



News Release

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WorkLink Board Chair Recognized as Outstanding Volunteer

(Pendleton, S.C. – February 3, 2011) – Stephanie Collins, chair of the WorkLink Workforce Investment Board and employment manager at AnMed Health, has earned the W. Perry Gaines Award for outstanding private sector volunteer. Each year, the State Workforce Investment Board (SWIB) honors outstanding volunteers, participants, local boards, and training providers during the South Carolina Workforce Development Partnership Symposium. The award ceremony was held Tuesday, February 1, 2011, in Myrtle Beach. The W. Perry Gaines Award is given to one volunteer in the state.

Ms. Collins has been a member of the WorkLink Workforce Investment Board since May 2006. Her accomplishments include serving in various leadership roles from Marketing and Outreach Committee Chair, to Board Vice-Chair, and Board Chair, and her legacy encompasses campaigns to increase awareness of WorkLink in the minds of youth, jobseekers, and employers, specifically through participation in innovative community events, including annual job fairs and youth forums, and through an increased web presence.

As employment manager for AnMed Health, Anderson County's largest employer with 3,400 employees in more than 30 locations, Ms. Collins represents one of the most influential businesses in WorkLink's service area. She brings more than 12 years of experience as a human resources manager, having worked as an HR specialist and an employment manager at AnMed Health, after earning her degree in human resources from Clemson University.

The WorkLink Workforce Investment Board elected Ms. Collins to serve as the 2011 Board Chair, and her term began on January 1, 2011. She succeeds Leon "Butch" Harris, project manager at Koyo Bearings, as Chair of the board. David Collins, manager of finance at Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative, Inc., serves as the 2011 Vice-Chair.

WorkLink Workforce Investment Board (WIB) is governed by a volunteer board of directors who are responsible for developing policy and overseeing local workforce development initiatives in partnership with local service providers. WIB membership includes representatives from business and industry, education agencies, community-based organizations, economic development agencies, public employment service, public assistance agencies, vocational rehabilitation and labor organizations. Empowered by the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, WorkLink develops the link between employers and the workforce in Anderson, Oconee and Pickens counties and works through a comprehensive OneStop system that provides access points for employment and training services. More information and Board meeting dates are available online at www.worklinkweb.com.

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