



**Broward Workforce Development Board
Education and Industry Consortium**

**Tuesday, February 25, 2025
12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

1st QUARTER REPORT

**CareerSource Broward Main Conference Room
2890 West Cypress Creek Road, Ft Lauderdale, FL 33309**

ATTENDEES IN-PERSON / VIA ZOOM: Maria Formoso, Kathleen Hagan, Dr. Steven Tinsley, Richard Haughton, and Matthew Rocco, who chaired the meeting.

STAFF: Carol Hylton, Ron Moffett, Mark Klinecicz, Rochelle Daniels, Nadine Jackson, Johnell Beckford and Michell Williams.

GUESTS: Jim Ryan, Andrew Nicholson, Erika Rodriguez, and Ralph Aiello.

PRESENTATION

1. State of the Industry

Andrew Nicholson, Senior Talent Acquisition - Pilot CommuterAir (United Express) and Adjunct Professor of Aeronautics at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University G Aero Institute presented on the State of the Aviation industry, emerging trends, and recruitment challenges. Mr. Nicholson stated that South Florida is regarded as the mecca for aviation and that we have some of the best flight schools and because of this people from all over the world come to train here.

Mr. Nicholson highlighted that the aviation industry projected a need for more new aircrafts being ordered or replaced and pilots due to retirement, and the need for technicians, customer service agents and ground staff in the next few years. He discussed the changes in technology, equipment for the aviation industry and trainings.

Mr. Nicholson shared that one of the emerging trends was the air mobility platform that the FAA just signed off on for a new certification in air mobility. These aircraft will fly at lower altitudes than traditional aircraft, between 5,000 and 10,000 feet. They will be designed to create an industry that would provide more transportation options, with the capability to fly an average of six to twelve passengers throughout cities to help alleviate road traffic.

Matt Rocco asked if there was a projected timeframe for the air mobility aircraft's launch. Mr. Haughton responded that obtaining an air carrier certification is the key requirement. Since many airline carriers, including companies like Amazon and UPS, already hold this certification, it indicates that developments in this area might soon come to fruition.

Richard Haughton shared that another growing industry is Drone delivery. He shared that Everglades University has a Drone master's operational program, and Broward College has a waiting list for students to enroll in some of their aviation classes.

Dr. Tinsley added that the aviation program was a hot career path right now, and Broward College was working on addressing the capacity issue. They want to engage the state legislature on funding to expand their facilities.

2. Manufacturing Career Pathways Video

The video showcased the various opportunities available in the manufacturing industry, highlighting careers in Welding Fabrication, Injection Molding Technicians, Quality Assurance Inspectors, and Production Floor Workers. It would expand awareness among our most barriered job seekers about career pathways for in-demand occupations in the industry. Education and Industry Consortium Chair Matt Rocco and the South Florida Manufacturing Association participated in the production of the video.

The consortium reviewed the video.

Matt Rocco shared that Florida is rated third in the nation with about 27,000 manufacturing companies, the highest number in the State. Mr. Moffett asked Mr. Rocco if he would provide the industry presentation at the next meeting, and he replied yes.

NEW BUSINESS

1. The 11/19 Quarterly Report

Approval of the 4th Quarterly Report of 2024 from the 11/19 Consortium meeting.

On a motion made by Maria Formoso and seconded by Richard Haughton, the EIC members unanimously approved the 4th Quarter Report.

2. AI's Impact on Industry and Implications for Workforce Development

AI continuously transforms industries in numerous ways, reshaping business processes, decision-making, and customer experiences. These changes have significant implications for workforce development, including job displacement, skills evolution, upskilling, growing demand for new career opportunities, and the need for retraining programs to bridge AI skill gaps. Educators need training 1) in AI-driven teaching methods such as blended learning with AI augmenting human instruction and 2) curriculum redesign to integrate AI literacy. At the same time, there will be demand for AI developers specializing in EdTech solutions in the education industry. The consortium was asked to provide input on how AI impacted their industry (including education) and to suggest actionable initiatives that CSBD should consider that align with WIOA and the BWDB's goal to maintain their role as workforce development leaders.

Matt Rocco asked the consortium members for their input from their respective industries on how AI has impacted their industries and their thoughts on what CareerSource Broward should be doing with AI.

Maria Formoso shared that the School Board launched their first AI CTE Pathway at Nova High School and was doing incredibly well this year. Next year, the school board plans to do a massive high school rollout, and they are looking at redefining high school initiatives to see how they can streamline middle to high school so youth can be exposed to AI earlier. Ms.

Formoso also shared that the teachers will receive training in AI over the summer. Jim Ryan asked if the training encompassed generative AI or Chat GPT, and Ms. Formoso replied that it was coding and prompts for now.

Andrew Nicholson stated that aviation was looking into AI to integrate aircraft and drones to perform certain functions. Mr. Haughton added that they are looking into how AI can be the ACT for pilots in the simulated world and how to add it to their flight training. Erika Rodriguez shared that her Vice President at Florida Technical College wants to customize training with different organizations using simulations.

