Rochester Works!

ANNUAL REPORT 2008

Message from the Chairman and Executive Director

Innovation Sustains High-Quality Services in Times of Growing Need

RochesterWorks! marked many successes in the 2007-2008 year despite significant decreased funding. By taking innovative approaches and embracing an array of technology-based tools, our two Career Centers have sustained high quality services for Monroe County job seekers and businesses.

The success of our workforce system starts with our dedicated staff and system partners, who each day drive home the strategies and goals established by the Workforce Investment Board. We are proud of their accomplishments that are highlighted in this report and proud of the services we provided this past year to more than 21,000 job seekers and hundreds of businesses in Monroe County.

"The cornerstone of Monroe County's workforce system in is the development of partnerships"

The cornerstone of Monroe County's workforce system in is the development of partnerships — with the private sector, government and agencies that share the common goal of providing positive results for our collective customers. By integrating services we are able to maximize and efficiently utilize our resources, and share and capitalize on our strengths and assets.

The support of our community leaders has also been instrumental in the success of our innovative and unique approach to talent and economic development. The County Executive and the Mayor of the City of Rochester

George Scharr, Chairman and Peter Pecor, Executive Director

have established and directed meaningful collaborations, which serve as examples to the rest of our community. The successful public and private workforce initiatives fuel more participation from our community and business leaders.

RochesterWorks! has developed an expanded skills and assessment program that will enable job seekers to showcase their skills and recognize appropriate opportunities. The ability to provide meaningful information will assist businesses in recruiting by connecting them with talented people meeting their skill requirements.

The strong local partnerships with our public, private and governmental agencies have allowed us to serve more youth throughout the year and in our summer programs. The relationship with the Department of Health and Human Services affords us the opportunity to

Continued on page 2

INSIDE

Message from the County Executive..... 2

Message from the Mayor... 3

Over 21,500 Job Seekers Turn to RochesterWorks!... 4

Assessing and Certifying Skills..... 5

Training Grants Awarded to Area Businesses..... 6

Preparing Youth for Career Sucess..... 8

Creating a Skilled Workforce

By Maggie Brooks, Monroe County Executive

Maggie Brooks

Through our collaborative efforts, we are preparing our current and future workforce with the skills and training needed to succeed in our region's growing, innovation economy.

Changes in both the economic and business climates have transitioned us away from a large manufacturing-based economy to a more diverse, knowledge-based economy marked by growth in high-tech industries like optics, imaging, biotechnology, and telecommunications.

Now more than ever, our region is on the map and radar screen of companies, investors and site selectors.

Monroe County is focused on nurturing this innovative culture and supporting our region's entrepreneurs that are now driving our economy. With support from COMIDA and WIRED, The Entrepreneurs Network continues to assist start-up companies achieve success in our rising small-market economy. To date, 82 local firms have benefited from this unique program that works to create and retain jobs here in Monroe County.

Now more than ever, our region is on the map and radar screen of companies, investors and site selectors. Expansion Management magazine has ranked Rochester as a 5-Star Business Opportunity Metro, indicating that our area is considered a premier place for companies to do business in America.

Monroe County and RochesterWorks! have partnered to collectively provide services and programs to serve the needs of businesses, job seekers, and youth. Our Digital Skills for Youth program, in its fourth year, gives area youth the opportunity to intern with local businesses to develop hands-on technical skills. This successful partnership helps foster and prepare our skilled workforce of the future.

Monroe County is fortunate to have dedicated leaders and business professionals that are committed to our community's economic future. I would like to thank the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) and RochesterWorks! for their partnership and continued support.

We are seeing increased momentum as we continue to move our economy in the right direction. It is clearer than ever that our opportunities far outweigh our challenges.

Continued from previous page

provide job readiness assistance to those most in need. By full integration of our staffs and facilities with our New York State Department of Labor partners enables us to maintain our two Career Centers serving all job seekers and businesses. We welcome new partnerships and innovative relationships that will enhance our services.

