



WORKSOURCE GEORGIA ACADEMY

PRESENTED BY



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Agenda

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Breakout Sessions

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Speaker Bios

DAY 1

- 8:00AM** Registration/Presenter Help Desk (Classic Center Registration)
- 8:30 - 9:30AM** Breakfast Buffet Opens
- 9:30 - 10:45AM** Opening Session (Athena A-F)
Topic: The Role of Workforce in Economic Development
- Call to Order/Welcome/Introduction: TCSG Commissioner Matt Arthur
 - Key Note: Dr. Raquel Hatter, Deputy Director for Human Services of the Kresge Foundation
- 11:00AM - 12:00PM** Breakout Set 1
- The Role of the One-Stop Operator: Hear it from the Operators themselves!
 - Back to the Basics: Understanding WIOA Administration
 - Effective Case Management Strategies
 - Business Services and TCSG Economic Development: How can we partner?
- 12:00 - 1:30PM** Lunch Session (Athena A-F)
- Lunch
 - Call to Order and Introduction: GVRA Executive Director Sean Casey
 - Key Note: Wendell Dallas, Chairman of the State Workforce Development Board
- 1:45 - 2:45PM** Breakout Set 2
- Managing Performance under WIOA
 - How to Run a Board Meeting: Sunshine Provisions, Roberts Rules, and WIOA
 - Best Practices to Protect Confidential Client Data
 - Vocational Rehabilitation Showcase
- 3:00 - 5:00PM** Afternoon Session (Athena A-F)
- Beverage and Snack Break
 - Integration Table Questions and Panel Moderation:
Shemeeka Johnson, TCSG Workforce Communications Director
 - Keynote Panel: Joe Dan Banker, WIOA; Beverly Smith, Adult Education;
Elizabeth Warner, Wagner-Peyser; Dr. Lee Brinkley Bryan, Vocational Rehabilitation



DAY 2

8:00AM

Registration/Presenter Help Desk (Classic Center Registration)

8:30 - 9:30AM

Breakfast Buffet Opens

9:30 - 10:45AM

Morning Session (Athena A-F)

- Call to Order/Introduction: Martha Ann Todd, TCSG Deputy Commissioner
- Introductions and Panel Moderation: Wendell Dallas, Chairman of the State Workforce Development Board
- Keynote Panel: Local Workforce Development Board Chairmen, Joe Vogt, WorkSource Northeast Georgia; Torey Wingate, WorkSource Southwest Georgia; Myrna Ballard, WorkSource Southern Georgia; La Tunya Goodwin, WorkSource East Central Georgia

11:00AM - 12:00PM

Breakout Set 3

- MOU Cost Negotiations: Lessons learned from the Agency staff that attended all 19!
- Board Member Engagement: What works and what does not?
- Customer Service is Key: Hear best practices from practitioners
- Serving English Language Learners: Partnering to provide workforce training and support

12:00 - 1:30PM

Lunch Session (Athena A-F)

- Lunch
- Call to Order and Introduction: GDOL Commissioner Mark Butler
- Key Note: Winston Tompoe, Regional Administrator of the Employment and Training Division



DAY 2 (CONTINUED)

1:45 - 2:45PM

Breakout Set 4

- One-Stop MOU: Monitoring, Best Practices, and Next Steps
- Understanding the Roles of Core Partners on the Board
- Super Circular: Nuts and Bolts
- What's new with Apprenticeships?

3:00 - 5:00PM

Afternoon Session (Athena A-F)

- Beverage and Snack Break
- Regionalism Table Questions and Panel Moderation: Jamie Jordan, TCSG Programs & Business Services Director
- Keynote Panel: Helen Slaven, Atlanta CareerRise; Melody Pierce, WorkSource Southwest Georgia; Amy Baldwin, WorkSource Southern Georgia; Page Estes, LaGrange-Troup County Chamber of Commerce



DAY 3

8:00 - 9:00AM

Registration/Presenter Help Desk (Classic Center Registration)

8:30 - 9:30AM

Breakfast/Networking (Athena A-F)

9:30 - 10:30AM

Breakout Set 5

- GDOL and Rapid Response
- Building Career Pathways: How can Board Members and Community Leaders be involved?
- Etiquette and Work Environment: How to best work with Participants who have disabilities
- Disability Employment Initiative and Ticket to Work Program

10:45 AM - 12:00PM

Closing Session (Athena A-F)

- Final Announcements and Introduction: Joe Dan Banker, TCSG Assistant Commissioner
- Speaker: Erick Rheam, Speaker and Professional Author
- Boxed Lunches and Departure



ONE-STOP & PERFORMANCE TRACK

Breakout Set 1: (Olympia)

- The Role of the One-Stop Operator: Hear it from the Operators themselves!
- Speakers: Janice Davis, GDOL; Benjie Hopkins, Hopkins and Associates; Robert Gordon, In-the-Door; Lynn Hamilton, ResCare

Breakout Set 2: (Olympia)

- Managing Performance under WIOA
- Speakers: Steven Wilson, TCSG; Star Dickey, WorkSource Atlanta Regional

Breakout Set 3: (Olympia)

- MOU Cost Negotiations: Lessons learned from the Agency staff that attended all 19!
- Speakers: Bobby Creech, TCSG; Kristin Laarhoven, TCSG; Minerva Nixon, GVRA

Breakout Set 4: (Parthenon)

- One-Stop MOU: Monitoring, Best Practices, and Next Steps
- Speakers: David Dietrichs, TCSG; Bobby Creech, TCSG

Breakout Set 5: (Athena H)

- GDOL and Rapid Response
- Speakers: Elizabeth Warner, GDOL; Rhonda Waite, GDOL; Alan Carson, GDOL

BOARD MEMBER AND LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIAL TRACK

Breakout Set 1: (Athena H)

- Back to the Basics: Understanding WIOA Administration
- Speakers: Robin Roberts, TCSG; Mary Margaret Garrett, WorkSource Georgia Mountains

Breakout Set 2: (Parthenon)

- How to Run a Board Meeting: Sunshine Provisions, Roberts Rules, and WIOA
- Speakers: David Dietrichs, TCSG; Jamie Jordan, TCSG

Breakout Set 3: (Athena H)

- Board Member Engagement: What works and what does not?
- Speakers: Keith Dixon, WorkSource Heart of Georgia; John Helton, WorkSource Cobb; Terrilyn Hannah, WorkSource Macon-Bibb

Breakout Set 4: (Olympia)

- Understanding the Roles of Core Partners on the Board
- Speakers: Carol Cofer, WorkSource Northeast Georgia; Roberta Lovett, WorkSource Southern Georgia

Breakout Set 5: (Parthenon)

- Building Career Pathways: How can Board Members and Community Leaders be involved?
- Jamie Jordan, TCSG; Brittany Bullock, TCSG



CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK

Breakout Set 1:

- Back to the Basics: Effective Case Management Strategies
- Speakers: Carol Guertin, WorkSource Atlanta Regional; Chelsea Waters, WorkSource Atlanta Regional; Chidinma Okonkwo, WorkSource Atlanta; Sheron Morgan, WorkSource Coastal

Breakout Set 2:

- Best Practices to Protect Confidential Client Data
- Speakers: Nancy Meeden, GDOL; Denise Beckwith, GDOL

Breakout Set 3:

- Customer Service is Key: Hear from Workforce Practitioners
- Speakers: Linda Manis, GDOL; Jamon Williams, GDOL; Aundrea Simmons, GDOL; Emily Brinson, GDOL

Breakout Set 4:

- Super Circular: Nuts and Bolts
- Speakers: Clara Keith, TCSG

Breakout Set 5:

- Etiquette and Work Environment: How to best work with Participants who have Disabilities
- Speakers: Jason Williams, GVRA

BEST PRACTICE SHOWCASE

Breakout Set 1:

- Business Services and TCSG Economic Development: How can we partner?
- Speakers: Laura Gammage, TCSG; Dr. Andrea Daniel, Athens Technical College; Stephanie Benson, Athens Technical College; Carol Cofer, WorkSource Northeast Georgia

Breakout Set 2:

- Vocational Rehabilitation Showcase
- Speakers: Roberta Lovett, WorkSource Southern Georgia; Dr. Lee Brinkley Bryan, GVRA; Ken Hise, GVRA; Lauri Tuten, GVRA

Breakout Set 3:

- Serving English Language Learners: Partnering to provide workforce training and support
- Speakers: Cher Brister, Gwinnett Technical College; Stephanie Rooks, Gwinnett Technical College; Brenda Beverly, Gwinnett Technical College

Breakout Set 4:

- What's new with Apprenticeships?
- Speakers: Holly Free, TCSG; Jasmine Carr, TCSG; Bill Kraus, USDOL

Breakout Set 5:

- Disability Employment Initiative and Ticket to Work Program
- Speakers: Rossany Rios, TCSG; Carol Cofer, WorkSource Northeast Georgia



ALAN CARSON

Alan Carson currently serves as the Georgia Department of Labor's 'Workforce Systems Manager' overseeing GDOL's labor exchange Federal, State performance and ad hoc reporting. He is also currently managing GDOL's USDA demonstration grant serving SNAP recipients in Georgia, ... its Rapid Response activities, ... and management information systems development.

