

A Quarterly Newsletter by the GRWDB

## Message from the Interim Director

Connections. Every day we try to make new ones while strengthening the ones we already have. In the past few months, we have met with State representatives focusing on youth and disability services, participated in an Opportunity Zone Summit in Flemington, and sat down with individual employers and jobseekers to understand their needs and goals. We are participating in a new State initiative for Industry Partnerships, and will have a presentation at our September Board Meeting about how NJDLWD data sets can be utilized for planning and strategic decisions.

Everything we do in the Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board office is aimed at connecting our local, state and private partners in meaningful ways to support a robust workforce system in Somerset and Hunterdon counties. This new quarterly newsletter is another way we will be communicating this ongoing work of connections. And remember, we want to hear from all of our current and prospective partners. Please let us know what you think, and ponder how you can help grow our connections, too.







#### **SUMMER MILESTONES**

- Approved PY 2019-2020 Budget
- Approved Job Developer Role
- Certified by NJSETC
- Modified Local Area Plan
- Updated By-Laws & Handbook
- New One Stop Committee
- New Youth Committee

At Profeta Farms



**News from our Partners** 

Got Grants? The New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development recently awarded two of our educational and training partners Pre-Apprenticeship in Career Education, or PACE, grants. The Raritan Valley Community College Workforce Training Center will provide 30 participants pre-apprenticeship training in advanced manufacturing, whereas the Hunterdon County Vocational School District will train 18 participants in occupational areas ofautomotive & construction. Each will place graduates in one of the following:

- USDOL Registered Apprenticeship occupation;
- Employment \$12/hour or greater related to the preapprenticeship training; or
- Placement into secondary or vocational training relating to the pre-apprenticeship training.

For further information on the RVCC program, please contact Joananne Coffaro at Joananne.Coffaro@raritanval.edu or (908) 526-1200 x8639, and for HCVSD's, contact Tanya Nalesnik at tnalesnik@hcvsd.org or (908) 788-1119 x2029.

OpportunityNJ (ONJ) is a non-partisan, grassroots coalition comprised of New Jersey interests representing employers, employees, business, trade groups, community organizations and other concerned citizens in the State. ONJ serves as an independent voice to provide data based education about New Jersey policy actions and to support policies that encourage job growth, affordability and prosperity in New Jersey. Both the Somerset County Business Partnership and the Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce have joined the steering committee for a stronger and fairer economy.



New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development Division of Economic & Demographic Research

Labor Market Information Update for July 2019



Prepared: August 2019



Check out NJDLWD's Office of Research and Information's latest Labor Market Information Update for July 2019.

## Talent (1) Talks

Maher & Maher, an IMPAQ Company, awarded the GRWDB a \$20,000 grant to fund occupational readiness training in an in-demand skill of Welding, and recently featured Interim Director Paul Grzella on their latest "Talent Talks" podcast. Click here to find a listening platform to discover how these awardees are connecting jobseekers to sustainable career pathways.

### **Featured Presentations**

The GRWDB and its constituencies have had the chance to hear some informative and innovative presentations from our partners. To underscore their significance, please find the Somerset County Business Partnership's Diversity Study, the One Stop Overview and the Industry Sector Partnerships presentations hyperlinked below.







## Workforce Development Thought Leadership Articles

America is in full employment, so why aren't we celebrating?, NPR: U.S. unemployment is at a nearly 50-year low. The jobless rate for Hispanics has never been lower. The past two years have been the best job market ever for African Americans. Shouldn't we be excited?

The future of work in America: People and places, today and tomorrow, McKinsey Global Institute: The health of local economies today will affect their ability to adapt and thrive in the automation age.

Degrees at Work: Examining the serendipitous outcomes of diverse degrees, EMSI: We compared six different degrees with varying levels of perceived labor market applicability in order to clarify the real-world relationship between education and work.

Addressing the Workforce Skills Gap in Construction and CRE-related Trades July 2019, NAIOP: Explores some of the contributing factors to the workforce shortage and how the construction and logistics industries can improve worker recruitment, training, productivity and retention.



#### **UPCOMING NOTABLE EVENTS**

August 22
GRWDB Executive Committee

August 26
GRWDB Disabilities Committee

September 12 & 13 Industry Partnerships Academy

September 16 GRWDB Literacy Committee

September 25
Hunterdon County Job Fair

September 26 GRWDB Meeting

October 3 & 4
35th GSETA Conference

November 7
Hunterdon County Chamber of
Commerce's 31st Business Expo &
Food Showcase

### **Greater Raritan Job Fairs**

The 2019 Somerset County Job Fair conducted on June 18 at 27 Warren St. in Somerville drew 238 job seekers who had the opportunity to meet with nearly two dozen employers looking to fill a variety of positions. Several of the businesses said they planned to offer employment to the job seekers as a result of the event, which was sponsored by the Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board, the Greater Raritan One-Stop Career Center and the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

The same partners, with the addition of the Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce, will host a 2019 Hunterdon County Job Fair on September 25 at the Hunterdon County Complex in Raritan Township. Nearly 30+ businesses from Hunterdon's top industries are slated to recruit talent from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm; if you're a jobseeker, attendance at upcoming career workshops will grant participants early entry to beat the crowds and maximize thier time with employers. For more information and to register for the free workshops, please visit www.thegrwdb.org/event/HCJobFair/.



# JULY 2019 ONE STOP OPERATOR REPORT

# Thanks for reading!

Visit www.thegrwdb.org, follow the GRWDB on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn, or contact one of our staff below for more information.





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# WE ARE HERE FOR YOU

To ensure the region's workforce continues to meet the needs of employers, the Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board relies heavily on employers as our primary partner in shared-planning and decision making. The Board invites our local employers to join advisory groups, or the Board itself, to regularly contribute to our understanding of the region's workforce needs and to develop future strategies and priorities. We understand the needs of each business or individual are unique and we seek to provide you with a customized level of service; if you are an employer in our region struggling to find the workers you need, please contact our GRWDB Staff at info@thegrwdb.org or 908-541-5785 to schedule a confidential discussion.