The Finger Lakes Wired partnerships have afforded our entire nine-county region with opportunities to build for the future through innovation and entrepreneurship.

The training, instruction and mentoring of individuals and businesses through Wired will have a lasting effect on the future of our local economy and emerging industries. Through these initiatives, partnerships and relationships we will be prepared to provide a skilled, well-trained workforce that will meet the requirements of our emerging businesses.

RochesterWorks! will continue to be dedicated to providing workforce solutions in support of economic development, business retention and the overall economic well being of our community.

Encouraging Signs for Our Economy

By Robert Duffy, City of Rochester Mayor

Robert Duffy

Look beyond the national headlines of financial meltdowns and Wall Street bailouts, and you will see encouraging signs for the Rochester area's economy.

Long a drag on downtown development, Midtown Plaza will soon be replaced by the world headquarters of PAETEC Holding Corp. The development will establish a new urban core in the heart of Rochester, surrounded by office, retail and residential housing.

A few blocks east, ESL Federal Credit Union is building a new headquarters to accommodate 300 employees on Chestnut Street. To the south, the Brooks Landing Project is making significant headway with the recent opening of an 80-unit hotel that will anchor restaurants, offices and retail space.

Brooks Landing will draw traffic across the Genesee River from the epicenter of Rochester's job growth and economic optimism – the University of Rochester's River Campus and Medical Center.

Across Rochester, entrepreneurs are opening small businesses and creating the kind of jobs that keep the economic momentum moving.

There, the University's leaders are astutely guiding a $500 million Strategic Plan to place the Medical Center among the top 20 medical centers the nation. This plan will bring millions of dollars in research funding to the area, which will become the new foundation of the area's job creation as these medical advances are spun off into marketable products.

And not all of our developments are on such a grand scale. Across Rochester, entrepreneurs are opening small businesses and creating the kind of jobs that keep the economic momentum moving. The Public Market area, for example, has seen a host of new business activity in recent months, including the Station 55 loft apartments and retail space, and new locations for the new Rohrbach Brewing Co. and the Boulder Coffee Co.

The central theme that runs across all of these projects is confidence. This combination of strategic government spending and private-sector investments total well over $1 billion, which represent a powerful sense of faith in the Rochester's area's potential.

And this confidence rests on Rochester's most important asset – its skilled workforce. That's why partners such as RochesterWorks! play such an important role in this region's economic vitality. By creating a link to training and networking opportunities, this agency helps job seekers find employment and prevents them from moving away from the area.

Our people are the pride of Rochester. I am grateful that RochesterWorks! is doing its part to keep them here.

21,500 Job Seekers Turn to RochesterWorks! to Find Jobs – Up 21% Over Last Year

RochesterWorks! Career Centers served more than 21,500 job seekers in the 2007-08 fiscal year with new and enhanced services. The increase was accommodated despite a third consecutive year of funding cuts that totaled $2 million.

- Total visits: 66,526 (20% increase over previous year of 53,394)
- Total customers: 21,583 (21% increase over previous year of 17,151)
- Total finding employment: 7,907
- Total trained: 3,471 (job seekers and workers)
- Total recruitment events: 75

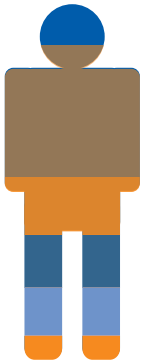
RochesterWorks! faced these significant challenges, by increasing use of technology and forging stronger partnerships with businesses, government and organizations. Enhanced services included:

- Robust Indeed job search tools featuring spidering technology, communication tools including electronic job seeker networking, LinkedIn, and the Virtual Job Fair.
- Expanded skills assessment and skill development services, including the WorkKeys System, KeyTrain and Prove It!
- Regularly connecting businesses with job seekers at the RochesterWorks! Career Center through weekly on-site open recruitment days.
- Serving more youth by partnering with the City of Rochester Summer of Opportunity Program.
- Preparing welfare recipients for jobs by cofunding programs with the Department of Human Services.
- Working closely with the Department of Labor to expand services to job seekers through Career Centers.

