

Program Result A Recipe For the Future

Press Release

New Job-Training Program Creates Recipe for the Future

Manchester, New Hampshire, Monday December 17, 2007:

Exciting results from the first of two Culinary Arts job-training programs implemented in Manchester with the support of the State may be a recipe for the future claimed Workforce Training Resources, CEO Patrick van Rooyen. He said that the first program with a current 74% job placement rate from its 19 graduates, supported by an 87% retention rate of trainees and a 91% attendance for the 8-week immersion course indicated "a recipe for the future".

The first courses are offered in Manchester creating job and career opportunities for the unemployed and dislocated workers over 18 years age. The next course is programmed to start on February 4th and is offered cost-free to successful applicants.

"With this concept of intensive and immersion training over a short period of time with a strong focus on job skills and employability skills we may be creating a very effective alternative model for New Hampshire." Van Rooyen said. "Even more importantly these intensive courses offer a fast and professional way to give unemployed or dislocated workers new skills for high demand jobs". Van Rooyen commented that he was especially pleased to see a large number of employers from New Hampshire's restaurant industry support the program with nearly all job-placements in Nashua, Concord and Manchester.

The courses provide an eight week-intensive program covering all essential skills in the restaurant and food service industry including the national SERVSAFE (Sanitation) and TIPS Certification (Safe Alcohol Service), all the gold standard in the robust Manchester and New Hampshire hospitality career sector. The first two pilot courses were funded by the State through the Workforce Opportunity Council.

The project concept was proposed and initiated by the Manchester based Workforce Training Resources LLC, who are moving forward with the planning for the second Culinary Arts Program in February and broadening programs to include similar courses

for training Dental Assistants and skilled entry level trainees in the high demand computer aided advanced manufacturing industry. Van Rooyen, said that WTR is targeting January for the first Dental Assistant program and February for the first of the advanced manufacturing programs being implemented by Manchester based Intelitek, a world leader in advanced manufacturing educational systems. The company is also working on programs for the Construction and Automobile industry.

“We see significant opportunity to assist young adults, the unemployed and dislocated workers with these program as in most cases these people need jobs quickly and an income stream to live and support their families”. He said that the shorter intensive programs were more demanding but were proven in producing results where the training provider was professional and focused on program outcomes. Most of the courses, he said, involved employer partnerships in the training. “Our primary aim here is to ensure trainees graduate and get jobs”.

Van Rooyen said that based on these continued positive course outcomes Workforce Training Resources plan to expand the courses throughout New Hampshire with local partners and training providers. “We have had and we will continue to identify training providers with excellent industry related skills to ensure graduates are what employers want them to be.”

More information about these courses can be obtained by contacting:

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