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## **ROCHESTERWORKS & THE YOUNG ADULT MANUFACTURING TRAINING & EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM (YAMTEP) AWARDED \$862,000 GRANT**

*Funding to help continue the ROCSEEDS program focusing on marginalized communities in Monroe County.*

**ROCHESTER, NY, MARCH 10, 2023**—RochesterWorks and the Young Adult Manufacturing Training & Employment Program (YAMTEP) have been awarded a \$862,000 grant from the New York State Office of Strategic Workforce Development.

The grant will allow the two organizations to grow their partnership and help prepare an estimated 270 individuals for employment, primarily in the manufacturing sector through the ROCSEEDS program, which was begun last year, with a strategic focus on neighborhoods most impacted by gun violence. A projected 30% of those program participants will have experience within the criminal justice system.

The funding will also allow YAMTEP to grow its programs to serve high school seniors and provide a bridge between graduation and employment.

“RochesterWorks is thrilled to continue our partnership on ROCSEEDS with such a widely heralded and innovative program as YAMTEP, which is well-known for providing job readiness and basic manufacturing skills training to young adults, primarily in the City of Rochester. I thank the State for making this worthwhile investment,” **Dave Seeley, Executive Director, RochesterWorks.**

“Since the founding of YAMTEP in 2015, RochesterWorks has been one of our most valued strategic partners. We are proud to be able to continue working with them through this new funding and the ROCSEEDS program to prepare young adults, especially those in marginalized communities, for careers in manufacturing—and provide opportunities to succeed as contributing members of our economy,” **Tyrone Reaves, Owner, TruForm Manufacturing, Founder, YAMTEP.**

RochesterWorks will support YAMTEP through its Youth Navigator program, recruiting participants and providing wraparound supportive services. It will also fund paid work experience stipends for high school students.

YAMTEP spends several weeks working with young adults, getting them to a point where they are able to succeed in a workplace environment. Because of this, local employers have continuously sought YAMTEP graduates. The program has placed several hundred young adults into employment over the past several years and was awarded the NYS Workforce Award last fall by the NY Association of Training & Employment Professionals.

**About the grant program:** Last October, Governor Hochul announced the launch of New York State's \$150 million workforce development grant programs to be administered by the newly created Office of Strategic Workforce Development to support employer-driven, high-skilled workforce training programs.

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**About RochesterWorks**

*RochesterWorks is Monroe County's largest employment and training initiative. We are a nonprofit dedicated to providing free employment and workforce services to job seekers, youth, and businesses in Rochester and the Greater Monroe County Area.*

*Learn more about RochesterWorks, our programs, events, and services by visiting [www.rochesterworks.org](http://www.rochesterworks.org) or by calling our Career Center at 585-258-3500. (TTY: 800-662-1220). RochesterWorks is an equal opportunity program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.*

**About Young Adult Manufacturing Training & Employment Program (YAMTEP)**

*For information about YAMTEP: <http://yamtep.com>.*

**About ROCSEEDS**

*For information about the ROCSEEDS program visit: <https://www.rocseeds.org/>.*