

News from GATES...

Georgia Association of Training, Employment and Supports



THE GATES PORTAL

Snow Jam '14 Doesn't Stop the Clock



February 3, 2014
By Dawn A. Randolph, MPA

The last week of January began with the promise of a quick passage of the Amended FY14 Budget by the Senate and work to begin in the House on the FY15 Budget. GATES members were lined up to speak with key legislators on Tuesday and through some amazing dedication Connie Kirk (CEO, Nobis Works) and Fontaine Huey (CEO, Center for the Visually Impaired) put their commitment to people with disabilities above all else to brave the elements to speak with Senate Appropriations Chairman Jack Hill and House Appropriations Chairman Terry England. While Fontaine was able to make it safely home that day Connie was stuck and did not make it to her warm home until late the next day. Let's keep this momentum going and give it our all this week since the Legislature did not stop the clock and we start the week with Day 15.

Vocational Rehabilitation Advocacy - TAKE ACTION NOW

This is **THE WEEK** to urge every member of the State House to support the \$8.2 million needed to fully fund GVRA. Stick to the fact sheet and talking points and share your story of how fully funding GVRA will help you serve people with disabilities and why GVRA is Good for Business in your area. Here is a [link to all](#) the State Representatives. Unique stories about successful job placements and job retention are very important. Legislators need to understand that this is about economic development and what you are doing to make a difference for your local businesses in finding and keeping skilled workers.

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[Snow Jam '14](#)

Special
Announcements



**State Use
Council
Meeting**
March 27, 2014
10:00 AM
Location: Sloppy
Floyd Bldg - West
Tower

**Working
Wonders Day**
March 27, 2014
Noon
Location: Sloppy

FOCUS on the House and the following members of House Human Resources Subcommittee of Appropriations. The committee will meet Wednesday, February 5th from 3-5pm in Room 415 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building next to the Capitol. It is CRITICAL to call every member of this committee, even if you don't live or have a facility in their District. This committee will be making their recommendation on funding for GVRA by the end of this week. ([House Committee Meetings](#) Schedule.)

PLEASE CALL THEIR OFFICE BY WEDNESDAY AT 1PM. Each Representative's Office Phone Number is next to their name and you can click on their names to find more information about them online. The message is - we need to have GVRA fully funded to help local businesses in finding and keeping skilled workers - people with disabilities working is good for Georgia's economy.

Human Resources Budget Subcommittee of Appropriations

- [Katie Dempsey](#) - Chairman of Subcommittee (R-Rome) Office 404.463.2247
- [Bubber Epps](#) - Vice Chairman (R-Dry Branch) 404.656.0298
- [Buzz Brockway](#) (R-Lawrenceville) 404.656.0188
- [Buddy Harden](#) (R-Cordele) 404.656.0188
- [Michele Henson](#) (D-Stone Mountain) 404.656.7859
- [Henry "Wayne" Howard](#) (D-Augusta) 404.656.6372
- [Greg Morris](#) (R-Vidalia) 404.656.5115
- [Mary Margaret Oliver](#) (D-Decatur) 404.377.0485
- [Ed Setzler](#) (R-Acworth) 404.656.7857
- [Tom Taylor](#) (R-Dunwoody) 404.656.0152

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Call for Information

THE PORTAL is a communication tool for GATES and GATES members. If you have stories about your organization, staff announcements, program descriptions, or other information you want to share with other GATES members, please send the info to Charles Hall, chall@asqinfo.net



Floyd Bldg

**GATES Board
of Directors
Spring Meeting**
April 25, 2014
Location: -TBD

**Galaxy of Stars
and Tommy
Awards
Luncheon**
April 30, 2014
Cobb Galleria
Centre
(sponsored by
Nobis Works)

THE PORTAL is a regular publication of GATES. If you have staff or others associated with your organization that you would like to receive *THE PORTAL*, please send their email address to: Charles Hall, chall@asqinfo.net

GATES

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