

OCTOBER 2022 | ISSUE 9



## Transformation

As we enter our third year of sharing our services, successes, announcements, and programming with you through our newsletter, we'd like to take a moment to thank you for all of your partnership and support of what we do.

Our transformation has been a work in progress and we are constantly evolving but none of this would be possible without dedicated staff and a community who has welcomed our changes with open arms.

As we continue to strengthen our programming, expand our partnerships, and address community needs, please let us know how we can help and we will gladly incorporate your feedback into our growth.

Contact Us:

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# NYATEP Frontline Leadership Award

Our leadership team had the privilege of attending the 2022 Partners in Workforce and Economic Development Conference hosted by NYATEP and the NYSEDC where our Director of Workforce Development, Jennifer Bargy, was honored with the Frontline Leadership Award.

"The Frontline Leadership Award, created in 2016, honors the dedication, commitment, and ingenuity of the workforce development staff, from NYATEP member organizations, who directly serve New Yorkers. Honorees are staff who are in the trenches and go above and beyond in their direct service to business customers and jobseekers every day; has shown innovation during COVID-19 and ideally embody NYATEP's core brand values: Responsive, Passionate, Collaborative, Strategic, and Resourceful."

Over the past three years alone, Jen has managed to overhaul all the job training programming in Schenectady to create a standard of services under Schenectady County Connects that has been previously unmatched. From individual interactions where she connects on a compassionate, human-level with customers to meet their unique needs, to internal program development that provides comprehensive, equitable offerings for all customers, to systemic change through partnership and advocacy, Jen excels at every level.

Schenectady's County Manager, Rory Fluman and Deputy County Manager, Jackie Falotico stated, "Jen is always prepared to combat anything that arises with a clear vision, creative solutions and an innovative approach to problem solving. She consistently goes above and beyond to serve clients and connect various county services together. She approaches everything with passion for workforce development and public service— a true illustration of a leader in the field."

We are fortunate to have Jen at the helm of our agency to guide and inform our work to best serve the workforce development needs of our community!



## 2022 Statewide Workforce Award Recipients

- Statewide Leadership Award: Governor Kathy Hochul
- Legislative Leadership Award: Senator Roxanne J. Persaud
- Business Leadership Award: Young Adults Manufacturer Training Employment Program, Tyrone Reaves
- Economic and Workforce Development Partnership Award: Dr. Julius Gregg Adams, Buffalo EOC, SUNY Buffalo
- Frontline Leadership Award: Jennifer Bargy
- NYS Workforce Program Award: Enhanced Recovery Services, Rochester Works, Clark Rodman



# Schenectady County Cares Childcare Portal

One of the greatest challenges families face when choosing to be part of the workforce is securing safe, affordable childcare. Schenectady County Connects advocated for increased accessibility and publicity of childcare support and an interdepartmental partnership created Schenectady County Cares portal where customers can apply for childcare directly online: <https://www.schenectadycounty.com/scc/childcare>



Click here or scan the QR code to listen to a podcast about Schenectady County Cares childcare portal

## Career Jam



Schenectady County Connects staff had the chance to attend Capital Region Career Jam at Hudson Valley Community College on October 13, 2022. Career Jam is not your average career fair - every business has a hands-on activity for the students to explore careers and learn about in-demand industries available in the Capital Region.

More than 1,110 students in 8th and 9th grade were able to participate and begin to develop an idea of what they may like to pursue as a career.

From simulated excavation, to tours of an actual ambulance, to live-wire demonstrations - each booth had something exciting and innovative to offer. Schenectady County Connects brought our new Oculus Quest XR Guru Virtual Reality experience so students could be immersed in various career environments and explore potential pathways. It was an incredibly unique and successful way for businesses and students to gain each other's perspectives on the workforce.



# Director's Corner

*There truly are no words to express how deeply humbled and appreciative that I am to work with a team of professionals transforming workforce development services here at Schenectady County Connects. We have collectively moved from developing our thoughts and brainstorming collaboratively, to transforming those plans into a reality. While we have made such great strides, I know the best is still yet to come!*

*Jennifer Bargy*

*Director of Workforce Development*



## OCTOBER

National Manufacturing Day on the 7th

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Boss's Day on the 16th

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National Make A Difference Day on the 22nd

## NOVEMBER

National STEM/STEAM Day on the 8th

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Veteran's Day on the 11th

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Small Business Saturday on the 26th

## DECEMBER

Human Rights Day on the 10th

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National Homeless Persons' Remembrance Day on the 21st

## CONTACT INFORMATION



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



**@SchenectadyCountyConnects**