

The Pulse of WDBRC

Issue 4, March 2022

The WDBRC begins 2022 having successfully undergone NYSDOL quality assurance reviews in program (Rockland Works) and finance. We look forward to a productive 2022 working with our partners in business, education, government, community-based organizations, and organized labor to build a strong, inclusive, and skilled workforce to meet the needs of employers in Rockland County.

Debra J. Thomas, PhD - Executive Director, Deborah Studnitzer - Business Liaison
Executive Committee: *Lynne C. Allan - Chair; Howard Hellman - Vice Chair; Michele Green - Secretary; Matthew Shelley - Treasurer; Lucy Redzeposki - Rockland County Liaison*

WDBRC Presents 3/28 10AM Hiring Qualified Job Candidates with Disabilities in the Hudson Valley, a virtual program for our business community, focused on developing and enhancing inclusive hiring practices. Wendy Strobel Gower, Director, North East ADA Center, Cornell University, will address how we can work together to continue to drive down unemployment for all and meet our area's business needs. Thanks to Michele Green of ACCES-VR for spearheading this learning opportunity.

[Flyer, Registration Link](#)

Labor Summary Report: Johny Nelson, Labor Market Analyst – Hudson Valley Region, New York State Department of Labor | Research & Statistics, shares regular labor report summaries of the Hudson Valley. "The Hudson Valley Region's December 2021 unemployment rate (2.7 percent) was ranked third lowest among the 10 labor market regions in New York State."

▪ Capital Region 2.6 percent ▪ Long Island 2.6 percent ▪ Hudson Valley 2.7 percent

January 25, 2022 State Labor Department Releases Preliminary December 2021 Area Unemployment Rates [Press Release](#)

WDB of Rockland County Presentations: Dr. Stephanie Compasso (RW), Dr. Jean Leandre (RCC) and Deborah Studnitzer (WDB) presented to the Rockland Business Women's Network on 1/21/22, and the Rockland Chamber Alliance on 2/3/22. Upcoming WDB/RW presentations include sessions with TOUCH staff, VCS Volunteer Counselors, and School Counselors of Rockland County. Contact rcwdb1@gmail.com to request a presentation that meets your organization's needs.

WDB of Rockland County Meeting: March 10, 2022 8AM via Zoom

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AmericanJobCenter[®]
network

14 Liberty Square Mall
Stony Point, NY 10980
c/o RTCI

www.rocklandwork.org

Funding

Disability Resource Coordinator: The WDBRC, in conjunction with Rockland Works, is hiring a Disability Resource Coordinator, a position funded through the 3-year NY Systems Change and Inclusive Opportunities Network ([NY SCION](#)) program. The DRC will be known publicly as the Rockland Workforce Resource Coordinator.

Gaining Vision and Potential (GVP): A Community-Wide Investment in our Workforce
The WDB is pleased to announce the hiring of Matthew Townsend as the GVP Coordinator.
[GVP Highlights, Referral Form](#)

Contact Matthew Townsend mtownsend@rboces.org

Strategic Partnerships

Rockland County Workforce/Economic Development Collaborative: With Joe Allen leading the way, the Collaborative is creating The Non-Profit Innovation Hub (NIHub) at the Stony Point Conference Center, where nonprofits work alongside one another and have the benefit of insight and best practices. The 32-acre campus will offer nonprofits a culture of innovation, as well as individual workspaces and offices, the ability to work alongside other nonprofits in the same location, and a cafeteria. It's located in a majestic space, complete with walking trails and quiet spaces for reflection. The NIHub will provide communication and services for online meetings, and it will offer video production facilities for nonprofits to use to enhance their outreach to the community and donors. The NIHub will promote collaboration between different organizations to help build a pipeline of qualified individuals for key business sectors in Rockland County while amplifying the redeployment of workers. [Click here](#) for additional information. Contact jallencollabhub@gmail.com to learn more.

Rockland Community College (RCC): RCC continues to collaborate with WDB and RW to create career pathways in priority sectors. [The Certified EKG Technician](#) program prepares the student to earn an industry certification from the National Health Career Association. The program runs 3/14-5/6/22. Funding opportunities available for those who qualify.

