

Career Start opens new offices

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Career Start LLC, a pilot program for the Monroe County Department of Human Services, officially opened its new offices at on St. Paul Street on Monday.

Career Start is a private employment firm designed to assist job seekers making the transition from public assistance into the work force.

"Career Start has become an exceptional community resource to both employers and the applicants we place by helping qualified people move from unemployment to the work force," President Lindsay Taliento said in a statement.

"Our placement numbers continue to rise and we are excited and optimistic about the opportunities our new facility will afford our clients. I am truly thankful to Monroe County for their guidance and partnership."

The facility is equipped with a 16-person computer lab designed for career training and job searching, a clothing center where clients can select interview attire, and space for employee interviews and job fairs.

Established in 2007, Career Start has added contracts with the Catholic Family Center Reentry Program, the U.S. Parole Office and the state Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, officials said.

Career Start's employer partners include the University of Rochester, ARC of Monroe, Unity Health System and Diamond Packaging. It placed 600 public assistance recipients into full-time employment in 2009, officials said.

"Career Start is an excellent example of community collaboration and a valuable public-private partnership that achieves one of our top goals: to help people find good jobs," Monroe County Executive Maggie Brooks said in the statement. "Career Start has been tremendously successful in helping residents achieve self-sufficiency and independence while saving taxpayer dollars."

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