



Santee-Lynches SC Works Committee Meeting
Via Zoom
Tuesday, October 12, 2021 – 9:30AM
MINUTES

Members Present:

George General
Bobby Anderson (Chairman)
Annette Karlinsky
John Hornsby
Janice Poplin

Staff Present:

Esmonde Levy, SLRCOG Workforce Manager
Freda Amerson, SLRCOG Workforce Operations Coordinator
Kourtney Page, SLRCOG Administrative Assistant I-PR

Guests:

Ray Jackson, Area Manager, Eckerd Connects

1. Welcome and Call to Order

The Santee-Lynches SC Works Committee meeting was called to order by Chairman Bobby Anderson at 9:34AM. A quorum was present.

2. Approval of Agenda

Chairman Anderson entertained a motion to approve the agenda. **A motion was made by Ms. Janice Poplin and seconded by Annette Karlinsky.** There being no discussion, Chairman Anderson called for the vote. **All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.**

3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes – May 10, 2021

Chairman Anderson entertained a motion to approve the SC Works Committee Meeting Minutes of May 10, 2021. **A motion was made by Annette Karlinsky and seconded by George General.** There being no discussion, Chairman Anderson called for the vote. **All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.**

4. SC Works Performance Update

The SC Works Performance Update was presented by Mr. Ray Jackson, Area Manager for Eckerd Connects. The Center & Program Report presented included a summary of information for the first quarter: July 1-September 30, 2021.

Services were provided to 3,639 individuals (tracked through the VOS Greeter); of which, 124 were Veterans.

VOS Greeter Individuals 3639/124 Veterans	
Total number of Individuals that Registered	275
Total number of Individuals that Logged in	4,361
Total number of Distinct individuals receiving services	13,596
Total number of Internal Job Orders Created	456
Total number of Internal Job Referrals	6,433
Total number of Services Provided Employers	876

Mr. Jackson shared information on Overall Job Placements. He shared with Chairman Anderson and the committee that the SCWOS report presented didn't capture placement information for the quarter. However, working with the Employers, Mr. Jackson stated that there are more placements that he will identify for the month of September in the next slide of the report.

Mr. Jackson shared that through the next September, they had a total of 20 hiring events within the Sumter & Camden SC Work Centers. The hiring events consisted of the following companies: Ollie's Bargain Outlet, Crown Health Care Laundry Services, Comfort Keepers, South Carolina Department of Corrections, and Pilgrim's Pride. Between both centers, they had 97 job seekers, and had a major success at the Camden center for Ollie's Bargain Outlet, who hired a total of 62 employees within a 2-week timeframe. He explained that once this information is captured in the system, the data will reflect in the previous slide.

Area Profile for Santee-Lynches, SC

Area Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment Data Table

The table below shows the monthly not seasonally adjusted Labor Force, Employment and Unemployment data for Santee-Lynches, SC in August 2021.

Area	Civilian Labor Force	Number Employed	Number Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
South Carolina	2,417,092	2,314,880	102,212	4.2%
Santee-Lynches	93,186	88,764	4,422	4.7%
Sumter	43,731	41,596	2,135	4.9%
Kershaw	29,700	28,481	1,219	4.1%
Clarendon	12,947	12,285	662	5.1%
Lee	6,808	6,402	406	6.0%

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, SC Dept of Employment & Workforce

For unemployment, Mr. Jackson stated that the only thing in the data that's increased since July was Lee County increasing by 0.1%. Chairman Anderson expressed his concern of the data shared being low since there are a vast number of employers looking for employees. Mr. Jackson explained that the

number unemployed doesn't include the number of people who are no longer seeking employment. Chairman Anderson shared his thoughts individuals not seeking jobs currently are getting funds from elsewhere to survive.

Mr. Jackson moved on to sharing an update on Program performance.

July 1, 2021 to September 30, 2021			
	<u>Active</u>	<u>Follow Up</u>	<u>Total</u>
Sumter Center	32	163	195
Camden Center	10	59	69
Total	42	222	264
	<u>Carry Over</u>		<u>Total</u>
Sumter Center	59	153	212
Camden Center	10	51	61
Total	69	204	273
Grand Total	111		
	<u>Total W/ Priority</u>	<u>Total Served</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Adult/DW Low Income	90	110	82%
SNAP Recipient	38	110	35%
Basic Skills Deficient	14	110	13%
	<u>PY'21</u>		
Credential Attained	35		
Measurable Skills Gained	43		

Success Story: Tawn Oliver-Atkins

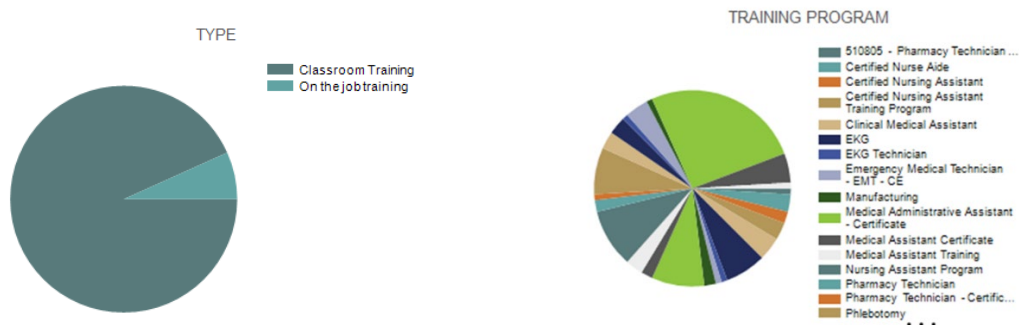
Worked at Green's nursing home for 15 years as a Med Tech and supervisor, and always wanted to be a Medical Assistant. When the company was being sold, she took that as a sign to go after this opportunity. Ms. Oliver-Atkins:

