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# Capital Connections



*Changes abound at the Capital Area office and we hope the optimistic atmosphere that we have gains momentum as the year 2010 rolls on. See what's going in the year's first edition of Capital Connections!*

## A New Start For Capital Area Staff

New location, new team members, and very soon a permanent Executive Director. "New Beginnings" is the theme for 2010.

Capital Area was relocated from its office in downtown Raleigh to the current location directly off Capital Boulevard. The new office boasts two conference rooms, private offices for all, and has the added convenience of free parking.

Board members and partners are invited to attend an open house on February 17th from 4 to 6 pm. Take a tour, enjoy light refresh-

ments, and meet the staff, including our newest team members! Brian Mitchell recently joined Capital Area to oversee the Summer Youth Employment Extension Program. There are also two new employees to manage the grant-funded Healthcare Works Allied Health Regional Skills Partnership. Tanja Bean has been hired as the Workforce Manager, and Sara Davarbakhsh assists her as the Program Coordinator.

Please feel free to join us for the open house. We look forward to seeing you there!



Capital Area's new office location



Lisa and Jane enjoy the bright reception area

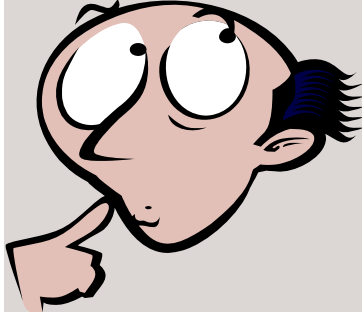


## R.M. Crooms Excellence in Workforce Development Award

Capital Area will be awarding two businesses for their employee training and development efforts at the 2010 Pinnacle Business Awards celebration in May. This gala event is hosted by the Raleigh Chamber of Commerce. There are two categories: companies with 250 or less employees, and those with 251 or more. Award applications, guidelines, and event details can be found online at [www.CapitalAreaWDB.com](http://www.CapitalAreaWDB.com). All applications must be received by Friday, February 26th.

## GET SMART!

Words  
To  
Live By



Capital Area's Disability Program Navigators do a great job educating JobLink staff, businesses, and others on how to best assist those who have disabilities.

Georgia Steele, Shirley Chamberlain, and Crystal McIver recently provided training entitled "Words Without Dignity". Did you know you can easily offend a disabled person with what you say?

### Here are some examples:

Instead of: handicap  
Say: person who is disabled

Instead of: birth defect  
Say: disabled since birth

Instead of: inflicted  
Say: caused by " \_\_\_\_\_ "

Instead of: crazy  
Say: person with a psychiatric disability

Instead of: lunatic  
Say: mental illness

Instead of: blind person  
Say: person who is blind

Isn't this information **every-one** can use? Look for more Words to Live By in the next issue of Capital Connections!



## AmeriCorps Joins Extreme Home Makeover Effort

*A track record of accomplishment in the areas of education, public safety, the environment, and health and human needs.*

On Tuesday, November 17, 2009, Access JobLink AmeriCorps members participated in ABC's Extreme Home Makeover on location in Lexington, NC. Upon arrival, it was apparent that many of the previous volunteers had also come, producing an abundance of helpers. Even so, members did what they could to help, including collecting trash on the set, cleaning up the surrounding neighborhood, and even doing some minor acting carrying furniture into the house for the cameras. Doing take after take of the same activity made them feel lucky that they don't have to live life in front of a camera!

Eventually, the time came for the show's trademark shout: "Move that bus!". Sharing the experience with a family that was seeing their new home for the first time was the most enjoyable part of the day according to participants.

The episode is scheduled to air the third Sunday in February. Be sure to watch and look for our AmeriCorps members proudly wearing their AmeriCorps attire.

## Summer Youth Program Extension Produces Success Story

Forty-eight young people continue to receive work experience thanks to the extension of the Summer Youth Employment Program. By taking advantage of this opportunity, not only do they get job training, but also exposure to people and places they might not otherwise get.