Alan previously served as a GDOL Senior Employment & Training Consultant for 19 years, providing technical assistance and compliance oversight to local workforce areas, and served various stints as an Acting JTPA and WIA Director in Georgia.

Of greatest note to Alan, he has survived CETA, JTPA and WIA transitions, ... and hopes to retire under WIOA.

AMY BALDWIN

Amy Baldwin is the Business Services Coordinator for WorkSource Southern Georgia. This role was created for the Region in January 2017 where she began implementing training programs to businesses in the 18 county service area. Amy is also the Program Manager for the HDCI Sector Partnership Initiative. Prior to this work, she was a business owner for 15 years and served on the Workforce Development Board as a private business member.

DR. ANDREA D. DANIEL

Dr. Andrea Daniel currently serves as the President at Athens Technical College. Prior to this position, she served as Executive Vice President, Vice President for Economic Development, Vice President for External Affairs, and Vice President for Student Affairs. She has served the College for over 20 years, beginning her career as Student Services Director on the Elbert County Campus of Athens Technical College and later transitioning to the Main Campus to become the College Registrar. Dr. Daniel previously worked as a senior planning analyst for the Atlanta Regional Commission on projects such as the Outer Loop Study, Vision 2020 Education Stakeholder Committee, planning and zoning studies, and Olympic Transportation Planning. Additionally, she is a former co-owner of a table-top retail gift store in her hometown of Elberton, GA.

Dr. Daniel has completed the Executive Leadership Academy of the Technical College System of Georgia and she is a graduate of L.E.A.D. Athens Class of 2008. She has also successfully completed the Georgia Tech Annual Basic Economic Development Course, and the Georgia Regional Academy for Economic Development Essentials of Economic Development course.

Dr. Daniel has a bachelor's degree in Political Science from Lander University, a master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Georgia, and a doctorate in Business Administration specializing in organizational leadership from Northcentral University.



Her hobbies include reading, hiking, and cycling. Dr. Daniel is married to Sterling Daniel and they have one daughter, Kimberlyn, who is a junior at Georgia Southern University.

AUNDREA SIMMONS

Aundrea Simmons is one of the 13 Regional Coordinators for the Georgia Department of Labor Business Services Unit. She supports Region 6, the Heart of Georgia, which covers 11 counties. Aundrea is a graduate of Tennessee Technological University, located in Cookeville, Tennessee with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. She currently serves on the Middle Georgia Workforce Development Board and the Hutchings College and Career Academy Board. Aundrea joined the Georgia Department of Labor in 2002 and has held various positions during her tenure that has allowed her to faithfully serve the state of Georgia in bringing the Georgia Workforce System and economic development community together.

BENJIE HOPKINS

Benjie Hopkins has twenty years of executive leadership experience working with an international manufacturing company. As Vice-President of Administration for Hitachi Power Tools International, he was responsible for: budgeting and cost analysis; operations (manufacturing and distribution); contracts and legal issues (product liability); writing policies and procedures; communications with international parent company and affiliates; customer service; and human resources.

Benjie's work required daily communication between cultures, customs, languages, and time zones. He represented his company in Canada, Chile, and Japan. One of his greatest challenges was hiring and retaining qualified workers for his company.

BEVERLY E. SMITH

Beverly E. Smith is the Assistant Commissioner and Georgia State Director for Adult Education and GED® Testing through the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG). Georgia's Office of Adult Education administers the U.S. Department of Education state-wide Adult Education grants, provides adult education training programs for over 50,000 Georgia citizens, and supports local literacy action groups throughout the state. In addition, her office is responsible for the administration of all GED® testing in Georgia. Serving Adult Education in a national capacity, Beverly is the immediate Past Chair of the National Adult Education Professional Development Consortium/National Council of State Directors of Adult Education and has spoken before the U.S. Senate HELP Committee representing the issues faced by adults with literacy challenges.

As a corporate manager, Beverly spent eighteen years in leadership positions with AT&T (Southern Bell) and has experience in the areas of strategic planning; organizational effectiveness, training; operations redesign and restructure; financial management; and human resources.



As an educator with a Masters in College Student Personnel Administration, Beverly was a college administrator at Kent State University (Ohio), Georgia State University, served as an Upward Bound Program Director and taught high school in Ohio.

A long term community volunteer, Beverly was the Chair of the Cobb County Board of Elections & Registration for eight years (2005-2013), a member of Leadership Cobb and has served on several Cobb County governing board including United Way and Girls, Inc. Active in public service, Beverly Smith is the 2017-2019 National President & CEO for Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. She is the recipient of many honors and awards and was named a “History Maker” by The HistoryMakers (thehistorymakers.com), a national African-American historical registry which is housed in United States Library of Congress.

BOBBY CREECH

Robert “Bobby” Creech serves as the Director of Instructional Services for the Office of Adult Education at the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG). In this role, he leads a team of 6 professionals who provide direct day-to-day support for the 31 adult education grantees across the state of Georgia.

Creech has more than 23 years of experience in the field of Adult Education in Georgia, serving in a number of roles at both the local and state level. Creech earned a B.A. in Secondary Social Science Education and an M.S. Ed. in Adult and Vocational Education from Georgia Southern University. Also, he participated in the 2013-2014 TCSG Executive Leadership Academy. As a part of this program, he gained a broader understanding of the important role that TCSG plays in education and economic development for Georgia and its citizens. When not working, you can find him out for a run around his Atlanta neighborhood.

BRENDA BEVERLY

Brenda Beverly is the WIOA Coordinator at Gwinnett Technical College. Her experience includes two plus decades in the area of workforce development for the technical college system and the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina. That experience spans case management, program design/development and program management for youth, adults, dislocated workers and business services.



BRITTANY BULLOCK

Brittany Bullock serves as the Business Services Manager for the Office of Workforce Development of the Technical College System of Georgia. In this role, Brittany works with Georgia's 19 WorkSource Georgia areas' to provide exceptional customer service to local employers and industries. She also supports the Georgia Department of Economic Development's Global Commerce Team in coordinating innovative workforce solutions to the new and existing industries that make Georgia the #1 State for Business.

Previously, Brittany served as High Demand Career Initiative Program Specialist, leading the state's construction and logistics task forces to develop and implement employer-driven workforce solutions for high demand careers and industries within the state. Prior to entering workforce development, Brittany worked with the Middle Georgia Regional Commission consulting cities and counties on various community and economic development planning matters.

Brittany is a graduate of Georgia Southern University with a bachelor's degree in Political Science and a graduate of the University of Georgia with a master's degree in Public Administration. She is a native of Augusta, Georgia and currently resides in Atlanta.

CAROL RAYBURN COFER

Carol Rayburn Cofer is the Workforce Development Division Director for the Northeast Georgia Regional Commission. As Workforce Development Division Director, she supervises staff responsible for the daily management of programs funded under the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) as well as other workforce development initiatives in the 12 county Northeast Georgia region. Mrs. Cofer began working with the Commission in 1982. She has been the director of the Job Training/Workforce Development Division since June 1994.

She serves as President of the Georgia WIOA Directors' Council and is a past president of the Southeastern Employment and Training Association (SETA) and a 2012 Graduate of the Georgia Academy of Economic Development. Carol has served on several local advisory committees/boards including the Athens Clarke Literacy Council, the Athens Community Career Academy, the Athens Technical College's Clarke County Literacy Advisory Committee and the Athens Symphony Orchestra. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from West Georgia College in 1982.

CAROL GUERTIN

Carol Guertin is a Career Advisor for Rockdale County WIOA under WorkSource Atlanta Regional. Ms. Guertin is responsible for overseeing the daily operations of the Rockdale Career Resource Center as well as successfully enrolling applicants into training. Ms. Guertin has over 20 years of experience working in workforce development dated back to JTPA in the early 90s. Ms. Guertin received her B.A. degree in Psychology from the State University of New York at Potsdam.



