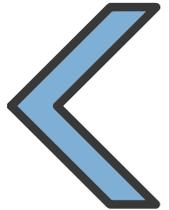


Career Resources & News for Businesses and Job Seekers in Hunterdon and Somerset Counties

Fall Healthcare Recruitment Set at Hunterdon Chamber



Dozens of jobs available right now at healthcare businesses in Hunterdon and Somerset counties will be featured at a Thursday, September 25, in-person Multi-Employer Healthcare Recruitment Event.

This focused career fair, presented by the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development and the Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board (GRWDB), will be conducted from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce Center for Business & Entrepreneurship, 119 Main St. Flemington.



GRWDB Builds A Stronger Community

Every September, the GRWDB and the 350 Workforce Development Boards around the nation celebrate National Workforce Development Month. This is a time to recognize the power of workforce development to connect people to opportunity, help businesses grow, and strengthen our communities.

This month is our opportunity to raise awareness, build stronger partnerships, and demonstrate why workforce development matters. We align local business and talent needs and share that information with our job seekers. We oversee the local American Job Center (One-Stop Career Center to manager workforce services. We invest in training funding - more than \$4 million this program year - toward high-demand skills development, apprenticeship and upskilling opportunities for job seekers and current workers.

Please read this newsletter to learn more and then go to Page 4 to see how to get involved.

The employers schedule to be there are: Anita's Angels, ArchAngel Services, Bridge-way Senior Health-care, BrightStar Care of Hunterdon, Foothill Acres Rehabilitation and Nursing Center, Hackensack Meridian Health, Hunterdon Medical Center, New Jersey Eastern Star Rehabilitation & Nursing, Right at Home, Somerset County Office on Aging & Disability Services, The COR Behavioral Group - Zuffall Health.

WATCH THIS VIDEO

Registration is strongly encouraged; those who pre-register may be considered for pre-scheduled on-site interviews being conducted by some of the participating employers. To be considered for an interview, please register using the QR code in **this flyer** or this link: <https://bit.ly/4mrwjWK>. The registration form includes an updated list of employers, and instructions for resume sharing to be considered for the on-site interviews will accompany registration confirmation. Walk-ins are welcome but on-site interviews may not be possible.

See Multi-Employer Job Fair, Page 2

Multi-Employer Job Fair

From Page 1

Employers will be available for informational discussions and more. In addition, resource tables will feature information on programs and services available in Hunterdon County.

To help prepare for the event, attendees are invited to How to Thrive During Transition and Change, a virtual workshop, running from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Thursday, September 18. Times of transition hold challenges and opportunities. The strategies and philosophies that will be presented in this workshop provide tools that are designed to help participants achieve their personal best professionally and personally.

Job Seekers Are Invited to Attend This Virtual Career Workshop:

HOW TO THRIVE DURING TRANSITION AND CHANGE

Times of transition hold both challenges and opportunities. What are you really committed to in this moment?
 Tony Robbins once said, "Quality questions create a quality life."
 • Is your behavior consistent with what you are committed to?
 • Are you present and engaged in your own life?
 • Are you satisfied with your choices?
 • Would you like to make better choices in the future?

Our life is made up of decisions. When we ask the right questions it helps them our awareness and allows us to see more clearly. The strategies and philosophies that will be presented in this workshop provide attendees with tools that self-empower. The workshop is designed to help you achieve your personal best professionally and personally. It's a point of view that is based on choice. Self-empowerment leads our unconscious mind to make conscious choices that allow us to be successful.

Thursday, September 18, 2025
 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
 SPEAKER:
 Jan Goodman
 Certified Workforce Development Professional,
 Greater Raritan One-Stop Career Training Center

Registration for the workshop is required. Register at <https://bit.ly/4vj3A1> or by using the QR code. This workshop is being presented in conjunction with the Greater Raritan One-Stop Healthcare Industry Multi-Employer Recruitment Event being conducted from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Thursday, September 25, 2025, at the Hunterdon County Chamber of Commerce, 119 Main St., Flemington. For more information on this Recruitment Event, please click here.

