The Seaboard Project

Over a year ago, Charles Moniotte, formerly of Louisiana, now residing in Asheville, NC, met with Turning Point Workforce Board, NC Works Career Center staff of Roanoke Rapids, and a Northampton County employer to join forces for the completion of a sawmill in Seaboard, NC. This group of leaders were able to recruit and employ local talent which proved a cost saving benefit for the employer.

The project was completed a few months ahead of schedule and a visit was made to the Turning Point Consortium which provided a testimony of collaboration, assurance, structure and a continuous relationship, as well as, employment for 17 local jobseekers.

Career Pathways

The fourth Career Pathway was developed during a strategic session with the Employer, Skill and Career Development Groups. The Business Services Representatives of the three Workforce Boards collaborated to select the fourth pathway, Business Support Services, which will cover logistics, administrative support roles and other functions. Currently two pathways are state certified and one is pending. Preparation of the fourth and final pathways report is being drafted based on comprised information from Workforce Boards.

Career Pathways are being introduced in the NCWorks Career Centers among staff that are in contact with jobseekers daily. This may be an option for jobseekers deciding on a career path or an area they would like train in. Career Center staff will be trained on Career Pathways and information will be provided as materials become available and will be shared with K-12/CTE partners for high school students. A Career Pathway ‘Champion’ has been chosen to obtain information, attend pathways sessions and relay information back to the Career Centers and/or school systems in the regions.
Youth Program News

New brand & logo
The NC WFD Director’s Council approved the adoption of a new Youth Program brand and logo to be used by all Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) youth service providers in the state. Local implementation of the NextGen program brand will occur in phases throughout the program year with complete implementation by July 1, 2018.

YouthLeads & Uniform Youth Program services
Currently, workforce staff serves on the Youth Leads Team. The group is tasked with planning, developing, and implementing various Youth Program initiatives that will address program deficiencies. Some goals for the upcoming program year are to implement a more uniform statewide Youth Program framework, provide advanced training for WIOA case managers and Youth Leads, and host regional youth empowerment events. For more information, contact Damien Neville, Youth Program Manager at 252-443-6175 ext. 225.

Business Services
Employer & Engagement Teams and Industry Councils have begun to form around the Business and Engagement Collaborative efforts across the state. Groups were already engaged in working together to serve a common goal: to assist the employer. In career centers, most have Employer/Employment Teams serving employers and jobseekers. Business Services Managers and Representatives work closely to assist or oversee from the board level. Some Business & Industry Councils are forming by counties, to partner with the community colleges, veteran representatives and NCWorks while other groups may be forming via Local Area or Prosperity Zone. Stay tuned to any new changes to programs that may serve the employer in the near future. For information, Contact Carisa Rudd, Business Services Manager at 252-443-6175 ext. 207.

MIS and Integrated Service Delivery
Continuous efforts are underway to resolve issues with the NCWorks Portal while contractors work on programs throughout the region. Board staff work diligently with an analyst to correct issues that arise when clients seek to obtain assistance in the career centers of the region. Regional efforts are being made to ensure a more seamless and consistent experience. Meetings with service providers are scheduled in the career centers for updates and training.

Healthy Tip
“Movement is a medicine for creating change in a person’s physical, emotional and mental state.”
Get on the move and exercise regularly!
Turning Point Workforce Development Board

Upgrades to NCWorks System

The Turning Point administrative staff hosted NCWorks Case Management staff on a session updating the NCWorks System for programs and eligibility criteria. Regional analysts were on hand to answer questions and provide more detail on the upgrades to the system. Three NCWorks Career Center offices were represented at the session.

Career Pathways

The Turning Point WDB is working with two other boards in the northeast for the Career Pathways Initiative and continues partnering with local community colleges on implementation. Nash Community College has reached certification on the local level for Career Pathways in the region. The Northeastern Pathways session continues with its fourth pathway with two already state certified. Kudos to the group for all the work and our great Pathway Champions that are now onboard.