Gender:

Male..... 54%

Female..... 46%



Education Level:

Less than high school..... 12%

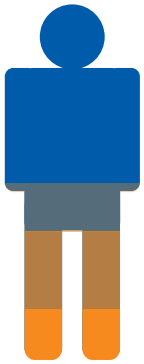
High School 37%

Some College 16%

Associate's Degree..... 18%

Bachelors Degree..... 13%

Masters or higher..... 4%



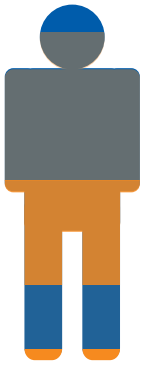
Ethnicity:

White 48%

Black/African American 34%

Other..... 10%

Hispanic..... 8%



Age:

18-21 ..... 6%

22-40 ..... 44%

41-50 ..... 27%

51-64 ..... 21%

Over 65..... 2%

Employment Status at time of service:

Unemployed 81%

Employed.....19%

Assessing and Certifying Skills Gives Job Seekers and Employers Competitive Edge

Today more than ever, people looking for work must be prepared to stand out from other candidates and document their abilities to learn new skills and keep up with changing technology. This year RochesterWorks! introduced three new assessment and skill development tools — WorkKeys, KeyTrain, and Prove It, to help job seekers better assess their skills and trainability, and increase and document skills to employers.

WorkKeys

The WorkKeys job skills assessment program measures "real world" skills that are critical to job success. The program is valuable for any occupation and at any level of education, connecting work skills, training, and testing. WorkKeys is the basis for the National Career Readiness Certificate (CRC), a career credential that certifies that job seekers have the core employability skills required across all industries and occupations. The CRC validates job applicants' skill levels in Reading for Information, Locating Information, and Applied Mathematics.

Job Seekers Assessed

Since January 2008, of 273 job seekers, 84% have attained Career Readiness Credentials; 23% attained the Gold Level, 54% attained the Silver Level, and 23% attained the Bronze Level.

Several local manufacturers are requiring the CRC as part of the job application process. In addition, local community employment and training programs are using the WorkKeys system to ensure that individuals have the foundation skills required to be successful in a particular job or career.

KeyTrain

The comprehensive KeyTrain computer-based training system was designed specifically for WorkKeys. Individuals can assess their potential WorkKeys score through pre-tests, review topics, practice problems, and increase their skills. KeyTrain is offered at no cost to RochesterWorks! members.

Prove It!

This Internet-based skills assessment program provides more than 900 tests for clerical, software, industrial, healthcare, financial and technical job classifications. It also offers 24 training tutorials for Microsoft Office 2000 – 2003 titles. Job seekers can take these objective skill assessments to enhance their resumes and cover letters, use during interviews, target skills employers are looking for, better understand specific skills to upgrade, and stand out from other candidates competing for the same positions.

Since RochesterWorks! began offering Prove It to job seekers, more than 200 people have taken advantage of the on-line tutorials to develop or improve their skills in Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, Outlook, PowerPoint, and even QuickBooks, Internet Explorer, and Windows. Close to 1000 job seekers have taken assessments to identify skills or gaps in skills.

RochesterWorks! Helps 1,800 Businesses Gain Competitive Edge

RochesterWorks! extensive services to businesses, most free of charge, are helping make Greater Rochester a premier place for employment opportunities and a rich source of talent for businesses. Serving as an extension of businesses' human resource departments, RochesterWorks! assists businesses in training, recruiting and restructuring their workforces.

In the past year RochesterWorks! served more than 1,800 businesses. More than 1,000 businesses took advantage of free job postings on RochesterWorks! Web site and almost 100 businesses participated in recruitment events sponsored by RochesterWorks!

