

Greenville County Workforce Development Board (GCWDB)

225 S. Pleasantburg Drive, Suite C11, Greenville, SC 29607

Tel 864-467-3620 Fax 864-467-3601

WIOAinfo@greenvillecounty.org

greenville.scworks.org



GREENVILLE COUNTY
Workforce Development Board

Preparing the workforce, growing our economy

Greenville County Workforce Development Board (GCWDB)

Youth Committee Meeting

Wednesday, January 15, 2025

9 a.m. to 11 a.m. – includes breakfast

Judson Mill Social Innovation Center

Agenda

** Denotes an action item*

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| I. Welcome, Introductions, Sign In Sheet | Mr. Craig Kinley, Chair |
| II. Call to Order | Mr. Kinley |
| III. Quorum Validation (5 or more) | Mr. Kinley |
| IV. Minutes Approval (November 19, 2024*) | Mr. Kinley |
| V. Contractor Update (5 minutes) | Eckerd Connects |
| VI. Update on Action Items | Dr. Bogardus |
| VII. Old Business | Dr. Bogardus |
| VIII. New Business – Strategic Planning | Dr. Bogardus |
| IX. Next Steps / Action Items* | Dr. Bogardus |
| X. Adjourn | Mr. Kinley |

Upcoming meeting dates for your calendar (9 am start time, in-person unless otherwise noted):

March 19. May 21, July 16(virtual), September 17, November 19 (3rd Wednesdays)

Presentation Documents will be made available via <http://www.greenvillewib.com>

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**Greenville County Workforce Development Board (GCWDB)
Youth Committee Meeting
Tuesday, November 19, 2024
11:45 a.m. (lunch starts); 12 noon – 1:15 p.m.
Center for Manufacturing Innovation at Greenville Tech, Greenville, SC 29615**

MINUTES

Attended: Crystal Noble (SC DJJ), Zoraida Arroyo (SC DJJ), Tameka Brown (Greenville Tech), Jessica Allendorf (Greenville Tech), Jimmy Sercey (SC VR)

Members Absent: LaToya Dodson (Upstate AHEC), Tiffany Foster (Goodwill), Craig Kinley (Wiprowess, Clemson; Chair), Nita Donald (Upstate AHEC), Stacey McKinney (SC DEW), Tina Zwolinski (Skills Gapp)

Staff Present: Eva Anagnostis (GCWD)

Guests: Renee Alexander, Ray Starks (Eckerd Connects), Laura Bogardus (Noble Aim Consulting)

Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 15, 9 am – 11 am, location TBD. Includes Breakfast. Will discuss strategic planning.

ACTION ITEM: Seeking two sets of partner fact finding notes so that Laura can complete the review.

ACTION ITEM: Renee to bring business cards for distribution for referrals to the next meeting.

ACTION ITEM: Suggested that we work to identify fields where younger students can be employed. Transferable skills and pathway building, keeping them connected, earning credentials, entering workforce successfully.

ACTION ITEM: Laura to put together what we have so far in terms of a strategic plan and share it with the group in preparation for our January meeting discussion. Everyone to review it in advance of the meeting and be prepared to discuss and make decisions. Also will create a member accountability plan.

- I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 12:05 p.m.
- II. **Welcome and Introductions:** Laura Bogardus opened the meeting. Jimmy Sercey introduced himself as the new representative from Vocational Rehabilitation. The rest of the attendees introduced themselves. Laura thanked Greenville Tech for hosting the meeting at the Manufacturing Innovation Center.
- III. **Quorum Validation:** There was NOT quorum present.
- IV. **Minutes Approval* (September, 2024):** Will vote at the next meeting in January to determine approval for both September and November meeting minutes.
- V. **Contractor Update (Ms. Teresa Smith, Eckerd Connects Program Manager)**

Renee shared an update on the Youth Program including number of enrollments, participants in training, including GED and post-secondary trainings, and work-based learning activities, which include Work Experience and On-the-Job Training (see attached presentation for counts). Renee noted the

1/10/2025

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importance of boots on the ground referrals. Partnerships and referrals are very important. Then they determine whether their services are a fit at that time. **ACTION ITEM:** Renee to bring business cards for distribution for referrals to the next meeting.