Frince Williams Receives Community Champion Award

Congratulations to Mrs. Frince Williams on receiving the Community Champion Award. Mrs. Williams serves the Turning Point region and beyond! She is housed in the NC Works Career Center of Roanoke Rapids but her reach is far greater. Mrs. Williams has quite the reputation in the region and works with both the employer and employment teams to keep jobseekers in the know, seeking open positions and filing job positions while maintaining great relationships with engaged businesses. Mrs. Williams serves on committees for ex-offenders, local community colleges and the chamber of commerces.

Awards Banquet Held

The Turning Point WDB hosted a summer banquet celebrating program champions and recognizing participants. The event was held at Rose Hill Conference Center. Board members were recognized for their services as well. The guest speaker was Matt Honeycutt of Capital Broadcasting Company, representing Rocky Mount Mills.
Coalition helps Rocky Mount Break Ground on Downtown Community Facility

On the chilly morning of March 13, elected officials, community leaders, developers, citizens, media and others, gathered at the site of the future Downtown Community Facility in Rocky Mount to break ground for construction. It was a day for celebration.

The Brownfields Coalition adopted this city block and surrounding sites for EPA Assessment fund investment with the understanding that such a large project is a major step forward in revitalizing downtown and impacting the entire region upon completion.

The coalition invested more than $72,000 in federal funds for Phases 1 & 2 consisting of Environmental Site Assessments and clean-up planning on approximately 26 individual parcels of property. Additional investment has been made on properties surrounding the site. The economic impact of the project will be $264 million over a 10-year period and is expected to attract 300,000 visitors to 48 projected events annually by the end of year five.

Patterson Site Redevelopment Started

During the first half of 2017 site prep continued at the old Patterson Mill located in Roanoke Rapids. This follows Phase 1 & 2, Environmental Site Assessments and a cleanup plan. A portion of the site is being used to house a new State Employees’ Credit Union and will use their newest design, only the second of its type built to date.

Additionally, the Roanoke Rapids Graded School District has started development on the remainder of the property. This is being done in compliance with the clean-up plan created by Mid Atlantic Associates (MAA) engineering firm. MAA is making regular visits to the site to help ensure any environmental compliance needs encountered are handled in accordance with the negotiated agreement with the state.
Over $4.14 million in New Drinking Water Infrastructure Funds

Taking advantage of the State Bond Fund Program that can be used to supplement the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) infrastructure funding, the UCPCOG’s PDS Department applied for and received three (3) drinking water related grant/loans on behalf of three municipalities. The Town of Seaboard received a grant for $1,654,492, the Town of Sharpsburg received a grant/loan of $1,998,690, and the Town of Lucama received a $488,990 grant/loan. All funds will be used for much needed water infrastructure improvements. All three towns were awarded the grant portions of the funding premised upon various factors including, but not limited to, the municipality’s water rates. The Town of Seaboard was awarded 100% grant, Sharpsburg a 75% grant, and Lucama a 25% grant. As is evident from the award grant/loan ratio, the State of North Carolina is still encouraging local municipalities to keep local water and sewer rates high enough to establish a reserve fund to maintain the municipal utility infrastructure for the future.

Roanoke River Basin Watershed Management Workshop

On August 22, a Roanoke River Basin Watershed Management Workshop was held in Warrenton, NC under the theme of “Knowledge & Partnership into Action”. This workshop, co-hosted by Kerr-Tar COG and funded by NC Division of Environmental Quality’s (DEQ’s) 205(j) Grant, brought together local non-profits, state/local agencies, and municipal staff to discuss Roanoke River Basin opportunities in water quality, conservation and improvement.

The agenda for the workshop included presentations from NC Wildlife Resources Commission, Roanoke River Partners, and the Water Resources Research Institute of NC State University. Attendees were provided with valuable information regarding the different approaches to watershed management and conservation ranging from Green Growth and Planning to Recreation and Economic Growth.
Planning and Development Services

Jessica Martin Hired as New PDS Administrative Assistant

In July, Planning and Development Services announced Jessica Martin as a full-time staff member at the UCPCOG after working as the front desk receptionist since the fall of 2016. Jessica holds an Associate’s Degree in Business Administration from Wilson Community College and has prior data, marketing, and retail management experience. Her duties include assisting all the PDS department’s professional staff with various administrative and other tasks. She is a proud mother of three daughters and recently engaged. The wedding is planned for May 2018.

