

# CAREERSOURCE OKALOOSA WALTON EDUCATION AND INDUSTRY CONSORTIUM QUARTERLY REPORT

## A. GENERAL INFORMATION

**Report quarter:** November 1, 2025 – December 30, 2025

**Date of meeting:** December 11, 2025

**Report prepared by:** Michele Burns

**Local workforce development board contact:** Michele burns **Date** 12/12/25

## B. ATTENDANCE

Name	Organization	Industry or Education Organization	Contact Information
Donna Daniels	Embry-Riddle	Education	Danied15@erau.edu
Jesse Spaid	Emerald Coast Technical College	Education	Jesse.spaid@walton.k12.fl.us
Cole Randall	One Okaloosa	Economic Development	cole@oneokaloosa.org
Caralee Gibson	GSC Systems	Industry	c.gibson-15@gscsystems.net
Glenn Boschen	Micro Systems	Industry	Glenn.boschen@kratosdefence.com
Bonnie Barlow	Bridgeway	Industry	Brushton@bridgeway.org
Angela Maberry	Education Services Officer – 96 <sup>th</sup>	Military	angela.maberry.2@us.af.mil

Name	Organization	Industry or Education	Contact Information
Taray Franxman	Walton County	Public Administration	Taray.franxman@mywaltonfl.gov
Dennis Braun	Northwest Florida State College	Education	braund@nwfsc.edu
Derek Mattingly	City of FWB	Industry	dmattingly@fwb.org
*Liz Pernaselci	Applied Technology Academy	Education	liz.p@appliedtechac.com
Maddie Ostrowski	University of West Florida	Education	mostrowski@uwf.edu
Staff Present			
Kelly Jordan	CSOW	Workforce	kjordan@careersourceow.com
Emmy Epperson	CSOW	Workforce	eeperson@careersourceow.com
Michele Burns	CSOW	Workforce	mburns@careersourceow.com

## B. SUMMARY REPORT

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Glenn Boschen

### **Labor Market Information and Industry Trends**

Kelly Jordan provided an overview of current labor market trends and CSOW's Sectors of Focus, including projected growth and wage data. The discussion emphasized continued regional demand for healthcare, skilled trades, information technology, and defense-sector support roles.

### **CareerSource Okaloosa Walton Training Update**

Kelly Jordan updated on the amount of students we have that have completed their training and practical nursing leads the way with a total of 12 completers. We currently have 57 students in training with practical nursing still leading the way with 31. Okaloosa Technical College and Emerald Coast Technical College currently have the most students enrolled.

### **Talent Needs**

Micro Systems: Glenn Boschen shared significant needs for skilled labor, including senior-level electricians and advanced technical roles.

GSC Systems: Caralee Gibson highlighted the need for IT talent, particularly candidates with industry certifications.

### **Education Programs**

University of West Florida: Maddie Ostrowski, Military and Outreach Coordinator and a new member, shared that UWF has students actively seeking internships in IT, cybersecurity, business, and engineering. She encouraged employer engagement.

Emerald Coast Technical College: Jesse Spaid reported on ECTC's recent job fair for Walton County School District:

- 300 students attended the morning event.
- 28 vendors participated.
- CSOW provided 125 career assessments to students.
- 25–30 adults attended the afternoon hiring portion.

## **CareerSource Okaloosa Walton Events**

Emmy Epperson gave an update on our Paychecks for Patriots event in November, we had 130 job seekers with 103 being Veterans, TSM's or Military Spouses. CSOW will be hosting a job fair at VFW in FWB on January 21<sup>st</sup> and GSC Systems and University of West Florida both indicated they wanted to be there.

## **New Member Introduction**

The consortium welcomed Angela Maberry, Education Services Officer and Chief of Education and Training at Eglin AFB. She oversees Tuition Assistance, education counseling, and testing centers, and is interested in increased collaboration.

## **Roundtable Highlights**

Kelly Jordan shared that CSOW earned:

- Veterans Incentive Award (5th consecutive year)
- Purple Star Workforce Board designation
- Platinum Hire Vets Medallion Award – DOL

## **Adjournment**

Meeting Adjourned at 10:03.

Next meeting Date: To be determined.