

One Stop Partner Meeting Wednesday, September 14th, 2022

AGENDA

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Partner Program and Operation Updates
- III. Performance Reporting & Service Updates
- IV. Identifying Gaps in Services & Planning for the Future
- V. Tentative Schedule for Program Year 2021
 September 14th, 2022 Virtual
 December 15th, 2022 virtual
 Spring, 2023 Location TBD
 June 14th, 2023 Virtual

CAREER TRAINING SERVICES

ONE STOP OPERATOR'S REPORT

Program Year 2022

One-Stop Operator August Update

August

August One-Stop Training Services Snapshot:

New Customers Served: 71
New Training Grants Provided: 9
WFNJ Referrals received: 166
Youth Employment Services Referrals: 4
Job Match's made: 11,712
Career Assessments: 9

Did you know the One-Stop Training Services Center has a Public Resource Area?

The One-Stop Training Services Centers in Somerville and Flemington both include computers that are publicly available to job seekers to use for their job search, to work on their resume, and for other employment related tasks. In addition to computers, job seekers can use a copier, printers, and even receive assistance and support from One-Stop staff. Appointments are required for our Flemington location, and in Somerville appointments are preferred but walk-in's are welcome on a first come first serve basis.

With the increase popularity of smart phones, we continue to see more and more individuals who lack access to a desktop computer or laptop. Not all job applications are conducive to smart phones, and updating your resume certainly isn't easy this way either.

The One-Stop public resource area also includes webcams for any job seeker who needs to use one for a virtual job interview. Appointments must be made in advance, but the individual would have a private room set up with a webcam and desktop computer.

With the many changes in the job market over the past several years, the One-Stop always aims to provide services that align with the current needs of our community.

Please check out our success story on the next page that highlights how our public resource area can support our customers.



Greater Raritan One-Stop at the 4-H Fair

As we continue to see more and more in-person events being scheduled, One-Stop staff members Teresa Edwards and Sofia Bandeira enjoyed a breath of fresh air as they shared job seeker services at the annual Somerset County 4-H fair, which attracts over 60,000 people a day.

One-Stop services were also shared at the Hunterdon County 4-H fair later in the month through many of our community partners in attendance.

Variety in the types of outreach and events we market our services through, helps us to reach different parts of our community that have been previously unaware of these important resources.

Expanded One-Stop Training Services Hours!

We are excited to announce that the One-Stop Training Services Center will begin offering expanded evening hours every Monday beginning September 26th, 2022.

New One-Stop Training Services Center Hours

Monday - 8:30am - 7:00pm

Tuesday -Friday - 8:30am - 4:30pm

Staff is available during these expanded hours for in-person and virtual appointments.

In a continued effort to increase accessibility to One-Stop services, these expanded hours will be offered as a pilot program to collect feedback on the use and effectiveness of expanded evening hours.

Our hope is that this effort will allow members of our community who may be working but underemployed or faced with a lack of childcare may be able to easier access assistance from our office.

One-Stop Success Story

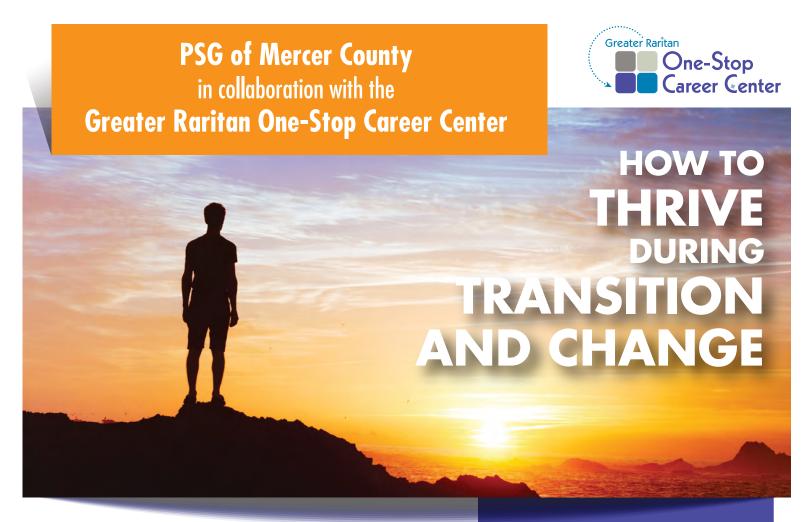
ML first connected with the One-Stop system by meeting with our local ex-offender representative, Kim Butler. ML had been recently released from prison after being incarcerated for close to 20 years. While he had a strong support system in place after being released, he was starting over and needed help overcoming several barriers to get back to work.

