

OCTOBER 2021 | ISSUE 5



Schenectady County Job Training Agency

## The business of moving forward...

Initially, we anticipated that the discontinuation of Federal Pandemic Unemployment Assistance would be a blessing for businesses struggling to hire and retain employees to continue normal operations.

Recently, we've found that businesses are needing to change recruitment tactics in order to entice job seekers whose priorities and concerns have drastically changed since the start of the pandemic. Revamping company culture and examining employee values has become key to maintaining and growing the workforce.

If your business is looking for creative solutions for recruitment and retention, please contact us and connect with our Business Services Representative today!



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# Gun Violence Prevention Initiatives

While COVID-19 has been at the forefront of everyone's mind as the greatest public health crisis we are facing - in July, the New York State Gun Violence Prevention Initiative was announced to address the epidemic of gun violence across the State.

Schenectady was identified as one of the 20 cities in New York State that have been the most impacted by gun violence and Schenectady County Connects was the recipient of funding through the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, Office of Children and Family Services, and Department of Labor to support positive youth development programming in an effort to curb gun violence.



If you or someone you know could benefit from these creative, innovative gun violence prevention programs, please contact us today at (518) 344-2737 or [SchenectadySJTA@dfa.state.ny.us](mailto:SchenectadySJTA@dfa.state.ny.us)!

## Partner Initiatives

### Ring of Hope

Boxing club offering a safe haven and support for Schenectady's youth

### Hamilton Hill Arts Center

Production of #Enough: Plays to End Gun Violence featuring Schenectady's youth

### COCOA House

Mentoring partnership with Union College for youth to tell "My Life: My Experience"

### Community Fathers

Knight Riders program providing a safe haven and support to Schenectady's youth

### Boys & Girls Clubs of Schenectady

Quiet on Set production celebrating the life of Eddie Stanley, forums with the Schenectady Police and gun violence prevention programming

... stay tuned for more exciting partnerships to come!

## Services

- **Work Experience**
  - Connection to local employers
  - Paid work experiences/internships
- **On-the-Job Training**
  - Learn the skills you'll need to succeed while working in a paid position
- **Certifications and Training**
  - Tuition assistance for credentials and training programs
- **Supportive Services for Employment**
  - Transportation
  - Childcare
  - Clothing/Uniforms
  - Technology
  - ...and more!

Let us know how we can help you!  
(518) 344-2737 | [SchenectadySJTA@dfa.state.ny.us](mailto:SchenectadySJTA@dfa.state.ny.us)

# Schenectady County Youth Bureau

In 2020, the Schenectady County Legislature made the decision to incorporate the Schenectady County Youth Bureau as part of Schenectady County Connects.

With funding from the NYS Office of Children and Family Services, Schenectady County Connects partners with local agencies that provide quality youth development programming as well as services to runaway, homeless youth.

Supporting Schenectady's youth with innovative, nurturing, and holistic approaches is integral to the continued success of these youth as adults. If you would like to learn more, or get involved with the Youth Bureau, please let us know by reaching out to (518) 344-2737 or e-mailing [SchenectadySJTA@dfa.state.ny.us](mailto:SchenectadySJTA@dfa.state.ny.us).

## 2021 Youth Bureau Partners

**Big Brothers Big Sisters**

**Boys & Girls Clubs of Schenectady**

**Girls Inc. of the Greater Capital Region**

**Hamilton Hill Arts Center**

**Jack Falvo III Foundation of Schenectady**

**miSci (Schenectady Museum Association)**

**Safe Inc. of Schenectady**

**Schoharie River Center, Inc.**

**Town of Duanesburg Recreation**

**Town of Niskayuna Youth Recreation**

**YWCA of Schenectady**



# Director's Corner

Regardless of where you get your news, the narrative is the same—the business community is struggling for the recruitment and retention of their staff. The ripple effect of not having a ready skilled workforce has been felt by each and every one of us both personally and professionally.

Businesses have had to get creative and change practices to protect, support and develop their understaffed workforce. Every day we are hearing stories from businesses that have made the workplace safer and provided compassion, support, and flexibility to families during this time of uncertainty. These kinds of people-first business strategies have helped them survive the pandemic and will offer long term dividends. I would personally like to thank each and every business that has offered supports. Please contact us if you are looking for some creative strategies to support your employees!

Jennifer Bargy  
Director of Workforce Development



## OCTOBER

World Mental Health Day on the 10th  
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National Boss's Day on the 16th  
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National Mentoring Day on the 27th

## NOVEMBER

Job Action Day on the 1st  
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Veterans Day on the 11th  
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National Entrepreneur's Day on the 16th

## DECEMBER

National Human Rights Month  
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National Resolution Planning Day on the 30th

## CONTACT INFORMATION



(518) 344-2737



SchenectadySJTA@dfa.state.ny.us



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



@SchenectadyCountyConnects