

# Employment Specialists Erie County

## Aspire of WNY

2495 Main St.  
Buffalo, NY 14214

**Website:** [www.aspirewny.org](http://www.aspirewny.org)

**Contact:** Cynthia Taylor  
Coordinator of Career Services  
(716) 836-7235

**E-mail:** [cynthia.taylor@aspirewny.org](mailto:cynthia.taylor@aspirewny.org)

We provide consultation and supports for any employer interested in hiring or who has hired a person with a developmental disability. We can help the employer in hiring, orienting and supporting staff to help build the relationship as well as independence in the workplace. Our coaches are available for long term or immediate needs to help the employee with developmental disabilities in being a better employee.

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## Cantalician Center for Learning

665 Hertel Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14207

**Website:** [www.Cantalician.org](http://www.Cantalician.org)

**Contact:** Jeffrey J. Miller  
Coordinator of Community Based Programs  
(716) 874-0913, ext. 214

**E-mail:** [JMiller@Cantalician.org](mailto:JMiller@Cantalician.org)

Enhanced Supported Employment. Work Readiness Training. Mobile Work Crew. We also provide assistance to individuals seeking to apply for VESID Services through five monthly orientation sessions scheduled at community-based sites.

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## Claddagh Commission Inc

7030 Erie Road  
Derby, NY 14047

**Contact:** Susan Hoff  
QMRP  
(716) 549-6495 x 313

**E-mail:** [Susan.Hoff@claddaghcomm.org](mailto:Susan.Hoff@claddaghcomm.org)

## Community Services for the Developmentally Disabled, Inc.

180 Oak Street  
Buffalo, NY 14211

**Website:** [www.csdd.info](http://www.csdd.info)

**Contact:** Richard Oakley  
SEMP Manager  
(716) 896-2180

**E-mail:** [roakley@csdd.net](mailto:roakley@csdd.net)

Our Job Developers work with employers to understand their employment needs, building partnerships and providing employees that meet those needs. Job candidates are taken through an assessment process to identify areas of employment where they will be successful. Once hired our Job Coach stays with the employee to ensure they are well trained and working to the satisfaction of the employer. We do regular follow up visits to check the status and success of the employee. Our staff is available by phone or email to respond to any needs. Our goal is to help employers and employees reach their goals.

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## Heritage Centers

d.b.a. Allentown Industries

101 Oak Street  
Buffalo, NY 14203

**Website:** [www.heritagecenters.org](http://www.heritagecenters.org)

**Contact:** Shelly Ralyea  
Supervisor of Community Employment Programs  
(716) 856-4202 ex. 287

**E-mail:** [sralyea@heritagecenters.org](mailto:sralyea@heritagecenters.org)

Pre-screening, Pre-assessment, and on the job training and support which includes job coaching at the job site. Training on-going as needed to support the individual. Re-training as needed.

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## Learning Disabilities Association of WNY

2555 Elmwood Avenue  
Kenmore, NY 14217

**Website:** [www.ldaofwny.org](http://www.ldaofwny.org)

**Contact:** AnnMarie Rodriguez  
Director of Community Employment Services  
(716) 874-7200 ext. 168

**E-mail:** [arodriguez@ldaofwny.org](mailto:arodriguez@ldaofwny.org)

# Employment Specialists Erie County

**Opportunities Unlimited of Niagara  
d.b.a. Partners in Employment**  
1555 Factory Outlet Blvd  
P.O. Box 360  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

**Website:** [www.opportunitiesunlimited.org](http://www.opportunitiesunlimited.org)

**Contact:** Kim Wagner  
Supported Employment Manager  
(716) 297-6400 ext 354

**E-mail:** [kwagner@opportunitieslimited.org](mailto:kwagner@opportunitieslimited.org)

We provide a complete job match that matches up the correct person whom is interested in working your specific job. A job Coach is provided to assist you with training and acts as a liaison between your supervisor and the new person hired. Past practices collaborates the notion that a person with a disability who wants to work will be a great employee being dependable and reliable in their work place setting.

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## People Inc.

1219 North Forest Road  
Williamsville, NY 14231

**Website:** [www.people-inc.org](http://www.people-inc.org)

**Contact:** Jim Scutt  
Assistant Director  
716-817-5753

**E-mail:** [jscutt@people-inc.org](mailto:jscutt@people-inc.org)

or

William Schultz  
Program Director  
(716) 817-5752

**E-mail:** [bschultz@people-inc.org](mailto:bschultz@people-inc.org)

As it relates to employment, People Inc. has a variety of creative options that accommodate almost anyone interested in employment, these options range from traditional "Supported Employment" to self-employment through our Microenterprise SEMP program called "Learning Independence through Enterprise" (LITE), and many options in between. In addition to providing employment services through the traditional VESID and OMRDD waiver paths, People Inc. actively provides options through the Enhanced Supported Employment (ESEMP), Employment and Training program (ETP), People Inc. Vending Opportunities and Training, PIVOT, Museum of Disability History, Ticket to Work initiative, School to Work Transition programs and LITE.

## Phoenix Frontier Inc.

100 Leroy Avenue  
Buffalo, NY 14214

**Website:** [www.phonixfrontier.org](http://www.phonixfrontier.org)

**Contact:** Ruth Rimbeck  
Coordinator of Employment and Training  
(716) 833-3231 ext 232

**E-mail:** [rrimbeck@phoenixfrontier.org](mailto:rrimbeck@phoenixfrontier.org)

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## Rivershore, Inc.