Area Agency on Aging

Evidence-Based Health Promotions & Disease Prevention

Beverly Davis and Mary Marlin completed the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program at ECU in May of 2017. We look forward to being able to offer even more Health Promotions classes soon. If you are interested in participating in a workshop or becoming a lay leader, please contact Lynn Bulluck at 252-234-5954.
This annual conference was held on June 1, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. and provided information and resources on aging & elder abuse to professionals, consumers, caregivers, students, and others seeking to learn more about aging.

Topics Included:

- Project Visibility: LGBT Inclusiveness
- Recognizing & Reporting Elder Abuse
- Effects of Recreational/Music Therapy on Behavior & Memory in long term care
- Plan Today in Preparation for Tomorrow: POAs, Living Wills, Advanced Directives and much more

The event was free. Lunch & snacks were provided, as well as, door prizes, networking, & more. Sponsors included: Nash County; Nash County Nursing & Adult Home Community Advisory Committees; Rocky Mount Rehabilitation Center; Upper Coastal Plain Council of Governments Area Agency on Aging; Upper Coastal Plain Council of Governments Long Term Care Ombudsman Program.
Mary Marlin and Annetta Brown joined other Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) from across the nation to participate in the N4A Aging Policy Briefing in Washington D.C. on April 3rd and 4th. The NC group (pictured above) met with Angela Wiles, from Senator Burr’s office and Joe Nolan, from Senator Tillis’ office to discuss the N4A policy priorities, as well as, NC4A policy priorities. Additionally, Mary and Annetta met with Kyle Parker, from representative Butterfield’s office and Jason Cooke, from Representative Holding’s office. The advocacy efforts of the AAAs are crucial during this time as they educate newly elected and appointed officials regarding the many needs of the exploding senior population. The messages shared during the visits included the following:

- We must enable aging at home and in the community
- With more than 10,000 people turning 65 in our country every day, we must invest in cost-effective aging services.
- We must keep our older adults healthy
- We must modernize infrastructure and workforce to meet the demands of aging communities.

Mary Marlin presented Angela Wiles with plates from the Scotland Neck Senior Center. Participants sent messages to Senator Burr regarding the services they receive at the center and expressing their gratitude and concerns for future Older Americans Act funding. Rocky Mount Meals on Wheels also shared letters with each of the elected officials explaining the necessity and benefits of the Home Delivered Meals program in Nash and Edgecombe Counties.
The 14th Annual Caregiver Education Conference was held on Tuesday, March 7th. The Upper Coastal Plain Family Caregiver Support Program, Barton College and Alzheimer’s NC, Inc. hosted the conference.

Dr. Russell, founder of the Caregiver Conference has provided endless support and dedication throughout the fourteen years of the conference!

The conference brought together 185 families and professional caregivers. This one-day conference maximizes the educational opportunities for the caregivers within their limited schedules. The focus of the conference this year was to deliver information and resources to help assist caregivers through their dementia journey.

Following registration and welcome, the conference highlighted Making North Carolina Dementia Friendly - What is it all About presented by Mark Hensley, MA, Dementia Services Coordinator with the Division of Aging and Adult Services and North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services.

Throughout the conference participants had the opportunity to participate in the Virtual Dementia Tour offered by Spring Arbor of Wilson. The Virtual Dementia Tour is a powerful sensitivity and awareness experience created for anyone seeking to understand the physical and mental challenges of those with dementia.
On June 30, 2017, we had to furlough all our SCSEP participants due to projected budget cuts to the program. We were eventually notified, by the Division of Aging and Adult Services, that we would receive funding for Fiscal Year 2017-2018; however, no contract is in place as of September 6, 2017. We are expecting to have an executed contract in place by October 2017, and have been busy reviewing Host Agency agreements and preparing to resume the program as soon as possible.

We are also excited to announce that seven of our SCSEP participants have been offered positions with their Host Agencies! Which, of course, is our goal for all our participants. A huge congratulations to all of them and a special thank you to the host agencies who made it possible for the participant to be offered employment!

