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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **AWARD WINNING PLATFORM TO EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM OPENS STATE-WIDE APPLICATIONS FOR LONG-TERM UNEMPLOYED**

The WorkPlace is pleased to announce that Platform to Employment (P2E), a nationally recognized program that is putting the long-term unemployed back to work has opened its on-line application.

The program is accepting applications from Connecticut residents who are unemployed and have exhausted 26 weeks or more of unemployment. If you meet these criteria you are encourage to apply now as seating is limited and the program begins in September. There is no cost to participate in P2E.

P2E consists of a five-week preparatory program, including skills assessment, career readiness workshops, employee assistance programs, coaching, subsidized employment and more. Upon program completion, P2E assists participants in finding open positions at local companies. Placements are made on a trial basis, paid for by the program.

Connecticut residents interested in the program can apply at the Platform to Employment website, [www.platformtoemployment.com](http://www.platformtoemployment.com) and click on the Connecticut Application button on the homepage.

P2E, began in southwest Connecticut in 2011 and has been featured on *60 Minutes* and other national news programs. The program combines job readiness training, personal and family support services, financial counseling and a paid work experience. P2E has seen nearly 90 percent of participants who have been placed into a paid work experience program move to full-time employment. Since 2013, P2E has expanded to several national markets including Cincinnati, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Las Vegas, Minneapolis, Newark, Reno, San Diego, San Francisco and Tampa.

Platform to Employment is a project of The WorkPlace and the program in Connecticut is a partnership of all five of the state's Workforce Development Boards and funded by the Connecticut Department of Labor.

For more information, please visit [www.platformtoemployment.com](http://www.platformtoemployment.com)

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### ***About The WorkPlace***

*The WorkPlace conducts comprehensive planning, and coordinates regional workforce development policy and programs to prepare people for careers while strengthening the workforce for employers. As national leader in the field, The WorkPlace regularly shares ideas and best practices with lawmakers, foundations, think tanks and other workforce development organizations around the country. For more information, visit [www.workplace.org](http://www.workplace.org)*