How can WNC grow the talent needed by local employers, while simultaneously improving region-wide economic mobility?

Presented in Partnership by:

Mountain Area Workforce Development Board

Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond

Lunch Presented Today by the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond
2017 Amplified WNC
Workforce Development Summit
November 29, 2017 | 8:30 am – 3:30 pm
Text Questions to 828.768.3216
#AmplifiedWNC2017

7:30 am – 8:30 am  Registration and Light Breakfast

8:30 am – 8:35 am  Danna Stansbury, Land of Sky Regional Council

8:35 am – 9:10 am  “Are there any good jobs in the Asheville metro?”
Jeff DeBellis, NC Department of Commerce
Introduction: Jack Cecil, Biltmore Farms

9:10 am – 9:45 am  “Leading on Opportunity”
Matthew Martin, Regional Executive, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond
Introduction: Jeanne Milliken Bonds, Senior Manager of Community Development, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond

9:45 am – 10:30 am  “Meeting Workforce Needs”
Panel Discussion with Local Employers and Elected Officials
Moderators: Jack Cecil and Jeanne Milliken Bonds
• Ann Ashley, Biltmore Company
• Taylor Foss, Mission Health
• Jonathan Szucs, ASI
• Hon. Chuck Edwards, North Carolina Senate
• Pete Szelwach, Lassonde Pappas
• Hon. Michael Edney, Chair, Henderson Co Commissioners

10:30 am – 10:45 am  Open Networking

10:45 am – 11:20 am  “Economic Mobility in NC and the Asheville Metro”
Dr. Mike Walden, North Carolina State University
Introduction: Tom White, North Carolina State University
11:20 pm – 12:00 pm  “Where are the Pathways to Good Jobs in the Asheville Metro?”
Panel Discussion
Moderator: Danna Stansbury
- Terry Collins, Current by GE
- Eric Oelschlaeger, Epsilon
- Tom Dempsey, SylvanSport
- Jon Jones, Anthroware
- Lucia Gerdes, Cedar Mountain Cafe
- Barbara Darby, Mountain Area WDB

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm  Lunch - “Why Talent Matters More than Ever”
Christopher Chung, Economic Development Partnership of NC
Introduction: Mike Hawkins, Transylvania County Commissioner & EDPNC Board member

1:00 pm – 1:50 pm  Growing Talent Locally
A panel discussion of regional best practices with Educators, Non-Profits & Economic Developers
Moderator: Jeanne Miliken Bonds
- J Hackett, Green Opportunities
- Christy Cheek, Buncombe County Schools
- Arleca Chapman, Transylvania County Schools
- Jimmy Huey, Madison County Schools
- Kevin Spradlin, NCWorks, Transylvania County
- Burton Hodges, Henderson Cty Partnership for Economic Development

1:50 pm – 2:15 pm  “The Critical Link: Early Childhood Education & Workforce”
Moderator: Leslie Boney, Institute of Emerging Issues
- Anna Priest, Asheville Museum of Science (AMOS)
- Hon. Al Whitesides, Buncombe Co Commissioners
- Jaime Laughter, Transylvania County Manager
- Kit Cramer, Pres & CEO, Asheville Chamber of Commerce
2:15 pm – 2:25 pm  Break

2:25 pm – 2:45 pm  Work-Ready Communities
Moderator: Justin Hembree, Land of Sky Regional Council
Panel Discussions with Representatives of Madison, Buncombe, Henderson, and Transylvania Counties (Employers, Educators, Elected Officials, Workforce Partners)
- Terry Bellamy, AB Tech
- Jason Chappell, Blue Ridge Community College
- Vanessa Crouch, Jacob Holm Industries
- Barbara Darby, Mountain Area WDB

2:45 pm – 3:20 pm  Best Practices in Talent Development by Sector
Moderator: Jeanne Milliken Bonds, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond
- Sarah Bergeron, GE Aviation
- Chris Hykin, Smartrac
- Dr. Dave Frye, Friday Institute NC State University
- Alison Dorsey, NC Department of Commerce
- Derrick Swing, Sierra Nevada Brewing Company

3:20 pm – 3:30 pm  Dr. Arthur Salido, Western Carolina University
Video from Western Carolina University

3:30 – 3:40 pm  Closing Remarks – Call to Action
Jack Cecil, President, Biltmore Farms

3:40 – 4:45 pm  Resource Fair and Networking