Kim worked with ML on obtaining a driver's license ID, creating an employment plan, and connecting him to different One-Stop services that would be able to support him. ML was referred to the One-Stop Training Services Center, where he worked with Career Navigator Sofia Bandeira to solidify a well-researched plan to obtain employment with self-sufficient wages working in logistics and transportation as a CDL driver.

After successfully completing training and passing the DMV test, ML now needed help with applying to jobs. ML would stop by the One-Stop to use the public resource area for job applications and updating his resume. During his many visits, One-Stop staff including Teresa Edwards, Jan Goodman, and Sofia Bandeira would help him navigate the computers, complete job applications, and to offer encouragement and advice when he needed it most.

ML put in a lot of effort to improve his employment prospects and utilized every One-Stop service that was available to help him. With his positive attitude, the wrap around services provided by the One-Stop, and the patience and encouragement of One-Stop staff, ML successfully obtain full time employment as a driver – even receiving multiple job offers along the way.

Check out the below flyers for our upcoming workshops. Please share with your network, and feel free to attend yourself if interested!



Times of transition hold both challenges and opportunities. What are you really committed to in this moment?

Tony Robbins once said, "Quality questions create a quality life."

- Is your behavior consistent with what you are committed to?
- Are you present and engaged in your own life?
- · Are you satisfied with your choices?
- Would you like to make better choices in the future?

Our life is made up of decisions. When we ask the right questions it heightens our awareness and allows us to see more clearly. The strategies and philosophies that will be presented in this workshop provide attendees with tools that self-empower. The workshop is designed to help you achieve your personal best both professionally and personally. It's a point of view that is based on choice. Self-empowerment feeds our unconscious mind to make conscious choices that allow us to be successful.

Friday, Sept. 16th, 2022 10:00 am - 11:30 am

SPEAKER:
Jan Goodman
Community Outreach Specialist,
Greater Raritan One-Stop
Career Center

Please join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone: https://bit.ly/3wfuaG8
You can also dial in using your phone: +1 (646) 749-3122 • Access Code: 355-203-397

In collaboration with PSG (Professional Service Group) of Mercer County (PSG is a networking program for professional jobseekers in transition)

Greater Raritan One-Stop Career Center Training Services





Align Your Potential by Identifying Your Natural Abilities with Multiple Natures



September 19th, 2022 10:00am - 12:00pm

Community Outreach Specialist/Career Coach

Greater Raritan One-Stop Career Center Training Services

Multiple Natures is a career discovery, job transition, recruitment and life coaching assessment.

Each person has a unique set of traits which provides a predisposition towards different types of work and activities. Multiple Natures assists individuals in their quest for self-improvement and finding the flow to fulfill their true potential.

To help understand yourself and make better decisions for your life, attend this workshop with Multiple Natures Practitioner Jan Goodman. Unlock the secret of your unique natures so you can identify and engage your natural abilities to the highest level!

Please note this is a virtual workshop via Zoom.

Pre-registration is required.

To pre-register please visit the PSGCNI site at:

https://bit.ly/3KQhn0Q

To join, scroll down and click "loin via Zoom."

This program is sponsored by the Greater Raritan One-Stop Career Center and the Professional Service Group of Central New Jersey (PSGCNJ).











Align Your Potential by Identifying Your Natural Abilities with Multiple Natures



Wednesday October 5th, 2022 10:00am — 12:00pm Speaker: Jan Goodman
Community Outreach
Specialist/Career Coach

Greater Raritan
One-Stop Career
Center Training Services

Multiple Natures is a career discovery, job transition, recruitment and life coaching assessment.

Each person has a unique set of traits which provides a predisposition towards different types of work and activities. **Multiple Natures** assists individuals in their quest for self-improvement and finding the flow to fulfill their true potential.