765 Cayuga Street  
Lewiston, NY 14092

**Website:** [www.rivershore.org](http://www.rivershore.org)

**Contact:** Tammy Truesdale  
Employment Program Supervisor  
(716) 754-8323 x10

**E-mail:** [ttruesdale@rivershore.org](mailto:ttruesdale@rivershore.org)

Rivershore works with businesses in the greater Niagara area to create solutions for their workforce needs. We match employees with jobs that best fit their interests and skills, and our Employment Specialists will design a job-placement and on-site training plan to maximize natural supports and facilitate long-term employment success. All employers are eligible to take advantage of federal and state tax credits (WOTC & WETC).

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## Southeast Works

181 Lincoln Street  
Depew, NY 14043

**Website:** [www.southeast-works.org](http://www.southeast-works.org)

**Contact:** Lani Churley  
Director, Work and Business  
(716) 683-7100 x203

**E-mail:** [lchurley@se-works.org](mailto:lchurley@se-works.org)

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## Suburban Adult Services, Inc.

960 West Maple Court  
Elma, NY 14059

**Website:** [www.sasinc.org](http://www.sasinc.org)

**Contact:** Joseph Barrick  
Coordinator of Community Employment Programs  
(716) 674-6582

**E-mail:** [jbarrick@sasinc.org](mailto:jbarrick@sasinc.org)

Providing employers with qualified, dedicated employees is the goal of our program. This can be accomplished through individual or small group placements, mobile crews or internships. Whatever option(s) an employer chooses, our staff are trained to provide the supports that will ensure immediate and long term success.

# Employment Specialists Erie County

## Summit Educational Resources

150 Stahl Road  
Getzville, NY 14226

**Website:** [www.summited.org](http://www.summited.org)

**Contact:** Rebecca Tedesco  
Habilitation Coordinator  
(716) 799-8158

**E-mail:** [rtedesco@summited.org](mailto:rtedesco@summited.org)

Summit provides support to employers thru offering job development and coaching to individuals who are enrolled in our Support Employment Program.

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## VESID Buffalo District Office

**Website:** <http://www.vesid.nysed.gov/employers/>

**Contact:** Dennis Martinez  
Regional Marketing Coordinator  
Western Region  
(716) 848-8015

**E-mail:** [dmartine@mail.nysed.gov](mailto:dmartine@mail.nysed.gov)

Or

**Contact:** Mary Trzcinski  
Regional Marketing Coordinator  
Western Region  
(716) 848-8071

**E-mail:** [mtrzcins@mail.nysed.gov](mailto:mtrzcins@mail.nysed.gov)

No Cost Business Services:

- Pre-employment services - connecting future employees with companies through internships, mentoring and training that is customized to the business need.
  - Recruitment and referral of qualified applicants.
  - Staff training on disability awareness, the ADA, other employment laws including topics related to workplace accommodations and assistive technology in the workplace.
  - Diversity program strategies that support inclusion of people with disabilities as customers and employees.
  - Retention programs to support employees who develop or acquire a disability.
  - Financial supports including access to tax credits and/or deductions available for hiring or accommodating people with disabilities.
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## UCPA of Niagara County, Inc.

**Niagara Cerebral Palsy**  
9812 Lockport Road  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

**Website:** [www.niagaracp.org](http://www.niagaracp.org)

**Contact:** Michael J. Marra  
Job Placement Coordinator  
(716) 284-6441

**E-mail:** [mmarra@niagaracp.org](mailto:mmarra@niagaracp.org)

Niagara Cerebral Palsy offers on-site job coaching services as well as assisting employers in obtaining all relevant tax credits.

## Western New York DDSO

**Universal Industries**  
1200 East & West Road  
West Seneca, NY 14224

**Contact:** Rich Anderson  
Habilitation Specialist 2  
(716) 517-3768

**E-mail:** [Richard.S.Anderson@omr.state.ny.us](mailto:Richard.S.Anderson@omr.state.ny.us)

WNYDDSO/Universal Industries is committed to making every day a quality day for our individuals and their potential employers. We provide the training and supports for our individuals to make a successful transition into the workforce. Training tools are available to mold our workers into productive, compatible, and dedicated employees. We look at each individual and assess their strengths and weaknesses and shape them for a job they can manage. One of the strengths of our organization is the diversity of jobs we have acquired and tailored to the talents of our individuals, while producing quality work at the same time.

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## The Work Appreciation for Youth (WAY) Program

**at Baker Victory Services**  
100 Martin Road  
Lackawanna, NY 14218

**Website:** [www.bakervictoryservices.org](http://www.bakervictoryservices.org)

**Contact:** Julie Schaefer  
Program Coordinator  
(716) 828-7070

**E-mail:** [jschaefer@olv-bvs.org](mailto:jschaefer@olv-bvs.org)

Or

Sharon Cavanaugh  
WAY Program Director  
(716) 828-7038

**E-mail:** [scavanaugh@olv-bvs.org](mailto:scavanaugh@olv-bvs.org)

The WAY Program provides employees the opportunity to train in our own community-based worksites where they have the benefit of training with high levels of structure and supervision to increase the skills necessary for competitive employment. In addition, we provide job coaching services in the work place to assist employees in learning job tasks and in meeting the changing work requirements of employers. Job coaches are available to help employees succeed at their job and be able to handle challenges along the way.