Training grant assistance to companies in Monroe County and the Greater Rochester region supports local economic development efforts by ensuring a skilled, competitive workforce. Training achievements included:

- Total training dollars awarded: $1,683,511
- Total businesses receiving training grants: 154
- Total number of workers trained: 2,514

$1.68 Million in Training Grants Awarded

The following grants were awarded to area businesses from July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008.

CUSTOMIZED TRAINING GRANTS

Company	Trainees	Industry	Type of Training	Award Amount
Ashly Audio, Inc.	8	Manufacturing	Indrustry Specific	$5,454
Community Health Network	27	Health Care	Soft Skills	10,000
Complemar	5	Business Services	Industry Specific	3,600
East House Corporation	20	Human Services	Soft Skills	3,600
Eldre Corporation	7	Manufacturing	Computer Skills / Technical	5,361
The Feltner Group	5	Insurance	Industry Specific, Soft Skills	2,269
Heritage Christian Services	4	Human Services	Computer Skills / Technical	6,208
J Vogler Enterprise	3	Manufacturing	Industry Specific	2,250
Kriterium LLC	12	IT	Technical, Industry Specfic	21,564
My Brands, Inc.	7	Business Services	Soft Skills	2,332
Peko Precision Products Inc.	9	Manufacturing	Technical, Industry Specfic	3,125
Rockcastle Florist	10	Retail	Soft Skills	6,220
Rotenberg & Co., LLP	15	Accounting	Computer Skills / Technical	7,467
Rotork Controls, Inc.	29	Manufacturing	Computer Skills / Technical	11,371
Sterling Payment Northeast	5	Business Services	Industriy Specfic, Computer Skills	6,000
Turner Engineering	2	Engineering	Industry Specific, Technical	1,342
XLI Corporation PC	11	Precision Machining	Industry Specific	1,510
Totals	**179**			**$99,675**

ON-THE-JOB TRAINING GRANTS

Company	Trainees	Industry	Type of Training	Award Amount
AccuCoat, Inc.	1	Optical Coating Manufacturing	New Hire - Coater Operator	$1,600
HF Technologies	1	Manufacturing	New Hire - Machine Operator	2,160
HF Technologies	1	Manufacturing	New Hire - Machine Operator	1,440
Lavendar Moon Herb Gardens	1	Agriculture	New Hire - Shop Manager	3,000
Main Tire Exchange	1	Service/Manufacturing	New Hire - Tire Technician	2,160
Main Tire Exchange	1	Service/Manufacturing	New Hire - Tire Technician	2,160
Metro Circuits	1	Manufacturing	New Hire - Lamination Helper	2,280
Pascale Engineering	1	Manufacturing	New Hire - Auto Cad/CNC	2,880
Physicians Business Solutions	1	Health Care	New Hire - Account Representative	2,400
Special Care Systems, LLC	1	Service/Health Care	New Hire - Field Technician	2,160
Totals	**10**			**$22,240**