To help understand yourself and make better decisions for your life, attend this workshop with **Multiple Natures Practitioner Jan Goodman.** Unlock the secret of your unique natures so you can identify and engage your natural abilities to the highest level!

Please note this workshop will be virtual via Zoom.

Pre-registration is required.

To register please click on the following link: https://bit.ly/3kjhfff

This program is sponsored by the Greater Raritan One-Stop Career Center and the Somerset County Library System.













Wednesday, November 16th, 2022 10:00 am — 12:00 pm

Speaker:

Jan Goodman,
Community Outreach
Specialist/
Career Coach
Greater Raritan
One-Stop
Career Center
Training Services

Learn how to make your first impression memorable. Do you know all the rules and protocols for proper and polite job-hunting behavior? Go the extra mile to show employers you are the right fit. Job Fair etiquette will also be covered.

The art of portraying a poised, self-confident image in today's demanding business atmosphere is a skill that is much too often overlooked by many professionals, but not by those observing and making critical judgments based upon the person's communication. Many people have adopted relaxed standards that are not appropriate in business and interview settings.

In this workshop you will gain skills in the following areas:

- Six ways to sabotage positive first impressions
- How to deal with feelings of powerlessness and helplessness
- Practice business etiquette to build and maintain relationships
- Learn valuable techniques to deal with difficult situations
- Deliver your message: verbal, non-verbal and written in a positive way
- Learn proper introductions and professional presence
- Proper Grooming and appearances matter
- Netiquette; Emails, Faxes, Conference Calls, Mobile Phones, the new electronic protocols and manners
- Job Fair Etiquette

Please note this is a virtual workshop via Zoom. Registration is required.

To register go to https://bit.ly/3kqBeJe

This program is in collaboration with The Greater Raritan One-Stop Training Center and the Somerset County Library System (SCLS).









Greater Raritan



Workforce Development Board

Career Resources & News for Employers and Job Seekers in Hunterdon and Somerset Counties

Greater Raritan Training Center to start expanded hours pilot



The Greater Raritan One-Stop Career Training Center office on the second floor of 27 Warren St. in Somerville is piloting expanded one-day per week hours beginning at the end of September.

On Monday, Sept. 26, the Training Center will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. every Monday, excluding county holidays, for inperson, walk-in service to residents of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties who have career-assistance needs. Regular office hours Tuesday to Friday will continue, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

"Staff will be available for walk-ins, phone calls, appointments, and other services as needed though we do encourage job seekers to make an appointment so we can ensure Career Navigator availability," said Christopher Peake, Greater Raritan's One-Stop Operator and the Direct Services Manager for the Training Center.



The Training Center switched to virtual appointments from March 2020 to the fall of 2020, when it reopened to appointment inperson service using a hybrid model. Walk-in service resumed along with continued hybrid services in the summer of 2021, following Somerset County procedures.

Appointment, phone and virtual services at the Greater Raritan One-Stop Career Center at 6 Gauntt Place in

Flemington as well as state offices for Employment Services and the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services at 75 Veterans Memorial Drive in Somerville, are available Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Public-use computers in the Training Center and Employment Services also are available by appointment. GRWDB staff are available for walk-in and appointment service from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on the third floor of 27 Warren St. in Somerville.

For more information on system services, read a detailed story on the home page of www.thegrwdb.org.



Virtual
Information
sessions for
job seekrs are
set for Sept.
13 (Allied
Universal)
and Sept. 20
(SCLSNJ,
shown left).

In-person and virtual hiring events planned

A new series of sector-specific in-person job fairs has begun for employers and job seekers in Hunterdon and Somerset counties

The first Hiring Event, featuring four healthcare employers, was conducted on August 23. Based upon the positive reception from employers and job seekers, more events are being planned by Jessica Johannesen, Greater Raritan's Business Services Representative. These include a Manufacturers Hiring Event, running from 9:30 to 12 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 16, in the first-floor conference room at 27 Warren St., in Somerville as well as other tentative events on Sept. 27, Oct. 4 and 11 at the same location. Hiring events are also being planned at the Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce building in Flemington.

Check (and bookmark) the **calendar page of www.thegrwdb.org** for details on these sevent and
other in-person and viritual programs and events.