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The event, will be presented by Jan Goodman, a certified workforce development professional for the Greater Raritan One-Stop Career Training Services Center. While this workshop is connected to the September 25 event, it is open to all job seekers, and registration is required. To register, go to <https://bit.ly/4vj3A1> or use the QR code in **this flyer**. For questions about either event, email info@thegrwdb.org or call 908-541-5790.

Events and More Events!

As we head toward autumn career events are starting to fall into place. In addition to our September 18 and 25 Recruitment Events and the OPG sessions at right, here are some highlights from our **website calendar**: Click on the dates for more details.

- **September 3:** Walk-in Wednesdays at Trident Marine
- **September 4 and October 2:** Free Forklift Class at Greater Raritan One-Stop Career Center in Somerville
- **September 11:** Creative Connections: Fun With Fish – A new monthly program for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities being hosted at the Hunterdon County Library
- **September 25:** Creating A Dynamic Job Portfolio with Certified Workforce Development Professional Jan Goodman
- **October 2:** Aligning Your Natural Abilities with Multiple Natures, also led by Goodman
- **October 7:** An Introduction to GRWDB Services, the first in an in-person career workshop series at the Hunterdon County Library.
- **October 16:** Separate Veterans Resources and Jobs Events in Hunterdon County and Somerset County.

Go here for more information, and keep checking the calendar for more events and programs since the calendar is updated weekly. Better yet, bookmark it on your desktop or digital device.

**YOUR OPPORTUNITY AWAITS:
 GET CERTIFIED MANUFACTURING
 ASSOCIATE and
 OSHA-10 CERTIFICATES**

DEVELOP THE SKILLS NEEDED FOR A MANUFACTURING CAREER AT NO COST TO YOU!

The Greater Raritan Workforce Development Board and the New Jersey Manufacturing Extension Program are collaborating on a New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development Opportunity Partnership Grant that provides free online training in manufacturing. The OPG program allows eligible residents of Hunterdon and Somerset Counties to get an OSHA-10 certificate in safety standards, and receive a certification for Certified Manufacturing Associate in fundamental production know-how. The 12-hour OSHA online class and the 25- to 30-hour online training program from Tooling U-SME introduce basic concepts in the areas needed to begin a successful entry-level manufacturing career, including as an assembler and production laborer.

WHAT IS INVOLVED
 The OPG Program is designed for dislocated workers and underemployed individuals who are interested in starting a new manufacturing career. Applicants will work with the OPG Coordinator and the Greater Raritan One-Stop Career Center to complete eligibility documentation. Approved students will receive instruction and progress through cohorts directly from an instructor providing the teachings for the credential. The courses are accessible anytime, anywhere and will be supported by in-person assistance. Those who complete the program will be prepared for interviews with companies being in Hunterdon and Somerset Counties.

HOW TO GET STARTED IN THE OPG PROGRAM
 Join Nekishia Brown, the OPG Program Coordinator, for Virtual Information Program Orientations at 11 a.m. Wednesdays from September 3 through October 1. Click here for details or use this QR code.
 For assistance, email nbrown@co.somerset.nj.us or call 908-203-6047.

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Get Free Training

The GRWDB and the New Jersey Manufacturing Extension Program are collaborating on a New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development Opportunity Partnership Grant that provides free online training in manufacturing.

Hunterdon and Somerset County residents are invited to learn more by joining one in a series of OPG Manufacturing Program Information The sessions will be conducted at 11 a.m. September 3, September 10, September 17, September 24 and October 1, virtually and in-person at the GRWDB office at 27 Warren St., Somerville.

The GRWDB OPG Program is designed for dislocated workers and underemployed individuals who are interested in starting a new manufacturing career. The program allows eligible participants to get an OSHA-10 certificate in safety standards and receive a certification for Certified Manufacturing Associate in fundamental production know-how. The 12-hour OSHA online class and the 25- to 30-hour online training program from Tooling U-SME introduce basic concepts in the areas needed to begin a successful entry-level manufacturing career.

Information sessions began in April for this new initiative, and the first cohort of eight trainees completed the training in July. A second cohort will begin in early September, and a third cohort will start later in the fall. In all, 30 slots are available. Applicants will work with the OPG Coordinator to complete eligibility papers. After approved for the training, credential instruction will be provided in cohorts.