CHELSEA WATERS

Chelsea Waters is a graduate of Spelman College, with a B.A. in Psychology. She has a passion for people and has jumpstarted her career serving various populations such as the homeless population, children and families, and now the unemployed and under employed through various nonprofit and state agencies. In her spare time, she is also active in service through her church community serving on the outreach team and teaching bible study to the small children. Chelsea is looking to continue and advance her career in Workforce and Education services, connecting community members to opportunities toward an engaging career. Though she is just getting started in her career path, she looks forward to a lifelong career of serving others.

CHER BRISTER

Cher Brister is the Director of Green Technologies at Gwinnett Technical College. She has been at Gwinnett Tech since 2006 and has worked as an Instructor, Program Coordinator and Program Director. She not only manages the Building Operator Certification Program for the state of Georgia, but she is also responsible for Continuing Education and Business and Industry training in the North Fulton service area. She serves on the Board of Directors for the Georgia Adult Education Association, Atlanta Recycles and Amana Academy in Alpharetta.

CHIDINMA OKONKWO

Chidinma Okonkwo is Skills Development Adviser Team Lead for The City of Atlanta WorkSource. Mrs. Okonkwo is responsible for assisting with overseeing the daily operations of WorkSource Atlanta as well as enrolling WIOA participants into an Occupational Skill Training or Work Experience program.

Mrs. Okonkwo also assist job seekers by referring them to employment opportunities and connecting customers to external resources to eliminate barriers. Mrs. Okonkwo is a graduate of Georgia State University, with a Master's Degree in Social Work. Mrs. Okonkwo has four years of work experience in the Workforce and wants to continue to expand her knowledge in WIOA to become more effective within her local area.

CLARA KEITH

Clara J. Keith Brown retired from the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE) in 2015 after 32 years of service to public education. While at GaDOE, she held a number of leadership positions, including serving as Associate Superintendent of Georgia's Race to the Top \$400 million federal grant; as Deputy Superintendent for Policy and External Affairs; and as Associate Superintendent for Federal Programs where she provided oversight and management of GaDOE's Federal Programs. She has an extensive background in working with developing and implementing internal controls to comply with the Office of Management and Budget Uniform Guidance (Super Circular).



After retirement, Clara worked for the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (DBHDD) where she provided support and project management for the Georgia Department of Education programs for students with severe emotional and behavioral disorders. She currently serves as a Commissioner for the State Charter School Commission, as Chair of Georgia's Council for AdvancED SACS, and as an advisory member of Georgia's SHBP Advisory Council.

DAVID DIETRICH

David Dietrichs is Director of Legal Affairs and Compliance for the Technical College System of Georgia's Office of Workforce Development. In this role, he provides legal support to State and local Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act grant recipients and service providers. Dietrichs assists in drafting and negotiating contracts, manages subrecipient monitoring, responds to general and EO complaints, and advises Technical College System leadership on compliance matters. Dietrichs has been the Director of Legal Affairs and Compliance for four years and has assisted in administering Georgia's workforce system for over six years.

He previously worked in the Governor's Office of Workforce Development and the Georgia Department of Economic Development where he managed the implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act in Georgia. Additionally, Dietrichs has drafted State laws and rules to support and govern the State's workforce system. Dietrichs is an Atlanta native. He holds a bachelor's degree in history from the University of Alabama, a juris doctor degree from Georgia State University, and he is a member of the Georgia State Bar Association.

DENISE BECKWITH

Denise has over 28 years of experience in the unemployment insurance field and has worked in a variety of unemployment insurance programs and activities. She currently serves as the Chief of Unemployment Insurance Policy and Procedures for the Georgia Department of Labor and has oversight for all Unemployment Insurance (UI) policy and procedural matters affecting the UI Benefits and Tax programs.

DONNA KERR

Donna Kerr is a "double dawg" with a BS in Education and an M.Ed. in Counseling from UGA. She is licensed as a professional counselor and a registered nurse. Currently, she works as a complex case manager for Coventry Worker's Comp. She does medical case management for catastrophic injuries such as amputations, spinal cord injuries, and burns. Donna has worked in this field for 22 years. Prior to this, she worked for 15 years as a therapist in the mental health system of Georgia. She is married to Tommy Kerr and they have 2 grown children and 2 grandchildren.



ELIZABETH WARNER

Elizabeth currently serves as Director of the Workforce Solutions Division and State Equal Opportunity Administrator for the Georgia Department of Labor (GDOL). In her role as Workforce Solutions Director, Ms. Warner is directly responsible for leading the successful efforts of multiple federal grants and programs, to include Wagner-Peyser, Jobs for Veterans State Grant (JVSG), Trade, Agricultural, Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC), Reemployment Services and Eligibility Assessment (RESEA), and the USDA SNAP demonstration pilot.

She is also responsible for providing direct leadership to GDOL's MICS Data team, which has the task of ensuring all associated federal reporting requirements for the agency are fulfilled. In addition, she directs the business/program team responsible for the development of GDOL's Labor Exchange system EmployGA, and the agency's new data warehouse. Most recently, Ms. Warner began working with the team delivering Rapid Response activities across the State.

As State Equal Opportunity Administrator, Ms. Warner provides guidance and technical assistance on issues of discrimination. She is the designated liaison between the Georgia Department of Labor and the USDOL Civil Rights Center. Elizabeth is a credentialed mediator, experienced investigator and has served as a loyal member of the National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA) Equal Opportunity Committee for several years.

As a NASWA EO Committee member, she has volunteered her time on multiple occasions to serve as a conference speaker for the United States Department of Labor (USDOL) Civil Rights Center.

Ms. Warner earned a Masters of Business Administration (MBA) from Troy University, a Bachelors of Arts in Communications and Criminal Justice from Georgia State University, as well as an Associate Degree in Business Administration from Georgia Perimeter College.

EMILY BRINSON

Emily Brinson has been with the Georgia Department of Labor since 2010 and has served as Regional Coordinator since 2016. While working for the Georgia Department of Labor, Emily has had the opportunity to receive training in career development, economic development, and is a Certified Professional Résumé Writer. As Regional Coordinator for the coastal region of Georgia, Emily works with regional development authorities and commissions to recruit new business and industry to Georgia.

Her goal is to create and cultivate partnerships with the business and economic development community that leads to long-term success for the workforce in Georgia. Emily currently resides in Bulloch County and is a graduate of Mercer University.



ERICK RHEAM

Erick Rheam is a speaker and published author. He communicates and educates on topics related to discovering significance and the art of mastering human dynamics to achieve success.

Erick spent the past eight years training and educating municipal leaders and association executives on how to build programs and services that add value. Erick partnered with leading software developer, Automated Energy, Inc., to help electric utilities deploy energy efficiency software to assist large commercial and Industrial companies become more energy efficient and deploy green technology. Prior to partnering with Automated Energy, Erick worked for a decade in the public power industry for two municipally owned utilities in Indiana and Colorado. He led a customer service division and served business communities to ensure local policy enhanced the business environment so that the business class could thrive, grow and create jobs.

Erick earned his Key Public Power Account Executive designation through the American Public Power Association (APPA). He also served on several national boards and committees to promote green technology, energy efficiency, and customer service. He was vice-chair for the National Customer Services Section for APPA. He also served as the chair for the National Key Accounts Committee for APPA.

Erick graduated from the United State Military Academy in 1995 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Engineering. He served as a Military Police Officer and special investigator in the United States Army in Bosnia Herzegovina and Europe. Erick Currently resides in Southern Indiana with his wife, three children, his Yellow Labrador Retriever, Stella, and new Doberman puppy, Oynx.

HELEN SLAVEN, PHD

Helen currently serves as the partnership director for HDCI Metro Atlanta, part of the governors state-wide High Demand Career Initiative. In this role, Helen coordinates industry partnerships that bring together employers and a network of workforce organizations in healthcare, information technology and logistics to address workforce needs. She is an experienced workforce engagement and transformation professional and holds a doctorate degree in Leadership and Adult Learning with a specialization in Human Resource Development from Barry University in Miami Shores, FL.



HOLLY FREE

Holly is a Georgia native who graduated from Brenau University in (1997) with a Bachelor in Science Nursing and continued her education to complete a Masters in Science in Nursing in (2007). In 2000, Holly joined the TCSG system and began her career path in technical education as an allied health instructor at North Georgia Technical College. Holly spent 13 years as an instructor leading the future healthcare providers with a multitude of health care professional pathways. In 2013, Holly furthered her career path and joined the TCSG team as an Allied Health Curriculum Program Specialist.

As a program specialist, Holly has acquired 40 Allied Health and Science programs along with the Public Safety programs. She currently sits on the Georgia Board of Nursing Educational Committee and has helped lead numerous initiatives to drive the education system. In 2017, Holly received a promotion as an Apprenticeship Specialist and is assisting with introducing the concept of apprenticeship training for workforce development in Georgia.