As start dates near, free literacy programs host testing for classes

Free adult literacy programs for English language learners of different levels are available this fall to residents of Hunterdon and Somerset counties. The program providers, Raritan Valley Community College (RVCC) and the Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission (HCECS), are part of the Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board's Literacy Committee, which seeks to share information about and expand the effectiveness of the free literacy programs in the two counties.

Programs are funded by a Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act federal grant that provides assistance to adults in gaining the necessary literacy and English skills to participate in workforce training programs and employment.

Raritan Valley Community College

RVCC offers free literacy and English language skills to help individuals prepare for employment in the in-demand food service industry. The upcoming classes will be conducted via Zoom. Classes in the Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education Program focus on skills such as listening, speaking and writing. Class participants who complete the literacy program and complete 10 hours of training in the areas of appreciation, prevention, avoidance and reduction of health hazards and safety in the workplace may receive either the ServSafe Food Handler or OSHA 10 certification, required by many entry-level restaurant or food service jobs.

Fall classes will begin in October, with testing for placement in 11 classes going on in September. The classes are planned at different times throughout the week, in the evening and daytime. The classes, planned to be 15 to 17 people each, typically meet twice a week and run for two and a half hours. Classes go through April 2023. Visit https://www.raritanval.edu/ literacy, email Bonnie.Scharf@raritanval.edu or call 908-526-1200, ext. 8686, to schedule a placement testing session.

Hunterdon County Education Services Commission

High school equivalency, basic computer skills and English Language Acquisition classes are offered by the HCE at five inperson locations in the two counties. Eleven classes are planned to run two days per week at various times:

- In Bound Brook, evenings at the Bound Brook Library;
- In Flemington, mornings and evenings at the Flemington Adult Literacy Center on Bartles Corner Road
- In the Somerset section of Franklin, evenings at Franklin Middle School, and evenings at the Christian Center of Somerset (including a hybrid option)
- In Somerville, mornings at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.

Visit www.hunterdonesc.org and click on the links for Adult Programs / English Classes or High School Equivalency. Email adultliteracy@hunterdonesc.org, or call 908-237-5000, ext. 11, in Hunterdon County or 908-541-5781 in Somerset County.



For a PDF of this flyer, click bere.

Englishlanguage version,

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HSESC Workforce Learning Link

The HCESC also operates two Workforce Learning Link sites offering adult literacy programs. These programs, offered through the Greater Raritan One-Stop Career Center and funded by the GRWDB, have virtual and in-person components. Visit www.hunterdonesc.org and click on the Adult Programs/Workforce Learning Link.

Other literacy programs

Volunteers at **Hunterdon Helpline** provide free literacy services through custom, one-on-one, barrier-free instruction, for low to high English language levels. Email literacy@helplinehc.com, call 908-782-4357 or visit www.helplinehc.org.

Volunteers at Literacy Volunteers of Somerset County provide free English Language Acquisition through one-on-one tutoring in which the student and tutor pick the time and place, in-person or through Zoom. High beginner through low advanced levels are accommodated, with the number of "seats" determined by the number of tutors. Enrollment is available through Sept. 11, and classes will run through Nov. 11.

In addition, the Literacy Volunteers also offer Intermediate Conversation Groups on Zoom and in person at the Manville, Bound Brook and Hillsborough libraries; these are drop-in group, with no seating limits. For more information, email info@literacysomerset.org, call 908-725-5430, or visit **LiteracySomerset.org**. The site also provides details on the LVSC's Cultural Connections initiative.

Individuals also may contact either organization to learn about how to become a program tutor.

The **Hunterdon County Library** offers weekly online English Conversation Groups, at 7 p.m. Wednesdays and 1 p.m. Thursdays. These are low to high levels and there is no seat limit. Email tedwards@hclibrary.us or call 908-713-7005.

Zarephath Christian Church in Franklin offers Englishlanguage classes, group conversations and accent reduction. Email **zmayes@zarephath.org** or call 732-560-4001.

The GRWDB Literacy Committee meets at least four times per year and public participation is welcome. For more information, email info@thegrwdb.org or call 908-541-5790.

Click here to read the monthly One-Stop Operator reports focusing on partner services and performance. Click here for information on the 2022 One-Stop Operator procurement process.

