



GREATER RARITAN ONE-STOP ~ SERVING HUNTERDON COUNTY AND SOMERSET COUNTY

ONE-STOP OPERATOR MARCH REPORT

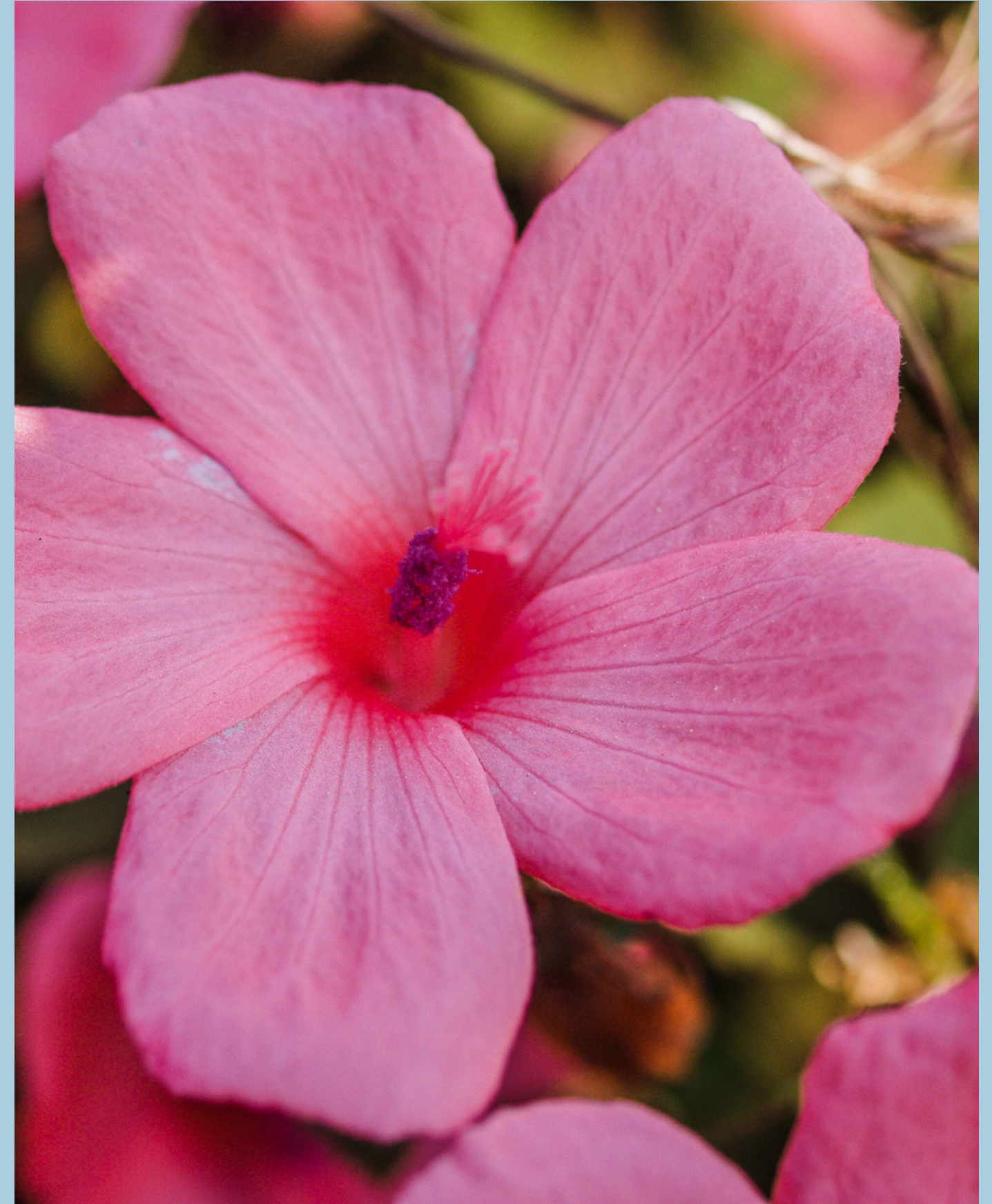
Program Year 2023/ 2024

March 1 -31

Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board Work First NJ/ TANF Innovation Initiative

