, 2009, 6:00 pm

#### **Youth Council Meeting**

at the ECWDB offices in New Bern  
September 8, 2009, 6:00 am

#### **Eastern Carolina WDB Meeting**

at the ECWDB offices in New Bern  
September 3, 2009, 6:00 pm

### **Memorial Day May 25, 2009**



***"Greater love has no  
one than this,  
than to lay down  
one's life for his friends."***

— John 15:13 NIV

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