



We Connect the Dots, Inc. Expands Technology Workforce Development Leadership in New York with Refuge Dream Center Partnership

Westbury, NY June 3, 2022 – We Connect the Dots (WCTD), a national educational organization based on Long Island, NY, announced the UpSkill Workforce Experience Program for opportunity youth (ages 18-24) in partnership with the Refuge Dream Center to empower them with skills for entry level jobs and career paths in technology.

Funded by the NYS Department of Labor to empower the region with its new Workforce Development Initiative, this program supports strategic regional efforts that meet businesses' short-term workforce needs, improve regional talent pipelines, expand apprenticeships, and address the long-term needs of expanding industries.

The two organizations saw a clear path where they could address the region's opportunity plans and the state of New York's strategy to reduce gun violence, providing workforce skills training and experience as well as social skill development to unemployed, underemployed, and out-of-school youth in cities impacted by gun violence within Suffolk and Nassau counties. Through partnership with local community and industry partners, participants are placed in workforce experience positions that can lead to full-time entry-level positions after completing the training program.

Beginning in the Spring and Fall of 2022, participants can apply to attend to the We Connect the Dots eight-week UpSkill Workforce Experience Program for unemployed, under-employed and out of school youth (ages 18-24) to empower them with skills for entry level jobs and career paths in technology.

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About We Connect The Dots (WCTD)

We Connect The Dots (WCTD) is a nonprofit organization with a mission to utilize cognitive learning and coaching models to create positive outcomes across communities. Where technology is used as a tool for supporting productive and engaging learning experiences. We Connect the Dots provides program offerings for underrepresented populations. To model and teach how technology increases potential and productivity, we must understand it in real-world applications. We support communities by providing experiential learning programs to populations that would normally not have access or the resources to provide these immersive education programs. <https://www.we-connect-the-dots.org/upskill>

About Refuge Dream Center

Refuge Dream Center is a community of misfits that have learned how to dream, work hard, and reach for what might be believed to be impossible by many. Someone inspired each one of us to push beyond our limitations by planting a seed of hope in our minds. Not that we were something special, but it was that light of hope that elevated our drive for something greater. It is that same hope that we seek to instill toward others. We seek to search for, reach out to, and inspire those that live on the

fringes, discarded and unwanted by society. We long to not only inspire them but also to guide them on a journey of self-realization by activating their suppressed, innovative, transformative life changing dreams. We do this through hard work, collaboration, and innovation, providing them the tools to achieve that impossible dream. <https://refugedreamcenter.org/>