The N.J. Department of Labor and Workforce Development and the Department of Human Services had competitive funding available to create, expand or maintain innovative approaches to engage, support and increase unsubsidized employment and retention for Work First NJ/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (WTFJ/TANF) customers. The GRWDB was one of chosen entities and received \$440,000.00 for programs that will run to June 30, 2025. This will fund:

- \$67,168.00 for a driver salary and Monday to Friday use of a Somerset County van to be used exclusively by WTFJ clients in both counties, to take them to and from services and job-related appointments
- \$18,484.65 for 45 additional Chromebooks, mice and carrying cases, doubling the GRWDB loaner fleet
- \$67,176.79 for WiFi activation for 23 of the new Chromebooks
- \$12,207.06 for GRWDB administration – five hours for lead administrator, one hour for finance assistance
- \$6,613.50 for office supplies, outreach materials and staff training.
- In addition, a RFP for \$262,500 will be released shortly for the coordination of the following services: child care, license restoration, car repair, program participation incentives, programmatic support and digital marketing.

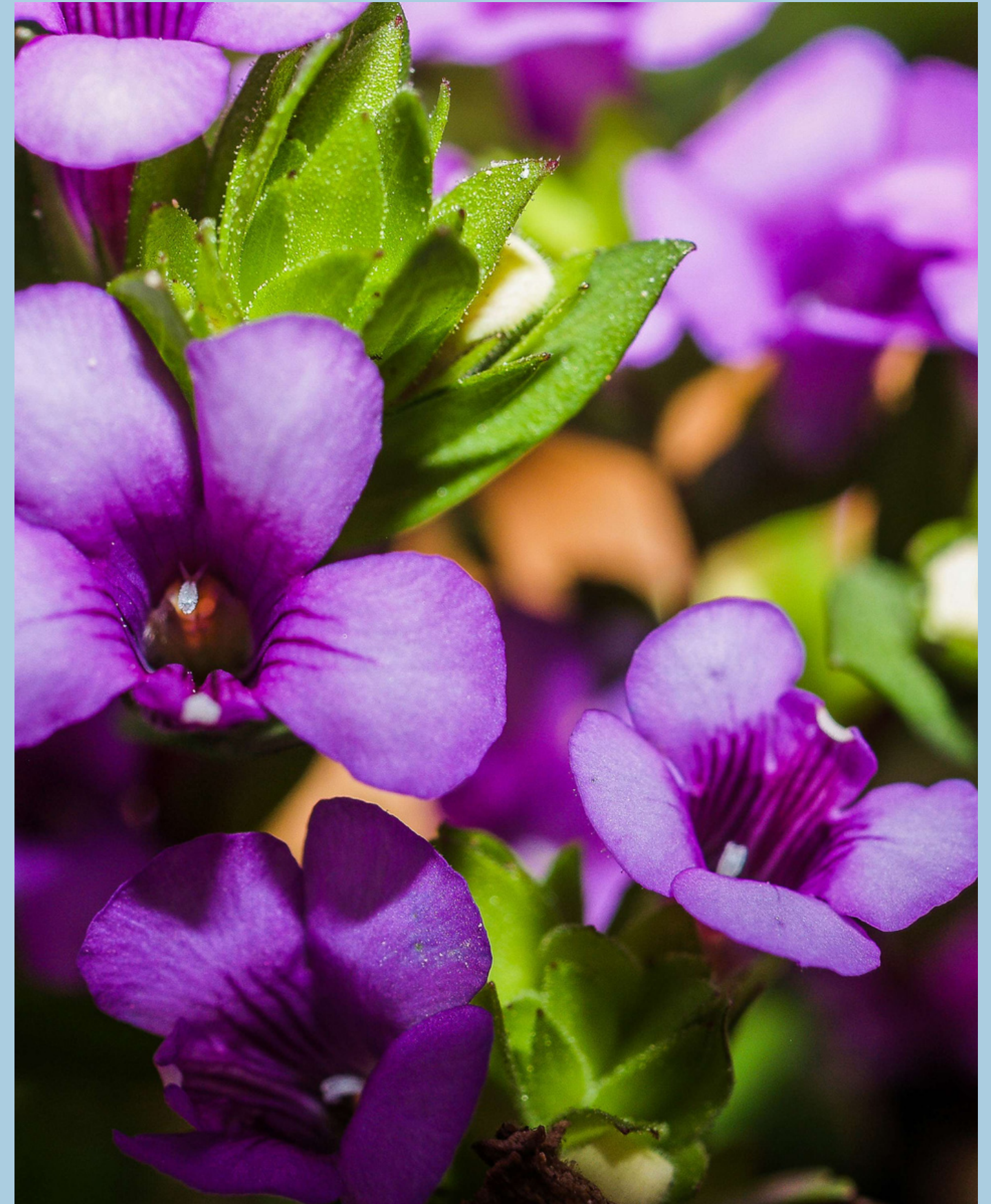


Greater Raritan One-Stop Transportation Solutions Brainstorm March 2024

On March 24th the Greater Raritan One-Stop hosted their 2nd brainstorming session. The goal was to facilitate a solutions-based discussion on transportation challenges for One-Stop customers in Somerset and Hunterdon counties. 15 leaders and professionals attended and achieved the following findings.

Solutions Identified

1. Providing transportation needs assessments and individualized support plans.
2. Ensure customers have access to relevant public transportation information.
3. Research insurance challenges around subsidized transportation for customers.
4. Promote strategies that foster transportation self-sufficiency.
5. Establish “realistic” transportation expectations. Customers should know the limitations of public transportation and the financial implications of options.



Work First New Jersey Customer Testimonial #1

BH came to Somerset County Board of Social Services seeking services for himself and his 1 ½ old daughter. At the time, BH was an unemployed single father, and his housing was unstable.

