

BARC COMMITTEE MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT

Committee Name: Employment and Training

Month/Reporting Period: Jan-26

Please provide an update of your committee's goals, activities and accomplishments for the month. Report due last day of each month.

Goal	Activities	Resources Used (Outputs)	Partners/Agencies	Outcomes
Networking	Presentation			
	Success Stories		All	
	Situational Reviews		All	<p>#1) Stephanie from Probation and Parole asked the group for help with employment services opportunities. She would love employers to come to Probation and Parole to talk to her participants about jobs. Career Systems is planning to be on site there on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The Probation and Parole staff are also thinking about how to find businesses that will come there to talk to possible employees. #2) Some citizens are trying to develop a volunteer/mentor group for people on probation. Andy offered a Bridges class for those who are interested in volunteering. Nicolette volunteered to provide food and help with this request.</p>

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Community Engagement and Education	Educate Citizens about what support, training and employment is available.		Community Partners	Tim Saunders from Career Works stated that Stacey Barbour retired. Christa Christian and Sharon Dunham are helping in her vacant role. May 28, 2026 job fair at Staunton River High School being organized by Economic Development. Call Lauren Thurston. April 29, 2026 Liberty High School reverse job fair being organized by BCPS.
	Community Information Sessions		Community Partners	No update
	Improve awareness and utilization of the Virginia Career Works System.		Virginia Career Works	No update
	Citizen support and Identification – How can the Community Support Agape, LCM, BCM neighbors		Community Partners	Meeting Date Pending
	Bridges out of Poverty Training		Trained Trainers	One needs to be schedule.
	Church involvement		Five18 Family Services	No update
	Volunteer Support		Five18 Family Services	No update

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Barrier Identification	Focus groups - What is it like for those we are trying to help? Citizen Feedback Loop			No update
	Getting Ahead Class		Lake Christian and Agape	LCM started a class January 7, 2026.
Education Human Capital Building	COPE (Cost of Poverty Experience)		Five18 Family Services	Next Cope February 13, 2026 Blue Ridge Community Church at 10 am.
	Care Portal Champion Development		Five18 Family Services	No update
	Central Virginia Community College			No update
	Adult Career Education		Kathy Smith	New Work Place Literacy Class at Bedford Library. This class is teaching non Spanish speaking people Spanish phrases. This is for Bedford County Employees. LCM class last week for Tourism Class and they had 5 students attend. Lisa Updike with Adult Education has been working at Probation and Parole with people and is thinking outside of the box.

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Education Human Capital Building	Bedford County Public Schools			No update
Data Collection	To collect monthly data to track progress.		VCW, LCM, DSS, DARS, Bedford Couty Schools and Bedford County DSS	No update

Submitted By: Andy Crawford

Present: Kathryn Smith, Lauren Thurston, Andy Crawford, Tammy Lawhorn, Amanda Powell, Denny Huff, Stephanie Coughlin, Nicolette Antoniuk, Michelle Swanson, Tim Saunders and Whittney Smith