ADVANCE-NY # 25M GRANTS

Awardee	Trainees	Industry	Skill Priority	Award Amount
A. Cameron Salon and Spa	10	Other	Industry	$15,945
ABR Wholesalers	40	Business Services	Sales, Customer Service	15,000
ABVI-Goodwill	11	Not-for-Profit	Technical	6,540
AM&M Financial Services	1	Business Services	Technical	2,000
Belmardan, Inc.	2	Printing	Sales	4,000
Blue Sky Assoc Upstate NY Inc.	5	Business Services	Sales	10,000
Caldwell Manufacturing	1	Manufacturing	Technical	1,795
Center for Disability Rights	23	Not-for-Profit	Industry	7,796
Davie Kaplan	49	Finance	Industry, Technical	42,321
DeWolff Partnership Architects	15	Eng./Architecture	Technical	30,000
East Coast Electric LLC	5	Business Services	Technical	6,800
EnCompass Resources for Learning	12	Education	Industry	12,300
Family First Federal Credit Union	6	Finance	Technical	9,585
Firth Rixson	40	Manufacturing	Process Improvement	50,000
FM Resources	74	Business Services	Process Improvement	49,500
Gold Pride Press Inc.	3	Manufacturing	Industry	6,900
Hufsmith & Associates	1	Business Services	Industry	2,000
Ibero-American Action League	44	Not-for-Profit	Process Improvement	49,869
Integrity Networking Systems	5	Information Technology	Technical	5,098
KAL Tool & Die Company	47	Manufacturing	Process Improvement	23,200
Kasperski Owen & Dinam CPAs	13	Business Services	Process Improvement, Technical	15,025
KAYEX div of SPX Corp.	56	Manufacturing	Process Improvement	44,047
Kovalsky Carr Electrical Supp	26	Business Services	Technical	7,520
Lanovara Food Distributors	9	Food & Agriculture	Industry	9,322
L-Tek LLC dba Fish Window	8	Business Services	Sales	14,400
Marni Spring Corporation	5	Manufacturing	Process Improvement	9,840
McDonald Geneseo Men's Shop	5	Retail	Finance	10,000
Mengel, Metzger & Barr	55	Business Services	Process Improvement	43,290
Metalade NY, Inc.	10	Manufacturing	Process Improvement	20,000
Neelin & Sheehan	10	Business Services	Industry	12,000
The Norman Howard School	20	Education	Industry	20,008
Omni Security of Rochester Inc.	20	Business Services	Sales	30,000
Patriot Construction	5	Construction Contracting	Sales, Finance	10,000
PharmaSmart LLC	9	Mfg, Health Care	Process Improvement	14,400
Roberts Communications	31	Business Services	Technical	15,600
Rochester Eye & Human Parts	13	Healthcare	Industry	8,424
Soleo Communications	7	Business Services	Technical	13,615
Summit FCU	20	Finance	Sales	14,050
Villager Construction	25	Construction Contracting	Technical	27,503
Web Seal Inc.	17	Manufacturing	Process Improvement	27,548
Westminster Financial LLC	3	Finance	Industry	2,000
Zweigles Inc.	12	Food & Agriculture	Industry	10,008
Totals	**773**			**$729,249**

FINGER LAKES WIRED TRAINING GRANTS (Regional Nine County Awards)

