

The WorkPlace Mobilizer

»» Think it forward.

July, 2016

WE THANK OUR CONTRIBUTORS FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF WORKPLACE PROGRAMS

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Derby American Job Center Grand Opening

On July 8, The WorkPlace was joined by local leaders and community agencies for the grand opening of a new American Job Center in Derby, Connecticut. Conveniently located at 101 Elizabeth Street, the center provides a number of no cost services to Valley job seekers and employers. "This will be hugely successful," said State Representative Linda Gentile, who represents Derby and attended the ceremony. "There is a real need in the Valley. We are so happy to have you here."

As part of the American Job Center Network, this location will act as a one-stop resource for job information, training, and skill development. The center will provide services to unemployed and underemployed individuals seeking jobs and job search assistance at no cost. Employers will be able to access a number of no cost services including posting of employment opportunities on job boards, referrals of qualified job candidates from an extensive pool of clients, and labor market information.



Pictured from Left: The WorkPlace President & CEO Joseph Carbone, Regional American Job Center Director Victor Fuda, Mayor of Derby Anita Dugatto, Representative Linda Gentile, State Senator Joseph Crisco, and State Representative Theresa Conroy.

Seeking Veteran Nominations for "Service to Country and Community" Award



The WorkPlace is calling on the community to nominate a veteran who honorably served the nation and continues to add to the quality of the community. In honor of Veterans Day, we would like to gather and say thank you to a veteran who honorably served and continues to add to the quality of life in the community. On November 9th, The WorkPlace will host its annual "Service to Country and Community" Awards Ceremony at Port 5 Naval Veterans in Bridgeport, CT.

We are currently accepting nominations for veterans deserving of this special honor. The veteran's military history, their support of veteran programs and services, and contributions to civic activities and community initiatives will be considered when selecting the awardee. The nomination form can be completed online by visiting www.workplace.org. Please submit nominations by Friday, September 3rd. Questions may be directed to Sarah Lewis at slewis@workplace.org or 203-610-8496.

The WorkPlace Receives \$3.4 Million for New Initiative

The U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) recently awarded The WorkPlace \$3,432,200 to establish the first ever "Strengthening Working Families" Initiative. In conjunction with the American Job Center, this program will establish a full time child care concierge and healthcare occupation training for 600 parents with dependents under the age of 13. Participants will be trained in one of several target occupations, including nursing, radiologic technicians, pharmacy technicians, surgical technicians, home health aides, dental assistants and phlebotomists. The WorkPlace will provide academic support, case management, child care, transportation, and tuition assistance with the expectation that participants will be significantly more successful at obtaining employment in credentialed healthcare disciplines. The program will launch this October. For more information, please call 203-610-8500.

Awards Ceremony Celebrates Achievements of Individuals and Businesses

Over 60 outstanding students, graduates and professionals who participated in Southwest Connecticut's workforce system this year were honored at the WorkPlace Annual Awards Ceremony on June 23. The yearly ceremony recognizes individual accomplishments, as well as dedicated employers, volunteers and professionals.



President of Housatonic Community College Dr. Paul Broadie delivered the keynote address.

Keynote speaker Dr. Paul Broadie, President of Housatonic Community College, encouraged the audience to take their future into their own hands. "I refused to let someone else define my future. You are here tonight because you did not let anyone get in your way. Your success does not stop here. Go forward and create your future."

Joseph Carbone, CEO & President of The WorkPlace presented People's United Community Foundation with the Philanthropic Leadership Award for supporting WorkPlace communities by providing financial support for new and existing programs. "We thank you for this recognition and we are proud to remain a steadfast partner in these efforts," said Armando Goncalves, Southern Connecticut President, Peoples United Bank.



The WorkPlace CEO & President Joseph Carbone with Peoples United Community Foundation Director Karen Galbo and Armando Goncalves, President, Southern Connecticut, Peoples United Bank.

Dress for Success Holds Annual Fundraiser Toast to Success!

This May, Dress for Success Mid-Fairfield County (DFS) hosted its annual spring benefit, *Toast to Success!* in support of its mission to empower women to achieve economic independence.



Over 100 guests and participants enjoyed an elegant spring evening complete with hors d'oeuvres, wine tastings, a silent auction, and live music. Local celebrities including State Senator Tony Hwang, Channel 12 Newscaster Kylee Knoles, and WEBE 108's Beth Foster modeled



spring fashions from Talbots and Darien Sports Shop.

Throughout the evening, guests had the opportunity to hear first hand how Dress for Success Mid-Fairfield County affects the lives of women. "I would like to thank all of you for your continued support that has

helped keep this program possible" said Marianne Voss, a member of the Professional Women's Group who attended the event. "You are helping the women in Fairfield County by giving them the confidence to re-enter the workforce and succeed."

The evening was made possible by the generous support of a number of local sponsors including Connecticut Community Bank, Xerox Foundation, Bic, Aquarion Water Company, Frontier Communications, MPI, People's United Bank and Bigelow Tea.

Photo Credits: Dennis Bradbury

Youth Summer Earn and Learn Program Begins

Over 400 youth are participating in YouthWorks Summer Earn and Learn Program this year. Participants complete a comprehensive workplace readiness training and are then placed at employer worksites for 20 hours a week during July and August. The program offers an opportunity for youth to earn wages while gaining valuable work experience and exploring different occupational paths.



Visit Us

The WorkPlace

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americanjobcenter

Locations:
Bridgeport Ansonia
Derby Stamford
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Upcoming Events

The WorkPlace Board of Directors Meeting

September 16, 2016, 8:15am
Housatonic Community College, Beacon Hall

Service to Country and Community Awards

November 9th, 5:30pm
Port 5 Naval Veterans