

Piedmont Workforce Development Board (PWDB) Meeting
Business and Education Outreach Committee
Tuesday, May 13, 2025
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.



I. Opening - Chair Gary Spry: 3:04 pm

II. Discussion

- a. Director's Updates** – Sarah Morton gave an update on the grants we have applied for. Sarah Morton will be serving on the economic development council at University of Virginia. Sarah Morton continued with her planning for the coming years concerning possible funding cuts and how VCWP can partner with others to serve the community better
- b. Flipp, Inc FACER Project** – Emily Axelbaum gave a presentation about the 3 week paid training program that partners with LOC Family services for unemployed, underemployed, and/or justice-impacted job seekers. This program provides transportation for its participants. The NABCEP training participants can also gain 3 other certifications, including OSHA, with this program. This program also includes a 2-week on-site internship. This is a grant-funded program, and employers are reimbursed for the pay of the trainees. Sarah Morton asked about the possibility for high school students who are 17 years old or older to also participate in this program to be able to get stackable credentials and transition into the workforce
- c. Business Services and Outreach Update:** Ti-Erra Elam gave information on the hiring events happening at the VCWP job centers per Jason Ford and Brookes Sims
- d. Community and Education Update:** Gary Spry gave an update on the efforts to help job seekers with a challenging work history and/or criminal background
- e. Updates/Announcements from Committee Members:** Jane Colony Mills gave an update that she and her colleagues are paying close attention to the current administration and any impact on assistance programs like SNAP and Medicaid that may lose funding in the upcoming years. This may affect the people that utilize local food pantries/banks

III. Adjournment: 4:07 pm

FY 2025 Committee Members:

Gary Spry – Chair- Present

Clare Lillard

Carol Coffey

Bryan Rothamel

Annette Hyde- Present

Shawn Woodfolk

Jane Colony Mills- Present

Shaun Summerscales

Sarah Morton (Board Staff)– Present

Ti-Erra Elam (Board Staff)- Present

Shelley Mays-Couch- Presenter's Guest. Present

Emily Axelbaum- Flipp Inc Presenter