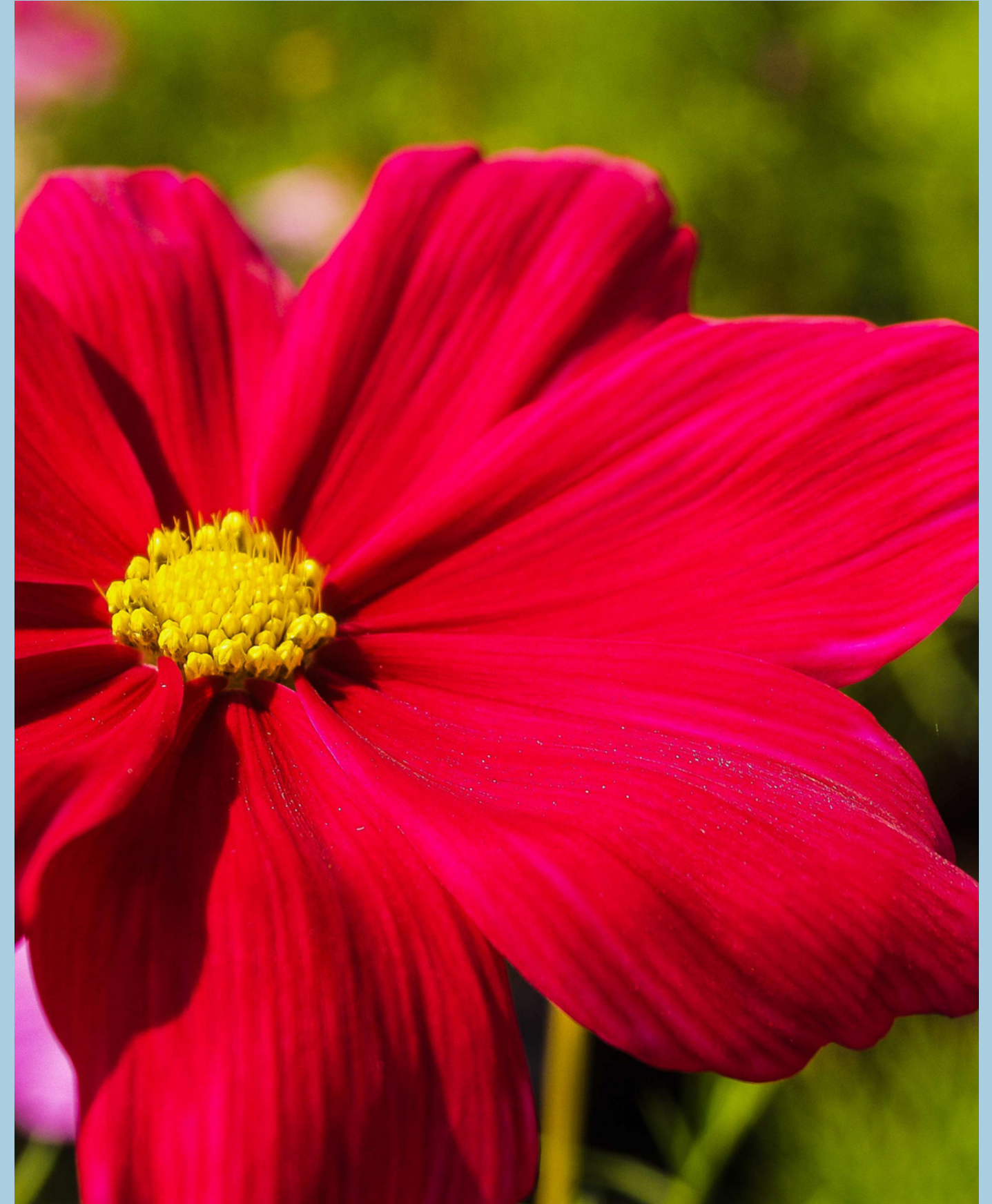
After applying for TANF, BH met with a WFNJ case manager who assisted him in securing emergency shelter and childcare so that he could participate in job readiness classes. While attending job readiness classes at SCBSS, BH applied for jobs at various companies. Within a month, BH was hired as a part-time cashier at a large retail business. Once BH was employed he needed transportation to get to work and to drop off his daughter at daycare. WFNJ assisted him with travel reimbursement. Within four months of participating in WFNJ, BH was hired as a full-time Custodial Site Manager at a public school. Subsequently, BH was also able to secure permanent housing and no longer required the assistance of social services.



Work First New Jersey Customer Testimonial #2

GP and his wife, along with their four children, found themselves in dire straits, facing homelessness and struggling to secure employment to support their family. Recognizing their need, a WFNJ case manager referred GP to SCBSS housing unit where he received assistance with a security deposit and first month rent, enabling his family to move into an apartment.

While receiving TANF, both GP and his wife dedicated themselves to attending the WFNJ job readiness workshop. Their persistence paid off when GP landed a full-time position at LaGuardia Airport as an Uploader. WFNJ also assisted GP with the purchase of work clothes. GP's accomplishment is truly remarkable for a family once on the brink of homelessness. With this job, he and his family regained financial and housing stability.



MARCH 2024 PERFORMANCE REVIEW

New Training Services Customers Served: 185
(Includes Training Grant Orientation, Youth Referrals and WFNJ Referrals)

New DVR Customers Served: 92

New Training Grants Provided: 10

WFNJ Referrals received: 122

Individual Assessments: 5

Youth Employment Services Referrals: 4

Active Youth Employment Services Clients: 78

SkillUp Registrants: 139

Employment Services Customer Appointments: 454



UPCOMING EVENTS

Now Brewing!

