

RCTC Report August 2010

RCTC

Registration for Term I continues through August 27. There are 43 classes offered in this start-up term, which includes the new Pharmacy Tech, Calligraphy, and Food Safety Certification classes.

From July 6 to August 19, we provided basic weld training for ex-offenders with funding from the Second Chance Act. Seven individuals successfully completed this training provided by our instructor, Glenn Huggler. It was a positive experience for all and we hope we can be of help again in the near future.

RCTC will be present at the Erie CareerFair 2010 held on August 25 at the Bayfront Convention Center. We're looking forward to getting the word out about our classes and programs.

Mary Ellen would like to extend a big thank you to Linda Harpst, Patti Heubel, Pam Lasher, and Susan Tatalone for their services while the RCTC staff has been out.

New Choices Career Development

In 2009-10, 50 individuals completed the New Choices program. Of those, 21 entered training in the RCTC programs and 11 began employment (as of June).

New Choices was included in the State Budget for 2010-11. This year's allocation is about 18% less than last year. Given the reductions, it appears there may be program closings in some areas of the state while others work out creative ways to continue services. We have submitted a new budget and Grant Agreement form to Labor & Industry and will begin our program in September.

We have the addition of the WANTO grant (Women in Apprenticeship and Non-traditional Occupations). A meeting was held at the Greater PA Carpenter Union Training facility in Pittsburgh on August 17. Lucia Bruce, Region III Director of the Women's Bureau in the US Department of Labor, was on hand to give us the history and overview of this project. Erie will recruit and prepare 15 to 17 women in each of the next two years for apprenticeship or other nontraditional employment, including green jobs.