



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Legislation Implementation Announcement

July 21, 2015 – Rochester, NY – On July 1, 2015, the federal legislation which guides the services provided by RochesterWorks! Inc. in Monroe County and Workforce Development nationally has changed. The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), signed into law on July 22, 2014, supersedes the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998 under which RochesterWorks! Inc. was founded. This change is the first legislative reform of the public workforce system in the 15 years that RochesterWorks! has served as Monroe County’s local workforce connection. In the coming months RochesterWorks! will receive additional guidance from the United States Department of Labor to assist our staff as we align our services with the guidelines of WIOA.

Over the years we have seen the resilience of local residents and businesses help our community to thrive despite a challenging economy. While we anticipate legislative changes that may come under the new WIOA guidelines we know that through the partnerships with community organizations, local businesses, elected officials, and the New York State Department of Labor, we will continue to provide seamless services to our community.

The **Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act**, according to the [United States Department of Labor](http://www.dol.gov), is “designed to help job seekers access employment, education, training, and support services to succeed in the labor market and to match employers with the skilled workers they need to compete in the global economy.”

Workforce—We will continue to serve a universal population of job seekers in Monroe County with a renewed focus on reconnecting out-of-school youth, individuals with disabilities, and local businesses to the services they need to succeed.

Innovation—Over the past 15 years we have built strong local business relationships that have provided us with a platform to continue to build on for future success. As a part of WIOA we will continue to connect people to training opportunities that match the needs of local businesses.

Opportunity—WIOA presents our community with the opportunity to develop deeper partnerships with businesses, community organizations, and education providers. Through our Workforce Development Board—formerly the Workforce Investment Board—we will continue to partner with agencies across Monroe County that can assist local job seekers with the support they need in order to train for and find local jobs.

To learn more about WIOA and the implementation process go to www.doleta.gov/wioa. To learn more about partnering with RochesterWorks! please contact us at the information below.

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 or follow our feed at [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [LinkedIn](#) or [Google+](#).

Contact:

Peter Pecor
Executive Director
ppecor@rochesterworks.org
(585) 258-3534

John Premo
Director of Community and Business
Services
jpremo@rochesterworks.org
(585) 258-3535

Lee Koslow
Technical Assistance and Training
Manager
lkoslow@rochesterworks.org
(585) 258-3516

###