Loaner Chromebook usage is on the rise - and we're ready

In 2021, the GRWDB Board made a strategic decision to approve the purchase of 40 Chromebooks to support individuals in the area's WorkFirst program. The Chromebooks, with WiFI capability, were purchased in two groups of 20 for a total cost of \$26,000, including a carrying case and mouse for each unit.

In a first-of-its-kind agreement with the GRWDB, the Chromebooks are available for loan to TANF and SNAP clients through the 11 branches of the Somerset County Library System of New Jersey (SCLSNJ); Hunterdon County residents can get them through the local area's WorkFirst vendor, Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission (HCESC). The SCLSNI team also assisted in the development of a unique dashboard which Greater Raritan One-Stop Training Center and HCESC team members use to initiate the loan process and track the devices.

Since the program began last year, 36 individuals have used or are using the devices – in addition, another three are being picked up by individuals for September workshops.

Based on partner feedback, the board has gradually increased the number of Chromebooks available with the WiFi enabled. Starting with five, it was increased to 10 this spring and another three were just enabled in August, taking the total to 13. The goal is to assist those individuals who don't have at-home Internet access. A hotspot from the SCSLNJ also can be borrowed, as available.

The agreement each customer signs has an eight-week loan period, which can be extended as needed. Fran Leddy, the supervisor of Adult Programs and Services for the HCESC, said individuals typically keep the Chromebooks for up to three months, to assist with job searches and career development after they have completed the program's workshops.

She noted that the Chromebooks have become even more important since the HSESC began synchronous learning – so individuals who may have transportation, childcare or family issues can still participate in the workshops as they are presented in a hybrid format. "This has increased participation and is leading to a great dynamic with the staff, who can assist people more easily and flexibly," she said.

Leddy noted that four to five Chromebooks are also kept on-site to assist individuals in the offices. Depending on future customer need, SCLSNI team leads have said they have the capacity to support up to an additional 40 Chromebooks if the GRWDB wants to increase the fleet.

The Greater Raritan One-Stop Career Center in Somerville has resumed hosting a series of monthly Jersey Job Club Workshops. These workshops are virtual, through Zoom, along with a limited number of seats for in-person attendance at the One-Stop Career Center, 75 Veterans Memorial Drive, Somerville. The careercentered workshops are free to attend. Call 908-704-3000 or visit the calendar page of www.thegrwdb.org for

registration details.







The GRWDB Pathways to Recovery Program was represented at two recent community events: The Not An Easy Fix event on Aug. 21 in downtown Somerville and the Operation Helping Hands event on Aug. 27 at the Somerset Patriots' TD Bank Ballpark. GRWDB staff and team members from Pathways partner Prevention Links, talked with community members about Pathways, which provides career assistance to individuals directly or indirectly impacted by the opioid epidemic. For details, contact Pathways Navigator Nakeyda Sumpter at 908-203-6047 or at nsumpter@co.somerset.nj.us.



SkillUp Badge program plans October cohort

A New Manager Badge training program that employers can use for their recently promoted staff will be available in a virtual cohort format starting on Oct. 17.

The program is a recently introduced feature of SkillUp Greater Raritan, a free online learning portal for residents of Hunterdon and Somerset counties. This new training opportunity follows two successful pilot training cohorts conducted this spring and summer, focusing on the New Manager and Job Readiness badge pathways. The two Badge pathways allow participants to master start or return to work or are in lead roles.

invited to take part. The training is being coordinated by Metrix Learning, the provider of the SkillUp Greater Raritan platform which has been seen more than 2,800 users complete 6,200 -plus courses over the past 30 months.

For more information, on the upcoming cohort, including details on the program's nominal price structure for employers, contact Kerry Twomey at Kerry.Twomey@metrixlearning.com.

How do we operate? We have a policy for that!

Local policies, based on federal law and state guidelines, are key to realizing the Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board mission and vision. These policies set the direction for staff and the system partners tasked with providing workforce services to job seekers and employers in Hunterdon and Somerset Counties. Local policies are developed by GRWDB staff, reviewed by GRWDB Committees as appropriate and then reviewed and approved by the full GRWDB Board.

