



## CAPITAL AREA

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
*...serving Wake and Johnston Counties*

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## CAPITAL AREA OPEN HOUSE WILDLY SUCCESSFUL!



Our friends from Division of Workforce Dev.

This was definitely not your average open house. Yes, there was a lot of good food, but so much more! One hundred twenty-five people from partner organizations, contractors, and the business community flowed through the halls of the new office this past January. Guided tours were provided by Access JobLink AmeriCorps members and information booths featuring programs and services were set up in order to help those in attendance learn about what we do and the key staff members involved.



Jane Sterner—CAWDB and Janice Ivey from Division of Workforce Dev.

After the tour and booth visits, everyone enjoyed an array of food and had time to meet one another and Capital Area’s Board members. Staff also officially recognized Pat Sturdivant as Capital Area’s permanent Executive Director.

Feedback indicated that a great time was had by all! The planning committee did an outstanding job.



The first group of visitors are welcomed



Capital Area Staff



Celebration for Exec. Director Pat Sturdivant



## YOUTH SUMMIT 2010

The Sixth Annual Wake and Johnston County Youth Summit was hosted by the Capital Area Youth Workforce Council on March 11th at the McKimmon Center in Raleigh. The purpose of the Summit is to help equip youth for future success in educational or employment pursuits.

Youth ages 14-21 were given the opportunity to attend three of seven innovative workshops. Topics included money management, choices and consequences related to teen pregnancy, and how to stand out from the crowd when searching for a job. Several employers were also available to discuss career opportunities.

The event opened with an exceptional keynote address by Dr. Derek Greenfield who currently serves as Assistant Professor of Sociology at Shaw University and as an adjunct faculty member at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, NC. With his energetic style, innovative ideas, and sense of humor, Dr. Greenfield has become a highly requested speaker. As a testament to his talents as an educator and dedication to students, Dr. Greenfield has been named six times to the list of *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*. His innovative course, "Hip-Hop and American Society," has been featured twice in *Source* magazine and he also spent seven years as an award-winning youth worker in inner-city Chicago. Dr. Greenfield has published several academic papers and is author of the widely acclaimed motivational book, *The Answer is in Your Hands*.



Dr. Greenfield, Keynote Speaker

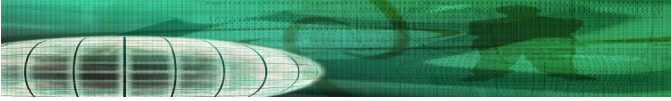
He has also served as motivational consultant for organizations such as McDonald's Corporation, Hilton Hotels, Progress Energy, United Airlines, and the NBA's Milwaukee Bucks.

### **Outcomes from the Summit:**

- 166 youth in attendance
- 16 youth signed up with JobLink
- 50 youth interested in Summer Youth Employment Program
- 40 youth committed to the N.C. Highway Patrol's Parent-Teen Driver Agreement
- 12 vendors present

The Youth Council thanks everyone who contributed to the Summit, including Dr. Greenfield, staff, volunteers, vendors, and chaperones.





## CAPITAL AREA & RALEIGH BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER PARTNER TO PROMOTE YOUTH

Capital Area, in partnership with the Raleigh Business & Technology center, has created a powerful work experience project for Project NewBuild participants. This project will allow participants to gain additional construction skills training that will lead to permanent employment. Along with this training, the RBTC has created other ventures for the participants to experience, which includes their participation in a local area Youth Chamber of Commerce.



Victoria Weston—CAWDB, Barry Cross—Sebelius Youth Chamber of Commerce President, Brian Mitchell—CAWDB

The Sebelius Pacesetters Youth Chamber of Commerce Chapter was chartered for young, local youth to manage personal growth, existing environments, family, and their renewed commitment to excellence. The youth nominated, voted, and elected peers as representatives to guide their chamber chapter. The participants were inducted into the Sebelius Pacesetters Youth Chamber of Commerce Chapter on March 24th at the RBTC.

The Sebelius Pacesetters Youth Chamber of Commerce Chapter teaches order, business etiquette and protocol, plus financial and budgetary strategies through specific business projects and technology training. Youth members participate in business development and learn what customers expect and how to consistently provide services that meets those needs.



Youth participants and staff members

Members also learn about other business models, including project management, import/export strategies, supply chain management, leadership, management succession and philanthropy.

## AMERICORPS JOINS WITH HAMMOND ROAD COMMUNITY TASK FORCE

The Access JobLink AmeriCorps program recently joined forces with the Hammond Road Community Task Force to facilitate job search and job retention skills workshops for juvenile offenders currently housed at the Hammond Road Jail Facility in Raleigh.

The Task Force is a community project at Wake County Detention Jail bringing together faith-based, substance abuse, mental health, education and vocational organizations throughout the community with the goal of reducing recidivism rates. It is a comprehensive approach to working with inmates and their families, while helping them force positive relationships with the greater community.