Awardee	*Trainees*	*Industry*	*Type of Training*	*Award Amount*
Accede Mold & Tool	4	Adv. Manufacturing	Industry Specific	$10,000
Acro Industries	20	Adv. Manufacturing	Process Improvement	6,792
Applied Business System	2	Adv. Manufacturing	Technical	10,000
Arnold Magnetics	10	Adv Manufacturing	Industry Specific	4,182
Automotive Corporation	9	Adv Manufacturing	Technical	8,550
Bailey, Carr & Co. CPA	1	Business Services	Industry Specific	970
Barilla America	10	Adv Manufacturing	Leadership	4,117
Benefit Link LLC	2	Business Services	Technical	1,040
BlueTie	19	Information Technology	Technical	4,000
BMP America	15	Adv. Manufacturing	Process Improvement	3,930
Brabon Justice International, LLC	7	Business Services	Process Improvement	5,592
Brite Computers	20	Adv Manufacturing	Process Improvement, Technical	25,068
Casa Larga Vineyards	25	Food & Agric.	Industry Specific, Leadership	9,496
Canadaigua Quick Print	1	Business Services	Industry Specific	2,184
CatPrint	3	Business Services	Industry Specific	20,310
Clarsons Corp dba Express Press	3	Optics/Imaging	Technical	11,882
Coler Natural Insulation	1	Alternative Energy	Industry Specific	1,800
Conlon & Company	7	Business Services	Technical	5,515
Coopervision	96	Optics/Imaging	Leadership	18,911
Crane Dental Group	3	Adv Manufacturing	Industry Specific	5,375
CY Farms	35	Food/Agriculture	Leadership	6,501
D4	2	Information Technology	Industry Specific	2,197
Distech Systems	15	Advanced Manufacturing	Process Improvement	18,510
Doyle Security Systems	6	Business Services	Leadership, Technical	5,131
Flower City Printing	12	Adv. Manufacturing	Industry Specific	22,326
Finger Lakes FCU	10	Business Services	Industry Specific	1,194
Finger Lakes Technology group	2	Information Technology	Industry Specific	4,574
Fisher Associates	32	Engineering	Technical	19,277
FTT Manufacturing	28	Adv Manufacturing	Process Improvement	25,000
Garlock Sealing	29	Adv Manufacturing	Technical	11,532
Geospatial Systems	14	Optics/Imaging	Industry Specific	7,028
Harbec Plastics	47	Adv Manufacturing	Industry Specific	16,252
HCR	2	Health Care	Industry Specific	1,070
Hilltop Industries	17	Adv Manufacturing	Process Improvement	7,753
Impact Technologies	10	Engineering	Technical	8,262
Inergex, Inc	23	Information technology	Technical, Leadership	22,162
Issac Heating &AirConditioning	56	Business Services	Technical	15,500
JK Jewelry, Inc	9	Adv. Manufacturing	Leadership	6,727
JML Optical	7	Optics/Imaging	Technical	3,330
K and H Precision	7	Adv. Manufacturing	Technical	6,256
Koch Container	11	Adv Manufacturing	Industry Specific	13,617
Koike Aronson, Inc	87	Adv Manufacturing	Process Improvement	25,000
L. Woerner dba HCR	1	Health Care	Industry Specific	2,500
LaBella Associates	18	Engineering	Technical	5,140
Litron Laboratories	5	Biotech/Life Science	Industry Specific	6,300
Lumarc Computer Corp	3	Information Technology	Technical	5,650
Magnus Precision Manufacturing	10	Adv Manufacturing	Industry Specific	4,575
Mastro Graphics	38	Optics/Imaging	Technical	24,960
McAlpin Industries	2	Adv Manufacturing	Leadership	1,895
Micro Instruments Corp	16	Adv. Manufacturing	Process Improvement	11,995
Micron Industries	3	Adv Manufacturing	Industry Specific, Technical	4,650
MKS Instruments	27	Engineering	Industry Specific	12,377
Mooney Keehley	4	Adv. Manufacturing	Industry Specific	6,000
Navint Consulting	6	Information Technology	Industry Specific	8,026
Newport Corporation	41	Optics/Imaging	Process Improvement	9,678
Newtex Industries, Inc	10	Adv Manufacturing	Process Improvement, Industry Specific	4,109
Nexus ISR	6	Engineering	Industry Specific	28,838
Nothnangle Realtors	4	Business Services	Industry Specific	1,580
Optimax Systems, Inc	18	Optics/Imaging	Leadership	12,844
Partners and Napier	5	Business Services	Technical	18,222
Peko Precision Products Inc	35	Adv. Manufacturing	Process Improvement	18,539
Performance Technologies	3	InformationTechnology	Industry Specific	4,500
Pictometry International	7	Information Technology	Leadership	4,767
Precise Tool	45	Adv. Manufacturing	Industry Specific	22,171
Qualicoat, Inc	21	Adv. Manufacturing	Technical	5,808
Qualitrol, Corp	56	Adv Manufacturing	Technical, Industry Specific	17,399
Ravi Engineering	7	Engineering	Industry Specific, Technical	3,772
Rel Comm	5	Information Technology	Technical, Industry Specific	25,000
Retrotech	21	Engineering	Leadership	12,600
Rochester Chiropractic Group	6	Health Care	Industry Specific	6,058
Rochester Precision Optics,LLC	3	Optics/Imaging	Technical	1,380
SenDEC	55	Adv. Manufacturing	Industry Specific	23,660
Sheen and Shine	1	Business Services	Technical	1,192
The Feltner Group	1	Business Services	Technical	1,326
The Rochester Group	2	Information Technology	Industry Specific	5,000
Thomas Electronic	152	Adv Manufacturing	Technical, Process Improvement	23,757
Trek Inc	30	Adv Manufacturing	Process Improvement, Leadership	9,655
Ultrafab	46	Adv Manufacturing	Technical, Process Improvement	17,008
UltraLife Batteries	15	Adv Manufacturing	Industry Specific	2,700
Upstate Door, Inc	48	Adv Manufacturing	Process Improvement	8,400
USA Payroll	27	Business Services	Industry Specific	10,000
Williams & Son Heating Contractors	4	Business Services	Industry Specific, Technical	15,600
Wilmac Business Equipment	3	Information Technology	Technical	4,295
WWW Enterprise, Inc	1	Business Services	Leadership	999
XLI Corporation	5	Adv. Manufacturing	Technical, Leadership	3,123
XPS USA, Inc	3	Business Services	Industry Specific	1,750
York Animal Hospital	14	Healthcare	Industry Specific	3,636
Totals	**1552**			**$832,347**