JAMIE JORDAN

Jamie Jordan is the Programs & Business Services Director for the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG). In this role, he oversees the WIOA programming, business services, and apprenticeship efforts of the new Office of Workforce Development at TCSG. Previously, Jamie served as the High Demand Career Initiative (HDCI) Program Manager for the Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD). Managing HDCI from its inception when launched by Governor Deal in 2014, Jamie actualized the governor's vision of an initiative to make Georgia's workforce and education efforts cooperatively more responsive to private sector demands.

Prior to the role with HDCI, Jamie served as the Liaison to the State Workforce Development Board for GDEcD. Before joining GDEcD, he briefly worked in the office of Speaker David Ralston.

Jamie is a two-time graduate of the University of Georgia, where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in Political Science and a master's degree in Business Administration from the Terry College of Business. He is currently a member of the inaugural class of the Miller Leadership Academy. He is a native of Griffin, Georgia and currently resides in Atlanta.



JAMON WILLIAMS

Jamon Williams has been with the Georgia Department of Labor since 2003 and has served as Regional Coordinator since 2012. While employed by the Georgia Department of Labor, Jamon has served in many capacities including Marketing Representative and Employment services supervisor.

As Regional Coordinator for the South Georgia region 11, Jamon's focus is to create and cultivate partnerships with the business and economic development community that leads to long-term success for the workforce in Georgia. He works with State, regional, and local economic development authorities and commissions to recruit new business and industry to Georgia but also to assist in the retention of the companies that are currently doing business in Georgia. He also serves on various workforce development boards, including the Worksource Southern Georgia WIOA board (Area 18).

Jamon is a resident of Brooks County and a graduate of Valdosta State University.

JANICE DAVIS

Janice Davis is the WIOA and Workforce Services Director with the Georgia Department of Labor. She has been with the State of Georgia for nearly 10 years in workforce services and workforce development. In her current role, she supports the state and local-level WIOA partnerships on behalf of the department. Additionally, she manages the department's contracts to provide One-Stop Operations services for eight Local Workforce Development Areas. Prior to joining the Georgia Department of Labor, Janice served at the Georgia Department of Economic Development supporting WIOA/WIA compliance, policy development, and state-level WIOA partner coordination.

Janice has a degree in Political Science and a degree in History from Pensacola Christian College in Pensacola, Florida. She currently resides in Hampton, Georgia.

JASMINE CARR

Jasmine serves as an Apprenticeship Specialist for the Technical College System of Georgia's Office of Workforce Development and Georgia WorkSmart Program. In her role, she works with businesses, organizations, and training providers to promote, develop, and implement work based learning programs, specifically Registered Apprenticeship across the state of Georgia.

Previous to her current position, she worked in various capacities at a University System of Georgia institution. The Warner Robins, GA native holds a BBA in Management from Georgia Southern University and a M. Ed from Valdosta State University in Adult and Career Education/Workforce Development.



JASON WILLIAMS

Jason Williams is a Service Area Manager (SAM) serving Persons with Disabilities in the West Central Area of the GVRA – Vocational Rehabilitation Program. He completed his BS in HR Management and MBA in Marketing from Auburn University. He has also completed additional graduate coursework through the University of Alabama – Tuscaloosa, University of Kentucky, and University of Texas – Austin. Jason started his career with VR as a Rehabilitation Employment Specialist.

He then became a regional Training and Education Specialist and subsequently accepted a position as a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor serving high school students and adults with disabilities. He is licensed as a Certified Rehabilitation Counselor (CRC) and is a member of the Georgia Rehabilitation Association. He serves as a member of the Three Rivers Workforce Development Board.

JOE DAN BANKER

Joe Dan Banker was born and raised in Fort Worth, Texas. After Graduating from the University of Texas, at Austin, Texas, with a degree in Physiological Psychology, he joined the Navy. Serving for over 20 years as an officer, Joe Dan Banker specialized in Surface Warfare, Strategic Planning, Operations, Operations Analysis, Training and Education, Curriculum Development, and Educational Administration. He earned a Master's Degree in Political Science and Decision Making from the United States Naval War College, in Newport, RI. Joe Dan Banker served on faculty at the United State Naval War College as well.

Following retirement as a Senior Officer, Joe Dan Banker moved to Georgia and served as Senior Naval Science Instructor and Commander of the Naval Junior ROTC unit at Lee County High School, in Leesburg Georgia. Joe Dan Banker then joined the Albany Technical College Team in Albany, Georgia as the Director for Continuing Education and Business and Industry Services. Following that, he took the position of Dean for Academic Affairs and then Vice President for Academic Affairs at Albany Technical College. At the end of 2010, Joe Dan Banker moved to the system office of the Technical College System of Georgia as the Executive Director for Academic Affairs. On February 1, 2018, he took over the role of Assistant Commissioner for Workforce Development.

He has been married to the former Nancy Jane Armor for 35 years. They have a daughter (Ashley), son-in-law (Mike), and two grandchildren, Drake (7) and Hazel (3).

JOE VOGT

Joe Vogt is currently the North American Toll Manufacturing Manager for the Novecare Division of Solvay, with offices at Winder, GA. Solvay is one of the top 10 chemical manufacturers in the world, with operations in place globally. Joe has been an employee of Solvay and its predecessors for 37 years, and has been involved in manufacturing during his entire tenure.



He came to Barrow County, GA in 2005, and has served as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Barrow County Chamber of Commerce during 2012, and is currently the Chairman of the Workforce Development Committee for the Chamber, serving in this capacity for the past 7 years. He has been a Rotarian since 2005, and has served as President and Treasurer of the Rotary Club of Winder. Mr. Vogt also serves or has served on the Board of Directors for Piedmont CASA, United Way of Northeast Georgia, Sims Academy of Innovation and Technology, and the YMCA of Georgia's Piedmont. He was appointed by Governor Deal to the Board of Directors for the State Workforce Development Board in 2011, and served on its Executive Board until earlier in 2018. He is currently Board Chair for the Local Workforce Development for the Northeast Georgia region.

Mr. Vogt earned a Master's Degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Louisville in 1980. He and his wife, Teresa Hoskins, who is also a Chemical Engineer, reside in Hoschton, GA, and have three children, Melissa, who is a resident OB/GYN at Cape Fear Medical Center; David, who graduated from Furman University and is pursuing his PhD at Emory in Chemistry; and Katie, who is also a Chemical Engineer working for Cargill in Dayton, OH.

JOHN HELTON

John Helton is the president and CEO of CobbWorks, Inc. and director of WorkSource Cobb. John has worked in human services and workforce development for 25 years. After graduating from Kennesaw State University with a degree in public and social services, he worked in emergency shelter care with abused and neglected children before joining the Department of Family and Children Services (DFCS). At DFCS, John served in several capacities through the years including general services coordinator for the PEACH program, emergency child protective services with the Cobb County police department, volunteer coordinator and supervisor of the community resource development and childcare units during the era of welfare reform. In 1999 he was appointed deputy director of Cobb DFCS, an organization with 200 plus employees and responsibility for a variety of economic support and social services programs.

John has served on the boards of directors of several organizations including Cobb/Marietta Communities in Schools, School to Work, the Cobb County Extension Service, Cobb Community Collaborative, Metro Atlanta Exchange (MAX) and CareerRise. He serves on the board of his neighborhood association and chairs the Stadium Neighborhoods Community Trust Fund. He was the 2011 recipient of the William "Bill" Hanson Collaboration Award. John is a 2010 Leadership Cobb graduate and an Honorary Commander alumnus for the 94th Airlift Wing in Marietta.

John is committed to forming strategic partnerships and leveraging resources as a means to efficiently and cost effectively deliver economic development, workforce and human services to community members and businesses.



KEITH DIXON

Keith Dixon serves as the CEO of Job Unlimited, Inc., and is the Regional Director for the Heart of Georgia Altamaha Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, a 17 county region in southeast Georgia. Keith is an active member of SETA, NAWDP (National Association of Workforce Development Professionals), NAWB (National Association of Workforce Boards) NAJA (National Association of Job Training Assistance) and GWLA.

Keith is committed to workforce development and professional growth opportunities. As a private business owner and a WIOA Regional Director, Keith has the experience to enable him to work in a professional capacity with both private business and the public sector as he understands both from a personal perspective. Keith attended Georgia Southern University and served in the United States Air Force. He lives in Claxton, Georgia and has two children, Logan and Hunter

KEN HISE

Ken Hise is the Director of Employment Services for the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency. He further served GVRA in the positions of: Director of Field Services – East Quadrant, Rehabilitation Unit Manager, and Certified Rehabilitation Counselor. He has 26 years of experience in putting Georgians with disabilities to work. Ken was the proprietor of a flooring business for 20 years and during that time, hired numerous persons with a disability.

