



INTO THE WORLD OF WORK

News for Families and Supporters

Charging Lives One Job At A Time

Number 45

We placed 126 people in new jobs and internships during 2019!

Winter 2019/2020

CAREERS Workforce Readiness, Placement and Training Program for individuals with disabilities teaches job readiness skills and provides job placement, on-the-job training and ongoing support so they may become self-sufficient, active and respected members of their community.



We teach soft skills such as learning how to make a good impression and dress appropriately, how to communicate with supervisors, co-workers and customers; how to's including writing resumes and completing job applications; techniques for taking job application tests, interviewing and following up after the interview. Our staff facilitates role playing and mock interviews to help program participants become comfortable with the process. We also teach financial responsibility; how to budget, save and invest, and how to earn and keep a good credit score.

We coordinate and accompany participants on interviews for jobs in line with their abilities and interests. When they are placed in a job, our Employment Specialists provide on-the-job training and long-term support to help them remain successfully employed — no longer dependent on family or government programs. Services are provided at no cost to participants, their families or employers.



Our **School-to-Work Transition Program** bridges the gap from the classroom to the workplace. We reach individuals with disabilities before they graduate high school and place them in internships in the community, helping them to eventually live more productive, independent and fulfilling lives. Young people with disabilities face extraordinary challenges when seeking employment. They often lack proper skills and education and are not aware of job opportunities or resources available to them. They need more than average on-the-job training and require assistance in areas such as transportation and communication.



On Course for College is for students 18 years or older who have a documented disability and meet the admission requirements of a college for a degree or certificate program. Students receive assistance with admission, health and financial aid forms, registration and course selection. Our staff guides them through the resources their campus offers, including tutoring, student rights and available accommodations. We are also available for one-on-one social support and provide services tailored to the unique and changing needs of each participant, including problem solving, coping skills and stress management.

Interested in our services? Contact **CAREERS Support Solutions**

400 Columbus Avenue, Suite 123 South, Valhalla, New York 10595 – residents of mid to lower Westchester County

102 Gleneida Avenue, Carmel New York 10512 – residents of upper Westchester, Putnam or Dutchess Counties

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CAREERS is a private non-profit organization that finds productive employment for individuals with disabilities or long-term unemployment. We also provide on-the-job training and ongoing support services.

CAREERS SUCCESS STORIES



Stephen is currently employed as a kitchen helper at Kobacker's Market in Brewster, NY. He participated in an internship there while in high school and when he graduated in 2014, he applied for a part-time position. He got the job but needed support to help him learn tasks and stay employed for the long-term so CAREERS was called in to help and has been providing ongoing coaching supports since then.

Stephen's challenges include keeping track of his schedule, so our Employment Specialist checks in with his supervisor during weekly visits and via email to ensure that he is arriving on time and following guidelines for time off requests. Stephen also has difficulty telling time so we taught him to set his alarm on his phone to notify him when it's time to punch out.

Stephen's primary responsibility is cleaning the pots and pans, but with our support, he has learned many new tasks over the years. He now assists with food preparation which includes making salads and breading chicken. The use of kitchen appliances to prepare foods involves practicing safety measures at all times, such as disconnecting power when cleaning and following guidelines for use. During onsite visits, his Employment Specialist assures that Stephen is using tools correctly. Support from co-workers is also essential and we help reinforce this very important relationship so that when we are not there, he has natural, in-house supports he can count on.

Stephen loves his job and truly enjoys working in the close-knit community in which he lives. CAREERS is a steady support for him so that he may continue to experience success and satisfaction at his job for a long time to come.

Noah was an aspiring pastry chef that needed some support to showcase his talents. For 10 years, Noah enjoyed his job in the bakery of a Yonkers supermarket. When the store closed, he wasn't sure what his next step would be. His Employment Specialist stepped in to help him through the process of finding a new job at ShopRite in New Rochelle and making the transition to the new routine in their bakery.

After settling in to his new position, Noah's manager was so impressed with his work that he sent him to a cake decorating class and allowed him to practice his talents on cupcakes in the bakery after his other responsibilities were completed. Noah refined his skills so his manager changed his job responsibilities to include cake decorating.

It is always satisfying for our staff to help a client find a job that is well-suited to their skills and interests. Noah is valued and appreciated at ShopRite for his talents and we are very proud of him for the perseverance he has shown to make his dream come true.



CAREERS 32ND ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Many thanks to the generous and loyal sponsors of our October 2019 event:

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Julio Cobos, Thornwood ShopRite manager, with clients and ShopRite employees Nary LoPuzzo (2nd from left) and Vicky Byrd (far right) and their Employment Specialist, Rebecca Appleyard.

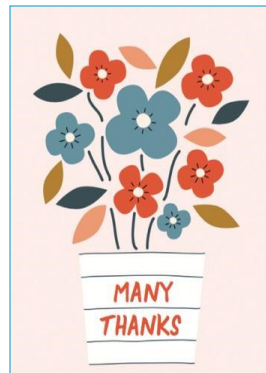


Donna Ruzzi (2nd from left) and Agron Margilaj (left), new sponsors from Westchester Bank, with client Barbara Bellantoni (right) and CAREERS Jennifer Retacco.



Alex Hart, Treasurer of CAREERS Board, with client John Lefurgy.

Karen Brown



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2019 ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AWARDS RECIPIENTS



Employee of the Year – Sheila Durkin receives her plaque from her Employment Specialist, Kim Flynn.



Employer of the Year – Barbara Cutri (left), Director of Operations at the Boys & Girls Club of Mt. Kisco, receives her plaque from employee Kate Warren (center) & her Employment Specialist Toni Dillon.



