



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **New Program Brings Career Resources Inside Monroe Correctional Facility**

100 inmates will be served over the next two years

February 16, 2017 - Rochester, NY – RochesterWorks!, Monroe County’s largest employment and training initiative, continues to expand its efforts to provide innovative, customized opportunities for businesses and job seekers in all corners of our community, by launching RochesterWorks! Reentry Connections. RochesterWorks! Reentry Connections has established an American Job Center affiliate site within the Monroe Correctional Facility. The program will serve 100 inmates over the next two years. The first group of participants began their classroom instruction this week.

“When it comes to developing our region’s workforce, everyone has a different hill to climb,” **RochesterWorks! Executive Director Peter Pecor said.** “RochesterWorks! remains dedicated to helping every job seeker in our region achieve their goals.”

The pre-release American Job Center will add career assessment, planning, and purpose to the current activities, as well as a smooth transition to RochesterWorks! career center services post release. This program will expand on existing programs which currently prepare inmates for high school equivalency exams, learning English as a second language and skills training in three different occupational areas.

"The Sheriff's Office welcomes its new partnership with RochesterWorks!", **said Monroe County Sheriff Patrick O'Flynn.** "Giving meaningful direction to individuals transitioning from incarceration through integrated reentry and employment strategies has shown to reduce the rate of recidivism. Employment clearly plays a critical role in the reentry process and is vital to the overall success of the individual."

RochesterWorks!’ partners include the Monroe County Sheriff’s Office and Delphi Care Services, which coordinates the Monroe County Re-entry Task Force and the County’s direct services program for men and women returning from incarceration.

RochesterWorks! Reentry Connections is the result of a \$500,000 grant from the United States Department of Labor Linking to Employment Activities Pre-Release (LEAP) program. This initiative is fully funded by federal money.

Additional information including the list of businesses participating and their open positions is available at [www.rochesterworks.org](http://www.rochesterworks.org).

### ***About RochesterWorks!***

As Monroe County’s largest employment and training initiative, RochesterWorks! is dedicated to developing a strong workforce in the Rochester, NY, region as we serve job seekers, youth, and

businesses in our community. For more information about the services we have to offer visit [www.rochesterworks.org](http://www.rochesterworks.org).

Contact:

James Brown

Marketing & Communication Coordinator

RochesterWorks!

[jbrown@rochesterworks.org](mailto:jbrown@rochesterworks.org)

Work: (585) 420-3205

###