

“An effective group spirit on a board is one that attracts its members, makes them want to work with one another, and gives them a sense of pride and satisfaction in the program and board itself.”

-Cyril Houle

## Meet the Newest Bay Consortium Workforce Development Board Members

### Jennifer Bowhey

Jennifer Bowhey owns Visiting Angels Northern Neck/Middle Peninsula. The award-winning Home Care Company has helped over 500 families in the region during the 14 years of operation.



Her company employs 90 local caregivers and 9 office support staff to care for people who need a little extra help caring for themselves at home.

- Prior additional background includes
- Grant Partnership Marketing & Administration via an Snohomish County, WA Economic Development Council for businesses to train their workforce. (She's been on the writing end of grants too, earning a 60k grant in 1997).
  - Her model of Business Services Development for a One Stop Career Center focused on Job Fairs for Employers and direct placement for candidates looking for work.
  - Program Development from Seeded Grant Money for a "Satellite" Career Center for underserved populations of the unemployed in Seattle.

As someone who relocated to the Northern Neck, she feels she's found a treasure. Jennifer is passionate about economic stability and growth in the region. She lives in Irvington with her daughters and her husband Steve.



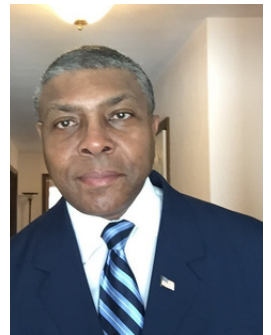
### Nicholas Minor

Nick is the Director of Economic Development and Tourism at King George County. His role leads and directs marketing through creative messaging and returns on investment for King George's local economy. He also serves on the Rappahannock Community College Foundation and the Gladys P. Todd Academy board. His prior work with the Fredericksburg Regional Alliance as a Communications & Research Manager built on his digital and internal communications and economic development skills.



### Hosey Burgess

Hosey Burgess is a former U.S. Navy Master Chief Petty Officer (E-9) Command Master Chief with over twenty-six years experience as a supervisor, personnel counselor providing one-on-one counseling and group presentations on various subjects such as career, employment development, personal risk assessment and financial responsibility. He has twenty-two years experience as an instructor addressing groups of up to 200 personnel on various technical and administrative topics.



When he left the Navy in 1998, he was employed with the Virginia Employment Commission in the following positions: Workforce Services Representative, Local Veteran Employment Representative, Workforce Services Supervisor, VEC Office Manager and District Manager in his nearly twenty-four years with the agency. He has participated on interview panels leading to the hiring of VEC agency personnel.

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**Hosey Burgess (cont.)**

Since December 2017, he has currently served as the Hampton Roads District Manager with oversight of the Eastern Shore, Hampton-Newport News, Norfolk-Virginia Beach, Portsmouth-Chesapeake and Suffolk Field Offices as he carries out his duties by directing VEC operations by representing, providing and promoting Virginia Employment Commission services and programs including unemployment insurance benefits; employer tax liability, audits and collections; and a wide range of workforce services to a diverse population in the Eastern Shore, Hampton Roads, and Peninsula service areas. Hosey has served on the Hampton Roads Workforce Development Board as a member of the Board of Directors.

He is married to LaRue Marie Burgess they resides in the city of Virginia Beach; they have four adult sons James, Hermanos, Carlos, and Anthony.



**CyberBytes Exploration**

CyberBytes Foundation invited Jessica Weber, Bay Consortium One-Stop Manager and Jacie Davis, Bay Consortium Executive Director to their Quantico hub in Stafford County to discuss in demand IT Technology.

Pictured is Jessica Weber testing out a VR headset.



**Success Story**

Bradley\* was let go from his job as an electrician helper during the pandemic. He did not want to re-enter this field because his pay and work hours were not stable during the pandemic. Bradley had family members working in the trucking industry, and he wanted to pursue working in this field due to industry demands and financial opportunities.

Bradley met with WIOA staff to discuss his service options. He was found eligible for services as a Dislocated Worker as well as for funding through the COVID-19 National Dislocated Worker Grant. Throughout the eligibility process, Bradley was openly concerned about his past felony record and how this barrier made it difficult for him to gain employment.

WIOA staff supported Bradley in obtaining a Federal Bonding letter and registering for CDL training to pursue his goal of working in the trucking industry. Bradley began his training, and despite the delays and smaller class sizes the training provider had in place due to the pandemic, he finished his training and obtained his CDL in just over the usual six weeks. Afterwards, WIOA staff supported Bradley to revise his resume and provided him with job listings.

During the job search, an industry hiring event took place at the Virginia Career Works – Fredericksburg Center. A trucking company was in attendance and the WIOA staff spoke with them about their hiring practices around hiring re-entry citizens. Initially, the employer was hesitant, and staff spoke with them at length about the benefits of hiring re-entry citizens.

Staff encouraged Bradley to come to the hiring event and speak with the employer. He did so, and the company hired him on spot. Bradley stated he had been open about his past with them and they were willing to give him the opportunity despite his background.

WIOA staff spoke with the employer at a later hiring event and they stated they were happy to have given Bradley the opportunity, because of his work ethic, personality, and his overall drive to learn every task he could. Because of Bradley's hard work and WIOA staff advocacy, not only was this a success for this client, but potentially for others in the future with similar barriers.

*\*Names have been changed to protect identity.*



**Resource Room Availability**

Virginia Career Works Fredericksburg Center  
Mon., Tues., Thurs., & Fri: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm  
Wednesday: 9:30-4:30  
Call 540-513-9182

Virginia Career Works Warsaw Center  
Monday-Friday 9:00 am - 3:30 pm  
Call 804-333-4048 ext. 5

Virginia Career Works Eastern Shore Center  
Mon., Tues., Thurs., & Fri: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm  
Wednesday: 9:30-4:30  
Call 757-302-2029

[Click Here to See a List of Available Services & Contact Information](#)