July 21 – Completed Medical Assistant (MA) Training, which included completing an internship at McLeod's Cardiology in Sumter

Sept 21 – Obtained Full Time Employment at Jeters0 and Skinner Family Practice (McLeod)

Participated in the Santee Lynches S.T.E.P Program – During training, Tawn received \$500 off her rent to assist her.

Participant Training Data from July 1, 2021-September 30, 2021



Type	Count
Classroom Training	64
On the job training	7
Total	71

Training Program	Count
Truck Driver CDL	22
Nursing Assistant Program	13
Medical Administrative Assistant - Certificate	7
Phlebotomy	11
EKG	3
Manufacturing	1
Clinical Medical Assistant	6

5. Financial Report

Mr. Esmonde Levy provided the Financial Report for PY'2020 through June 30, 2021, Year End Review and Reporting for PY'2021 through August 31, 2021.

Chart 1: Program Year 2020 Eckerd Adult Total (including transfers):

Eckerd spent their entire Adult budget of \$535,500 (100% expended).

Chart 2: Program Year 2020 Eckerd DW Total (including transfers):

Eckerd spent \$192,939 (90% expended) of their Dislocated Worker budget leaving a remaining balance of \$21,561.

Mr. Levy stated that the remaining balance will carry over into the next fiscal year. Eckerd Connects met all of their requirements for expenditures.

Chart 3: Program Year 2021 Eckerd Adult Total

Eckerd spent \$50,328 (18% expended) of \$280,000 in Adult funding, with a remaining balance of \$229,672

Mr. Esmonde shared that staff are in contact with Eckerd weekly to track everything. He also shared in **Chart 4** that from July 2021-August 2021 costs have increased substantially from \$17,816 (July) to \$32,512 (August).

Chart 5: Program Year 2021 Eckerd DW Total

Eckerd spent \$18,107 (4% expended) of \$420,00 in Dislocated Worker funding, with a remaining balance of \$401,893.

Mr. Levy stated that they are continuing to look for dislocated workers. Even though they are serving some dislocated worker, if there are any additional funds needed for the Adult program, Dislocated Worker funds can be transferred. In **Chart 6** he then shared that from July 2021-August 2021 costs have increased from \$7,612 (July) to \$10,495 (August).

Chairman Anderson shared an observation that the funds granted to dislocated workers is always being transferred to Adult and is unclear as to why such funds are not automatically allocated to the adult program. Mr. Levy responded that he's expressed that same concern on why the fund for DW constantly increase compared to Adult and Youth funding. Mr. George General asked if other areas face the same issues when it comes to the number of times funds are transferred out of DW. Mr.

Levy stated that he believes the other local areas go through the same thing, but he is unsure of what level they take on the number of transfers they make within a year. However, they do utilize transfers.

Chart 7: Rapid Response Eckerd DW Total

Eckerd spent \$42,177 (42% expended) of [\$100,000] in Rapid Response Covid Funds, with a remaining balance of \$57,823.

Mr. Levy stated that they are working with Eckerd to expend all the funds by December to avoid losing the funds.

6. Other Business/Committee Member Updates

Chairman Anderson asked Mr. Jackson if the data collected is broken down by age, race, gender, etc. to identify who's exactly visiting SC Works for services. Mr. Jackson responded that this breakdown is collected for the WIOA Program. This information is tracked on the individuals they serve but everyone entering SC Works is tracked in the state system. He stated that he can pull that data from the state system however, the data may not be fully accurate due to some individuals not wanting to identify themselves. Chairman Anderson suggested that this data will be something the committee would like to see in future reports to identify what groups they are serving and to track job seekers. He asked if SC Works tracks where people in our region go to seek job opportunities. Mr. Jackson responded that they work with our DEW partner to try and track this information. They partner with other partners to strategize ways of how to recruit those job seekers as well. However, if individuals go to work in the private sector and don't report this information back to the center, staff are not able to track their placement.

Mrs. Janice Poplin described her thoughts of this time in our society to be "strange". The jobs are there but there's also help available for those who need them as well.

Mr. Ray Jackson stated that he does pass out business cards, call and follow-up with individuals to encourage people to visit the centers.

Chairman Anderson encouraged the committee to share their thoughts and ideas with the overall committee to generate a letter to voice the concerns of our region to the state and full Workforce Development Board to help our community. Mr. Esmonde Levy informed Chairman Anderson that Mr. McKinney is pushing to sit on the State Workforce Development Board to have our voice on the state level. Understanding what was shared, Chairman Anderson added his perspective that as the board, they can and should still express their concerns in a letter to the state.

7. Adjournment

The Santee-Lynches Workforce Development Board's SC Works Committee Meeting adjourned at 10:10AM.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kourtney Page". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. Below the signature is a horizontal line.

Recorded by
Kourtney Page, Administrative Assistant I-PR