Rochester Works!

Finding a Job Just Got Easier

Stop into one of our Career Centers or visit www.rochesterworks.org

Two Career Centers:

255 North Goodman Street
Rochester, NY 14607
585-258-3500

276 Waring Road
Rochester, NY 14609
585-266-7760

Services:

- *Resources & Online Tools for Job Seekers and Businesses*
- *Virtual Job Fairs*
- *Live Career Advisor*
- *Career Readiness Credential*
- *Hot Jobs*
- *Online Job Search*
- *Workshops*
- *Training Grants*
- *Skill Development Programs*
- *Weekly On-Site Recruitment Events*
- *Networking*

"RochesterWorks! helped me stay positive with new ideas, ways I might not have thought of to pursue my goal including refining my resumé and letting me know I wasn't alone in my search. I had professionals to rely on in my search."

— Dee

Preparing Youth for Career Success

County Executive Maggie Brooks (left) and Senator Joe Robach (right) with one of the many successful youth participants

Working together with program operators, businesses and organizations, each year RochesterWorks! helps thousands of young people prepare for, search and secure year-round and summer employment. This past year there was a huge response to all programs.

Year round Employment Programming Serves Nearly 900 Youth

Through six in-school and five out-of-school programs, youth receive support to stay in school, attain a diploma, and better prepare for college, apprenticeship and the world of work. Services include academic assistance, career awareness and exploration, structured work experience, and job search and placement assistance.

RochesterWorks! and City of Rochester Team up in Summer Employment Program

For the first time, RochesterWorks! and the City of Rochester – Summer of Opportunity Program successfully joined forces and combined resources to help local teenagers prepare for summer jobs. Together we released a single application for summer employment and offered job readiness workshops, parent orientations, and practice interviews to interested youth. The two entities also provided funding to local partners for summer jobs and programming.

More than 1,200 youth were connected to summer work opportunities. Even more were prepared for future job searches through participation in the application process. Through a partnership with Monroe County Department of Human Services and the NYS Office Temporary and Disability Assistance RochesterWorks! provided funding for 22 summer youth employment programs.
Students participated in career exploration and paid work experiences with more than 300 different private, public, and faith-based partners.
The City of Rochester added 10 employment programs and leveraged additional work sites with local business.

Digital Skills Gives Youth Paid Internships

Digital Skills is an innovative program that trains high school students in critical business and technical skills and provides them with paid internships at local companies. The rigorous program administered by RochesterWorks! was established in 2005 and is offered in conjunction with New York Wired for Education, local school districts and businesses.
A grant from NY State Senator Joe Robach helps fund the program.
Between fall 2007 and summer 2008, 60 youth participated in self-directed e-learning of online facilitated soft and technical (Microsoft) skills curriculum.
Fifty-one students took part in paid internships at 30 participating businesses. The program was a win-win for all involved.

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