

**COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT / DISABILITY / LITERACY NEEDS**  
**May 23, 2019**

**Members Present**

Tom Bianco, Co-Chair	Kasmire Blazie, NJLWD
Amy Busch, Mosaic Family Success Center	Lorrie Covolesky, Abilities Solutions
Jim Sinclair, Div. Social Services	Quincy Lee, NJLWD
Calvin McFarland, GC Human & Disability Svrs.	Kimberly Quigley, St. John of God
Wanda Rogers, DWD	Theresa Rohlffing, Ctr. For Independent Living
Stacey Smith, DVRS	Heather Faulkner, GC Housing Authority
Karen Spieker, The Arc Gloucester	Krista Lope, DVRS
Christina Velazquez, GC Planning	John Zukauskas, NewPoint Behavioral
Bridget DiGiambattista, WDB Staff	

**Members Absent**

Dr. W. King, Chair	Mark Boyd, Goodwill Industries
Tom Brown, MASCEC	Euletta Campbell, Nat'l Coalition 100 Black Women
Dennis Cook, RCGC	Glen Donelson, MASCEC
Matt Ford, Literacy NJ	Rev. A. Frazier, FBO
Stephen Goodman, Volunteers of America	Saranda Karpuzi, Literacy NJ
Angela Lucas, HireAbility	Jennifer Mauro, Goodwill Industries
Christopher McKelvey, NJLWD	Crystal Noba, Ctr. for People in Transition
Scott Raynor, Elwyn NJ	Gina Ridge, Center for Family Services
Brigette Satchell, RCGC	Jeffrey Shisler, Goodwill Industries
Denise Taguwa, NJLWD	Kristen Wilson, Ctr. for People in Transition
Michelle Yeager, Woodbury Public Library	

Tom opened the meeting at 8:30 am.

A motion to approve March 28, 2019 minutes was made by W. Love, seconded by Q. Lee.

**Status**

WLL – Kasmire reported 22 new enrolled students; 14 attending learning link; 15 completions; 0 moved into training; 5 moved into employment; & 6 referred to RCGC for HSE.

**Agency Updates**

Ability Solutions – Lorrie announced Abilities Solutions received a youth paid summer internship through DVRS grant. It is for 25 students still in school with an IEP between ages 14-21 and will run July 8 – August 16. They will be paid minimum wage, which will be \$10.00 starting July 1, 2019. They have 5 seniors graduating from the regular school year program on June 7 at RiverWinds. The next Vetability luncheon will be June 13 at Westville VFW. They have no waitlist at this time for services.

DVRS – Stacey reported referrals have increased, they had 101 referrals last month and opened 66 new applications. Jennifer V. reported 29 individuals with disabilities that were working for CTDI were recently given pink slips due to the tariff.

St. John of God – Kimberly reported they are looking to hire 6 CNA's for their day habilitation program and also looking to hire CDL drivers (passenger endorsement), this is for a part-time, split shift for \$20.50 per hour. They have no waitlist for services.

Ctr. For Independent Living – Theresa reported the Center will be hosting the next business card exchange on June 26, 8:00 am. Wawa has been donating frozen food to the Center on a daily basis and she invited other present agencies to send any clients that may have a need. Theresa mentioned if anyone has clients that may have a question about transportation by Access Link to call her as she'd be happy to help.

Glassboro Family Success Ctr. – Amy reported they have many summer programs offered for children & families. They will no longer offer GED classes due to lack of volunteers and ESL classes will only be offered 1 day a week. The Kid Zone will be offered every other Wednesday during the summer.

NewPoint Behavioral – John announced they will be merging with Cape Counseling and Robin's Nest, they are waiting on State approval.

GC Human & Disability Srvs. - Calvin reported the NJ Dept. of Human Services has proposed a change in EA policy, on 4/24 the State proposed insurance services for those in need repealing the causing of homelessness standard.

CDBG – Christina reported an RFP-19-43 for public services funding (\$178,000) is available on the County website, the deadline for submission is May 31, 2019.

The Arc Gloucester – Karen reported they are moving individuals from achievement centers to employment. They will be hiring job coaches. They recently had a new home open – East House. Camp Sun N Fun summer camp has a waitlist.

Vouchers for housing

Div. Social Services – No report.

GC Housing – Heather reported they have opened the Section 8 waitlist and mainstream only program. The mainstream only program is for individuals that are homeless as well as institutionalized. Camp Salute project-based vouchers are always open; veterans only vouchers are always open. Vouchers for housing are available and are ready for pick up.

#### **Transportation**

Tom reported Pureland East-West Shuttle this month had the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest amount of total ridership. Saturday services have stopped due to lack of ridership.

#### **Ex-Offenders / Re-Entry**

Probation – Quincy reported they had 8 clients scheduled for probation class, only 3 attended.

Wanda reported she attended a Gloucester County mental health disaster preparedness for suicide prevention workshop which she found very informative based on the range of population that we serve.

The Disability Employment Job Fair will be held on Friday, July 26, 2019, 9am-12pm at the Clayton Complex.

The next meeting will be held on July 25, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Bridget A. DiGiambattista, WDB Staff