

CITIZENS FOR NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY AWARENESS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Apprenticeships Celebrated at Up & Atom Breakfast

Attendees at the November 20, 2024, Up & Atom Breakfast celebrated National Apprenticeship Week. The breakfast, hosted by Citizens for Nuclear Technology Awareness (CNTA), focused on the Workforce Opportunities in Regional Careers (WORC) grant funds and the many partner organizations that help our region's employee pipeline.

Presenters at the event were:

- Booboo Roberts, Savannah River Nuclear Solutions Program Manager of Apprenticeship School & Pipeline Development Training Workforce Programs
- Mindy Mets, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives, SRS Community Reuse Organization
- Abigail Bowman, SRNS Apprenticeship Program College Partner, Curriculum, and Pipeline Development Lead
- Dr. Steven F. Simmons, Dean Technical and Continuing Education, Aiken Technical College
- Dr. Hadi Hamid, Assistant Vice President Industrial Related Technologies and Workforce, Denmark Technical College
- Mylinthia Renee Kelly Ed.S, Workforce Development Coordinator, Augusta Technical College
- Lawrence Winburn, Office of Apprenticeship, Department of Labor

Current and former apprentices from across the Savannah River Site were also in attendance.

Guests learned about how regional educational institutions are investing in our future workforce and educating students on potential career pathways.

“These programs allow local citizens across the South Carolina and Georgia region to have multiple pathways to develop critical skills needed in today's workforce.” Mets said during her presentation.

More than 1,877 students have enrolled in training programs relevant to local careers using WORC grant funding.

The WORC grant is funded by the Department of Energy and the National Nuclear Security Administration. The grant is overseen by the SRS Community Reuse Organization (SRSCRO).

Representatives from educational institutions, Savannah River Site employers, and supporters of the apprenticeship programs were all recognized during the event.

“The growth of the apprenticeship programs in the region is a testament to visionaries who understand our future workforce needs. Without our community partners jobs would be going unfilled and interested people would not have the ability to learn the skills needed to fill these positions.” Booboo Roberts said.

Just a few of the partners that work with the Savannah River Site on apprenticeships are: Technical College System of SC, Aiken Technical College, Denmark Technical College, Augusta Technical College, SRSCRO, Lower Savannah Council of Governments, Apprenticeship Carolina, Technical College System of Georgia, Apprenticeship USA – GA, and the CSRA Regional Commission.

For more information on the WORC grant programs visit: www.srscro.org

CNTA is an Aiken-based charitable educational organization dedicated to providing factual information about nuclear topics and educating the public on nuclear issues. For further information, call CNTA at 803-649-3456 or e-mail at cnta@bellsouth.net.



Caption: Business leaders, educational partners, and the presenters recognized during the event.



Caption: Booboo Roberts discusses partnership agencies that help fund the SRS apprenticeships.



Caption: Lawrence Winburn of the Department of Labor discusses his excitement at how many people are participating in apprenticeship programs in the region.

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