As we shared, we are funded through Fiscal Year 2017-2018, however, there is no guarantee that we will continue to receive funding for this vital program. This program often makes a huge difference to our participants. Often times meaning the difference between buying medication, eating three meals a day or living in a safe environment... or not...and the list goes on. Please make it a point to advocate for the future funding of this program. Our elected, federal officials need to hear about the difference this program makes to our seniors! Please feel free to contact Beverly Davis by email at bdavis@ucpcog.org or by phone at 252-234-5958 with any questions you may have regarding the SCSEP Program.
Area Agency on Aging

Barwick Named Volunteer of the Year

Mildred Barwick, affectionately known as Granny to nearly everyone she encounters, is the 2016 recipient of the Delores J. Thomas Outstanding CAC Member Award.

Granny is a dedicated member of the Nash County Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee. She has served in this capacity for over 20 years. Granny fiercely advocates for residents living in nursing homes. She gives a voice to residents who may not be able to speak for themselves. Granny is devoted to making sure that everyone feels loved and sends cards and handwritten letters monthly to over 200 people. She visits facilities in Nash County in addition to her scheduled visits with the CAC. She listens to the residents as they make mention of things they would like to have. Granny will often return to the facility to deliver those items to residents. Granny is also the eldest member of all 9 committees in the region. She resides in Rocky Mount and has one daughter, Jeanie.

This award was started approximately 3 years ago by the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program and named in memory of outstanding CAC member, Deloris J. Thomas. The award is designed to recognize a CAC member who epitomizes the meaning of advocacy in long-term care.

Ty Whitaker, Long Term Care Ombudsman and NC Business and Professional Women’s Career Woman of the Year

Ty is a Regional Long-Term Care Ombudsman for Region L and works diligently to represent the interests of long-term care residents. She works with over 3,000 residents and 40 facilities in the region to ensure residents’ voices are heard.

Ty serves as the Chair of the North Carolina Long-Term Care Ombudsman Association, the secretary of the North Carolina Partnership to Address Adult Abuse and is a member of the National Association of LTC Ombudsman, National Society on Aging and National Consumer Voice for Long-Term Care.

Ty was named the NC Business Professional Women’s Career Woman of the Year in June of 2017! Congratulations Ty!
Area Agency on Aging

Regional Aging Advisory Committee & Home and Community Care Block Grant Training

The Region L Regional Aging Advisory Committee (RAAC) consists of five HCCBG Lead organizations, five Senior Tar Heel Legislature Delegates, and ten at-large members (two from each county). We meet on a quarterly basis to discuss aging issues in our region, make decisions regarding aging services provided by the Area Agency on Aging, and share information regarding resources and solutions for seniors and the disabled in our communities. Our meetings are open to the public and are advertised on our Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/Upper-Coastal-Plain-Area-Agency-on-Aging-Region-L-442640192559648/.

Regional Aging Advisory Committee (RAAC) & Home and Community Care Block Grant (HCCBG) trainings were last held at Eastpointe in Rocky Mount on May 30, 2017. Topics included: Aging Resource Management System (ARMS) training presented by Linda Owens, DAAS Technology Support Analyst, NC 211, and a discussion regarding homelessness in our region. Information and updates were shared by the AAA staff and county representatives present for the RAAC meeting. Our next RAAC meeting and HCCBG training was held on September 26, 2017. The remaining meetings for fiscal year 2017-2018 will be held on December 8, 2017, March 27, 2018 and May 29, 2018.

AAA Seeking Volunteer Project Manager

Every day 10,000 baby boomers turn 65 – and that will continue to occur seven days a week, 365 days a year for the next 20 years. By the year 2040 they will account for more than a quarter of the U.S. population. Challenges for this demographic are not disappearing, but rather, multiplying as time passes.

The Center on Maintaining Preferred Aging Services and Solutions (COMPASS) was established by the Area Agency on Aging in March of 2017 to aid us in accomplishing our AAA mission. COMPASS is a non-profit under the laws of the State of North Carolina that serves to empower families, senior adults, family caregivers, and individuals with disabilities residing in Eastern NC to live independent, meaningful, healthy, and dignified lives through a comprehensive plan of services and linkages with community-based programs.

We are currently seeking a passionate, dedicated and driven volunteer who will be responsible for the overall direction, coordination, implementation, execution, control and completion of the Senior Housing Project ensuring consistency with COMPASS’ strategy, commitments and goals.

