

August 8, 2018

Executive Committee
Kevin Trapani, Chair

Current Activities

1. **Business and Jobseeker Roundtable Discussions**
 - o The roundtables serve as a way to learn about the workforce and economic development challenges and opportunities in local areas across North Carolina. NCWorks Commission leadership intends to convene a round table event in each prosperity zone. The information learned from this and other events will inform the work of the commission going forward.
2. **Spotlight on Local Workforce Innovations**
 - o The Spotlight on Local Workforce Innovations showcases local innovations in collaborative, employer-led workforce development partnerships across our state. The series highlights promising practices that can be replicated across the state.

Governance and System Alignment
Susan Jackson, Chair

<i>Shawn Brown</i>	<i>Jeff Frederick</i>
<i>Joe Rogers</i>	<i>Ronnie Smith</i>
<i>MaryBe McMillan</i>	<i>Margaret Spellings</i>
<i>Jess Englert</i>	

This committee supports strategies and oversees activities that foster a more aligned and responsive system that is easy to access and customer-oriented. The committee promotes collaboration, policy alignment, innovation, and communication among workforce system agencies and partners.

Current Activities

1. **Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Unified State Plan**
 - o In concert with the WIOA State Steering Council, the 2-year modifications to the WIOA State Unified Plan were submitted and approved in June by the U.S. Departments of Labor and Education.
2. **NCWorks Career Center System Certification**
 - o The committee oversees the process to ensure all NCWorks Career Centers meet criteria approved by the commission for operations and customer service according to federal guidelines. This month the centers in the Southwestern and Mountain Area workforce areas (a total of 9 career centers) are being recommended to the committee for certification.
3. **State Agency Collaboration under NC Job Ready**
 - o The committee will meet with representatives from the departments of Commerce, Public Instruction, Health and Human Services, and the UNC and Community College Systems to discuss what workforce agencies are doing, and plan to do, to accomplish the Governor’s NC Job Ready initiative (skills and education attainment, employer leadership, and local innovation).
4. **The Future of NCWorks Career Centers**
 - o The committee is assembling an ad hoc task force of system representatives to think creatively about how the system can best serve customers, and how to stay relevant five to ten years into the future to continue to meet our customers’ needs. The group will first survey local representatives of the system and have their first meeting later this summer to refine a work plan and formulate recommendations for the system.

This committee supports strategies to ensure the workforce development system is visible, relevant, efficient, and easy to access by employers. The committee strives to connect employers to qualified, work-ready employees through meaningful partnerships with the workforce system.

Current Activities

1. State Agency Marketing Group

- This sub-committee is working to create a shared vision and universal marketing campaign to provide information about the workforce system to businesses.
- The 2017 NCWorks Menu of Business Services tool, which serves as an overview of workforce system services available to businesses, has been streamlined with more business-friendly language and rebranded as *NCWorks 4 Business*.
- The marketing group is working on a web-based outreach strategy and collaborating with EDPNC and Business Link North Carolina (BLNC) to launch an 800-number for businesses to call.

2. Knowledge-exchange videos

- The committee is overseeing the development of cross-training videos for state agencies that provide workforce development services to businesses. Agency officials are creating five to ten minute educational videos describing the workforce services within the following categories: Recruiting and Screening, Training, Pipeline Development, and Transition Services.
- As of July 2018, scripts have been developed for the Department of Commerce Division of Workforce Solutions, N.C. Community Colleges, and the local workforce development boards. Dr. Jenni Harris, Executive Director of Business Services, participated in the filming of the cross-training video for the Division of Workforce Solutions.

3. Soft skills study

- The committee is reviewing the July 2018 data analysis of soft skills in growing industries/professions in NC derived from ONET data and North Carolina Star Jobs data.
- Together with the Education and Training Committee, the Business Engagement Committee will work with the Friday Institute at NC State to create an inventory of soft skills training programs and strategies across the state.

4. Employer needs survey

- The 2018 report was released in July 2018. The committee oversees the biennial employer needs survey to understand the factors impacting hiring and attrition.

This committee focuses on using data to drive strategies, measure performance, increase transparency, and improve accountability of the system. The committee works collaboratively with North Carolina’s system partners to ensure that all available workforce development data is timely, accurate, easily accessible, and useable.

Current Activities

1. NCWorks Commission Local Workforce Development Board Performance Measures

- Effective June 30, 2018, local boards can now run custom reports that include all of the local measures in NCWorks.gov.
- The new targets that were approved by the commission in February 2018 are now effective as of July 1, 2018.
- The committee is currently reviewing trends in local board performance for program year 2017 and discussing options for recognizing high performing boards.

2. NC’s Workforce Development System Fifth Annual Performance Report

- The NCWorks Commission is charged to develop an annual workforce development system report card with universal success metrics. The lead entity is the commission, and the committee will work with Commerce, DHHS, DPI, and NCCCS to collect the data.
- The Labor and Economic Analysis Division (LEAD) at the Department of Commerce and the NCWorks Commission completed the most recent report July 2018. The report is available on the NCWorks Commission website.

3. 2018 Annual Workforce Development Program Review

- The annual survey to collect funding levels, funds distributions, target populations, services to individuals and employers, program goals and performance measures, and types of outreach strategies, along with work-based learning information from the 19 agency programs that provide workforce development services is complete as of June 2018.
- The committee is using the survey results to inform the work of the commission and learn about potential challenges and opportunities in North Carolinas’ workforce development delivery system.

4. State of the Workforce Quarterly Report

- The committee is working on a quarterly publication to provide key economic and labor market information that relates to workforce so that commission members can see the latest trends in North Carolina and discuss future needs in workforce development policy.

Education and Training
 Stan Sherrill, Chair

Sherry Carpenter
Hope Williams
Chris Watters

Mark Johnson
Mike Okun
Pam Townsend

Nate Davis
*Gilda Rubio-Festa**

This committee identifies strategies, policies, and other activities to ensure North Carolina has the workforce needed for a strong and vibrant economy. It also seeks to identify and promote strategies that support credential attainment and career advancement.

Current Activities

1. Research on the supply and demand of the workforce

- Together with LEAD, the committee is working to identify the mismatches between existing education and training programs and the current needs of N.C. employers.
- Acknowledging the lack of private college data in LEAD’s database, the committee appointed the president of North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities (NCICU) to investigate data sharing solutions between the NC Department of Commerce and private colleges.

2. Support of NCWorks Certified Career Pathways

- As of July 2018, 30 NCWorks career pathways have been certified by the NCWorks Commission.
- The committee is examining how the commission can promote, endorse, and monitor the certification process and implementation of NCWorks Certified Career Pathways, to identify areas for enhancements either to the process, to the criteria itself, and/or regarding future performance metrics.
- The committee is currently overseeing a research study to investigate the impact of certified career pathways in North Carolina. The study publication will be complete in the fall of 2018.

3. Career awareness campaign

- Working with workforce system partners, the committee is exploring opportunities to change public perception of the wide range of educational options available to students that can lead to in-demand occupations.

4. Outreach to veterans

- The committee is currently developing recommendations for improving and better coordinating workforce development services for transitioning veterans and spouses of veterans.

**Subject Matter Expert*