Greater Raritan One-Stop Career Training Services Center's

Career Cafe

SERVING YOU A FRESH BLEND OF JOB SEEKER RESOURCES!

If you are a job seeker, Community or Faith-Based Organization, One-Stop or Workforce Partner please join us for coffee, cookies, and a casual conversation about our menu of services!



April 26, 2024
May 31, 2024
June 28, 2024

2:00PM – 4:00PM

One-Stop Career Training Services Center
27 WARREN STREET • 2ND FLOOR
SOMERVILLE NJ

Questions? Reach us at onestop@co.somerset.nj.us or 908-541-5780

Our doors are open!

Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board Summer Youth Work Experience Program

Get career-building experience, and get paid, too!

The Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board is looking for employer and youth participants for its fifth annual Summer Youth Work Experience Program for young people in Hunterdon and Somerset Counties who are between the ages 16 and 24.

The Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board SUMMER YOUTH WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM DETAILS:

DURATION: Any 200-hour period between May 20, 2024, and October 14, 2024.



AGE: Candidates must be between the ages of 16 and 24 and can be in school or out of school.

REQUIREMENTS: Youth accepted into the program will work 180 hours with an employer and complete 20 more hours working on a virtual SkillUp Job Readiness badge program and taking part in an in-person class. Each participant will be paid a stipend of \$16 an hour for 200 hours, for a total of \$3,200.

EMPLOYERS PARTICIPANTS: Private and public employers in Hunterdon and Somerset counties with part-time summer positions are invited to take part in the program. Position responsibilities may include: children's summer program supervision; office, clerical and various support work in government offices; administration support; maintenance work; and more. **Click here to download the application. Applications are due Tuesday, April 23, 2024.**

YOUTH CANDIDATES: Youth Participant Applications and Policies are posted on the home page of www.thegrwdb.org. **Click here to download the application. Applications are due Friday, May 3, 2024.**

For details, employers and youth may contact Program Coordinator Jeanne Cassano at jcassano@co.somerset.nj.us, call 908-541-5785 or use the QR code to go to www.thegrwdb.org.

High School and Middle School Students, College Students and Recent Graduates, Parents, Guidance Counselors and Job Seekers are invited to attend the upcoming Youth Apprenticeship Week Career Event

This FREE event presented by the Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board Youth Committee will give attendees the opportunity to network and learn about Registered Apprenticeships options available to the workforce-bound student and other job seekers looking for a career path that supports financial security and independence.

Businesses and unions, school programs, service providers, governmental agencies and other organizations have signed up to take part in the event as exhibitors and use this opportunity to network with attendees. In addition, there is time set aside for workforce members and community leaders to share their career success stories.

Community members have the option to register by going to <https://bit.ly/443v9Zf>. Walk-ins are welcome. For details, email jcassano@co.somerset.nj.us or call 908-541-5785. There is no charge to attend this community workforce development event.

Monday, May 6, 2024
Raritan Valley Community College Conference Center
 Lamington Road,
 Branchburg, NJ 08876

5:30 p.m.: Light meal, registration, networking
 6:00 to 6:30 p.m.: Program presentations
 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.: Networking





Recruitment Session

Thursday, April 18, 2024
10 a.m.-1 p.m.

This is an in-person event, open to all job seekers, at the Greater Raritan One-Stop Career Center, 75 Veterans Memorial Drive E., Conference Room B, Somerville, NJ 08876

A Place at Home in Somerville is hiring. Learn more at an in-person Recruitment Session, presented by the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development and the Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board.

Positions: Full-time Companion and Home Health Aide, with an hourly salary of \$17 to \$18.

Recruitment Session: The employer will provide information on the positions, and details about the company's benefits. Interviews will follow. Completion of the registration form is required for attendance at this event.

To register and complete the registration form, go to <https://bit.ly/49zDFjD>, or use the QR code.





Fernandel Almonor,
Greater Raritan One-Stop Operator
falmonor@co.somerset.nj.us