This Volunteer Project Manager will support the work of COMPASS and provide project management for the Senior Housing Project, which is currently in it’s initial development stages. The non-profit operations are facilitated by the Upper Coastal Plain Council of Governments Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Program Director and the COMPASS Board of Directors. This group of dedicated professionals will also oversee the Senior Housing Project. Contact Mary Marlin at 252-234-5956 or by email mmarlin@ucpcog.org to learn more about this opportunity and description of responsibilities.
The Wilson Post News and Media, LLC

The Wilson Post News & Media (TWP) is a millennial driven news and media company founded by Chief Vision Officer and Publisher, Travis Patterson in Wilson, North Carolina in 2017. TWP located to the Business Development Center in July 2017. This media outlet shares engaging Eastern NC news and media to over 13,000+ subscribers covering Food, Fashion, Technology, Entrepreneurship, Healthcare, Entertainment, Innovation & more.

In just a few short months, The Wilson Post News and Media has grown to over thirteen thousand subscribers and nineteen thousand daily visitors. Readers will find news, entertainment, editorials, shows and podcasts. For more information and to subscribe visit The Wilson Post and Media website at https://thewilsonpost.com.

Travis Patterson is an entrepreneur and accomplished author of several books with the most recent being “Billion Dollar Success Stories—How to Embrace Stepping Stones to Build A Successful Empire” and is available at Barnes and Noble. He continues to recruit content writers, video and film producers, resulting in new jobs created in the community.

My Edutek

My Edutek offers career training programs that focus on providing the most cost efficient and career enhancing results for their students, a new career, a higher income and a better quality of life! Students are able to achieve their computer IT certifications with hands-on, instructor-led training courses.

- A+ is the starting point for a career in IT. The performance-based exams certify foundation IT skills across a variety of devices and operating systems.
- Network+ certifies the essential skills needed to confidently design, configure, manage and troubleshoot any wired and wireless network.

Our CompTIA and Network+ Certification classes are task-based and focus on real-world scenarios and challenges students face in their day-to-day environments. Certifications can be acquired in less than 60 days and ensure a fast start and a long, lucrative career with the right professional credentials.

For more information call 1-800-341-0732 or by email at info@myedutek.com.
Metro Public Adjustment

Metro Public Adjustment, Inc. leads the industry in helping property owners obtain a fair settlement from their insurance companies. Working with both residential and commercial property owners, Metro advocates for its clients' interests, working to obtain the maximum possible compensation for property loss.

Metro Public Adjustment staff, located in Historic Downtown Wilson, at the BDC, provides free weekly training to anyone wishing to become a Public Adjuster. These CE classes are known to be tops in the industry.

To learn more about Metro Public Adjustment, Inc. or how to become a Public Adjuster, contact Roy O’Hanlon at 252-357-9554, email rohanlon@metropa.com, or visit their website at metropa.com/rohanlon.

Global 1 Consulting, LLC

Global 1 Consulting, LLC staff knows the importance of starting, managing, and expanding a business which is why they offer a variety of solutions to their clients. Their business consulting services are geared toward helping clients secure grant funding for nonprofit organizations, develop business & marketing plans, and create business start-up strategies. Global 1 understands that every business needs a professionally designed website, mobile and web app, IT solutions, as well as, an updated blog! It is essential that businesses are transforming along with leading edge technologies and best practices. Their mission is to provide innovative solutions to best fit the business needs.

Christina Parker is an alumni of: Tidewater Community College, Associates of Social Science; Old Dominion University, Bachelors of Science in Psychology and Sociology; Cambridge College, Masters of Science in Management; University of Massachusetts Lowell, Masters in Business Administration in Information Technology Security Studies. She is currently pursuing a PhD in Technology Innovation.

To learn more about Global 1 Consulting visit www.global1consulting.org or contact:

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SAVE THE DATE!

Upper Coastal Plain COG Annual Banquet
November 21, 2017
Birchwood Country Club
Social: 6 p.m
Dinner: 7 p.m.

Keynote
Patrick Wootie, President
The Rural Center

Entertainment
Crissy O and the Nutones

Look for Invitation
In the Mail