RCC EMT-B Update: 12 students enrolled in the EMT-B program. 7 of them qualified to receive funding through the WDBRC.

Rockland Employment Network (REN): Amazon has approached our community and would like to continue to recruit job candidates with disabilities. Amazon will be presenting a session to The Rockland and Westchester Employment Networks to assist our agencies and candidates with application, orientation process, and more. Amazon has delivery stations in Blauvelt and Elmsford at this time.



EMT-B students mastering CPR protocols.

From the Desk of Stephanie Compasso PhD

Director, Rockland Works (RW)

Gaining Vision and Potential (GVP): RW has partnered with three community agencies, BRIDGES, Good Game Lounge, and Society of the Arts, to provide workforce development training opportunities in healthcare, data technology, and hospitality as part of the GVP program. Contact Matthew Townsend at mtownsend@rboces.org with referrals of 18–24 year old emerging adults.

RW March Workshops are now IN PERSON! Visit rocklandworks.org to register.

- Resume Writing on March 3 at 1pm
- Job Searching on March 10 at 1pm
- Interview Skills on March 17 at 1pm
- Professionalism in the Workplace on March 24 at 1pm

RW Hot Jobs Newsletter: The 9th edition of the [Hot Jobs Newsletter](#) was released on February 24th. If your business would like to be featured in an upcoming newsletter, please contact Manny Juarez at mjuarez@rboces.org or (845) 770-2900 ext. 3524.

RW Youth Connections Work Readiness Bootcamp: 14 participants began the Work Readiness bootcamp on February 28. These young adults between the ages of 18–24 receive soft skills training along with credentialed training through the National Retail Federation on Customer Service and Sales. Upon successful completion, participants are eligible for a paid internship. If your business is interested in supporting an intern, please contact Manny Juarez at mjuarez@rboces.org or (845) 770-2900 ext. 3524. If you know a young adult who is interested in signing up for our next Work Readiness Bootcamp, please contact Rockland Works at rocklandworks@rboces.org or (845) 770-2900.

Economic Development

A message from Lucy Redzeposki,

Director, Rockland County Department of Economic Development & Tourism

Did you know that tourism is a driver of economic development in Rockland County?

Did you also know that economic development via tourism plays a major role in the health and vitality of the county? Here's how! The hospitality industry generates tax revenue and creates jobs. It also helps with conservation efforts, promotes arts and culture, and preserves history. Rockland's visitors get to experience all that the county has to offer while contributing to the local economy. According to New York's 2020 Economic Impact of Visitors in New York Report, were it not for the tourism-generated state and local taxes, the average household in Rockland County would have to pay an additional \$422.00 to maintain services.

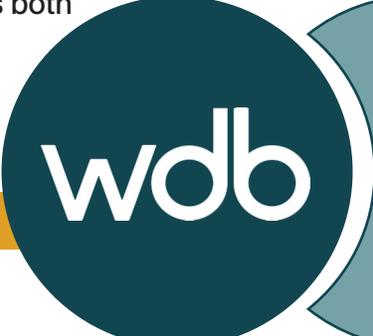
The Department's efforts are focused on identifying and facilitating programs that benefit our residents, communities, and businesses by promoting tourism, developing filming opportunities and supporting businesses in the county.

In 2021, the department launched three new social media brands to highlight these efforts:

- "[Destination Rockland](#)" for Tourism, promotes the county as a premiere travel destination.

The county's natural, cultural, and historical assets attract visitors both regionally and globally, who travel here and spend money at our restaurants, shops, hotels, theaters, etc. This creates revenue in the hospitality sector which in turn, benefits local businesses and employs Rockland's workforce

www.rocklandwork.org

The logo for wdb (Workforce Development Board) is a dark teal circle with the lowercase letters 'wdb' in white. It is partially overlapped by a larger, lighter teal circle on the right side.

wdb

- **“REEL Rockland”** for Film, is designed to attract location scouts and directors by promoting the county’s diverse shooting locations, close proximity to New York City, and the New York State Film Production Tax Credit incentive.
- **“Make It Rockland”** for Economic Development is designed to attract, retain, and expand new and existing businesses by promoting programs and initiatives that help companies of all sizes to grow and prosper.