Ken has two customers: The 22,000 active Clients that are preparing for and seeking employment, and, Georgia's businesses that are needing candidates to fill their workforce needs. One of the many accomplishments that Ken is proud of is having established an affiliation with the Greater Atlanta Business Leadership Network.

Ken enjoys putting puzzles together, saying, "I like the challenge of sorting all the pieces and putting them together to see the big picture." Further, he says, "I love woodworking. I like seeing a project in my head, planning and developing strategies to build it, cutting out the pieces, assembling and finishing the project.

It gives me great satisfaction to build a project that is beautiful and useful for people to enjoy. He adds, "I think that is why I find satisfaction in my job, I get to plan and build for positive outcomes, putting people to work".

Presently, Ken and his department are working toward Pipelines, a design which is aimed at suppling the right talent to the right business and is structured to meet not only business current hiring needs but also future needs as well.

KRISTIN LAARHOVEN

Kristin Laarhoven is the Executive Director of the Technical College System of Georgia's Office of Workforce Development where she manages the delivery of workforce services through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), a federal workforce grant administered by the United State Department of Labor, at the state level and in the 19 Local Workforce Development Areas (LWDAs).



Formerly Laarhoven, served as the WIOA and Workforce Services Director at the Georgia Department of Labor, and coordinated the department's statewide implementation of WIOA. This role required the management One-Stop Operator contracts, coordination with the 19 local workforce development board, negotiation of local contracts, funding mechanisms, etc., and development of local service delivery strategies and policy. Laarhoven also formerly served as the Director of Programs at the Georgia Department of Economic Development's Workforce Division. As Programs Director, Laarhoven oversaw workforce policy and programs funded under WIOA. In addition to her role as the state's chief programs officer, Kristin also served as the liaison to the State Workforce Development Board. Laarhoven lives in Atlanta, Georgia. She earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Georgia and is an active member of the Georgia Bar.

LAURI GAMMAGE

Laura Gammage is the TCSG Deputy Commissioner of Economic Development, a role she assumed in 2018. Prior to this, she served as Executive Vice President for Economic Development and Campus Relations at West Georgia Technical College.

Laura previously served in the TCSG System Office from 1997-2015 in various capacities, including as Budget Director, Assistant Commissioner for Administrative Services and Assistant Commissioner for External Affairs. Prior to that she served in the Legislative Budget Office for three years, where she was responsible for numerous agency budgets including those of TCSG, the Department of Public Safety, the Teachers Retirement System, the Employees Retirement System, the Department of Community Affairs and the Department of Revenue.

LAURI TUTEN

Lauri Tuten received a Bachelor's degree in Sociology from Augusta College and a Masters in Rehabilitation Counseling from the University of Alabama. Lauri began her career with the Columbia and Wilkes County Department of Family & Children Services in the field of Employment Services. Other experience includes Education Coordinator for the Georgia Peach Corps operated by the Department of Community Affairs and as Family Connection Coordinator for Jefferson County where she worked with at-risk students and youth to achieve their high school diplomas or GED's and enter into post-secondary training and employment.

Lauri began work with the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Program as a Vocational Counselor in May 1997 where she worked a general caseload and as a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor for Transition. She obtained Certified Rehabilitation Counselor credentials in October 2002. In May 2005, she was promoted to the position of Rehabilitation Unit Manager until she was promoted to Assistant Director of Transition Services in January 2016. She is currently the Director of Transition Services and in this role, she has developed strong collaborative relationships with the GaDOE and other state and national organizations and agencies.



She is responsible for ensuring Pre-Employment Transition Services under WIOA are being delivered statewide and supervising the implementation of the \$5 million dollar Georgia Pathways to Work Grant known as E3: Explore, Engage, Employ as a model for statewide transition services.

DR. LEE BRINKLEY BRYAN

Dr. Lee Brinkley Bryan is Interim Director of Vocational Services for the Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA). Her responsibilities include Vocational Rehabilitation field services and the residential programs at Roosevelt Warm Springs and Cave Spring Center. In her role, she provides leadership for over 750 staff within GVRA. Dr. Bryan received her Master's Degree from the University of Georgia's Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling Program and is a Certified Vocational Evaluator and Certified Rehabilitation Counselor. She has a post-graduate certificate through the University of Florida in Case Management and Life Care Planning.

Dr. Bryan completed her Doctorate at the University of Georgia in Occupational Studies focusing her research on topics including vocational rehabilitation, transition and rehabilitation assessment. Dr. Bryan's work experience includes employment in the public and private rehabilitation sectors. She also served as an instructor and laboratory director in the Rehabilitation Counseling Program at the University of Georgia. Dr. Bryan has extensive experience providing vocational rehabilitation consulting services to school systems, state rehabilitation agencies, hospitals and private non-profit organizations in both program and staff development.

LINDA MANIS

Linda Manis serves as the Director of the Business Services Unit with the Georgia Department of Labor, leading the team of 13 Regional Coordinators, guiding these professionals in strengthening internal and external ties among Georgia DOL, businesses and economic development efforts throughout the state.

Linda has over 19 years of experience in sales, marketing and career development, and has dedicated her career to serving employers and connecting qualified job candidates with employers needing a qualified workforce. In addition to managing the Regional Coordinators,

Linda has responsibility over the Business Services Recruiters, Career Expos, GeorgiaBEST, Customized Recruitment and Special Workforce Assistance Teams. Linda has managed to fulfill a career goal at the GDOL - one program at a time. She serves with passion and sets a servant leadership example for any business leader's staffing model.



LYNN HAMILTON

Lynn Hamilton is passionate about serving others and making difference every day. Her workforce services journey began almost 15 years ago moving from the private sector with extensive experience in finance/human resources and joining ResCare Workforce Services in 2004.

Since then she has been privileged to work with local projects, regional teams and national initiatives across multiple states, programs, and service delivery options to maximize services and utilization of the One Stop System. She currently serves as Regional Director for ResCare Workforce Services with oversight of operations in North Carolina and Georgia.

MARK BUTLER

Mark Butler became Georgia's first Republican Commissioner of Labor on January 10, 2011. Commissioner Butler's continuing goal is to create valuable workforce solutions through strategic alliances and community relationships. Butler has developed several new programs that have strengthened the Labor Department's relationships between employers, job seekers, and Georgia's future workforce. In 2013, Butler created the Business Services Unit which helps businesses streamline the hiring process by creating job descriptions and recruiting job seekers. Staffed with experts in the field of recruiting, applicants are screened and referred to the company based upon their qualifications. As a former business owner, Butler understands the benefits of government agencies partnering with businesses to encourage economic growth.

Strongly believing that a prepared workforce is key to Georgia's economic future, Butler has also incorporated a first of its kind program, GeorgiaBEST. GeorgiaBEST began as a high school based certificate program to help students become "work ready" based on their understanding of soft skills and vital work habits.

GeorgiaBEST has become so successful that the Georgia Department of Labor has recently expanded the program to include GeorgiaBEST@School (Pre-K through Post-Secondary), GeorgiaBEST@Work, and GeorgiaBEST@Home.

A native of Carrollton, Georgia, Butler graduated from Auburn University with a degree in Public Administration. Commissioner Butler and his family are members of Tabernacle Baptist Church in Carrollton.



MARTHA ANN TODD

Martha Ann Todd is the Deputy Commissioner of Adult and Technical Education at the Technical College System of Georgia. Before joining TCSG in 2018, she was Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Student Achievement, Associate Superintendent of Teacher and Leader Effectiveness at the Georgia Department of Education, and Assistant Superintendent in Meriwether County Schools.

With more than thirty-eight years of experience in education, in both public and private schools, Pre-K through 12th grade and now postsecondary, Mrs. Todd has served in a wide range of teacher positions and leadership roles at multiple levels throughout her career. She is an alumna of Emory, Columbus State, and Georgia College & State Universities.

MARY MARGARET GARRETT

Mary Margaret Garrett Workforce Solutions Consulting, LLC. currently provides assistance as a Consultant with the Georgia Mountains Regional Commission/ WorkSource Georgia Mountains. Garrett previously provided consulting services to the Georgia Department of Economic Development Workforce Division. Consulting assistance includes: WIOA policy development, sector strategy development, training and regional planning, management reporting, ETPL, etc.

Garrett retired April 2015 as Manager of the Workforce Solutions Division at the Atlanta Regional Commission and Director of the Atlanta Regional Workforce Board which serves seven of the metro Atlanta counties. Responsibilities included administration and implementation of the federal WIA and initial planning for the WIOA. Additional responsibilities included development of industry sector strategies, business services, comprehensive adult, youth and dislocated worker services, rapid response to major business layoffs and closings in the metropolitan area including establishment of on-site transition centers and working with the GDOL, GDEcD, local Chambers of Commerce and Development Authorities on initiatives regarding workforce development.

