

**TURNING POINT REGIONAL  
ALLIED HEALTH ROUNDTABLE**

Roundtable Meeting  
Friday, November 6, 2009  
9:00 AM – 12:00 NOON  
Gateway Technology Center  
North Carolina Wesleyan College

Mr. Eric Evans, Presiding  
Ms. Lori Harrell, Recording

<p><b>Present:</b> <b>Area L AHEC:</b> Mrs. Alice Schenall <b>Staff:</b> Ms. Evangeline Grant <b>Turning Point WDB:</b> Ms. Carissa Rudd, Mr. Eric Evans and Ms. Catherine Moody <b>Rocky Mount OIC:</b> Mr. Charles Washington <b>Nash Health Care Systems:</b> Ms. Lori Harrell and Ms. Van Holt <b>Nash Community College:</b> Ms. Nancy Worsinger <b>Wilson Community College:</b> Ms. Elise Webb</p>	
<p>Mr. Eric Evans welcomed the grouped and thanked them for attending; all present introduced themselves and their agency.</p> <p>Mr. Evans then opened the meeting for updates/reports from those in attendance:</p> <p>Mrs. Schenall announced that the Turning Point Region would be the 8<sup>th</sup> site to host a GATE Program (Growing America Through Entrepreneurship) which is a partnership between NC Commerce and Workforce Development. The program will be hosted at Edgecombe Community College. The program offers one-on-one business assessment, training, and ongoing coaching and counseling.</p> <p>Mr. Evans noted that the GATE Program helps give dislocated workers the tools to start their own business. Currently, there are 8 counties and funding for one part-time counselor among all of the counties. Turning Point Workforce Development would like to make the counselor position full-time &amp; the “extra” hours would be shared among the 5 county area.</p> <p>Ms. Grant reported that 3 community colleges have a JobsNow Coordinator. The first enrollment group of the JobsNow program is scheduled to graduate in December.</p> <p>Ms. Schenall suggested that it would be helpful for TPR to know which programs students enrolled in for the purposes of the grant. TPR could assist with job placement for JobsNow allied health graduates. Ms. Schenall reported that Ms. Evangeline Grant is planning a job fair for JobsNow allied health graduates (spring, 2010).</p>	

Ms. Harrell reported there are 15 students enrolled in the Healthcare Billing & Coding Class and 11 students enrolled in the Nursing Assistant Plus Class at Nash Community College.

Mr. Washington reported that WIA can assist with financing and training if a student is not eligible for the Pell Grant. Even though Rocky Mount OIC works only with Edgecombe County citizens, they can enroll and attend school at any area community college.

Mr. Washington reported that the OIC will take on the liability of the workers' compensation, etc. OIC will pay the student while the student is doing their training. OIC will pay the student the same rate as the employer. Hopefully, when they graduate and are hired, they will stay at the same rate, except they would be employed by the employer and on the employers' pay system.

Ms. Rudd interjected that Guardian Care of Scotland Neck is looking for Nurses and Nursing Assistants.

Ms. Catherine Moody discussed how there are a limited amount of "free" health clinics in our area. All members discussed the locations of free health clinics in each of the counties, excluding Northampton County.

Ms. Schenall suggested that we invite someone from Community Health Centers, OIC Medical Center, and Carolina Health Centers to attend the next meeting.

### **Employer Work Group**

Ms. Harrell reported that the Employer Workgroup met on Wednesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>. Their group suggested different ways of marketing TPR: (1) Talk with local pastors because they have congregants that are displaced, (2) mail or email flyers about the JobsNow program to local employers and potential students, and (3) distribute flyers at the Department of Social Services, Employment Security Commission, Housing Authority, Goodwill, and Helping Hands Ministry.

The Employer Workgroup questioned what happens to those dislocated workers that have been employed many years in jobs not requiring a high school diploma or GED. What are their opportunities for participating in the JobsNow program? Is funding available to target those workers?

Mr. Washington said that OIC has a GED program during the day and at night. The program is open to everyone. There is no cost associated with the program. Daycare and transportation is provided so there are no barriers to furthering an education. OIC will also provide assessment tests. For example, if someone scores high in Math, then they will be placed accordingly in a comparable class.

Ms. Schenall asked how we take away the "stigma" associated with a GED? Is there a possibility do a dual enrollment in a certificate program and GED program?

Ms. Schenall shared that Ms. Evangeline Grant works to operationalize the goals as they are prioritized by the board and members. Her role moves the process along so that everything will keep moving forward.

Ms. Schenall reported that we are in the implementation stage - finally!

Ms. Schenall shared an overview of the Quarterly Report (July 1, 2009 – September 30, 2009). Some of the items discussed at length included:

- 1) She noted there is a raised awareness that we should focus on other employers versus the hospitals. A needs assessment should be done quarterly.
- 2) How is the partnership utilizing the JobLink centers? Ms. Schenall reported that they know about TPR and have program information. Information about TPR is presented at the “User Group” meeting once per month.

The four RSP Coordinators’ (Raleigh, Rocky Mount, Charlotte, & Fayetteville) meet regularly to share resources and provide support as a statewide effort in NC.

The RSPs meet every other month.

Ms. Schenall notified the group that the next learning exchange will be in January (week of January 11<sup>th</sup>). TPR is on task to date.

Halifax Community College is working on a proposal to have a RN to BSN program at Halifax Community College sponsored by North Carolina Central University. Joy Cooley is the consultant at HCC. The RN to BSN program will consist of both online and satellite training.

Information sessions for the RN2BSN program will be held at Halifax Community college (The Centre) on:

Thursday, December 3, 2009 (5pm-7pm)

Friday, December 4, 2009 (10am-2pm)

\*\*Attendees should bring his/her transcript.\*\*

Ms. Schenall reported that a representative from the NC Hospital Association survey data will be ready around March, 2010. They are invited to the May meeting to share the data and summary.

Ms. Rudd shared an overview of the Work Keys.

Mr. Evans reported that the group needs to work on how to do a systematic background check (regionally). There was a lot of discussion surrounding this topic. Ms. Harrell suggested that Employer Workgroup review the similarities and differences between the background investigation policies of area employers. From there, discussions and recommendations can be made for consolidated background investigation criteria.

<p>Mr. Evans suggested that the Employer Workgroup send out their next meeting invite to all members of the group to see if they would be interested in attending.</p> <p>Ms. Schenall notified the group that a 4-Day Vision's Training will be held in Durham around March this year. There are slots for the TPR group to go for professional and personal development. The speaker will be the man who wrote the book "<i>In Blood Don't Sign My Name</i>".</p>	
<p>Meeting was adjourned at 12 pm.</p>	
<p><b>Next Meeting:</b> Friday, January 29, 2010  <b>Location:</b> TBA  <b>Time:</b> 9:00 – 12:00 noon</p>	