According to the most recent data from the NYSDOL, Rockland’s tourism accounts for 4.5% of employment. Careers in the hospitality and tourism industry range from entry-level to management, and include positions such as hotel managers, travel agents, tourism analysts and event/conference organizers.

The department strives to ensure that Rockland businesses have a qualified pool of candidates to meet their employment needs by working with Rockland Works and the Workforce Development Board. To prepare for a career in the hospitality and tourism industry, Rockland Community College, St. Thomas Aquinas College, and Dominican College, all offer courses leading to degrees in the field.

The department will continue to seek more opportunities for growth and prosperity to improve the quality of life in Rockland. These valued partnerships and collaborations with organizations are vital to the county’s success. Rockland County is well poised for 2022 and beyond!

Grants

Rockland County Small Business Assistance Grant Program: This grant provides aid for-profit small businesses located within Rockland. [Click here](#) for eligibility and more information.

Rockland County Reviving and Rebuilding Rockland Grant Programs: [Click here](#) to learn about additional Rockland County grant opportunities, including the Reviving Rockland Restaurants Grant and Food Security Grant Program

NY Office of Children and Family Services Child Care Deserts Grant: Interested in opening a new childcare program? [Click here](#) for the Request for Applications. Contact [Child Care Resources of Rockland, Inc.](#), Rockland County’s childcare resource and referral agency at 845-425-0009.

Resources

The Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council: Recordings of the Mid-Hudson Workforce Solutions Webinar Series is now available on their [website](#).

RCC 23rd Annual Job Fair - 4/12/22 (on site) and 4/13/22 (virtual). [Flyer](#)

Did you know there are over 390,000 jobs on the [NYS Job Bank](#) ?

NYSDOL Microsites

[Seasonal Work](#)

[Immediate Hiring Opportunities](#)

[Tourism Industry Jobs](#)

[Career Center Events & Recruitments](#)

Tech Incubator, Queens College

Email ying.zhou@qc.cuny.edu to join the email list or [click here](#) for trainings.

Spotlight on the Arts

A new arts festival will bring culture, tourism, internships, jobs, and revenue to Rockland County!



FIVE WEEKENDS OF OUTDOOR LIVE ARTS IN NYACK, NY LIVE PERFORMANCES EVERY FRIDAY TO SUNDAY September 16 through October 16, 2022

A live arts Festival in Nyack, NY, featuring award-winning theatre, immersive interactive programs, classical music and Children's Shakespeare in this bustling, picturesque village on the Hudson River, just 30 miles north of New York City.

Immersive Interactive Exploration of Downtown Nyack

Discover this jazzy rivertown community—from skateboarding to the Underground Railroad to visiting local shops and restaurants and picking up free raffle tickets for prize drawings. Complimentary, no charge for this program.

The Skin of Our Teeth* by Thornton Wilder at Marydell Center

Maggie and George have been married 5,000 years. George invented the wheel, and together with their family, they triumph over seemingly insurmountable challenges—the Ice Age, mammoths and dinosaurs, the Big Flood and a World War. Uplifting, funny and a perfect play for our times.

The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde at Marydell Center

Perhaps the greatest comedy of all time. Formidable Lady Bracknell presides over her family, arranging courtships for her renegade nephew, avoiding scandal and requesting cucumber sandwiches.

The Harmfulness of Tobacco* by Anton Chekov in the garden at Edward Hopper House Museum & Study Center

A middle-aged man, residing at #13 Three Dogs Lane with seven grown daughters, must appease his wife by giving a public lecture on tobacco. He's nervous, very nervous.

Children's Shakespeare Theatre at Marydell Center*

Scenes from Rockland's famous Shakespeare troupe.

Rockland Symphony Orchestra at Marydell Center*

Rockland's 50+ member orchestra. Music by the Hudson.

**Advance tickets required. Box office opens March 1, 2022. (Starting March 1, [VISIT HERE](#))*

NYACKARTSFESTIVAL.COM

Email the festival at: info@PhoenixTheatreEnsemble.org or
leave a callback message at 212-465-3446

Group sale information or questions? Email Craig@PhoenixTheatreEnsemble.org

Please contact rcwdb1@gmail.com with questions or to provide content for a future edition of The PULSE.

www.rocklandwork.org

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