To join, the session virtually, go to <https://meet.goto.com/337366277> on the day event. For assistance on joining an orientation session or to get started immediately on the application process, contact OPG Program Coordinator Nekishia Brown at nbrown@co.somerset.nj.us or call 908-203-6047.

Summer Youth Work Experience Program continues to grow

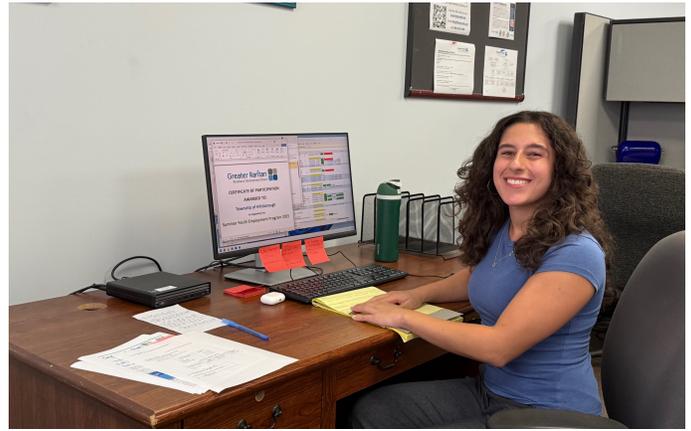
Now in its sixth year, Greater Raritan's Summer Youth Work Experience Program has given young people from Hunterdon and Somerset counties opportunities to get real-world skills while supporting local employers.

In 2025, 94 youth participants are finishing up their experiences up from 83 in 2024. Participants began from late May to early July, and all will be done by mid-September. They worked with 36 employers in a range of industries and organizations.

For this year's program, each participant was required to complete up to 180 hours of on-site work and 20 hours of job-readiness training. Participants receive a \$17/hour tax-free stipend totaling up to \$3,400.00 based upon their completed hours. The job-readiness training hours included an hour orientation, a two-hour in-person program and a one-hour virtual job coaching session provided by training consultant Jean Trujillo, and 16 hours of online course work on SkillUp Metrix Learning designed for the program.

This year's employers include several divisions from Somerset County government: Information Technology Department, Clerk's Office, the Clerk of the Board Commissioners Office, Administrator's Office, Prosecutor's Office, Public Works Office, Human Resources, Volunteer Services, Health Department, and 4-H.

Other employers are Adult Day Center of Somerset County, Assemblyman Erik Peterson's Office, Aurora Kitchens & Design, Bernardsville Library, Franklin Grace Resource Center, Greater Somerset County YMCA, Hillsborough Township, America's Grow-A-Row, Hunterdon Chamber of Commerce, Hunterdon Vocational School District, the JCC, of Somerset, Hunterdon and Warren Counties, LK Tutor Pros, Montgomery Township, Somerset Community Action Program, WeBBits, Emergi-Clean, Sounds of Tomorrow Academy, Feeding Hands, Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission, Readington Township, Vision Development Group, and Visions and Pathways.



Gabriella Cardoso of North Plainfield was a Summer Youth Work Experience participant in 2024, placed in the Somerset County Clerk of the Board Office. This year, she was hired to be the Navigator for the 2025 cohort, assisting in outreaching to and gathering information from the 94 participants. Cardoso is studying pre-law at Seton Hall.

The employers are in the process of completing performance evaluations. Overwhelmingly the youth were successful in their work experience, while the employers felt participant input was positive for their organizations. Seven program participants were placed at the Franklin-Township based Sounds of Tomorrow Academy, which specializes in audio engineering, artist development, videography, and podcasting.

As part of their experience, participants facilitated a vending table at the August Franklin Township Night Out event, allowing them to engage with the community while put their marketing skills into practice. In addition to running the table, some participants performed at the event while others created a video showcasing their videography, editing, music production, and audio design skills.

CLICK HERE TO WATCH THE VIDEO

"Our events and training are designed to be collaborative and collective, ensuring every participant experiences multiple aspects of the creative process while also developing critical STEM-related skills," said Fatimah J. Littlejohn, the agency's strategic operations and program director. "Thank you for your continued support in providing opportunities that help our students grow and shine in real-world settings."

