

WNCSource CEO Report April 13, 2023

Recruiting and Retaining Employees

WNCSource has taken several steps forward in recruiting and retaining employees in the last few weeks:

- If approved by the WNCSource Board, May 1, 2023 all WNCSource Early Childhood Education Department staff will receive a 5.6% cost of living wage increase.
- On March 8, 2023 Anna Williams started as WNCSource Employee Recruiter.
- Mano Y Ola has been contracted to survey our Early Childhood Department staff, and former employees, to improve employee retention.
- The Transportation Department is in the process of hiring three drivers to increase our capacity to provide services.
- Samantha Elkins will start April 19 as the Bilingual Employee Engagement Specialist in our HR Department.
- We have sent direct, recruitment emails to thousands of early childhood education professionals in WNC and Upstate South Carolina.

Recruitment and retention are complex issues. Like a lot of problems capacity and support needs to be built before true progress is made. The increased wages, and support for staff recruitment and employee engagement, will help us find and keep qualified employees.

Jim Brewer hired as Community Relations and Engagement Manager

Jim Brewer will be starting as WNCSource Community Relations and Engagement Manager on April 10th. Jim has worked in fundraising and donor relations for colleges, hospitals and large nonprofit organizations. Jim helped Pardee Hospital raise millions of dollars for their cancer center. He has lived in Hendersonville for the last several years and is a past President of the Hendersonville Kiwanis Club. Jim will be working with Terri Bowman to continue our success in raising private funds to compliment our state and federal grants.

The Latest WNCSource Annual Report

Please take a look at the latest WNCSource Annual Report on the agency website. Scroll down the first page and the 2021-22 Annual Report will be on your right. We have installed a new page turning effect that adds to the experience. Terri Bowman and the Goss agency have put together a very appealing publication

Upcoming Opportunities for Board Participation

Getting to know some of the great staff at WNCSource is important to your work as a Board member. A fun way to do that is to attend staff and Board appreciation events. Two events this Spring and Summer are the agency picnic and Asheville Tourists ballgame:

- WNCSource picnic Friday, May 26 at noon at the Kanuga Conference lakefront
- Asheville Tourists at McCormick Field 6:00 PM Friday, July 14

There will be food and refreshments at both events. WNCSource transportation will run a van from the agency administrative building for the Tourist game. Please let Kim Hall know if you plan to attend the picnic and/or the Tourists' game.