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
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 providing 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 sometimes 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.

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