

Cowan, Guteski & Co., P.A. Does your accountant deliver? **We do.**
 Certified Public Accountants & Consultants

Book of Lists
 Reserve your advertising space today!
 Early Bird Rates Deadline: September 18, 2009

Wednesday, September 16, 2009 2:04:01 PM EST

New User? [Register](#) | [Sign In](#)

NJBIZ ALL BUSINESS ♦ ALL NEW JERSEY

Subscribe Now!
 click for details

[Home](#) [Online Edition](#) [Print Edition](#) [Events](#) [Marketplace](#) [Contact Us](#)

[Sign-up for eNews Alerts!](#)

News By Industry
 Supplements
 Submit News
 Quick Links

Aiming to develop entrepreneurial skills of those with disabilities



By **Beth Fitzgerald**
 9/16/2009

[Print this page](#) | [E-mail to a friend](#) | [Submit news tips](#) | [Send a letter to the editor](#) | [SHARE](#)



Teaching people with disabilities to become entrepreneurs, launch their own small businesses, and create jobs for themselves and others is the mission of **Just Add Water**, which held an open house this morning at its Hillsborough offices.

Just Add Water plans to open its doors this spring as the newest venture of Community Options Inc., a Princeton-based nonprofit that operates six for-profit businesses throughout New Jersey. Those companies employ more than 300 people with disabilities in administrative, maintenance and retail jobs.

Just Add Water will combine a café with offices businesses can rent for conferences and training, plus the entrepreneur development service.

"Suppose you've been working for the last five years as a janitor and you want to start your own janitorial service, but you don't know how to do it," said **Robert Stack**, president of Community Options. "We would help you write your business plan, help you arrange the financing and help you develop a marketing plan."

The recession is making it even harder for the disabled to find jobs, said **Shawn McInerney**, regional assistant director the state Division of Developmental Disabilities. He said DDD serves 41,000 people statewide, and each year more than 600 people with developmental disabilities graduate from school and seek to transition to the work force.

But the majority — perhaps as many as 90 percent — can't find jobs, said **Chris Dixon**, executive director of Community Options Enterprises. And during the recession, the disabled are competing with the newly unemployed for jobs in reception, delivery and foodservice that in better times would attract fewer job applicants.

The entrepreneur route provides a new path for the disabled. "We are going to give them the resources to become entrepreneurs," he said. "In terms of their capability, it is limitless."

Tom Burdick, 41, a member of the board of Community Options, has been in a wheelchair since age 19, and works for the Morristown staffing company **Abilitymarket**, which finds jobs for people with and without disabilities.

"I would love to see more people with disabilities in jobs, in competitive employment," he said. "I love to work. You get to socialize with colleagues, meet people and make friends. It's better than sitting at home and staring at the wall."

E-mail Beth Fitzgerald at bfitzgerald@njbiz.com

Search Archives

Enter search terms here...

Improve Sales PERFORMANCE

With an impressive client list of Fortune 500 companies, **ANDY DAINO** is a world-class sales trainer with the miles to prove it

21st Century Sales Training, LLC
 Interactive Workshops
 One-on-One Coaching
 Motivational Speaking
www.andydaino.com

advertisement

MORE FROM NJBIZ

PEOPLE WHO READ THIS...

Also read these stories:

► This Week's Most Read Articles

1. **Questions sought for N.J. political debate**
5,219 views
2. **Corzine to Congress: Extend federal unemployment aid**
2,673 views
3. **Colts Neck mortgage broker charged in \$11M fraud scheme**
2,113 views
4. **EDA awards grants for companies to add 700 jobs, keep 300**
1,927 views
5. **Russ Berrie and Co. to become Kids Brands Inc.**
1,895 views

► Most Recent Articles

- **Unemployment rate continues climb, reaching 9.7 percent**
9/16/2009
- **Faring 'relatively well,' N.J. banks add 3,800 jobs**
9/16/2009
- **Residents should profit from exposing public fraud, Republican panel told**
9/16/2009
- **Business owners air concerns at Sobel roundtable**
9/16/2009
- **Aiming to develop entrepreneurial skills of those with disabilities**
9/16/2009

[MORE](#)

Meeting Announcement

ACG New Jersey

We are pleased to invite you to hear and meet

Chris Christie

presented by PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

28th ANNUAL PRCC TRADE FAIR & CULINARY SHOWCASE

Presenting Sponsor: **HVC Bank**

Tuesday Sept. 29
 11 am - 4 pm
 The Westin Princeton at Forrestal Village
 Attendance at Fair is FREE with Business Card.

advertisement

Advertising

- Media Kit
- Print Ad Info
- Web Ad Info
- Event Sponsorships
- Production Info

Customer Service

- Register
- Contact Us
- Change of Address
- Print Subscriptions
- Print Renewals
- Free Trial
- Gift Subscriptions

• [Help & FAQ](#)



Up to 90% Financing for Owner-occupied Real Estate Acquisitions!

201 346-0300

advertisement

Now you can purchase **NJBIZ** photos online



click to visit the **NJBIZ Photo Gallery**

advertisement

24 people have read this article.

 [Print this page](#) |  [E-mail to a friend](#) | [Submit news tips](#) | [Send a letter to the editor](#) |  [SHARE](#)

For article reprints, please contact our reprint coordinator at Wright's Reprints: 1-877-652-5295.

advertisement

[Return To Top](#)

ONLINE: [Home](#) | [Top Headlines](#) | [Sign-up for eNews Alerts](#) | [Business Supplements](#) | [Press Releases](#) | [Submit News](#) | [Advertise Online](#) |

PRINT EDITION: [This Week's Content](#) | [Subscribe](#) | [Renewals](#) | [Submit News](#) | [Advertise in Print Edition](#) |

ABOUT NJBIZ: [About NJBIZ](#) | [NJBIZ Staff](#) | [Directions](#) | [FAQ](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Contact Us](#)

NJBIZ LINKS & RESOURCES: [New Jersey Real Estate](#) | [New Jersey Education](#) | [New Jersey Government](#) | [NJ Real Estate](#) | [Trenton NJ Real Estate](#)



© 2009 Journal Publications Inc. All information on this site are copyright of Journal Publications Inc. All images are the sole property of Journal Publications Inc. and no rights are reserved for any use without the express written consent of Journal Publications Inc.