



# The Burlington County Beacon



Winter 2013

***Providing job seekers, employers, and work force programs with information to enhance employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities.***

---

**Published by The Employment Sub-Committee of the Burlington County Disability Issues Committee**

**Our mission** is to provide job seekers with disabilities greater access to employment opportunities.

This will be accomplished by:

*Educating people with disabilities about work and the resources that can help them*

*Educating staff of workforce programs and services on how to better serve job seekers with disabilities*

*Educating businesses/employers as to how individuals with disabilities can be an asset to their operations*

## **Job Seekers: Have You Been Using the Webpage Promoting Local Area Jobs?**

Several months ago the Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders announced the launch of a new “ Business and Job Seekers Services ” website designed to help you find employment. Just go to [www.BurlingtonCountyWorks.com](http://www.BurlingtonCountyWorks.com) and click on “ Job Seekers ” to access a wealth of information in one place to help you with job searches, resume writing, job training opportunities, changing careers, and unemployment insurance information. The County also has a “ Hot Jobs ” link that highlights a few local positions each week.

This Job Seekers path can also link you to [Jobs4Jersey.com](http://Jobs4Jersey.com), a state compiled jobs bank that pulls current employment opportunities from more than 2,400 job posting sites.

If you are comfortable with computers but do not have a computer of your own, you can certainly use the computers at the Public Access Sites connected to the Internet free of charge at the following locations:

- One Stop Career Center, 795 Woodlane Road, Westampton, 609-518-3900
- Burlington County Library System, 5 Pioneer Blvd., Westampton, 609-267-9660
- Burlington County College, 1 High Street, Mt. Holly, 609-267-5618

**And for Employers** there is the “ Business Services ” website, also at [www.BurlingtonCountyWorks.com](http://www.BurlingtonCountyWorks.com) to help you find and train qualified workers, review hard-to-fill positions, determine competitive salaries, and write effective job postings. This website also discusses how to avoid lay-off situations and how to look for current financial incentives and grants. It also has information on how businesses can obtain tax credits for new hires and how to receive training for new or current employees.

---

## **Disabilities that Individuals Can & Do Overcome**

*Physical   Visual Impairment   Balance Disorder*

*Intellectual   Sensory   Developmental   Behavioral*

---

**Burlington County  
Disability Issues Committee**



**“Putting the Pieces Together”  
Partner Agencies**

Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders  
Burlington County One-Stop Career Center and  
Workforce Investment Board  
NJ Division of Vocational Rehabilitation  
Occupational Training Center of Burlington County  
Catholic Charities/Delaware House Mental Health  
Services  
Burlington County Board of Social Services  
Resources for Independent Living  
Goodwill Industries of Southern NJ  
Burlington County College  
Burlington County Offices of Human Services

The D. I. C. Employment Sub-committee  
795 Woodlane Road P.O. Box 6000  
Westampton, NJ 08060  
Phone: 609-265-5603 Fax: 609-265-5399

Co-chair E-mails:  
smader@co.burlington.nj.us  
Edward.Green@dol.state.nj.us

**The Office of Special Populations at Burlington  
County College** ensures that students with dis-  
abilities have every opportunity to succeed in  
their academics as active members of the col-  
lege community and also ensures that faculty  
and staff are sensitive to their needs.

For more info, call 609-894-9311, x1803

**Yet another Resource for Job Seekers**

*Find help in difficult financial times.* Not only can this website help you with em-  
ployment, but it can take you through career exploration, government jobs, re-  
sume writing, job banks, and even to recognizing job-hunting scams.  
<http://www.usa.gov/Citizen/Topics/Education-Training/Finding-Jobs.shtml>

You can also find out how to qualify for programs that can help meet  
your family 's basic needs, housing, health care and insurance (how  
to get medical care even if you don 't have insurance ) as well as  
assistance with debt and credit.

<http://www.usa.gov/citizen/topics/family/help-for-difficult-times.shtml>



Burlington County Disability Issues Committee  
795 Woodlane Road  
P.O. Box 6000  
Westampton, NJ 08060

**How Sweet It Is: a D.V.R.S. Success Story**

Submitted by Ann Disare, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor

Penn Maid is an employer that has been in business since 1927 in the Philadelphia area. Many in the southern NJ area have enjoyed the yogurts, cheeses, and cream, but there is one new worker for Penn Maid that has a sweet story of a different type to tell. Jessica T. is a Microbiology Technician for the Penn Maid Dairy. She works in Quality Assurance inspecting and testing food products for various biological qualities in the lab, keeping accurate records and troubleshooting whenever there is a problem. It is obvious that Jessica is a bright and talented young lady, but there is another exceptional quality about her. She has accomplished this after having grown up with a severe hearing impairment. I recently asked Jessica some questions about her experience as a customer of the NJ Division of Vocational Rehabilitation:

**Ann:** How did you transition from High School to DVRS?

**Jessica:** I transitioned from High School to DVRS by the recommendation of my guidance counselor at my high school.

**Ann:** How has DVRS helped you?

**Jessica:** DVRS has helped me achieve my academic goals by assisting me in provid-  
ing a variety of career options due to my major.

**Ann:** What college did you attend and what was your major?

**Jessica:** I attended Seton Hall University in South Orange, NJ and my major was a  
Bachelor of Science in Biology. College tuition and related expenses were provided  
through DVRS.

**Ann:** How did you communicate at school with other students and faculty?

**Jessica:** I mostly lip read and am able to communicate with them verbally. I some-  
times teach sign language to my friends in college.

**Ann:** Is there any technology you have used to help remediate your hearing loss?

**Jessica:** While I was on campus, the technology that I used to help me study for my  
courses is CART (Captioning Access Real Time) which provided closed captioning for  
my lectures. I also wear digital hearing aids which have a variety of programs  
that I can choose to help enhance my listening skills during my classes.

**Ann:** How did you find a job after graduation? What services were helpful?

**Jessica:** After graduation, I was recommended (by my DVRS counselor) to Career  
Success Solutions for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing to assist in my search for a job.  
Their services were helpful and they helped me apply to a job through Lab Support  
which assigned me to two positions. One was at Catalent Pharma Solutions and the  
other is Penn Maid where I am currently working.

**Ann:** What would you like the public or other One-Stop Career Center employment  
services staff to know about workers with a hearing impairment?

**Jessica:** People working with individuals that have a hearing impairment must be  
able to have patience, as the worker or job seeker with the hearing impairment may  
not always understand or hear correctly. Establish good communication such as  
learning how to sign or writing things down. This will help the workers and the  
individual with the hearing impairment be able to work together more efficiently.  
The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services offers an opportunity for per-  
sons with disabilities to become more independent through employment. Services  
include: vocational counseling and career planning assistance, training to learn  
skills needed for a job that has been identified as an appropriate goal for each indi-  
vidual, provision of assistive technology when appropriate, and assistance with  
placement into a job commensurate with the applicant's abilities. DVRS provides  
direct services, as well as, networking with other service providers such as schools,  
vocational training programs, and placement services. As in any good recipe for  
success, there are many ingredients that have gone into Jessica's story and a great  
deal of time for the product to blend just right. By mixing together the right kinds of  
supports, both human and technical, and especially by Jessica's own relentless re-  
solve and hard work, a desirable outcome has been accomplished not just for the  
individual and the employer, but for all of the residents of New Jersey.