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Recognition

"Don't worry when you are not recognized, but strive to be worthy of recognition."

- Abraham Lincoln

Schenectady County Connects is fortunate to have a team of dedicated human service professionals who are genuinely invested in improving the lives of our customers. Employment services, though not crisis-driven, can be the crux of turning someone's life around. The obvious financial impact paired with improved self-confidence, social capital, mental health, and more are why our staff are dedicated to finding customers sustainable careers that fit their needs and goals.

As with most human service professionals, not one person on our staff is in it for the accolades but over the past few months it has been encouraging to be recognized by our partners as leaders in the field of workforce development. These partnerships driven by the same mission to support Schenectady's community are what make our work not only possible but exciting.



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College & Career Transition Services

Schenectady County Connects (formerly SJTA) has built an opportunity through Capital Region BOCES to provide on-site college and career transition services to local high schools. Schools have the opportunity to purchase a shared service, which provides an employment counselor on-site at the school one full day per week as well as linkages to the entire Schenectady County Connects department including workshops, foundational skills development, summer and year-round employment, hiring events, resume development, and more.

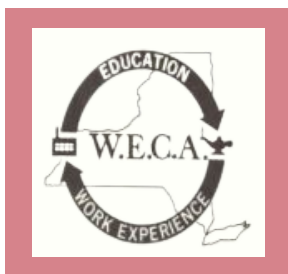


After marketing this initiative to local school districts, Mohonasen and Schenectady bought into the program with such enthusiasm that we were able to begin providing services for May and June to focus on assisting graduating Seniors - particularly those without a defined plan to attend college - on transitioning into employment and training opportunities through career counseling. Staff are stationed in Mohonasen High School, Schenectady High School, Steinmetz Career and Leadership Academy, and Washington Irving Educational Center weekly to provide guidance to students in need of employment and training assistance and thus far, the initiative has linked 202 youth to Schenectady County Connects.



As part of the Capital Region Workforce Development Board, not only is this opportunity one that can benefit schools throughout our area, but it has the potential to derive revenue from schools throughout Albany, Rensselaer, and Schenectady Counties, furthering our mission to serve the employment, training, and hiring needs of our community.

Acknowledgment from Mohonasen BAB



In May, our Director of Workforce Development was invited to the NYS Work Experience Coordinators Association (WECA) Conference where Schenectady County Connects was proud to accept the award as a "Friend of WECA" for our supports to students and the Mohonasen School District and Business Advisory Board.

This Statewide recognition is an honor that will help support our navigation of school and Career Center partnerships as we grow and establish best practices.



Employment Opportunities



Job Fairs & Open Interviews

Did you know that in addition to the many job fairs held across the Capital Region each month, several employers regularly host their own hiring events? Take a look at some of the regional businesses who are offering on-the-spot interviews this month.

CAPITAL REGION JOB FAIRS AND OPEN INTERVIEWS 

As part of the Capital Region Workforce Development Board (WDB), we are fortunate to have Adam Slagle, our Business Services Coordinator on board and in our Schenectady County Connects office to link our customers directly with in-demand, current opportunities in the workforce. A new addition to the Capital Region WDB's website is a calendar of upcoming job fairs and open interviews to help jump-start your employment search. Visit the site today at <https://capreg.org/job-seekers/> and start planning your next career move!

Summer Youth Employment Program

Every year, the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) successfully supports many youth in navigating the foundational skills of employment by participating in a 6-week, part-time, work experience. Despite tremendous demand from the community and business investment - each year, we find ourselves unable to reach the entire waiting list due to funding constraints.

The majority of funding for this program comes from the Office of Temporary Disability Assistance (OTDA) to serve youth whose families fall under 200% of the poverty level. We have partnerships with Schenectady County Offices of Children and Family Services and Probation and small pools of funding from the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and Youth Bureau due to the fact that the majority of that funding has been contracted out to support the crucial missions of other youth agencies in Schenectady.

Dr. Carlos Cotto, the Assistant Superintendent of Innovation, Equity and Engagement for Schenectady City School District has been a tremendous champion of this program and advocated for an additional 75 youth to be able to participate in the SYEP utilizing ARPA funds from the City of Schenectady.

An article in the [Daily Gazette](#) had a quote from Dr. Cotto that encapsulated the heart and mission of SYEP: "We really want to look at how we can re-engage the community on strengthening the relationship around the resources that we have," Cotto said. "I do think in Schenectady that we're rich in resources and opportunity, and I think there are a lot of businesses that are in need of employees, so how do we start to work together to figure out and create a much stronger pathway that allows us to truly grow our own."

We are truly grateful and excited to build on this partnership with the Schenectady City School District to support youth in becoming productive members of the workforce.



Director's Corner

Welcome,

Our team at Schenectady County Connects understand the correlation between educational attainment and employment opportunities. For this reason, we are so excited to support our high schools, alternative schools, community college and certificate programs who provide valuable learning experiences to transition our customers to self-sustaining positions. This June, we are honored to have supported numerous high school graduates, a handful of college graduates and 13 LPNs whom we are currently working with to transition into the workplace this summer.

Jennifer Bargy
Director of Workforce Development



JULY

Independence Day on the 4th

National Hire a Veteran Day on the 25th

National Intern Day on the 29th

AUGUST

National Black
Business Month

Single Working Women's Day on the 4th

SEPTEMBER

Self Improvement Month

Labor Day on the 5th

CONTACT INFORMATION



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Please call or e-mail us if you'd like to make an appointment to meet with our staff



[@SchenectadyCountyConnects](#)