Work included a partnership with the Federal Reserve Bank and others on the Metro Atlanta Exchange for Workforce Solutions, as well as work with Atlanta Career Rise on a Supply Chain/Logistics initiative for the Southern Crescent. Garrett has served on several boards and committees in the region and is a member of the Regional Leadership Foundation. Prior to ARC, Garrett was an Employment and Training Specialist for USDOL and served as a federal representative, Executive Assistant to the Regional Administrator and as Assistant Director of the Regional Training Institute.



MATT ARTHUR

Matt Arthur is currently the fifth Commissioner of the Technical College System of Georgia. Previously, Arthur served as the deputy commissioner of TCSG from January 2015 through December 2017. Prior his role as deputy commissioner, Arthur was the executive director of education reform for the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget. During his career, Arthur has worked as a teacher, coach, director of career and technical education, assistant principal and secondary principal. He was also the superintendent of the Rabun County School District for 13 years.

Arthur has held leadership roles with the Georgia School Superintendents Association and Georgia's Education Reform Commission. He is a member of the Georgia Children's Cabinet, the REACH Georgia Foundation Board of Directors and the Georgia Center for Early Language and Literacy Board. Arthur represents Georgia on the Southern Regional Education Board. He received the University of Georgia College of Education Lifetime Achievement Award and was recognized as a Post-Graduate Scholar by the National Football Foundation. Arthur is a graduate of the University of Georgia and played on the 1980 national championship football team. He and his wife, Margie, have two children and live in Rabun County.\

MELODY PIERCE

Melody Pierce is the Executive Director for WorkSource Southwest Georgia. WorkSource Southwest Georgia provides services to the 14- counties of Southwest Georgia to assist with employment, education, training and support services to connect talent with opportunity to create a world-class workforce system. Melody is a native of South Georgia. Her work ethic embodies four pillars instilled by her family and mentors: 1) integrity, 2) dedication, 3) compassion, and 4) professionalism. Melody has over 15 years of experience in both the public and private sectors. Her aspiration is to provide exemplary customer service and never over-promise but aim to over-deliver. She obtained her formal training from Albany State University and Troy University.

MINERVA NIXON

Minerva Nixon has served as Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency's (GVRA) Chief Financial Officer since December 2016, after her dedicated service to GVRA earned her a promotion. She oversees a combined state and federal budget exceeding \$200 million and directs Accounting and Payroll, Procurement and Contracts, Grants, and Budget. Minerva has spent around nine years in public service and more than 26 years in the financial service and budget field. Prior to joining GVRA, she was a Grant Financial Manager with the Georgia Department of Human Services, handling financial reporting for federal, state and special projects totaling more than \$1.2 billion in financial awards.

She was an assistant controller for a private corporation with more than \$60 million in annual sales, a financial management consultant for travel management firm, the director of financial planning for Atlanta Public Schools, and the plant controller for Cooper Automotive grossing \$61 million in annual sales. Minerva lives in Austell and has two daughters.



MYRNA BALLARD

Myrna Ballard has been President of the Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber of Commerce since January 1997. She was formerly Vice President for Economic Development for the Valdosta-Lowndes Chamber, Economic Developer for Quitman-Brooks County (Georgia), and Director of Economic Development for the Brazos Valley Development Council (Texas). She has 32 years of experience in community and economic development.

Ballard is a native of Hyden, Kentucky. She holds a bachelor's degree from Western Kentucky University and a master's degree in community development/rural sociology from Texas A&M University. Her master's thesis was entitled, "The Role of Banks and Bankers in Rural Industrial Development".

Ballard is active in several community and professional organizations. She serves as chairman of the South Georgia Workforce Development Board, is a member of the E3Z Birth-to-Eight Partnership and the Valdosta Early College Academy Board, is past president of the Valdosta Rotary Club, past president of the Valdosta Civic Roundtable, former member of the Valdosta Technical College Board of Directors, and past chairman of the board of the Georgia Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives.

She has been married to Dr. Chet Ballard for 39 years. They have lived in the Valdosta area since 1985.

NANCY FEHR MEEDEN

Nancy Meeden is the Legal Services Manager with the Georgia Department of Labor. Ms. Meeden has over 30 years experience with administration of workforce programs, initially with local Job Training Partnership (JTPA) programs in Coastal Georgia and Metropolitan Atlanta. Her career with the Georgia Department of Labor began in 1998, initially responsible for coordination of the state's Welfare-to-Work activities and eventually serving as legal counsel for the Department under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA). Since 2012, Ms. Meeden has served as the Department's general legal counsel.

She has also represented the Department in various matters related to the implementation and administration of the Department's responsibilities under the Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act (WIOA).

Ms. Meeden has a Juris Doctorate from Georgia State University, College of Law. In addition, she also received a Master of Public Administration and Bachelor of Science from Georgia Southern University.



RAQUEL HATTER, ED. D.

Raquel Hatter, Ed. D. Deputy Director, Human Services Raquel Hatter, Ed. D., is deputy director of the Human Services Program at The Kresge Foundation, which supports the advancement of human services organizations to accelerate social and economic mobility for people with low income. She has spent the past 25 years supporting adults, children and families through a variety of roles, including serving as the practitioner vice president and CEO of Whaley's Children's Center in Flint, Michigan and as the CEO of Family and Children's Services in Nashville, Tennessee.

Most recently, Raquel served as commissioner of the Tennessee Department of Human Services, a department that serves more than 2 million Tennesseans. In this role, she identified ways to improve the outcomes for individuals and families across various support systems including child support, TANF, SNAP, vocational rehabilitation and financial support. Under her guidance, the department adopted a two-generational approach to poverty which addresses the needs of children and parents simultaneously. Raquel draws on her experiences as both a clinician and an administrator to be a leader and advocate for the human services field.

She also brings expertise in public policy, transformational organizational change and management to both her role at Kresge and to the many boards, committees and task forces focused on Human Services on which she serves. She also shares her expertise through education and has previously taught psychology, social work and human services courses at the University of Michigan - Flint, Nashville State Community College and Tennessee State University.

She has received numerous accolades for her work including the 2016 American Public Human Services Association State Member Award for Transforming Human Services and the 2014 Spirit of Crazy Horse Award from Reclaiming Youth International for her service to children, youth and families.

Raquel also has worked with indigenous economically disadvantaged communities in the Northern Territory of Australia. Raquel earned a bachelor of science in clinical community psychology at the University of Michigan, a masters in social work at Eastern Michigan University and earned a doctorate of education in children, youth and family studies from Nova Southeastern University.

RHONDA WAITE

Rhonda Waite serves as the WOTC State Coordinator for the Georgia Department of Labor's Workforce Solutions Division, where she manages a team responsible for issuing determinations for thousands of employer tax credit applications each year. Prior to her role as the WOTC State Coordinator, Rhonda served as Employment & Training Consultant where she was responsible for the planning, development, and implementation of statewide employment and training programs for agency staff. She also developed policies and procedures for several federal programs, and provided technical assistance, training, and consultation to Career Center staff. Rhonda holds a Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing.



ROBERT GORDON

Robert Gordon currently serves as the Statewide Director for One-Stop Operations for IN THE DOOR, and is also the One-Stop Partner Coordinator for WorkSource DeKalb. Prior to rejoining the private sector, Robert served as a Career Center Manager for the Georgia Department of Labor at the DeKalb, Albany, Sylvester, and Dawson Career Centers. He is a former member of the DeKalb Workforce Investment Board, the Southwest Georgia Workforce Investment Board, and several Chambers of Commerce and other workforce-based organizations.

On numerous occasions, Mr. Gordon has served as a panelist during career development conferences. He also contracts with various government agencies to provide customized career development workshops. Mr. Gordon has a business degree from Florida A&M University. He has an Economic Development Certificate from the University of Georgia, and is a graduate of the Carl Vinson Institute of Government's EXCEL Leadership Program.

He and his wife currently reside in Stone Mountain.

ROBERTA LOVETT

Roberta Lovett is the Workforce Development Director for Area 18, Southern Georgia. She has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Management from the State University of New York.

Roberta began her career in Georgia's Workforce System in May of 2009 as a Program Coordinator for the Southern Georgia Regional Commission (then known as the Southeast Georgia Regional Development Center). In January of 2011 she was promoted to the position of Workforce Development Director. Prior to her time with the Southern Georgia Regional Commission, Roberta worked in the private sector. She spent eleven (11) years with Wayne Farms (a division of Continental Grain) as an Area Purchasing Manager. Roberta has also held management positions at Purina Mills. This combination of public and private sector experience allows Roberta a unique insight regarding the needs of participants and employers.

