

**Greenville County Workforce Development Board (GCWDB)**

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**GREENVILLE COUNTY**  
Workforce Development Board

*Preparing the workforce, growing our economy*

**Greenville County Workforce Development Board (GCWDB)  
Committee on Services to Individuals with Disabilities (CSID) Meeting  
February 19, 2026  
Eggs Up Grille, McAlister Square, 225 S. Pleasantburg Dr., Greenville, SC 29607**

**Agenda**

*\* Denotes an action item*

**CSID Vision:** All people with disabilities who would like to work can find work [measured by employment rate, unemployment rate].

**Upcoming Meeting Dates:** May 21, 2026, August 20, 2026, November 19, 2026

- I. **Welcome & Sign-In Sheet**
- II. **Call to Order**
- III. **Quorum Validation**
- IV. **November 20, 2025, Minutes Approval**
- V. **Old Business**
  - a. Action Item Follow Ups
  - b. Member Updates
  - c. Member's Employment Outcomes / Pre-employment Program Outcomes
- VI. **New Business**
- VII. **NEXT MTG: May 21, 2026: 9 – 10 am at Eggs Up Grille, McAlister Square, 225 S. Pleasantburg Dr., Greenville, SC 29607**
- VIII. **Adjourn**

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

Public Law 101-166, Section 511: The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Adult Program is supported by the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor as part of an award totaling \$497,007 with \$0 (0%) state, local, and/or non-governmental funds. The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Dislocated Worker Program is supported by the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor as part of an award totaling \$631,222 with \$0 (0%) state, local, and/or non-governmental funds. The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth Program is supported by the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor as part of an award totaling \$512,831 with \$0 (0%) state, local, and/or non-governmental funds.

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**Greenville County Workforce Development Board (GCWDB)  
Committee on Services to Individuals with Disabilities (CSID) Meeting  
9:00 – 10:00 AM, Thursday, November 20, 2025  
Project SEARCH, BSHS St. Francis Downtown, Greenville, SC**

**Minutes**

**In Attendance:** Allison Fleahman (Project SEARCH), Tiffany Foster (Goodwill), Angie Ballenger for Tyler Rex (Thrive Upstate), Tammy Galindo (SC VR), Laura Bogardus (Side by Side Strategies).

**Absent:** Levetta Williams (GCS), Sandy Jordan (Able SC), Lara Ceisel (BSF), Carlene Zierfuss (GCS)

**EACH MEETING:** Each member is to provide a snapshot of their employment and pre-employment program performance data quarterly during each meeting.

- I. **Meeting opened.** There was a quorum (4 voting members minimum). Minutes from August 21 meeting were approved. Members and guests were introduced. Action items from previous minutes reviewed.
- II. **Meeting summary:** The meeting focused on members' and guests' disability inclusion initiatives and workforce development programs with discussions about intern transitions, employer engagement, and career fair outcomes. Participants reviewed action items from previous meetings and addressed challenges in job coaching, recruitment practices, and transportation barriers for individuals with disabilities. The conversation ended with updates on housing assistance programs and partnerships, while also touching on the impact of a new hospital development on the local healthcare workforce.
- III. **Action Items / Next Steps:**
  - VR is planning another career fair for the spring, with a focus on employer cultivation, development, and expanded communication.
  - Allison will send more information about the Be Ready program to Janneh Jones.
  - Janae will consider potential partnerships or assistance from Thrive, Goodwill, VR, Bon Secours Project SEARCH, Able South Carolina, Barbara Stone Foundation, and other organizations for the Move to Work program.
  - Laura to arrange the next meeting for February 19th Eggs Up Grille at McAllister Square.
- IV. **BSHS:** Joe Mazzawi with BSHS introduced himself as the VP of Missions and highlighted the hospital's commitment to supporting individuals with disabilities, as well as balancing sustainability with the hospital's mission to help those in need. He expressed support for workforce opportunities and community partnerships.
- V. **Employer Summit Impact Review:**
  - Allison shared insights from recent Employer Summits, highlighting well-organized sessions on AI's impact on the job market and a panel discussion involving representatives from businesses, agencies, and providers.

- Key challenges included the shortage of job coaches / counselors and the need for agencies to revise job posting practices to better accommodate candidates
  - Group may discuss AI's role in disability inclusion for further exploration.
- VI. **Disability Inclusion and Recruitment Efforts:** A career fair at Voc Rehab was held to target transition-age students and adult populations, and was well-attended by job seekers despite having fewer employers than hoped. Participants lined up at every table, showing strong interest in available opportunities, with several attendees securing jobs. The organizers noted that transportation and better communication were identified as potential barriers and areas for improvement for future events. They plan to host another job fair in the spring with a focus on enhancing employer participation.
- VII. **New Hospital's Impact on Workforce:** The discussion focused on the impact of a new hospital being built between Bon Secours and Prisma Health systems. The hospital is planned to be a small, 100-bed facility with approximately 500 employees, though specific details are still unclear.
- VIII. **Project SEARCH Update:** The meeting discussed two employment programs: Project Search and Be Ready. Project Search, a collaboration with Vocational Rehabilitation and Greenville County Schools, provides 10-week rotations in different departments for 18-21 year olds with intellectual disabilities, focusing on building work skills and confidence. Be Ready, a newer program for adults, offers transferable skills training at various BSHS locations. Both programs emphasize motivation, independence, and parental support.
- IX. **VR Update:** The VR program has opened 338 cases and successfully closed 135 people in competitive employment since July 1st, with job coaches revamping their approach to focus more on individualized support and informed choice. The program is expanding business relationships.
- X. **Goodwill Update:** Despite government shutdown issues affecting SEVA contract services, the team was able to transition affected employees to other work opportunities while waiting for government funding to resume. Many activities and programs taking place throughout Goodwill footprint.
- XI. **Thrive Update:** Angie discussed challenges in securing employment due to transportation barriers, particularly for those in enclaves where there is no bus service. Angie noted the recent hiring of an additional job coach to increase their numbers.
- XII. **GCHA Move to Work Program Overview:** Jenneh discussed the Move to Work Family Self-Sufficiency Program, which provides housing assistance to low-income families. Non-disabled participants between 18 and 61 are required to engage in financial education and choose a success path, which determines the length of housing assistance. The program offers incentives for completing financial education classes, training programs, and skills-building activities. Jenneh will additional partnerships.
- XIII. **Next Meeting: February 19, 2026: 9 – 10 am,** Eggs Up Grille, McAlister Square, Greenville, SC
- XIV. **Meeting Adjourned at 10:20 a.m.** Tour of Project SEARCH followed the meeting.

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