



COUNTY OF MERCER  
**Workforce Investment Board**  
**One-Stop Career Center**  
 McDade Administration Building  
 P.O. Box 8068  
 Trenton, NJ 08650-0068  
 Phone: 609-989-6827  
 Fax: 609-989-6882  
 www.mercercounty.org/wib



**Brian M. Hughes**  
 County Executive

**Andrew A. Mair**  
 County Administrator

**Kelvin S. Ganges**  
 Chief of Staff

**Beverly Mills**  
 Director

**BOARD QUARTERLY MEETING**

Mercer County Community College Conference Center

**January 27, 2009 ♦ Minutes**

**Attendance:** John Raines (One-Stop), Kassia Bukosky (One-Stop), John Simone Jr. (Simone Realty), Sam Frisby (City of Trenton), Karen Clark (Horizon NJ Health), Timothy L. Bauersachs (Mercer County Counsel’s Office), Larry Finkelstein (Transition Management Associates), Peter Frascella (Mercer County Technical Schools), Keith Secrest (Kinetics Industries Inc.), Melvin Crawford (NJ DVRS), Joanne Wilson (Catholic Charities), Michele Liebttag (CWA/MC Central Labor), Don Dileo (AFSCME-AFL-CIO), Vin Samuel (NJ Dept. of Labor), Susan Sternberg (Trenton Public Library), Frank Cirillo (MC Board of Social Services), Barry Cole (Mercer Street Friends), Michele Siekerka (Mercer Regional Chamber of Commerce), Renee Altman (Personal Computer Training), Kevin Zepp (Liberty Healthcare Service), Todd Hyland (Smith & Solomon), Pat Donahue (MCCC), Pat Cacacie (United Way), Anna Lustenberg (Verizon)

**WIB Staff:** Beverly Mills, Maribel Duarte, Gina Jones, Trudy McCray

Meeting opened at 12:45 p.m. by John Simone, WIB Chair

- Large number of members were welcomed at the last meeting
- Representative from County Council officiated members signing their oaths of office

√ Minutes of October 28, 2008 were approved

Committee Reports

*Literacy and Early Childhood Literacy*- report by Beverly Richardson [\* Handout provided]

- Gay Egan will serve as new Chair
- All committee goals were met
- Currently has 25 members
- A retreat was held in October 2008 to discuss goals and set forth an action plan
- The subcommittee “Early Childhood” was established

*Healthcare* – report by Bonny Ross (Committee Member)

- A Healthcare Summit will be held on Feb. 3, 2009
- Summit purpose is to provide a forum to look at health issues in NJ, particularly in Mercer County
- Specific issues to be addressed include nursing and faculty shortages

*Youth Investment Council* – report by Samuel Frisby

- Youth conference will be held on Jan. 29, 2009 which will focus on career tracks in the healthcare, green and science industry; employability skills will also be addressed
- Keynote Speaker will be Maurice Coleman, a Trenton Central High School graduate and currently a VP at Bank of America
- YIC members Maureen Lucido, Mary Burks, and Melinda Skarupsky will give presentations
- The WIB will provide transportation from sending schools

*Marketing* – report by Ed Kurocka

- Spring '09 Conference tentatively scheduled for end of April / beginning of May
- Committee is requesting assistance with Annual Events
- Speakers also needed to speak of our WIB / One-Stop to different entities; Beverly Mills has committed to 4 speaking engagements
- '08 goals were reviewed; many were accomplished; quarterly report emailed to members
- A new e-newsletter will be developed; MCCC students in the field will assist in these marketing efforts and will make a formal presentation to the committee in the spring

*One-Stop* – report by John Raines [\*Handout provided]

- One-Stop has seen an increase in unemployment claims; as a result, the State has reversed its decision to remove UI staff from the One-Stop and may actually provide additional assistance

The Burgeoning Economic Crisis

- A webinar was given by the SETC (State Employment & Training Commission)
- WIB Boards participated (see handout)

HomeFront Focus Group Visit

- Beverly Mills was accompanied by small group of members to visit HomeFront's population and hear their stories
- HomeFront staff assist their customers by guiding them thru services and advocating for them
- Visit emphasized that individuals did not necessarily lack motivation, but a support system consisting of a mix of services:
  - Legal support
  - Letter writing
  - Advocacy/guidance thru administrative systems
  - Transportation
  - Childcare
  - Auto repair
  - License reinstatement
  - Job assistance
  - Education remediation
  - Healthcare access
- Dow Jones was one of the visitors at HomeFront and offered to help with company training and maintenance
- It was recommended that the WIB Board continue these types of outreach to find out 1<sup>st</sup> hand how we can assist the populations we are suppose to serve

Meeting adjourned at 1:37 p.m.

**Next Meeting – Tuesday ♦ April 28, 2009 ♦ 12 - 2 p.m. @ MCCC Conference Center**