Jeanne Cassano

Summer Youth Work Experience Program Coordinator

Greater Raritan One-Stop Career Center details

The Somerville Greater Raritan One-Stop Career Center Employment Services office and the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS) office at 75 Veterans Memorial Blvd. are open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, excluding state holidays. For Employment Services, call 908-704-3000. For DVRS, call 908-704-3030. To set an appointment, use this form.

Watch Greater Raritan One-Stop Career Center Video - English ***Watch Greater Raritan One-Stop Career Center Video - Spanish***

The Flemington Greater Raritan One-Stop Career Center at 8 Bartles Corner Road (new location!) is open for walk-in services 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Wednesday, and by appointment on Thursday and Friday, as well as phone and virtual services, excluding county holidays. Call 908-541-5780; email onestop@co.somerset.nj.us.

One-Stop Operator Update

GREATER RARITAN ONE-STOP CO-ENROLLMENT MATRIX

GREATER RARITAN WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD (GRWDB)

CUSTOMER ENTRY INFO ONE-STOP SYSTEM

MAIN CO-ENROLLMENT OPTIONS

ADDITIONAL CO-ENROLLMENT OPTIONS

As we continue our commitment to supporting job seekers in their career journeys, we are excited to share key updates designed to enhance the services and resources available to partners and those we serve.

In July, we introduced a co-enrollment matrix, that encompasses all Greater Raritan One-Stop partners, detailing the range of services and resources they offer. This tool equips our case managers and navigators to better guide and encourage co-enrollment opportunities, ensuring that those being served have access to the support necessary for career growth. The matrix, above, is linked on the GRWDB Partners website page and includes links to websites for the various highlighted services.

The matrix is designed to be a living resource and will be updated as needed to reflect new partners and changes in services.

Additionally, we are updating our partner Memorandums of Understanding (MOU). A July meeting with our partners allowed us to gather valuable feedback and explore the possibility of welcoming new partners into our system. This collaborative effort ensures that our support network remains dynamic, responsive, and tailored to the evolving needs of our job seekers. The current MOU, developed in 2023, is available here on the GRWDB website, and the revised MOU will be posted by the beginning of October.

We encourage other local and regional service agencies to consider enrolling in the Greater Raritan One-Stop system, where a dedicated team and a robust network of resources are ready to work together to support the career aspirations of residents and businesses and bring economic opportunity to Hunterdon and Somerset Counties.

Fernandel Almonor, falmonor@co.somerset.nj.us

Fall Literacy classes are set

Fall classes are beginning in October for First Steps Basic English, a free English-language earning program for residents of Somerset County. The program, funded by the Somerset County Board of Commissioners through American Rescue Plan, funds is part of the free adult literacy programs for English-language learners in Hunterdon and Somerset Counties.

First Steps Basic English has served 383 individuals since being launched as a pilot in September 2023. For the fall, classes and small group instruction will be offered in Bernardsville, Bound Brook, Franklin Township, Hillsborough, Manville, North Plainfield, Raritan Borough and Somerville, as well as on Zoom. Classes are run by partners from the Literacy Volunteers of Somerset County, Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission and Raritan Valley Community College. Additional ARP funding allocated by the Somerset County Commissioners will allow the program to continue through 2026.

For more information, on Local Area Literacy Services, click here.

Thanks for reading!

Past issues of the GRWDB newsletter can be found on the **Events - Stay Informed** tab of www.thegrwdb.org. Follow the GRWDB on Facebook, and LinkedIn, and be sure to bookmark the **Events-Calendar** tab. All board and committee meetings are open to the public; go **here** for the schedule and meeting packages. Community members are welcomed to contact us with their questions and ideas. In addition, we are happy to meet with any business, community agency or public body in Hunterdon and Somerset counties to explain how system services work. **Contact Director Paul Grzella to get on a weekly Resources email list, and sign up for Greater Raritan's weekly (and very convenient!) text alert service by texting OneStop to 908-460-8144.**

- Paul Grzella**, Director, 908-203-6044, grzella@co.somerset.nj.us
- Chika Okoye**, Business Manager, 908-541-5723, cokoye@co.somerset.nj.us
- Jeanne Cassano**, Contract Compliance and Community Engagement Specialist, 908-541-5785, jcassano@co.somerset.nj.us
- Nekishia Brown**, OPG Coordinator, 908-203-6047, nbrown@co.somerset.nj.us

