



# Waccamaw Review

A Publication for residents of Georgetown, Horry, and Williamsburg Counties

Quarterly Newsletter

## WRCOG Wins Two NADO Innovation Awards



WRCOG won two National Association of Development Organization (NADO) Innovation awards. One for Working Wednesdays, a program that brought employers into area high schools to help students find employment during the summer months. The other was for the Murrells Inlet Stormwater Demonstration Project which worked with Horry and Georgetown Counties to implement stormwater best management practices such as floating wetlands and stormwater filtration.

## Pathways2Possibilities (P2P) Interactive Career Expo

Over 6,000 8th graders from six school districts, as well as at risk youth ages 16-24, attended the Waccamaw region's inaugural P2P event held at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center on February 20-21, 2019. This interactive, hands-on career expo allowed attendees to interact with business and industry professionals and experience activities designed to showcase career pathways in a meaningful way. Whether it be trying

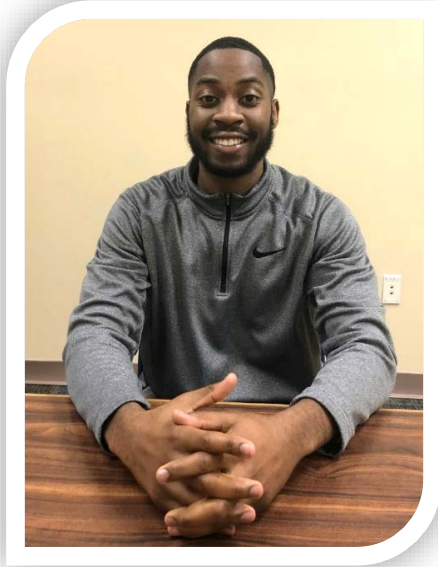


their hand at CPR or a virtual welding machine, participants spend two hours exploring these P2P Career Pathways, learning about the careers themselves and what is needed to get hired in these fields(education, training, and certification). This event was sponsored by the Waccamaw Workforce Development Board, the Bunnelle Foundation, Tidelands Health, International Paper and other business in the region.

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## Workforce Success Story

*Markell Lee, Radix Bay*

Markell Lee joined the WIOA program as an out-of-school youth when he was working part-time for Walmart Corporation. Though Markell was employed, he wanted a career in the computer technology field. He recognized that he had an aptitude for computers and wanted to receive training from Horry-Georgetown Technical College for Computer Networking. Markell worked with COG WIOA Career Coaches to develop an Individualized Employment Plan (IEP) to help him outline steps to achieve his goal. Then, through the WIOA program, Markell received assistance with tuition, books, and mileage to attend classes at HCTC. He graduated HGTC with an Associates in Science with an emphasis in Computer Networking. After graduation, COG WIOA Business Services staff helped him secure a Paid Work Experience (PWE) opportunity with Radix Bay in Tabor City, NC. Markell worked for Radix Bay and received 500 hours of hands on training and experience in the computer industry. At the completion of his training, due to Markell's hard work and abilities, Radix Bay offered him full-time employment with full benefits. Markell is the perfect example of how the WIOA program can help out-of-school youth transition from a job to a life sustaining career.

**SC WORKS**

BRINGING EMPLOYERS  
AND JOB SEEKERS TOGETHER

## 2019 CDBG and RIA Grants

Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), Community Infrastructure Applications: The SC Department of Commerce is accepting applications for water, sewer and drainage projects designed to produce outcomes that improve citizens' quality of life and create a competitive environment for jobs and investment by addressing priority community development needs. Activities should contribute to healthy, safe and sustainable neighborhoods and communities. Request for application due: March 15, 2019. Applications due: April 15, 2019.

Basic and Economic Infrastructure Applications: The SC Rural Infrastructure Authority will be accepting applications for their Basic and Economic Infrastructure Program. Qualified infrastructure projects must protect public health and water quality by improving environmental facilities and services or building infrastructure capacity to support economic development and employment opportunities. Applications due: March 11, 2019 by 5:00 p.m.

If you are interested in applying for these funds or want more information please contact:

Tom Britton  
Planning Director  
D: 843-436-6125  
E: [tbritton@wrcog.org](mailto:tbritton@wrcog.org)

# “Welcome Waccamaw Regional’s Newest Staff Members

**Samantha McClary,**  
Medicare Specialist

Samantha joined WRCOG’s Aging Department in June as our Medicare Specialist. She received her Bachelor’s degree in Social Work from Limestone College and holds a Master’s degree in Health Care Administration from Webster University. Samantha provides Medicare assistance to all of Georgetown, Horry and Williamsburg Counties.



**Clare Sapp,**  
WIOA Career Coach

Clare attended Columbia College and Converse College where she graduated with a degree in Education. She taught for 12 years in upstate South Carolina prior to joining WRCOG as a WIOA Adult and Dislocated Worker Career Coach in Horry County.



**Jason Werner,**  
Planner

Jason joined WRCOG’s Planning Department as a Planner in September of 2018. He will provide planning technical assistance to communities in the region. He is originally from Oldenburg, IN and he attended the University of Cincinnati in Cincinnati, OH. There he received his Bachelor’s degree in April 2018 majoring in Urban Planning.



**Chantal Greene,**  
WIOA Career Coach

Chantal is originally from Columbia, S.C. and moved to the area in 2011 to attend Coastal Carolina University. She graduated with a degree in Public Health and a minor in Psychology. She also went on to obtain her Masters in Health Services Administration from Strayer University in 2017. Chantal joined WRCOG’s staff as a WIOA Youth Career Coach in September of 2018.



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