# CareerSource Gulf Coast

# QUARTERLY REPORT

## A. GENERAL INFORMATION

**Report Quarter:** ____Q3 Program year_ Q1 Calendar year

**Date of meeting:** August 25, 2026

**Report prepared by: Kim Bodine_**

**Local workforce development board contact:**___Kim Bodine__**Date:** August 25, 2026

## B. ATTENDANCE

| Name | Organization | Industry or Education Organization | Contact Information |
|---|---|---|---|
| Angela Reese | Director Haney Tech | Ed | |
| Todd Haney, Chair | NSA- Naval Surface Warfare | I | |
| Jeremy Hinton | Sr. Vice President-Innovations Fed Credit Union | I | |
| Stephen Mihal, Jr. | Education & Training Chief TAFB | I | |
| Ceasar Kellum | Kinetic Leadership Consulting | I | |
| Amy Pate | Tom P. Haney Tech College | E | |
| Kim Nix | Career Specialist Tom P. Haney Tech College | E | |

| Name | Organization | Industry or Education Organization | Contact Information |
|---|---|---|---|
| Holly Kuehner | Vice President<br>Academic Affairs | | |
| Andrew Starr | West Market President<br>Tallahassee Mem. Hosp | E | |
| Angela McLane | CSGC | E | |
| Randy Hanna | Dean,<br>Florida State University at Panama City | E | |
| Michelle Bailey | Career Manager<br>CSGC | I | |
| Kim Bodine | Exeutive Director<br>CSGC | I | |
| Guests: | | | |
| Richard Tutunick | Administrative Assistant | E | |
| Suzanne Vann | Media Specialist | E | |
| Coy Pilson | Assistant Director | E | |
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## C. SUMMARY REPORT

1. **Summary analysis of the local labor market based on the industry representative needs and education offerings. (Provide summary)**

A July labor-market update was provided by CareerSource Gulf Coast.

- Florida's unemployment rate was reported at approximately 4.6%.
- Franklin County was reported at approximately 5.2% unemployment, while Gulf County was slightly lower.
- Bay County's metropolitan statistical area reported approximately 94,300 non-agricultural jobs and a labor force of approximately 105,580.
- Leisure and hospitality employment increased approximately 7.8%.
- Education and health services increased approximately 3.4%.
- Professional and business services increased approximately 2.6%.
- Panama City's metropolitan area experienced the fastest annual job growth among Florida metropolitan areas in leisure and hospitality for July.
- Employment declines were noted in trade, transportation and utilities; financial activities; construction; and other services.
- The committee discussed the importance of continuing to monitor unemployment and employment trends as seasonal changes occur.
- The potential impact of artificial intelligence on employment was discussed, particularly in medical billing and coding, engineering, contracting, and other technical occupations.

2. **Information on priority industry sectors and occupations for the local area. (Provide summary)**
   Mrs. Bodine shared information on the priority sector of Marine Manufacturing, indicating the need for skilled tradespeople in this sector due to the increased and ongoing hiring of Eastern Shipbuilding. She discussed the Maritime Academy concept, being utilized by Eastern Shipbuilding in partnership with Tom P. Haney Technical College, Gulf District Schools and Gulf County Commissioners.

3. **Information on the status of existing talent pipelines for in-demand occupations.**
   Mrs. Bodine congratulated all post-secondary education partners on their increased enrollments, and the exciting, renewed interest in career technical education programs.

4. **Miscellaneous**

- CareerSource Gulf Coast promoted the upcoming **Paychecks for Patriots** job fair scheduled for November 13 at Gulf Coast State College. Employers and individuals seeking employment were encouraged to participate.
- Be on the look out for the CareerSource Gulf Coast local plan modification, which will be sent out in mid to late September for public comment.

**Tom P Haney Technical College- Angela Reese-Director**

- Classes began on August 4, and enrollment remains extremely strong.
- Hybrid programs have allowed Haney to increase enrollment and provide additional opportunities for students.
- Renovations and improvements are planned for Building 10 and the former cafeteria area to create additional classrooms and laboratory space.
- Haney continues to recruit additional personnel due to increased enrollment and program demand.
- Current staffing needs include Aviation Maintenance Technology instructors with Airframe and Powerplant credentials, Marine instructors, Nursing instructors, and an IT/networking position in Franklin County.
- Haney continues to focus on its strategic plan and Council on Occupational Education accreditation requirements.
- The college continues to perform strongly in completion and graduation rates and was recognized for the second consecutive year among the top 2% of technical colleges nationally.
- Administration recognized the dedication, professionalism, and quality of Haney's instructional staff.
- Dra Phillips was added as an instructor in the GED program. GED and ESL classes are currently full.
- The Apalachicola extension campus opened August 4 and is providing students with expanded access to career and technical education.
- The planned Maritime Academy in Port St. Joe has been moved forward from 2028 to August 2027. The initial programs will include Welding and Marine Service, with HVAC and Electrical planned for future expansion.
- Student support continues to address barriers such as food insecurity and transportation. Community sponsors and the Haney Foundation assist students through gift cards, transportation support, and other resources.
- Haney continues efforts to increase participation of students in nontraditional career fields.
- Advisory activities, campus tours, career exploration, and work-based learning opportunities continue to expand.
- Staff are seeing increased participation from elementary and middle school students during campus tours, helping students understand the connection between academic preparation and future careers.

**Florida State University at Panama City-Dean Randy Hanna**

- FSU Panama City has experienced strong enrollment as the fall semester begins.
- The importance of addressing the needs of the **ALICE population**—Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed—was discussed.
- The committee discussed the relationship between financial stability, postsecondary educational attainment, and poverty.
- FSU continues to work with local healthcare partners and area hospitals to strengthen the healthcare workforce.
- A new Biomedical Sciences program has been introduced for students interested in medicine, healthcare, nursing, and related fields.
- FSU previously added a Public Health program and is working toward adding a small nursing program.

- The impact of AI on higher education and the workforce was discussed. Institutions are working to help students understand how to use AI as a tool while maintaining strong foundational knowledge and critical-thinking skills.

**Gulf Coast State College- Holly Kuehner, Vice President-Academic Affairs**

- The college began its second week of classes, with faculty returning the previous week.
- Construction continues on the Nursing and Simulation Center, with anticipated completion around January 2028.
- Construction has also begun on a new classroom building at the Gulf/Franklin Center, which will provide additional space, including support for the nursing program.
- **College Night** will be held September 17 at Gulf Coast State College, providing students and families with an opportunity to learn about post-secondary education options.
- Gulf Coast State College is developing its next strategic plan.
- The committee discussed the opportunities and challenges associated with artificial intelligence in education.
- Particular emphasis was placed on helping students use AI appropriately while ensuring they continue to learn foundational knowledge and understand the material rather than relying solely on AI-generated answers.