Roberta has been an active member of SETA since her first year in Georgia's Workforce System. She currently serves on the SETA Board as the 1st Vice-President. Roberta is an active participant at Georgia Workforce Leadership Associations meetings, Directors meetings and SWDB meetings.

Roberta lives in Patterson, Georgia with her husband Will and her son Joshua.



ROBIN ROBERTS

Robin Roberts is the WorkSource Academy Coordinator for the Technical College System of Georgia. She was hired in January 2018 to develop and implement a new WorkSource Georgia Academy that will support and standardize the state's workforce development system. She is responsible for the administration and coordination of the academy which will function as a key component in the onboarding of local area staff and board members, and in the professional development of current staff.

Robin began her career in workforce development in 2009 by assisting ARC's Workforce Solutions division on several projects. She was also an ACT-Authorized Job Profiler and served as Coordinator for the Innovation Crescent Industry Partnership. In 2014 she served as the Logistics Industry Partnership Consultant for Atlanta CareerRise and began her role as a Business Services Specialist for WorkSource Atlanta Regional.

Ms. Roberts and her husband, Tommy, live in Jonesboro, Georgia. She earned a bachelor's degree from Florida State University in Marketing, but became a loyal Georgia Tech fan when she married Tommy.

ROSSANY RIOS

Rossany is the Disability Employment Initiative Lead for the DEI project for the State of Georgia, Technical College System of Georgia, Office of Workforce Development. This initiative promotes the universal access of individuals with disabilities into the public workforce system services and funds. In addition, this initiative encourages an integrated services delivery approach between key government agencies (Workforce, Vocational Rehabilitation, Education) with the end goal of promoting self-sufficiency through employment outcomes among Georgians with disabilities.

Rossany is an expert in the field of employment and disabilities. She has worked for the State of GA for over 10 years assisting Georgian's with disability to successfully obtain employment.

She has also lead and train staff within the disability field on how to support job seekers with disability to obtain employment. Some of the positions she has held for the State of Georgia are: Certified Vocational Counselor, Rehabilitation Unit Manager and Business Relations Director for Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency. These positions have allowed her the opportunity to assist hundreds of Georgians with disabilities to obtain employment through innovative customized employment strategies. She has also worked as a for profit counselor, academic counselor in a higher education institution, relocation specialist for an assistive living center, a correctional social worker, among other positions.



Her broad range of experiences has allowed her touch many individuals with disabilities fighting for independence through employment. She has also a strong background working with employers wanting to expand their workforce diversity and inclusion.

Rossany has a Master's in Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling from the University of Texas Pan-American, Edinburg, Texas. She has a Bachelor's degree in Social Work from the University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico. She is a Certified Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor and a Licensed Associate Professional Counselor.

SEAN T. CASEY

Sean T. Casey assumed the role of Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Agency (GVRA) Executive Director in October 2016. He leads the organization in its mission to serve individuals with disabilities on the path to career success and greater independence.

An experienced public servant committed to all Georgians, Sean previously held a role as the Department of Administrative Service's Assistant Commissioner of Government Affairs. He has also served as the Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Revenue and worked in Governor Nathan Deal's Office and the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget.

Sean's service on behalf of the organization extends back to 2012, when he led a team that worked to pass legislation creating GVRA. He remains committed to innovative strategies to maximize work opportunities for people with disabilities. Sean's philosophy is that the client is always first, followed a close second by the counselors and other field staff who serve them.

He and his wife live in the Atlanta metro area with their two children.

SHEMEEKA JOHNSON

Shemeeka Johnson is a Communications Director for the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG). In this role, Shemeeka oversees the strategic outreach, marketing and communications efforts for the Office of Workforce Development. Prior to joining TCSG, Shemeeka served as a Senior Communications Specialist at the Georgia Department of Economic Development (GDEcD) where she managed all external communications and media relations for the Workforce Division. During her tenure at GDEcD, Shemeeka successfully managed the implementation and execution of the WorkSource Georgia branding campaign, Georgia's first unified brand associated with its workforce system.

Prior to joining GDEcD, Shemeeka served as the Media Coordinator for the City of Valdosta. She also served as the Executive Producer and News Anchor for the local government broadcast, City Focus.



In this role, Shemeeka reported on the City of Valdosta's budget, local events and community news, spreading awareness to viewers in the Metro-Valdosta region.

Shemeeka is a graduate of Valdosta State University with a Bachelors of Fine Arts degree in Mass Media and an emphasis in Broadcast Journalism. She is a member of the Public Relations Society of America, Georgia Chapter and is pursuing a Masters of Business Administration at the University of Georgia's Terry College of Business. Shemeeka resides in Powder Springs, GA.

SHERON MORGAN

Sheron Morgan is the Interim Executive Director of WorkSource Coastal, located in Savannah, Georgia. She supervises staff in the administrative office that provides oversight to Workforce Innovative Opportunity Act (WIOA) funded programs in the ten-county Coastal Region. Morgan is primarily responsible day-to-day operations, programmatic compliance and administrative support to the Executive Director. WorkSource Coastal and the Coastal Workforce Development Board has been leading the region in innovative workforce development projects from occupational skills training, incumbent worker training to on-the-job training for unemployed and underemployed individuals.

Additionally, Morgan provides oversight to the YouthBuild Savannah Program, an employment and training program funded by the U.S. Department of Labor. She has successfully secured three competitive continuation grants totaling nearly \$3 million for program continuation.

YouthBuild Savannah is a community development program focused on GED instruction and construction skills. Youth ages 16-24 study and master the Pre-Apprenticeship Construction Training (PACT) curriculum designed by the National Home Builders Institute. Youth enrolled in the program are provided an opportunity to improve their skills and community by building a home within the city limits of Savannah for a deserving low to moderate income family.

Morgan is a public servant who has spent more than 17 years of her career working to improve the lives of others. She has worked as an Employment Manager for the Georgia Department of Corrections Coastal Transitional Center developing jobs for the offenders returning to the community after incarceration. She has also worked as the YouthBuild Savannah Program Coordinator that was nationally recognized and visited by President Barack Obama in 2010 on his "White House to Main Street" Tour.

Morgan is a graduate of Savannah State University who holds a BS in Criminal Justice and a Masters of Public Administration.

She is most proud of managing and implementing program designs and strategies resulting in positive outcomes to bring about a brighter future for the citizens through the Coastal Region.



STAR DICKEY

Star Dickey has been an Information Systems Analyst with the Workforce Solutions Group of the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) since September 2013. Before joining ARC, Star worked for 36 years at the Georgia Department of Labor (GDOL), the last 25+ years as a Management Information Systems Business Analyst. It was in this role that Star assisted with various system and business related designs and processes, working as a technical liaison between business stakeholders and GDOL's Information Technology Division. As an Administrator of GDOL's WebFOCUS database reporting system, Star designed and coded WebFOCUS queries for State and local workforce area users for the WIA, ES, and Trade programs.

Star currently provides technical assistance to State and Local Area staff on the WIOA Case Management system (Geographic Solutions' VOS) and creates Ad-Hoc SQL reports for ARC staff, State staff, and staff of the other 18 Local Areas to support use of VOS and performance data monitoring.

She also works with Geographic Solutions staff and State and Local Area staff to resolve problems with and implement enhancements and data change requests for the WIOA Case Management System.

Star is a graduate of the University of Georgia, where she received a Bachelor of Science in Statistics.

STEPHANIE BENSON

Stephanie Benson is the Vice President of Adult Education at Athens Technical College and is currently serving as interim Vice President of Economic Development. She has been with Athens Technical College for the past thirteen years and has served as the Director of Research and Assessment as well as the Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness during her time at the college. Prior to working with Athens Technical College, Stephanie worked at Emmanuel College in Franklin Springs, Georgia.

In her current role, she oversees 20 Adult Education centers in a ten county service area located in north east Georgia, and under her leadership, the program has implemented the Accelerated Opportunity program, the Bridge to Success initiative, and the College to Career program which combine accelerated career placement with personalized educational support. These short-term program pathways provide the opportunity for adults get the training and skills needed to secure in-demand employment with sustainable wages.

Stephanie received her Bachelor of Administration degree from Brenau University and her Master of Education in Adult Education from the University of Georgia. In her free time, Stephanie has worked as a consultant for projects with Emory University and has co-authored reports that have been published in the American Journal of Health Behavior.

Stephanie and her husband Jeff have two daughters, Kelsey and Hayden.