Supervisor of the Year – Rosanna Velazquez (left), manager of ShopRite, Thornwood, with Danielle Nardi (center) and her Employment Specialist Allison Scorca.



CAREERS Board President and S & H Uniform owner Kevin Ross receives an **Outstanding Program Support Award** from employee Lyle Davidson and his Job Coach Allison Scorca.



Educational Enrichment – Mandy Nutter (3rd from left) & Katelyn Wilson (2nd from right) from the Danbury Microsoft Store with (right to left) CAREERS Tanya Morton, AIM's Victoria Faley & Doug Cuzzi and CAREERS Glen Morrice.



Outstanding Professional Support Awards – Jennifer Grudnowski (left) of Pro Bono Partnership with Eileen Morra. Jeffrey Lindenbaum (right) of Collen Intellectual Property Law with James McDougal.



Ricky Granata, manager of Carmel McDonalds, receives an **Outstanding Program Support Award** from CAREERS Program Coordinator Rebecca Appleyard.



Lorraine Seckendorf, New York Sports Club in Carmel, receives an **Outstanding Program Support Award** from CAREERS Kim Flynn.



Barbara Circle of Carmel CVS (left) receives an **Outstanding Program Support Award** from client Victoria Faley and her Employment Specialist Marielena Behnken.



Board member Howard Forbes presents CAREERS Executive Director Tina Cornish-Lauria with an award marking her 30th anniversary with CAREERS!



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2019 ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AWARDS RECIPIENTS



CAREERS Program Coordinator Jennifer Retacco (left) presents client Ralph Simpson with a **Personal Achievement Award** and Pastor Nicole Garvey with an **Outstanding Advocate Award**.



CAREERS client Nicole Flynn (left) and Employment Specialist Kim Flynn present Lee Canfield of Kidz Country of Putnam with an **Outstanding Co-Worker Award**.



Jeanette Mosquera (left) of the Westchester County Dept. of Corrections receives an **Outstanding Co-Worker Award** from CAREERS participant and Corrections employee Warren Forbes and his Employment Specialist Allegra Palevich.



Marianne Forcelli (left) of New York Presbyterian Hospital receives an **Outstanding Co-worker Award** from employee Michael Moreira and his Employment Specialist Tomni Dillon.



Personal Achievement Awards
Joe Morvillo (left), a 13 year employee at St. Patrick's Church pictured with his Employment Specialist Kim Flynn.
Tom Adimari (right) receives a Personal Achievement Award from his Employment Specialist Lynn Newman.



Outstanding Program Support
Halima Penny, Boys & Girls Club of Mt. Vernon (not pictured)



Retirement Honorees
Wendell Vlachos (right) is honored for his 14 successful years of service after retiring from Target. His Employment Specialist Rebecca Appleyard presents Wendell with his award.
Employment Specialist Lynn Newman presents Lisa Bernardo (far right) with a 2019 Retiree Award. Lisa has been a CAREERS client since 1992!



A WONDERFUL EVENING AT OUR ANNUAL ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



The Durkin Family



Michael Herdman, JT Sorbella, James McDougal and Employment Specialist Glen Morrice



The Adimari Family



Executive Director Tina Cornish-Lauria, Board Treasurer Alex Hart and Ryan Moynihan



John Lefurgy and his Employment Specialist Tiffany Howell



CAREERS Board President Kevin Ross (left) & employee Lyle Davidson & co-worker



Michael Moreira and his Employment Specialist Toni Dillon



Jessica Ekback and James McDougal



Vinnie Migliaccio and his Employment Specialist Allison Scorca

CAREERS Executive Director Tina Cornish-Lauria with Advisory Board Member Adam Handler



Peter Marshall (center), employee of S & H Uniform, and two of his co-workers



CAREERS staff



AMBITION IN MOTION PROGRAM - AIM

AIM is a day habilitation without walls program that fills a void in the community for individuals not yet ready to participate in a supported work program. Tailored to their needs, interests and potential, the program provides diverse opportunities to interact and contribute to the local community, while learning independent living and employment skills. AIM participants do everything from shopping to landscaping to office tasks – providing volunteer support to the community while learning valuable life and work skills. Our AIM Program uses a person-centered approach and there are transportation options available. Services are provided free to participants and we offer both men's and women's groups and occasionally combine both for fun outings. If you know someone who is interested in joining one of our groups, e-mail careersforpeople@aol.com.



Christmas fun at the mall



Playing wiffle ball



Hiking at the Mid-Hudson Bridge



Halloween



Apple picking



Annual coat drive for our local CAP program



CAREERS recycling program



SPECIAL TRIBUTE DONATIONS

In Honor of Art Amler
James Frauenthal

In Memory of Allan Barlin
Edward Colker and Elaine Galen
Dr. & Mrs. Stephen Gerstman

The Forbes Family
Judith McDowall
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Howard Forbes Birthday
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Edward Colker & Elaine Galen

Howard Forbes Birthday and
Howard and Adrienne Forbes Anniversary
Jay Forbes
Dr. Stephen Gerstman

It's simple to make a donation and designate it as a gift for a memorial, anniversary, birthday, or any other occasion. Just go to our website and make a secure donation using PayPal or mail in a donation

thank you

MANY THANKS TO OUR 2019 CORPORATE & FOUNDATION SUPPORTERS



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Our corporate and foundation supporters help us provide job training and placement services to individuals with disabilities who want to work, always at no cost to them, their families or employers.



CAREERS Executive Director Tina Cornish-Lauria thanks Tom Gabriel, Executive Director of United Way of Westchester and Putnam and Deborah Smith, SVP/Northeast Community Relations Senior Consultant for Wells Fargo Foundation, for their long-standing support.

Thank you
FOR YOUR SUPPORT