Steven Tinsley shared that from Broward College's perspective, AI programming was already embedded in some of their curriculum. BC has developed an AI task force to see how AI can be integrated into their curriculum and how the faculty could use it as a tool to help make their work more productive and deliver course content in the most effective way. He shared that on 3/14, they are participating in an AI Workshop at their Davie campus in the South Florida Educational Center. Once the agenda was finalized, he would share it with CareerSource staff.

Mr. Rocco thanked Dr. Tinsley and stated he would also share information on an upcoming AI and Manufacturing event in Miami, which is scheduled for mid-March.

3. Education and Industry Consortium Strategic Planning Matrix Updates for PY 24/25

The consortium reviewed the updates to the Planning Matrix for program year 24/25.

Ron Moffett provided an overview of the Matrix and highlighted the progress made to accomplish the objectives. He reported that staff had either completed or exceeded what the consortium had asked. He encouraged the members to review the entire Education and Industry Consortium Strategic Planning Matrix.

On a motion made by Maria Formoso and seconded by Richard Haughton, the EIC members unanimously approved the updates to the Strategic Planning Matrix for PY 24/25.

4. Industry Sessions for Job Seekers

CareerSource Broward plans to host a series of industry sessions at the One-Stop centers, offering valuable insights for job seekers. This would allow Employers and training providers to share their expertise, provide guidance, and answer questions to help job seekers successfully enter or advance in these fields. Job seekers would also be able to apply for open positions with the employers. Consortium member input was requested on ways to promote these events.

Matt Rocco asked when the next industry session would be. Carol Hylton explained that they are still planning the sessions.

On a motion made by Maria Formoso and seconded by Richard Haughton, the Consortium unanimously approved 1) the Industry Sessions for Job Seekers and 2) the use of the current methods to promote these events, including social media.

5. Local Employer Awareness and Satisfaction Survey

Every two years, CSBD surveys employers to measure awareness and customer satisfaction of our services. We collected data on workforce challenges and got input on areas for regional collaboration on initiatives such as job fairs. Responses to the survey would be used to develop value-added workshop content and establish a list of guest speakers for our Workforce Wednesday seminars. It was recommended that the Education and Industry Consortium members send the link to the survey to their network of employers.

On a motion made by Maria Formoso and seconded by Matt Rocco, the EIC unanimously approved the Local Employer Awareness and Satisfaction Survey.

REPORTS

1. Paychecks for Patriots Hiring Event

CSBD hosted its 12th annual Paychecks for Patriots Veterans Hiring Fair on 11/14 at the Tamarac Community Center. We had about 200 employers register for the event and broke our record for jobseekers from earlier this year with about 1,400 attending the event. We also had 2 barber shops donate their time to provide 100 free haircuts to those in need.

The consortium reviewed the video.

2. 2nd Annual State of the Workforce Employer Breakfast and Job Fair

On 1/29, CSBD, in partnership with the Fort Lauderdale, Hollywood, and Pompano Beach chambers of commerce, hosted the 2nd Annual State of the Workforce Employer Breakfast and Job Fair at the Broward County Convention Center. It was a record-breaking success, bringing over 2,200 job seekers to connect with 200 local employers. We partnered with 1) Visit Lauderdale for free parking and 2) Broward County Transit for complimentary transportation from economically distressed zip codes. In addition to social media and a live radio broadcast on 102.1FM - Voice of the Caribbean, we also had television coverage!

The consortium reviewed the highlights and photos.

3. Florida Manufacturing Days in Tallahassee

This annual event provided manufacturers with the opportunity to meet with their legislators to discuss and advocate for manufacturing-related issues. It also offered valuable opportunities to network with colleagues and peers and learn more about the legislative process. The South Florida Manufacturing Association engaged in productive discussions with a significant number of legislators to highlight the importance of addressing key manufacturing issues and advancing the interests of the industry.

The consortium reviewed the photos.

Matt Rocco shared that Florida was number 10 in the nation for manufacturing from a workforce standpoint and number three for most companies, with over 37,000 manufacturing companies. He highlighted some discussion topics at the event on workforce development, such as tax incentives, funding for cybersecurity, legislative priorities, and the Made in Florida Campaign.

4. 2025 BWDB Legislative Agenda

Every year, the BWDB approves a legislative agenda. As part of the process, community partner legislative agendas are presented for their information. As discussed at the last meeting, they seek consortium input regarding this year's draft legislative agenda. In addition to the SFMA's legislative priorities, they asked the committee to share their agendas, and they would pull out the workforce-related items for our Boards to consider.

Carol Hylton asked the consortium to share their agendas with us.

5. Update on Worlds of Work (WOW) Youth Career Exploration Event

CSBD, in partnership with the School Board, will host the 2025 Worlds of Work (WOW) on 3/11 at the Amerant Bank Arena. WOW is an immersive experiential learning event where youth in the 9th and 10th grades will learn about in-demand career pathways that align with their interests. New this year, we are adding 1) education 2) government and 3) professional services "worlds" that would include occupations in legal services, marketing and finance/banking.

