

# Atlantic County Workforce Development

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Healthcare Workforce Committee Meeting October 18<sup>th</sup> 2016 3pm  
Atlantic-Care Health 6550 Delilah Rd, Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234

## **Attendance:**

Alan Beatty  
Rhonda Lowery  
Sherwood Taylor  
Lillian Smith  
Myrna Keklak  
Bill  
Alicia Oatman

## **Minutes:**

Alan B.- gave a re-cap/follow up on the TABE score being decreased back to the original score. Also gave info on schools for CNA classes. Alan states that we need to remind the schools that the quality of candidates are most important rather than the scores. The score were lowered however we must look at more than that its about quality. My request is that a letter is sent to the schools to remind them of this.

Lillian S.- the schools need to be at the table. Sherwood T. offered the schools help with grants however none of them called and or inquired. Rhonda L. stated that some of the other issues were childcare and transportation. Alan B. added that at some point the schools must do a better job at making sure that the students know the entire gamut of the CNA job duties. Sherwood T. believes that the CNA era is up and that is why people are not going to school for that and it is also the culture as to how CNA's are treated. Rhonda L. says that there are those that get burned out because they are overworked. Alan B. spoke during a class at Stockton College regarding this and some of the attendees were surprised as to the duties. Rhonda L. added that if healthcare is where you want to be then use the CNA field as a stepping stone; I will invite the schools back to the next meeting to follow-up on the score change, is it working, and are the numbers increased as a result of the change. Alan B. states that he will host that meeting at Shore Memorial Hospital. Lillian S. also stated that Medical Assistants must be certified not PCA's. Sherwood T. has 30 students in the class now and it's working great and will be complete in the spring.

## **Partner Up-Dates**

Alan B.- We partnered with ACCC to open our radiology school which is up and running. I am disappointed in the State program however Heather Allen-Coordinator has not gained traction and this is not pleasing nor acceptable to me. Rhonda L. nor I have not gotten any outcomes. Shore Memorial is trying to create a program for RN Specialty Nursing. Rhonda L. asked how does Shore plan to execute this; in lieu of our State Plan it could possibly be implemented in the plan. Alan B. explains the following: 1. ACCC provides this type of program and the students are financially responsible. 2. The residency depends on the type of Specialty Nurse the student want to be as residents do not get paid, they in turn pay into the program. 3. This is a graduate program not a credited program. There are currently 25 graduates in Med-Surg. however no employment as of yet. Alan B. states that he is unsure of the cost at this time, Rhonda L. responded that this sounds like an incumbent worker and we are interested in this because we could possibly put this in our plan provided that you can get the cost amount for this type of program. Alan B stated that he would like to meet again with along with other interested partners to see if this could gain some traction. Shore is also going to be opening a Care Giver Center, this is going to be a resource center for all caregivers. Alan is also in search of a Boiler Operator, Lillian S. added that she is going to check with her operator to see if he can refer someone.

Lillian S.- we are stating a Cardiac Rehab Program. We also have Life Connect which is a Senior Daycare that is going to be housed in the Health Plex. Every healthcare need will also be offered on the premises. We are opening up a Retail Pharmacy in the City campus of which our employees will be able to utilize as well. This is to assist patients when they are released they have the convenience of getting their prescriptions. Atlanticare and our parent company Geisinger recently bought the formerly known Scranton medical school that is now called Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine along with that a \$50 million gift was given. We've opened an Urgent Care in Manahawkin NJ and in 2017 a Medical Mall will be opened as well with tenants such as AMI, Physicians Practice, Wound Care services, etc. We have a new APP for Smartphones entitled "Meet Me At 7" which is to help Diabetic Patients keep track of their levels. Also if you text 79455ER which will give you the wait times for all of their ER's. The approved education money for employee of the Taj Casino, this is for educational purposes only. Customer must apply for the program, take the TABE with ACCC and should they get in Atlanticare will pay the tuition. Geisinger/Atlanticare is offering a program called "MyCode" which is designed to assist people to find out genetic illnesses early.

Sherwood T.- Gave an overview of the new programs and grants at ACCC as it pertains to healthcare. (See Handout). We are working with the EKG department to separate Monitor Techs from EKG Techs. There will be classes at the Cape May Campus as well. We are launching an online training in the coming year.

Myrna K.- Gave an overview of the 7 Degree Programs (See Handout).

Meeting Adjourned 4:51pm