Every 3 weeks, AmeriCorps members meet with a new group of inmates to discuss strategies for finding employment, addressing a criminal background during an interview, adopting a positive mindset, and meeting employer expectations.

Feedback from participants has been excellent. Success stories include youth leaving gangs, working towards GEDs, and finding employment.



HealthCare Works (HCW) is branding itself as an industry-driven partnership comprised of the region's largest hospitals and healthcare employers. Organizations wishing to participate in HCW projects and strategies in order to impact their own talent pipeline, should contact Tanja Bean, Partnership Director, at 856-5334 for membership information.



The City of Raleigh Office of Sustainability announces the Green Building Training Certification and Community Education Program. The purpose of the program is to offer classes and certifications free of charge to construction professionals. The Green Building Training is funded by the Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, commonly referred to as the stimulus package.

These technical training classes are directed towards the design and construction sectors hit hardest by the recession. The purpose of the EECBG training program is to train a workforce targeting activities that create or retain jobs and promote sustainable "green" jobs focusing on energy and water efficiency.

Course to be offered are:

- LEED Certification
- Solar Panel Installation
- Solar Thermal Installation
- Green Plumbing
- Sustainable Landscaping
- HERS (Home Energy Rater System)
- BPI (Building Performance Institute)
- Green Cleaning.

Courses will begin late Spring 2010 and run through Fall 2012. Priority will be given to Raleigh residents and applicants with a Raleigh business license. For more information and scheduling dates for the program, visit [www.raleighnc.gov/sustainableraleigh](http://www.raleighnc.gov/sustainableraleigh).



**FREE TAX PREP!**

The JobLink Career Center at Swinburne in Raleigh will help hundreds of citizens file state and federal taxes as a VITA site. VITA, or Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, is a free service that helps those who earned less than 48k in 2009 file their taxes. Customers receive the same benefits available with commercial tax preparers, such as electronic filing, but don't pay the fees most preparers charge.

VITA volunteers are even knowledgeable about new tax credits, such as the state earned income tax credit, sales tax credits for new car purchases, and credits for those receiving unemployment. Last year, over 500 customers took advantage of the VITA program resulting in over \$500,000 in earned income tax credits and federal refunds for customers.

This is another great partnership between the Family Resource Center, Internal Revenue Service, EITC Coalition, Wake County, and Capital Area JobLink Career Centers. The service is available until April 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **DISABILITY PROGRAM NAVIGATOR NEWS**

It's been almost two and a half years since Capital Area and Durham Workforce Development Boards partnered for the Disability Program Navigator Initiative (DPN). The focus has been to enhance services for persons with disabilities at JobLink Centers by providing training to staff, AmeriCorps members, JobLink Access Point staff, and others by special request. DPNs have also been a resource for programs that impact the ability of the disabled community to enter and remain in the workforce.

Shirley Chamberlain, in addition to being the "go-to" person for disability related questions at the Raleigh ESC/JobLink, has formed many partnerships in Wake and Johnston counties. One particularly successful partnership is with the Christian Communities in Action Access Point in Cary where she works with the volunteers who staff the Access Point. Some of them are in transition and looking for their next job. So in addition to providing employment information to customers visiting Christian Communities in Action for assistance with food or child care services, Shirley assists the volunteers there with job search information.

In Durham, Crystal McIver has formed a partnership with the Durham Exchange Club, Inc. (DECI) to assist them with their Job Seeking Skills Class, also known as Job Club. Job Club teaches work attitude, good work habits, and vocational skills.

Clients are always excited to see Mrs. McIver because of the wealth of knowledge she brings about services available for persons with disabilities through the Durham JobLink or other organizations.

The DPNs have done an outstanding job not only exposing people to job opportunities, but teaching them skills that will enhance their life for years to come.

# Upcoming Events



**JOB LINK CAREER EXPO**  
**APRIL 20, 2010**  
**RALEIGH CONVENTION CENTER**

**CAPITAL AREA BOARD MEETING**  
**APRIL 22, 2010**  
**JOHNSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

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

**OJT & WORK EXPERIENCE**  
**INFORMATION SESSION**  
**APRIL 28, 2010**  
**CAPITAL AREA OFFICE**

## Capital Area Unemployment Rates

	December 2009	January 2010	February 2010
WAKE	8.4	9.2	
JOHNSTON	9.8	10.9	
<b>CAPITAL AREA</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>9.4</b>	
State of NC	10.9	11.1	11.2

## CUSTOMERS VISITS First Quarter—2010

SINGLE VISIT ONLY	3,004
RETURNING CUSTOMERS	38,371
TOTAL CUSTOMERS	41,375
NEW REGISTRATIONS	4,531



## CAPITAL AREA

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
*...serving Wake and Johnston Counties*

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