

**KESSLER FOUNDATION
GRANT RECIPIENTS 2007**

SIGNATURE EMPLOYMENT GRANTS

Abilities Inc. (Albertson, NY)

To replicate a community college program for students with disabilities designed to increase recruitment, retention, college success and employment outcomes for individuals with physical and other disabilities in the state of New Jersey: \$483,773.

Brain Injury Association of New Jersey, Inc. (North Brunswick, NJ)

To create a standardized service delivery model that increases capacity within the state vocational rehabilitation system to identify and meet the employment needs of people with brain injuries: \$388,935.

Cornell University (Ithaca, NY)

To increase employment for people with disabilities in New Jersey by creating a new collaborative model in which employers and social service providers can come together in ways that best meet the needs of each organization: \$399,991.

National Organization on Disability (Washington, D.C.)

To provide second year support for the National Employability Partnership which will focus on meeting the employment needs of wounded warriors: \$400,000.

New Jersey Division of Rehabilitation Services, Department of Labor & Workforce Development, State of New Jersey (Trenton, NJ)

To match individuals with severe disabilities with employers and provide each participant with vocational training and support, technical equipment, and computer support required to obtain long-term employment while working from their homes using voice-over Internet Protocol Technology : \$438,687

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Office of Continuous Education and Outreach (New Brunswick, NJ)

To establish a disability employment program that combines training, advisement, online career/skills assessment, Rutgers Skill Certification, and community of employers to maximize the active recruitment of people with disabilities: \$150,000.

COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT GRANTS

Arts Unbound, Inc. (Orange, NJ)

To provide a group of 10 individuals with physical disabilities intensive training in the visual arts that will lead to vocational opportunities in the retail market: \$26,800.

The Cerebral Palsy League, Inc. (Cranford, NJ)

To provide a fully accessible work training site for students and adults with severe physical disabilities: \$25,000.

The First Occupational Center of New Jersey (Orange, NJ)

To provide job training and competitive employment opportunities as Security Guard Officers to 20 physically disabled veterans through Abby Security, a social entrepreneurial business of The First Occupational Center of New Jersey: \$50,000.

Hudson Community Enterprises, (Jersey City, NJ)

To create employment opportunities in Hudson County for individuals with disabilities through the establishment of Hudson Employment Alliance, a community partnership: \$49,000.

Jewish Service for the Developmentally Disabled of Metrowest (West Orange, NJ)

To use an alternatively based work/learning program to train people with physical disabilities in yoga and meditation techniques, so that they may teach or lead other students with disabilities in the healing arts, and eventually be hired to assist and teach at JSDD's Wellness, Arts and Enrichment Center: \$50,000.

Lime Connect, Inc. (New York, NY)

To recruit talented students with disabilities at New Jersey universities for employment within global corporations: \$50,000.

Montclair Rehabilitation Organization (Little Falls, NJ)

To provide 300 round trip rides for indigent clients of Kessler Institute's Career Guidance Center: \$15,000.

The New Jersey Chamber of Commerce Foundation (Trenton, NJ)

To continue the financial support for the NJ Business Leadership Network development initiative to launch the project: \$50,000.

Progressive Center for Independent Living, Inc. (Hamilton, NJ)

To create a pilot program to combat underemployment and lack of career advancement opportunities for individuals with physical and/or developmental disabilities: \$38,818.

TransOptions, Inc. (Cedar Knolls, NJ)

To provide a one-stop resource center for consumers with disabilities offering them trip planning assistance and personalized transportation services from expert staff to help them gain competitive employment and maintain a more independent life: \$50,000.

YWCA of Central New Jersey (Plainfield, NJ)

To provide jobs and employment training for individuals with disabilities through a targeted program at their Career Options Center: \$50,000

SPECIAL INITIATIVE GRANTS

County of Bergen (Hackensack, NJ)

To defray the costs of providing speakers and therapists presenting education programs to Post Stroke and Disabled Support Group Program in Bergen County: \$10,000.

Center for Educational Advancement (Flemington, NJ)

To provide capital improvements to an older building housing their employment program to meet ADA compliance and promote better accessibility: \$15,000.

Let's Travel (Marlton, NJ)

To fund the vehicle insurance of the two buses, fuel expenses & tolls, along with the recreational trip expenses for people with disabilities: \$20,000.

National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Greater North Jersey Chapter (Paramus, NJ)

To provide financial assistance to clients in need of assistive equipment facilitating increased independence and social interaction in their daily lives: \$20,000.

New York Service for the Handicapped (New York, NY)

To provide financial assistance to 10 individuals with physical disabilities through their scholarship fund at Camp Oakhurst in NJ: \$15,000.

Overlook Hospital Foundation (Summit, NJ)

To hire part-time, certified vocational rehabilitation counselor for new Neuro-Cognitive Rehabilitation Program: \$20,000.

