

Business Opportunities Weblog

Disabled Adults Seek Their Own Businesses

July 15, 2010 by Angela Shupe | [3 Comments](#)



David Shunkey is autistic and around the same time the recession hit he lost two jobs. Now he's trying to launch his own business reports [The Wall Street Journal](#).

More mentally and physically challenged adults are looking to entrepreneurship as they get closed out of an exceptionally competitive job market, according to several organizations that help the disabled, including Community Options Inc., a nonprofit based in Princeton, N.J. of which Mr. Shunkey is a member. But in an economic climate that's been tough on entrepreneurs, the disabled are no exception, and many face extra challenges.

"It's more difficult for someone like David to obtain a normal job," says Heather Gooch, one of several Community Options workers helping Mr. Shunkey build a dog-treat business with an \$850 state grant from New Mexico, where his enterprise is based. "He needs close supervision."

Employment opportunities have historically been scarce for the disabled. Twenty years ago this month, Congress enacted the Americans with Disabilities Act, barring employers from discriminating against qualified job applicants with disabilities. Last year alone, more than 21,000 claims were filed with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission against employers accused of violating the law.

With the poor economy further restricting employment options for the disabled, some organizations are seeing increased interest in programs designed to assist this group in starting businesses.

Photo by [Augapfel](#)

4
tweets
retweet

In [Disabled, Startup](#) | [3 Comments](#)

Related Businesses in the Directory

- [Senior Errand Service Business Opportunity](#)
- [Spherion](#)
- [Spudbar](#)
- [Tray Dispay Advertising](#)
- [Express Personnel Services](#)
- [Burritoville](#)
- [American Seminar Leaders Association](#)
- [Any Lab Tests Now](#)
- [Window Cleaning Bizop](#)
- [Photocartoons](#)

Related Posts

- [Aging United States Population Is Driving Growth In Elderly Care Franchising](#)
- [Little Caesars\(R\) Pizza Extends And Enhances Innovative Veterans Program](#)
- [Little Caesars' Veterans Program](#)
- [Homesourcing Grows!](#)
- [Young Adults Becoming Serial Entrepreneurs](#)
- [Students' Inventions Help The Disabled](#)

- [Seek To Add More Than 160 Franchises](#)
- [Inventor's First-Aid Kit A Hit](#)
- [Computer U Learning Centers: Classroom and private instruction of PC's for mature adults.](#)
- [Veterans Day 2007 Marks One-Year Anniversary Of Innovative Little Caesars\(R\) Veterans Program](#)

3 Replies

[Please leave a response to this post.](#)

Tweets



danec on [July 15th, 2010 10:00 am](#)

Disabled Adults Seek Their Own Businesses <http://www.business-opportunities.biz/2010/07/15/disabled-adults-seek-their-own-businesses/>

This comment was originally posted on [Twitter](#)



JimKukral on [July 15th, 2010 10:08 am](#)

Disabled Adults Seek Their Own Businesses <http://bit.ly/coiC5t>

This comment was originally posted on [Twitter](#)



Jack Dalton on [July 15th, 2010 10:32 am](#)

Disabled Adults Seek Their Own Businesses <http://ow.ly/189fLL>

This comment was originally posted on [Twitter](#)

Leave a Reply

Name (required)

Mail (required)

Website

Notify me of followup comments via e-mail

[« Previous Post](#)

[Next Post »](#)