

CAREER CENTER NEWS

FALL 2025

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NOVEMBER IS NATIONAL CAREER DEVELOPMENT MONTH!

It's a month dedicated to exploring growth opportunities, building skills, and thinking about your next career steps. Career development isn't just about changing jobs—it's about reflecting on your strengths, setting goals, and finding ways to grow professionally.

Warren County Workforce Team at NYATEP Conference

Some of our team attended the New York Association of Training & Employment Professionals (NYATEP) Conference, exchanging ideas, exploring new workforce strategies, and bringing back innovative approaches to support Warren County's workforce!



BOOST YOUR SKILLS AND EXPLORE NEW OPPORTUNITIES!

Our free online career development sessions provide practical tools to strengthen your skills, advance your career, and expand your potential. To find the schedule and register, visit:

<https://tinyurl.com/gcrnov25>



WARREN COUNTY'S HOSPITALITY & TOURISM WORKFORCE CELEBRATION



This summer, Warren County's hospitality and tourism workforce rose to the challenge during another busy season—and it was time to celebrate! Warren County Workforce Development partnered with the Lake George Steamboat Company to host an evening of fun and recognition for employees working in retail, hospitality, and tourism. More than 350 hospitality workers attended, representing 78 local businesses across the region. With DJ Young Pete spinning tunes, the night was full of energy, laughter, and community spirit. Supervisors and managers nominated standout employees for awards in categories like Customer Service, Sales, Team Spirit, Patience, Leadership, and Cross-Promotion of the Region. Winners were announced by the Director of Warren County Workforce Development, who also distributed certificates and prizes.

Shoutout to these generous local businesses who contributed a variety of prizes, including gift certificates, admission tickets, overnight stays, and gift baskets!

Adirondack Pub & Brewery
Warrensburg Courtyard Marriot
J.Crew
Spruce Hospitality
Home2 Suites by Hilton
WIAWAKA Center for Women
Lake George Lanes & Games
The Lakeside Restaurant & Lounge
Lake George Steamboat Company
Marine Village Resort
The Inn at Erlowest
Six Merrell
Riley's Lake George
Great Escape Lodge & Indoor Waterpark
Flags
Sperry Morgan & Company
Gap Outlet
Downtown Social
Scotty's Lakeside Resort
Revolution Rail
The Kitch A Vibe
Candy Space
The Sagamore
Park & Elm
The Queensbury Hotel
The Oscar's Smokehouse
Coastal Society
Nemer Ford
Warren County Tourism
Golden Monkey
Charlie's Bar & Kitchen
Entertainment



LOCAL YOUTH GAIN VALUABLE WORK EXPERIENCE THIS SUMMER



Seventeen local youth were celebrated this August for their outstanding efforts in Warren County's Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP)—a six-week initiative that connects young people to paid work experiences while helping them build essential job and life skills.

This year's participants, ages 14–20, worked at a variety of local businesses, nonprofits, and municipalities across the county, including Oscar's Smokehouse, Romeo Toyota, The Georgian Lakeside Resort, and Operation Food Chain, among others. From preparing meals and assisting customers to organizing inventory and supporting office operations, each youth played a valuable role in keeping workplaces running smoothly during the busy summer season.

CELEBRATION & RECOGNITION

The celebration, held at Crandall Park in Glens Falls, brought together youth workers, employers, local leaders, and Warren County staff for a well-deserved afternoon of recognition and appreciation. Awards were given for excellence in categories such as teamwork, perseverance, respect, and perfect attendance. Attendees included members of the Warren County Board of Supervisors and Assemblyman Matthew Simpson, whom presented the Employee of the Summer award to Brianna Dunning of Warrensburg for her exceptional work at Oscar's Smokehouse.

Generous local businesses contributed prizes including gift certificates, admission tickets, and overnight stays, helping make the event even more special. These wonderful businesses donated to support the celebration.

At least two youth were offered permanent positions by their worksites after the program concluded, highlighting the lasting impact of this summer experience.



BUILDING SKILLS, CONFIDENCE & CAREER READINESS

Beyond earning a paycheck, participants gained hands-on experience, learned workplace expectations, and developed skills in teamwork, communication, and responsibility—many experiencing the workforce for the very first time. At least two youth were offered permanent positions by their worksite after the program concluded. The program truly provided a foundation for career exploration and personal growth.

HIGHLIGHTS & HAPPENINGS

CAREER CENTER WELCOMES SPECIAL OLYMPICS NY LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

The Career Center was honored to welcome members of the Special Olympics New York Athlete Leadership Council (ALC) to Glens Falls ahead of this year's games. The group arrived early to take part in professional development workshops focused on leadership growth.

While in Glens Falls, the Council met with Gayle Mender, Employment Counselor with the Career Center, at The Queensbury Hotel to explore effective interview techniques and communication strategies. The interactive session provided practical tools for future employment opportunities and encouraged athletes to share their personal goals and experiences.

Reflecting on the experience, Gayle said, "This is an energetic and responsive group to work with. Their excitement for life is contagious!"

NEW YORK'S MINIMUM WAGE INCREASING TO \$16 AN HOUR

Beginning January 1, 2025, New York State's minimum wage will increase to \$16.00 per hour. This statewide adjustment is part of New York's continued effort to ensure fair pay and help workers keep up with rising living costs.

The increase applies to most employees across the state and is part of a multi-year plan to make gradual, predictable wage adjustments. Employers are encouraged to review payroll and update employee wages ahead of the new year to stay in compliance.

This change reflects New York's commitment to supporting working individuals and strengthening the state's economy through fair compensation.

DID YOU KNOW?

The very first Thanksgiving feast in 1621 lasted three days — and turkey wasn't even the main dish? Historians say it featured venison, seafood, and plenty of seasonal veggies. While our menus have changed, the spirit of Thanksgiving remains the same — a time to pause, reflect, and show gratitude for the people and opportunities that make a difference in our lives.

As we head into the holiday season, let's take a moment to celebrate community, connection, and all we've accomplished together this year.



COLLEGE INTERNS MAKE AN IMPACT

This semester, several talented college interns joined the Warren County Department of Workforce Development and gained real-world experience while serving our community. They were placed at the Warren County Board of Elections, Warren County Treasures, and ARCC (Adirondack Regional Chamber of Commerce), working on a variety of meaningful tasks and learning the behind-the-scenes of public service and nonprofit operations. Each intern brought fresh ideas, enthusiasm, and a willingness to learn — helping us deliver services more effectively while earning valuable skills themselves. We're proud of their hard work and excited to see where their next chapters lead!



"This internship showed me the power of collaboration and how much I thrive in a team that works together with respect and dedication."
— Angelina

Angelina wrapped up her internship with the Board of Elections, calling it a rewarding experience. She thrived in the team environment, contributed to the Primary and General Elections, and gained hands-on experience in election work. Along the way, she built new skills, made meaningful connections, and witnessed the dedication of public servants who made her internship unforgettable.