VI. Old and New Business

OLD Business - Performance Measures

1. Expectations on performance measures were met in that we met most measures but did not pass the youth employment or educational enrollment after HS / GED. Our credential rate has been negotiated to be much lower in PY 2024 (July 2024 – June 2025) so we should not have issue meeting the failed measure this year due to the lower rate and also the measures we are taking to improve. Jimmy reported that Vocational Rehabilitation is also having challenges meeting the same measure with Youth.

OLD Business – Innovation Grant

2. The Innovation Grant was not awarded to our area. Out of 12 areas that applied (all), only one Workforce Area received the grant. Were told by the state workforce board that they are evaluating the money they have to determine how to spend it moving forward, because the workforce areas are hoping to have another opportunity to apply for it. Eva mentioned the need for more funding.
3. Funding discussion. Laura asked about staffing levels at GCWD. Contracts cover Eckerd staffing working for GCWD youth, regional contract with Upstate WIOA where salaries are split 50/50 if not 100% on Greenville, and Equis. Equis is the contractor that handles adult and dislocated worker programs. Equis also serves as our operator and business services provide. When GCWD has to cut funded items due to low budgets, we cut travel, training, marketing, before having to cut staff. Then training budgets, supportive services budgets. We are about to put out an RFP for procurement of an adult dislocated worker provider.

NEW Business – SETA Attendance

4. Jessica reported on fall SETA attendance. Great to see how the different areas connect with each other. A lot of similar issues shared by areas. Only two youth sessions were offered and Jessica attended both. One was on the importance of youth and education/employment, but she would have liked to see more data, more case study examples, innovative approaches, and practical helpful knowledge. There were other sessions about the role and function of workforce boards. Renee shared that NAWDB is the youth conference (in Phoenix this year) with all youth-focused sessions. Renee will have a youth focused session for March SETA on soft skills. Laura and Dean will have a session on working with contractors, among other topics. The committee discussed the need for additional youth credentials and teaching youth how to talk about their credentials to employers. Jessica would have preferred sessions on how to overcome the challenges rather than just identifying the challenges. Would be helpful to have discussions on how to get more students involved in apprenticeships. Tameka shared that out of 200 interested students for a Prisma apprenticeship program, 100 were qualified, but only 16 interview slots, and only 6 to be selected by Prisma for patient care technician apprenticeships, leading to CAN credentials and 27 college credits, which can transfer to Gvl Tec, USC Upstate, and others in the area. Trying to get a REWA apprenticeship started (which would be age 16 to start, but needs to be an easily accessible location). Manufacturing apprenticeships are also limited by age – must be 18. The age requirement

1/10/2025

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makes the apprenticeships limited to 18 or about to be 18 in order to do a healthcare apprenticeship at Prisma (some exceptions in basic shadowing and other work) as well as Greenville County EMT. Several students need to go to work but also want to earn a credential toward a career. **ACTION ITEM:** Suggested that we work to identify fields where younger students can be employed. Transferable skills and pathway building, keeping them connected, earning credentials, entering workforce successfully.

NEW BUSINESS – Strategic Planning and Member Accountability

5. Discussed the plan for strategic planning, including laying out our priorities, goals, objectives, and activities for the next 12-month period during the next meeting(s). Discussed the importance of measuring our progress toward meeting these objectives. Discussed not meeting for meeting’s sake, but meeting to do systems changing work that supports youth. Requires regular attendance. A Survey to measure accountability to the committee involvement and tasks was discussed as a method to track our own participation, to remind each member of their responsibilities. Also discussed reporting attendance and that 75% attendance is a typical minimum required in many committees to remain on the team. **ACTION ITEM:** Laura to put together what we have so far in terms of a strategic plan and share it with the group in preparation for our January meeting discussion. Everyone to review it in advance of the meeting and be prepared to discuss and make decisions. Also will create a member accountability plan.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn made by Tameka. Seconded. Being there was no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:02 p.m.

1/10/2025

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