Digital Works operates in 5 states offering employer-designed training, placement assistance, and mentorship for in-demand remote-work opportunities, connecting people to customer support and IT jobs for over 60 global and local corporate employer partners.

In just over 2 years, Gallipolis Digital Works has created 127 in-demand technology based careers for the hardest to serve with latest placements averaging nearly $14/hour.

Gallia County
Gallipolis is the county seat for Gallia County, located in southeastern Ohio directly bordering the Ohio River. It is a rural area about two hours south of Columbus, Ohio and about one hour from both Huntington and Charleston, West Virginia. The county has a population of 31,000 people with a median household income of $38,000. The county’s unemployment rate averaged 6.4% for 2015 and more than 26% of county residents live in poverty. It is home to the University of Rio Grande and the Bob Evans Farm homestead and museum and a variety of industries including healthcare, manufacturing, energy, and agribusiness.

Digital Works Participants
Adults that train and graduate from the Digital Works program have varying levels of education and job skills, and come from many backgrounds, as shown in the charts below. Many participants are referred to us: 11% referred by citizen reentry programs, 37% by Job & Family Service agencies, and 3% from differing abilities programs.
Iesha
Iesha was sent to prison at the age of 18 and was incarcerated for 11 months.

“When I got out, I decided I was going to be a law-abiding citizen. I was going to do right in life, and I was going to take care of my child,” said Iesha.

But Iesha found that wasn’t going to be easy. She was having a hard time finding gainful employment to support her family. Iesha was referred to the Digital Works center in Gallipolis by the area welfare agency. She completed the training program and began applying to every telemarketing job opportunity her Digital Works facilitator gave her. Iesha was determined and this determination paid off – she was offered a contract job with eDegree making outbound calls. She received her first promotion in just two weeks, marking the first of many. A little over a year working with the company, Iesha is now making $16 per hour, and even more with bonus and off-hour pay.

“Without Digital Works, I wouldn’t have my job. I wouldn’t have my car, or my house, or even the Internet to work,” said Iesha.

Patricia
Patricia was unemployed when she came to the Digital Works center in Gallipolis, Ohio. She was looking for a job she could do despite having limited mobility. Working from home as a LiveOps customer service agent was the option she was looking for. Patricia also enjoys having control over her schedule and earning supplemental household income, which allows her to spoil her children and grandchildren.

“If you do want to work, if you need to work, Digital Works will give you the tools that you need. They will help you find the opportunities that are out there for you,” said Patricia.

Katherine
Katherine was unemployed and in need of a flexible job that would still allow her to be a full time caregiver for her husband. Katherine was routinely transporting her husband 130 miles one-way for treatment. She started the Digital Works program in September 2015 and already had strong computer skills and years of experience in customer service, but she was worried about speaking to customers by phone.

“I have a speech problem and I had to find ways to properly pronounce names and words while keeping the pace of the scripts,” said Katherine.

By December, Katherine had graduated and was immediately hired by LiveOps.

“LiveOps is a job that fits with my lifestyle—allowing me to take care of my husband while still earning a living,” shared Katherine. “The flexible schedule works around his appointments with doctors, case managers, and treatments, while providing me with an income to support me and my teenage son.”