

**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](mailto:WIOAinfo@greenvillecounty.org)

[greenville.scworks.org](http://greenville.scworks.org)



**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  
Thursday, September 16, 2021  
9:00 – 11:00 AM**

**SC Works McAlister Square. 225 S Pleasantburg Drive, Suite E1, Foothills B Conference Room**

**OR**

**Conference <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89808061292?pwd=Tmk1azBTZi9JM0VvRWxGOEljZkNSUT09>**

**Meeting ID: 898 0806 1292**

**Passcode: 504941**

**Agenda**

*\* Denotes an action item*

- I. **Welcome and Introductions**
- II. **Call to Order**
- III. **Quorum Validation**
- IV. ***Minutes Approval April 14, 2021***
- V. **CSID & Noble Aim Consulting, LLC**
- VI. **Other Business**
- VII. **Adjourn**

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

**Greenville County Workforce Development Board (GCWDB)  
Committee on Serving Individuals with Disabilities (CSID)  
Wednesday, April 14, 2021, 1:00 p.m.**

**Attended by -----:** David Turnipseed (Chair) ([SC Department of Vocational Rehabilitation Department](#)), Elise Hardin ([Thrive Upstate](#)), Dean Jones ([GCWD](#)), Cheryl Johnson ([BSHS Project SEARCH](#)), Levetta Williams ([GCS HR](#)), Laura Bogardus ([GCAN](#)), Lara Ceisel ([GCAN](#)), Michelle Neeley ([Goodwill](#)), Julie Hollister ([YMCA - guest](#))

**Absent:** Diane Thompson ([GCS](#)), Sandy Jordan ([Able SC](#)), Lynn Gibbs ([GCS HR](#))

**Minutes**

**I. Welcome and Call to Order.** David Turnipseed called the meeting to order and noted there was a quorum. Michelle moved that we accept the January 6, 2021 minutes. Elise seconded. Motion carried.

**II. Discussion Topics:**

**a. Changes to CSID membership.**

- i. David introduced Lara Ceisel as the new Barbara Stone Foundation Director / Greenville CAN Lead Facilitator and welcomed her to the committee.
- ii. Laura introduced Julie Hollister as a guest of the committee.

**b. Ability ASCEND Update.** Laura reported that the Ability ASCEND website is live at <https://abilityascend.org/> and is currently accepting profiles from job seekers. Valuable input was received from Able SC employees regarding ease of use. Several suggestions made by Able SC, Thrive Upstate, and others have been evaluated and developers are making changes this week into next week, including the discontinuation of Jobtimize as a candidate assessment. **\*ACTION ITEM:** Laura B / Robyn Grable will ensure that all committee partners are informed when changes are uploaded. **\*ACTION ITEM:** All committee members will push for inclusion of clients / consumers that are in job search to create profiles with the assistance of staff if necessary. **\*ACTION ITEM:** All committee members to send Robyn Grable their employer contact information (2 free employer access subscriptions per committee member) so that on May 1<sup>st</sup>, when Ability ASCEND is live for employers, they can receive their login information. **\*ACTION ITEM:** Dean to contact Robyn Grable about presenting an update on Ability ASCEND to the Workforce Investment Board in the coming months.

- c. **Greenville Disability Employment Business Development Advisory Group.** Laura B. reported that this group is meeting once per month with excellent attendance and sharing of employer information (needs and leads) between organizations for the good of consumers in job search. They are also working together to workshop individual consumer situations for special situations. This is a new group with great potential for further bonding and communication between meetings. This group represents the “single point of contact” concept per organization. [Advisory members are \(link to list\)](#): Tracy Bledsoe (Goodwill), Cheryl Johnson (BSHS Project SEARCH), Diane Thompson (GCS), Brig Berthold (Upstate Warrior Solution), Calvin LehrBass (SC Works), Randy Redlinger (Gateway House), Stephen Shelato (United Ministries), Ryan Skinner (Voc Rehab), Dee DiCarlo (Thrive Upstate), Lindsay Adams (YMCA), Laura Bogardus (GCAN).
- d. **GCAN Disability Employment Discussion Group.** Laura B. reported that this group meets every other month and consists of about 50 people on the distribution list, with about 18 to 25 attending on a regular basis (slightly lower online attendance). The April 13<sup>th</sup> virtual meeting was attended by 19 from almost as many organizations. Ryan Skinner and Lisa Hall gave a presentation on the Customer Service / Call Center / Remote Work training. Lot of questions and interest from others. Next was a research presentation, “The Minimum Wage Landscape” which was a joint project of group members from GCAN, SC Works, United Ministries, Upstate Fatherhood Coalition, and Goodwill. There was interest in additional explorative topics / presentations for future meetings among the group, and group members that participated expressed positive comments about the collaboration. Meeting ended with sharing of organizational news. Next meeting is 12 – 1:30 in person at Goodwill, June 8<sup>th</sup>.  
**ACTION ITEM:** Laura to attach the presentation with these minutes.

### III. Other Business.

- i. Dean reported that Tommy Rice from Upstate Fatherhood Coalition (UFC) is interested in becoming a member of the committee. **\*ACTION ITEM:** Dean will follow up with Tommy.
- ii. Dean announced that the SC Works will be using a new virtual Job Fair software soon.
- iii. Dean reported that recipients of unemployment insurance will be required to start job search to receive benefits, beginning next week. Most are not doing job search currently. He expects a large increase in SC Works center traffic as a result.
- iv. David reported that Vocational Rehabilitation – Greenville will host the Be Pro Be Proud Rig on April 19<sup>th</sup>. It will be open from 2 – 3 pm for any interested community members to use, and he invites all committee members to attend. This is a tractor trailer equipped with simulation equipment for high demand professions. Its purpose is to promote job training in those careers.
- v. Laura B. reported that this will be her last meeting as the grant that supports her position, provided through the Barbara Stone Foundation and other local/regional grant sources, ends June 30<sup>th</sup>. She is in communication with Lara C. about transitioning responsibilities. Laura expressed faith in this committee and the GCAN Disability Employment Discussion Group continuing to do great work. She also praised the Business Development Advisory Council for their coordination, and due to the newness of the group, is interested in seeing this group continue to thrive. Members expressed positive comments for the support provided by Laura in this grant-funded position since 2017.

Dean relayed that he would like to see the work continue in some fashion and noted that his organization is willing to contribute toward shared funding.

- vi. Cheryl reported that a Project SEARCH has a [new webpage](#). She also reported that in recognition of Autism Acceptance Month, a Project SEARCH intern – Grace Castro - is featured in the Bon Secours internal newsletter and website: [find the article here](#).
- vii. Laura reported that the Discussion Group and the Business Development Advisory Group routinely lament the problem of transportation as a major barrier to employment among their clients/consumers. They also reported that caregiver and consumer beliefs about negative effects of competitive employment on social security income (SSI) / disability social security income (DSSI) continue to hamper efforts to transition people to work in the community. **\*ACTION ITEM:** Laura suggested that the committee consider actions that can be taken from a leadership perspective on assessing and addressing these issues.
- viii. Elise announced that she is retiring on June 2<sup>nd</sup> and that Tyler Rex will return to the committee in her place. Everyone congratulated Elise on her excellent news and thanked her for her work with people with disabilities in the community. **\*ACTION ITEM:** Dean to handle any appointment / replacement procedures with the change.

**IV. Next Meeting.** The next meeting is set for July 14<sup>th</sup> from 1 – 2:30 pm. Location TBD (either at McAlister Square SC Works Suite, or Virtual).

**V. Adjournment.** Meeting adjourned at 2 p.m.

*\*Denotes an action item*