

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday – Thursday
8:30am-Noon , 1:00 pm—4:00 pm
Friday
8:30 am-Noon, 1:00 pm—3:00 pm



TROTT ACCESS

CENTER

1001 ELEVENTH ST.
NIAGARA FALLS, NY 14301

Niagara County Employment and Training Business Newsletter

March 2024

NCET'S UPCOMING CAREER FAIR

We are excited to announce the kickoff of our job fair season! Niagara's WorksourceOne will be starting this year in Lockport. The Kenan Center has been generous to offer us the use of their arena located at 433 Locust Street, Lockport, NY 14094. We will be there from Noon - 3:00pm with 60 businesses in attendance!

After this event, we will be holding other outdoor Job Fairs starting June 5th (weather permitting) at Oppenheim Park in Niagara Falls. On August 7th, we will be at Day Road Park in Lockport and October 16th we will be back at Oppenheim Park. Our events have always drawn tons of businesses and job seekers! We are looking forward to seeing everyone this year! For questions on how to prepare for the event or information on participating as a business, please contact Kevin Minnick at 716-278-8246 or Kevin.Minnick@Niagaracounty.com

Bridging the Gap

With the recent announcement that Niagara County has launched the "Connect Niagara" bus service (which replaces the former Niagara Rural Transportation service), individuals who previously were unable to participate in various Employment & Training grant-related programs due to transportation limitations, will now have the opportunity to do so. In addition, Connect Niagara is also offering new routes and better connectivity, including free transfers to connecting routes and NFTA Metro buses.

"Getting to different worksites and training locations are challenges that we have heard all too frequently from individuals who are a part of our on-the-job training, classroom training, and youth work experience programs," said Donald J. Jablonski, Director of Niagara County Employment & Training. "These revised routes, along with the ease of transfers to NFTA Metro, will make it demonstrably easier for our program participants to get to their work or training sites."

Connect Niagara service is available Monday through Friday, except for legal holidays. The system is comprised of four buses that cover five routes: **Blue Route – Niagara Falls/Lockport**, **Gold Route – Lockport/Middleport/Gasport**, **Green Route – Lockport/Newfane/Barker**, **Purple Route – Lewiston/Porter/Wilson/Cambria**, **Red Route – North Tonawanda/Wheatfield/Niagara/Niagara Falls/Lewiston**

A full schedule for all bus routes and stops can be found at <https://www.niagaracounty.com/government/county-information/public-transportation-schedule.php>.

The fare for Connect Niagara is \$2.00 on route and \$4.00 off route; transfers to connecting routes and the NFTA Metro are free. Connect Niagara is operated through a partnership between Niagara County and Niagara Falls Coach Lines. To schedule a pickup, call 716-282-8544.





ON-THE-JOB TRAINING

The Employment Focused Services program is now offering an OJT program for individuals who are justice-involved. This program is designed to encourage employers to hire and train individuals with criminal backgrounds by providing financial incentives. Through this program, employers receive reimbursement varying from 75%-100% of the wages paid to these individuals during their training period. By offering this financial support, the program aims to alleviate concerns that employers may have about the potential risks or costs associated with hiring justice-involved individuals. This initiative not only promotes employment opportunities for this demographic, but also fosters economic stability and reduces the likelihood of recidivism by providing individuals with a legitimate means of earning a living. Moreover, the program contributes to breaking the cycle of incarceration and unemployment by empowering individuals with the opportunity to reintegrate into society and build a better future for themselves. For more information, please contact Jerry Cracknell at 716-278-8243 or email at Gerald.Cracknell@niagaracounty.com



SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

For anyone familiar with our Summer Youth Employment Program, we would like to announce that we have received funding to begin the program earlier this year. The program called YEP (Youth Employment Program) is currently accepting applications for any Niagara County youth between the ages of 14-20 coming from low-income families. If anyone in the household receives Family Assistance, SNAP, SSI, Medicaid or HEAP, the youth may be eligible. If not receiving any of these benefits, family income guidelines apply and can be found on the application.

We are also seeking employers to provide work for youth. Our grant allows us to pay the youth (\$15 hr) and workers comp is also covered. Employers interested in learning about becoming a worksite for this program, please call Dawn Cody at 716-278-8182 or email Dawn.Cody@niagaracounty.com.

Youth applications can be picked up in our Worksource One Center at 1001-11th St. Niagara Falls or can be found online at www.worksource1.com under Summer Youth Employment.

DEI Corner

Niagara's WorkSourceOne's Disability Resource Coordinator (DRC) helps businesses find no- or low-cost solutions to improve diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility in their workforce. This is done by creating connections to existing supports, training sessions, hiring experienced people with a disability, and/or keeping people you have invested many hours/years into who have become disabled.

Contact our DRC to see how we can help:

Marilyn Patterson, E&T Counselor, Disability Resource Coordinator
Certified Work Incentives Practitioner
Niagara's WorkSourceOne
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