Safiyya Simmons is one such person. While working at St. Augustine's Career Development Center, she found herself becoming increasingly interested in going to college. So, she applied and has been accepted into St. Augustine's College! Her plan is to major in Organizational Management and she will be starting classes this month!

Approximately 38 more youth will be enrolled into the program before it closes at the end of March. Safiyya is an outstanding example of what can happen when young minds are opened to new experiences and possibilities.

***Congratulations, Safiyya!***



# Incumbent Worker Development Program



Eight Capital Area businesses were awarded training funds through the Incumbent Worker Development Program. These award announcements were made at the end of October. We applaud companies that are dedicated to increasing the skills and skill levels of their workforce, not just to benefit their business, but also for the good of the employee.

- |                              |                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Accurate Machine & Tool, LLC | Carolina Glass & Mirror    |
| Dialog, LLC                  | Electric Motor Ship        |
| Southern Energy Management   | Aimet Technologics         |
| Superior Tooling, Inc.       | United Way of the Triangle |

The IWDP allows companies to apply for up to \$25,000 for in-house training programs. Interested businesses can go to [www.capitalareawdb.com](http://www.capitalareawdb.com) for additional information.

## Upcoming Events

**CAPITAL AREA OPEN HOUSE**  
**FEBRUARY 17, 2010**  
**2321 CRABTREE BLVD.**  
**RALEIGH, NC 27604**

**CAPITAL AREA BOARD MEETING**  
**FEBRUARY 25, 2010**  
**WAKE COUNTY COMMONS**  
**RALEIGH**

**YOUTH SUMMIT**  
**MARCH 11, 2010**  
**MARTIN STREET BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**RALEIGH**

**CAPITAL AREA BOARD RETREAT**  
**MARCH 26, 2010**  
**JOHNSTON COUNTY**

**JOBLINK CAREER EXPO**  
**APRIL 20, 2010**  
**RALEIGH CONVENTION CENTER**

**PINNACLE BUSINESS AWARDS**  
**MAY 4, 2010**  
**RALEIGH CONVENTION CENTER**

### MEMBERS

**Board Chair:**

Susan Jackson, Executive Director  
 WakeMed Physician Practices

Bruce Clarke, President  
 Capital Associated Industries

Durwood Woodall, Vice President  
 Tarheel Tooling

Robert Barham  
 HR Consultant

Valerie Sachariat, Sr. Recruiting Mgr.  
 Time Warner Cable

Michele Tavernise  
 Consultant

Amy C. Fariss, CEO/President  
 The Cortina Group

Zena Anderson, Human  
 Relations Manager  
 Cisco Systems

Linda Horton, RN Care Manager  
 American Healthways, Inc.

Dick Hoffman, Principal/Chief  
 Collaboration Officer  
 Objective Solutions

Donna Steele, Performance  
 Development Manager  
 Talecris Biotherapeutics

Elaine Harrison  
 Consultant

Paul Coble, Commissioner  
 Wake County

David Rockefeller, Director  
 Career & Technical Education  
 Wake County Public Schools

Dr. Ed Croom, Superintendent  
 Johnston County Schools

Gerald Mitchell, Exec. Vice President  
 Wake Technical  
 Community College

Dr. David N. Johnson, President  
 Johnston Community College

Vicki Shore, Executive Director  
 Johnston County Industries

Marie Watson, Executive Director  
 Johnston-Lee-Harnett Community  
 Action, Inc.

Howard Manning, Exec. Director  
 Dorcas Ministries

P.R. Latta, Consultant  
 Communications Workers of America  
 AFL-CIO

Kenny Gibbs, Unit Manager  
 Vocational Rehabilitation

Nelson Rose, Manager  
 ESC of North Carolina

Earl Maret, Director  
 Johnston County Dept. of  
 Social Services

Rick Childrey, President  
 Smithfield-Selma Chamber of Commerce

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This is a publication of the Capital Area Workforce Development Board.  
To learn more about us, log on to our website at [capitalareawdb.com](http://capitalareawdb.com).  
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