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| **Goals** | **2017 Progress toward Goals** |
| 1.Reach at least 12% of the workforce each year | We served 13,760 Upper Savannah residents which is 12.3% of the workforce. |
| 2.Have centers in all counties | Upper Savannah moved centers in Abbeville, Edgefield, Laurens and Newberry. It renegotiated leases in McCormick and Saluda. |
| 3.Promote careers in manufacturing | Job Fairs feature manufacturing. Manufacturing section in website. Greenwood County set up Greenwood Edge to offer manufacturing certification in HS. |
| 4.Invest in those with the greatest potential to change | Nearly all adults served by Eckerd Workforce Solutions were low income or basic skills deficient. (92.1%). Nearly half received some form of government assistance (Food Stamps, welfare or SSI) |
| 5. Increase the basic skill levels of potential workers by encouraging GED attainment and SC Career Ready Credential (Work Keys Certificate) | We are still waiting information from some school districts but we were on track to add 150 GED graduates to the workforce. Thirteen hundred residents gained a silver SC Career Ready Credential. |
| 6. Increase funding available for scholarships by seeking grants, additional funding, and reducing operating expenses where possible. | Center costs were lowered in 6 of 7 counties. The Upper Savannah area was awarded a $300K grant to start truck driving training to support the road construction industry. |
| 7. Invest in training that has the greatest potential for self-sufficiency wages. | The area has increased options for truck driver training and highway construction. |
| 8. Help employers efficiently recruit and screen workers. | Held two succession job fairs in conjunction with PTC. Have increased Facebook presence with more than eleven hundred followers. Utilize Facebook to help employers. |
| 9. Offer training grants to businesses | Upper Savannah facilitated statewide and layoff aversion Incumbent Worker Training Grants. Edgefield businesses had seven trainees and received $30,000 in sponsored training. Greenwood businesses trained 26 workers with $55,000. Laurens businesses trained 25 workers with $33,000. |
| 10. Encourage businesses to establish apprenticeship programs. | Working with Greenwood Partnership Alliance, PTC, school districts and chamber to increase number of registered youth apprentices in Gwd County. |
| 11. Communicate employers’ expectations for soft skills to job seekers. | Results of employer survey shared with school district counselors during annual meeting |
| 12. Offer education and job training for youth who are high school dropouts or who have completed high school but haven’t found a suitable job. | Our youth contractor GLEAMNS recruited and served 78 high school dropouts. |