STEPHANIE ROOKS

Stephanie Rooks is from the Midwest but has lived in metro-Atlanta for almost 20 years. Since 2001, she has worked in Gwinnett Tech's Adult Education Department first as an instructor, then Lead Instructor of Adult Basic Education and in 2012, became Dean of Adult Education for Gwinnett Technical College. She is responsible for the 17 English as a Second Language (ESL) and GED preparation locations in Gwinnett and North Fulton counties, which serves 4,500 students.

Stephanie initially studied at the University of Illinois and eventually earned a Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Sciences from Oglethorpe University. She also holds an M.S. in Organizational Leadership from Brenau University.

Stephanie is the mother of three cool children and one Labrador Retriever. She also loves to cook and is a huge football fan!

STEVEN WILSON

Steven Wilson is the Data and Information Director for the Technical College System of Georgia's Office of Workforce Development. As the Data and Information Director, Steven oversees performance and reporting for programs funded by Title I of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

Steven lives in Douglasville, Georgia with his wife and two children. He earned a bachelor's degree in regional economic development from Georgia Southern University.

TERRILYN HANNAH

Ms. Hannah's career spans over 15 years working with Public Sector, Non-Profit and Private Agencies. She is currently employed as the Director of Workforce Development with the Middle Georgia Regional Commission (WorkSource Macon-Bibb (WSMB)). Prior to joining the WSMB team, she spent 10 plus years employed with Cobb County Government.

Most recently she served as the Executive Director of the County's Keep Cobb Beautiful program and previously in the role of Economic Development Coordinator. Before Cobb County, Ms. Hannah was employed by the City of Atlanta as Senior Urban Planner and under similar title at an Atlanta based Planning & Design firm.

Terrilyn's career focus areas have included developing, implementing, and supporting programs for workforce development, community revitalization, business attraction/retention, redevelopment, and environmental sustainability. She holds a Master of Public Administration degree from Central Michigan University, and Master of Arts and Bachelor of Arts degrees from Georgia State University.



TOREY WINGATE

Torey Wingate is owner and operator of Sour Branch Creations that produces custom built tables, benches and other items primarily from reclaimed wood. Prior to starting Sour Branch Creations Torey spent 42 years in the field of Information Technology until his retirement. The last 38 years for an international Apparel manufacturer and distributor of business uniforms. Of the 38 years, 20+ years serving as Vice President of IT Development.

Torey was introduced to Work Force Development while serving on local Chamber of Commerce chairing the Work Force committee. Following his term as Chamber Chairman Torey was asked to represent Colquitt County on the Work Source board. Torey enjoys wood working and fishing.

WENDELL DALLAS

Wendell Dallas was named vice president of operations for Atlanta Gas Light and Chattanooga Gas in 2011. He is responsible for day-to-day operations, including safety, compliance, operational excellence and financial performance, for more than 700,000 customers. Atlanta Gas Light and Chattanooga Gas are subsidiaries of Southern Company Gas (formerly AGL Resources), which serves more than 4.5 million utility customers in seven states.

Dallas has more than 25 years of operations, management and engineering experience in the natural gas industry. Previously, he served as Southern Company Gas vice president of economic and community development, and was responsible for providing strategic leadership throughout the company's footprint. Prior to that, Dallas served as Atlanta Gas Light vice president and general manager. He joined the company in 2000 as a service area manager in Macon, and shortly thereafter served as region manager for southeast Georgia in Savannah.

Dallas came to Atlanta Gas Light from El Paso Energy's Macon office, where he was an operations supervisor. In that role, he was responsible for transmission pipeline operations in central Georgia.

In September 2013, Dallas received the Multicultural Leadership Award by the Georgia Diversity Council for his commitment to advancing his peers in the organization and community. Dallas also serves on several non-profit, community and industry boards.



He co-chairs the Georgia Literacy Commission, a business-led commission of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce, the Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education and Literacy For All. He is a gubernatorial appointee and board chairman of the State of Georgia's Workforce Development Board. He serves on the boards of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce and Auburn University's Engineering Alumni Council, and is past board chairman of Gwinnett Technical College and Communities in Schools of Georgia. Dallas is a graduate of Leadership Georgia, Leadership Atlanta and Leadership Savannah.

Dallas, a native of Opelika, Ala., earned a degree in mechanical engineering from Auburn University. He resides in Gwinnett County with his wife and their three children.

WINSTON TOMPOE

Winston Tompoe has over twenty-five years of workforce experience, both in the private sector and with the public workforce system. He has worked at the local workforce board level, state and currently at the federal level.

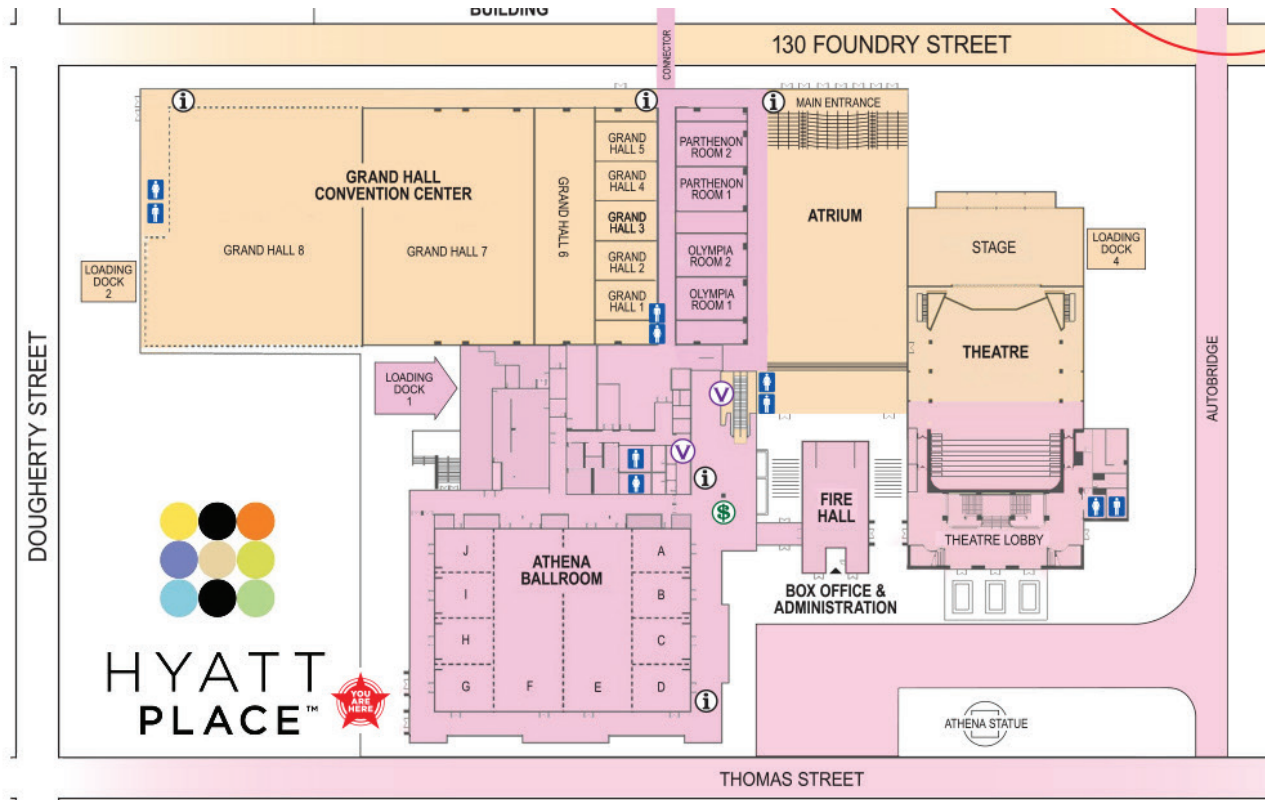
Winston is the Regional Director for the Office of State Systems (OSS) at the US Department of Labor - Employment & Training Administration (ETA), Atlanta Regional Office, Atlanta, Georgia. He oversees over \$3.6B of federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) programs, including Wagner Peyser, National Dislocated Grant (NWDG), and multiple discretionary projects in the Southeastern Region. States in the Southeastern Region include: Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. His office also oversees all federal Unemployment Insurance (UI) programs in the eight Southeastern States.

Winston previously served as Chief of the Division of Workforce Investment at ETA, and was a Federal Project Officer - providing technical assistance to states on WIA and Wagner Peyser. In addition to state assignments, he served as regional lead for special programs and initiatives, including One-stop operations.

Prior to joining ETA, Winston worked for Colite Industries, a private manufacturing corporation; and served as a senior staff to the Midlands Workforce Development Board, Columbia, S.C.; assisted the Director in program oversight and management, and policy development. Winston has a B.A. in Business Administration and Masters in Public Policy.



VENUE MAP



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