Carol Hylton encouraged the consortium to visit the WOW event on 3/11. Ron Moffett added that there are three new worlds 1) education 2) government and 3) professional services based on the input we received from the EIC members.

6. Youth Committee Strategic Planning Matrix PY 24/25

On 6/24, the Youth Committee approved their strategic goals and objectives for PY 24/25. The committee tracks progress on achieving the deliverables in the form of a strategic planning matrix, which CSBD staff updates and reports on throughout the year. This was the updated Matrix approved by the Youth Committee at their meeting on 11/18.

Ron Moffett provided an overview of the Youth Committee Strategic Planning Matrix.

7. The Source Newsletter

CSBD, in partnership with the chambers of commerce of Fort Lauderdale, Hollywood, and Pompano Beach and the Port Everglades Association, participated in the State of the Workforce event on 1/29/25 at the Broward County Convention Center (BCCC). The event included a networking breakfast where attendees would learn about the latest workforce trends and a Job Fair hosted by CSBD. The BCCC provided the venue free of charge and parking for attendees, including job seekers, courtesy of Visit Lauderdale. CSBD is also partnering with Broward County Transit to provide complimentary transportation to job seekers from economically distressed zip codes. Marketing to employers and job seekers for the event will be executed through 1) targeted digital advertisements through geofencing 2) social media, and 3) e-blasts.

Matt Rocco mentioned that the source newsletter is excellent and provides an opportunity to educate and update CSBD's stakeholders and the community at large regarding current initiatives being undertaken by CSBD. He said it was a way to inform people about what was happening, and was done in a thoroughly professional manner.

8. Summer Youth Employment Program Update

The Summer Youth application portal opened on 12/2 for Summer 2025. Youth accessed the portal online via computer, tablet, or cell phone. We received nearly 3,300 applications. Approximately 1,200 youth would be enrolled and receive an 8-week meaningful work experience, earning \$14 per hour. The employer portal was also open, and we are looking for private employers, not-for-profit organizations, and municipalities to become worksites for the youth over the summer. The program offers employers an incredible opportunity to empower the next generation by shaping our youth for future careers today!

Carol Hylton asked the consortium to share the SYEP flyer with their colleagues and mentioned that employers were needed.

9. CSBD Infograph January 2024 – December 2024

CSBD's Infograph was created to convey information quickly and clearly through visual elements about the delivery of our services to employers, community stakeholders and job seekers. The infograph was ideal for enhancing our storytelling and increasing the shareability of content across various platforms. During the period covered, the data reflected that CSBD hosted 177 recruitment events and job fairs, assisted Broward employers with nearly \$4.9 million in work-based training and provided over \$5 million in scholarships for training. The infograph has been distributed throughout Broward County including 1) our community partners 2) Public Information Officers and 3) the Broward Legislative Delegation.

Matt Rocco reviewed the infograph with the members and thanked the staff for producing it as he felt it was a valuable resource for employers and the community.

10. CSBD Hosts Leadership Fort Lauderdale Class

On 1/14, CSBD hosted the Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Fort Lauderdale class. This session provided these up-and-coming influential leaders an opportunity to learn about CSBD's mission, resources, and impact on the community, fostering valuable discussions about workforce development and local initiatives.

Carol Hylton indicated that the Leadership Fort Lauderdale tours take place in areas critical to Broward, and this was the first year they stopped by to tour our career center. She explained that several valuable leads came about as a result of the tours, including interest in becoming host worksites for our SYEP.

11. Broward County Unemployment and Economic Dashboard

There was no report this month due to "benchmarking," which happens each year at this time when the previous year's statistics are "trued up." The January report will be issued on March 17th. February labor statistics for Florida will be released on March 28th. CSBD's Economic and Workforce Dashboard allows website visitors to review the current and historical economic and workforce status of Broward County. The dashboard was a value-added resource allowing businesses and those looking to move to Broward the ability to make data-informed decisions.

Mark Klineciewicz reviewed and discussed the dashboard and highlighted information on priority industry sectors and occupations, including talent pipelines.

MATTERS FROM THE CONSORTIUM CHAIR

Matt Rocco mentioned a date change for the next EIC meeting and asked Ron Moffett to provide an update. Mr. Moffett explained there was a conflict with the original date of 5/27 and asked if the meeting could be moved to 5/28. The consortium agreed that the meeting could be moved to 5/28.

Mr. Rocco stated that the manufacturing industry would be presented at the next EIC meeting.

MATTERS FROM THE CONSORTIUM

None.

MATTERS FROM THE CAREERSOURCE BROWARD PRESIDENT

None.

MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

ADJOURNMENT – 2:04 p.m.

THE NEXT EDUCATION AND INDUSTRY CONSORTIUM MEETING WILL BE HELD ON MAY 28, 2025
--