Recently, New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development released a state notice to Local Area boards to have certain policies in place by Sept. 30, 2022. As a result, staff and committee members developed and reviewed current policies as well as draft polices. Current policies are:

- Selective Service Requirements (2019)
- Supportive Services (2020)
- Youth Clients Follow Up Policy (2021)

- Incumbent Worker Training (2022)
- On-the-Job Training (2022)
- AJC /One-Stop Certification (2022)

At the next full board meeting (virtual and open to the public) at 12 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 6, these draft policies will be reviewed:

- Conflict of Interest
- Individual Training Accounts (including Youth Coenrollment) Policy
- One-Stop Career Center Complaint Procedure
- Pay-for-Performance Contract Strategy
- Personally Identifiable and Sensitive Information (PII)
- Priority of Service
- Work-Based Training
- Youth Requires Additional Assistance
- Youth Work Experience and Incentive Payments.

Visit the www.grwdb.org calendar for meeting details.

Summer Employment, by the numbers:

The 2022 Greater Raritan Summer Youth Employment Program provided employment support for 55 youth, ages 16 to 24, from Hunterdon and Somerset Counties. Forty of those positions were funded by a \$123,200 competitive grant from the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development. Using American Rescue Plan funding, Somerset County allocated \$62,200 for an additional 20 positions, with that funding available through next year. As of Aug. 31, all 40 of the state-funded positions were filled; 14 of the county-funded positions were filled.

Hunterdon County employer participants are: Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission in Califon, and Tabby's Place in Ringoes.

Somerset County employer participants are: Aurora Kitchens and Interiors, Somerville; Franklin Grace Resource Center, Franklin; Girl Scouts Heart of NJ, Bridgewater; ICNA, Franklin; Schafer Shain Jollah, Bernardsville; Shimon and Sara Birnbaum Jewish Community Center, Bridgewater;

Somerset Community Action Program, Franklin; Somerset County YMCA; Township of Bedminster; Township of Bernards; Visions and Pathways, Bridgewater; and Visions Development, Branchburg.

Somerset County entities participating are: Rutgers Cooperative Extension; and the Somerset County Commissioners Office, Finance Department, Graphics Department, Office on Aging, Parks Commission, and Prosecutor's Office.

The youth participants, some in high school, some in college and some out of school, came from: Bernards, Bound Brook, Branchburg, Bridgewater, Far Hills, Franklin, Hillsborough, Manville, Montgomery, North Plainfield, Raritan Borough, Somerville and Warren Township in Somerset County; and from Lebanon and Ringoes in Hunterdon County. At least three will continue working for the employers this fall.

This is the third consecutive year the GRWDB has received funding for its Summer Youth Emmployment Program.

Thanks for reading!

Past issues of the GRWDB newsletter can be found on the Events - Stay Informed tab of www.thegrwdb.org. Follow the GRWDB on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn, and be sure to bookmark the **Event-Calendar** tab. All board and committee meetings are open to the public; go **here** for the schedule and meeting packages. Community members are welcomed to contact us with their questions and ideas. In addition, we are happy to meet with any business, community agency or public body in Hunterdon and Somerset counties to explain how system services work. Contact Director Paul Grzella to get on a weekly **Resources** email list, and sign up for Greater Raritan's weekly (and very convenient!) text alert service. To contact us:

Paul Grzella, Director, 908-203-6044, grzella@co.somerset.nj.us

Chika Okoye, Business Manager, 908-541-5723, cokoye@co.somerset.nj.us

Jeanne Cassano, Job Developer, 908-541-5785, jcassano@co.somerset.nj.us

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Nakeyda Sumpter, Pathways to Recovery Navigator, 908-203-6047, nsumpter@co.somerset.nj.us

Greater Raritan One Stop Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Report

New Customer Monthly Report August, 2022 Hunterdon/Raritan Combined Report 2022 Program Year August 1, 2022 - August 31, 2022

NEW CUSTOMERS	
1) Served through end of last report	20
2) New customers served this month	26
3) Total served to date	46
CUSTOMER DETERMINED ELIGIBLE	
1) Determined eligible through end of last report	10
2) New customers determined eligible	19
3) Total eligible to date	29
	_,
SUCCESSFUL CLOSURES (employment maintained for 90 days minimum)	
1) Successful closures through last report	4
2) Successful closures this month	2
3) Total successful closures to date	6

Submitted: August, 2022 Phone (908) 704-3030

Numbers reflect customers served from all funding sources (including WIOA)