

The Journal News

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YOUR NEWS

Agency for disabled gets \$5,000 grant

CAREERS for People with Disabilities Inc. has re-

ceived a \$5,000 grant to assist with its School-to-Work Transition Program for students with disabilities throughout Putnam County.

The grant was given to the nonprofit organization by the Community Foundation of Dutchess County, an affiliate of the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley, and one of its first

grants in Putnam County. CAREERS will use the money to solve the chronic unemployment prevalent among disabled young people. Through the program, CAREERS conducts job

readiness classes, completes individual needs and skills assessments, and teaches interviewing and job skills. This unique program often places students in internships so they can gain job experience that will eventually lead to long-term employment. Last year, CAREERS launched an innovative program with the Carmel school district to provide services to disabled students, as well as training to teacher aides. This is the first time a program of this kind has been implemented and an agency like CAREERS has collaborated so directly, and effectively, with a Putnam County school district. CAREERS conducted outreach to all five Carmel schools, received 35 student referrals, and placed 18 students in new jobs within the county in 2010.

Submitted by CAREERS for People with Disabilities