



## December 2025 Greater Raritan One-Stop Leadership Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, December 16, 2025, 10am

Location: 27 Warren St., Somerville, NJ 08876, 1st Floor Conference Rm

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### Attendance

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| ● Monica Mulligan     | CTS Director                                |
| ● Christina Shockley. | Y.E.S.                                      |
| ● Isabel Jimenez      | WFNJ Tech                                   |
| ● Debora Voria        | HCESC                                       |
| ● Aminah Reeves       | Social Work Supervisor - WFNJ               |
| ● Jeanne Cassano      | Contract Compliance & Engagement Specialist |
| ● Danielle Kwan       | DVRS Manager                                |
| ● Karen Araujo        | NJDOL Business Service Representative       |
| ● Lia Stone           | Vocational Counselor                        |
| ● Ed Kawake           | Assistant                                   |
| ● Kunti Mosel         | Program Coordinator                         |
| ● Fernandel Almonor   | GRO-S Operator                              |

### 1. Opening Remarks

- Meeting recorded and commenced with acknowledgment of being the last meeting of 2025.
- Recognition of Paul for a 15-year membership award; he plans to attend later in the meeting.
- Reminder that the WFNJ RFP selection will conclude by the end of the business day.
- Certain agenda discussions are postponed to the January 2026 meeting to expedite today's proceedings.

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### 2. Upcoming Meetings and Events

- **January 2026 Meeting**
  - Guest speaker will provide a 5-10 minute program presentation.
  - Details will be included in the January agenda.
- **February 2026 In-House Retreat**
  - Led by Coach McBride, focusing on team synergy, positive engagement, and workforce development.
  - Catering by Pop's Italian Cuisine.
  - Leadership presence is requested.
- **Staff Schedule**
  - Office closed for the holidays; return on January 5, 2026.

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### **3. Recruitment Event Updates**

#### **3.1 Review of Previous Recruitment Event**

- Attendance: 38 job seekers.
- Outcomes: 5 job offers extended, 1 job accepted.
- Confirmed that these numbers remain accurate.
- Employers cited difficulty in finding candidates with matching qualifications.
- Follow-up surveys emphasized the need for consistent post-event reporting.

#### **3.2 January 29, 2026 Recruitment Event**

- **Current Status:**
  - 6 employers confirmed, 3 committed to on-site interviews.
  - Roles span manufacturing, environmental services, transportation, and administration.
- **Actions:**
  - Increase outreach to secure at least 3 additional employers.
  - Delay flyer release until after Christmas to allow more confirmations.
  - Ensure flyers are accessible in both standard and text-only formats for assistive technology users.

#### **3.3 Future Event Considerations**

- Greater focus on follow-up data collection.
- Explore employer promotional videos to encourage participation.
- Utilize Chamber of Commerce outreach and social media for broader promotion.

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### **4. Workshop & Pre-Event Planning**

- Registration via Eventbrite; flyers in progress.
- Pre-event workshops will be hosted via Zoom with closed captioning.
- Large-print and accessible materials will be made available.

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### **5. MOU and Co-Enrollment Updates**

- MOUs nearly complete; awaiting one final signature from Trenton.
- Updated Co-Enrollment Matrix has been distributed:
  - Several organizations removed based on funding or service changes.
  - All attendees requested to review and verify accuracy.

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### **6. Partner Agency Updates**

- **Workforce Development Board (WDB)**
  - Planning Jobs of the Future event and Disabilities Expo in spring 2026.
- **Business Services**

- Planning a rapid response event with Verizon for 1,000 anticipated layoffs by February.
- **Career Training Services (CTS)**

*General Update and Successes*

- As of 11/1/25, The One Stop Career Training Services Center is providing information and resource information to all WFNJ customers that are referred through AOSOS. This will continue until the GRWDB get a new WFNJ contract in place with a provider. Estimated by the end of December 2025.
- Our One Stop team member returned from extended medical leave on 12/1/25.
- Served 365 new customers between 11/1/25 – 11/30/25
- Sent out information on services and events to 1,550 new UI filers between 7/1/25 – 11/30/25.

*Challenges:*

- None

*Supports Requested:*

- None

*Upcoming Events:*

- 1/14/25 Mastering the Interview (in collab with the GRWDB's 1/29/25 recruitment event). Flyer in progress.

- **Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS)**
  - New hire secured via transfer; ready to support operations.
- **WorkFirst New Jersey (WFNJ)**
  - 2,394 SNAP ABOD referrals and 72 TANF referrals expected for January.
  - Gift card and food basket holiday donations provided to 56 families.
- **Middle Earth**
  - Recognition received for outstanding youth service work.
- **Adult Literacy**
  - Continuing HSE and digital literacy programming.

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## 7. Strategic Discussion: AI and Workforce Planning

- Concern raised regarding AI's projected impact on 50% of entry-level roles within 2-5 years.
- **Discussion points:**
  - Need for state/federal intervention.
  - Increased focus on AI-related training, entrepreneurship, and jobs of the future.
  - Opportunity to incorporate AI-readiness discussions into February retreat and future workshops.

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## 8. Closing

- Meeting concluded ahead of schedule.
- Action items include confirming recruitment event data, expanding employer outreach, ensuring flyer accessibility, and continuing AI workforce planning discussions.
- Next leadership meeting: January 2026.

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**End of Minutes**