

News Release

Contact: Brandi Runion, WorkLink, (864) 646-1827 or <u>brunion@worklinkweb.com</u>

WorkLink Hires Executive Director

(Pendleton, S.C. – July 1, 2011) – WorkLink Workforce Investment Board has named Shae Rozakos to the position of Executive Director. Rozakos will serve as chief operating officer of WorkLink, whose mission is to connect companies and employees in Anderson, Oconee and Pickens Counties.

Rozakos joins WorkLink with extensive experience in the workforce investment area. As the Existing Industries Manager at Anderson County Office of Economic Development, in Anderson, SC, she developed an incentive tracking database to monitor company and county commitments and timeframes. She developed an existing industries database to tract contact information and communications with Anderson County's industries. She also managed existing industry projects and expansions while working with industry and educators to identify new ways to meet labor objectives of the industry. Her prior positions include Planner at Greenville County Planning Commission, in Greenville, SC where she facilitated meetings and conducted planning presentations during the update of the Greenville County Comprehensive Plan.

Rozakos has served on the WorkLink Workforce Investment Board since 2008 and has been a member of the Executive Committee, Marketing Committee, and Strategic Planning Committee during this time. Her memberships and professional affiliations include: South Carolina Economic Developers Association, Anderson Area Society for Human Resource Management, Anderson University Business Advisory Board, & Upstate Reality Check/Ten at the Top. Rozakos is also a South Carolina Certified Economic Developer and has graduated from the Economic Development Institute.

With a master's degree in City and Regional Planning from Clemson University and a bachelor's degree in English and History from Presbyterian College, Rozakos is uniquely qualified to oversee the organization of the local workforce investment board. In her new role, she will provide strategic leadership on Board initiatives, build partnerships with diverse stakeholders to achieve shared goals, and manage grant funds, staff, and consultants to accomplish the work of the Board and to ensure compliance with all relevant laws and regulations.

WorkLink Workforce Investment Board (WIB) is an organization governed by a volunteer board of directors who are responsible for developing policy and overseeing workforce development initiatives in partnership with local service providers. Empowered by the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, WorkLink develops the link between employers and the workforce in Anderson, Oconee and Pickens counties.

#

July2011_worklink_new_hire