



Business Community Praises Chase Expansion

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"I would assume that this is the beginning of the turn around for us as a nation," says Heidi Zimmer-Meyer.

Its got business leaders all over Rochester celebrating. Instead of cutting jobs, JP Morgan Chase is expanding.

"The decision for chase to do this is marvelous. Not surprising given that Chase has invested about \$30 million dollars in the tower," says Zimmer-Meyer

Chase says the jobs will be apart of its Mortgage Modification Processing Center. The new Chase employees will help homeowners who are having trouble paying their mortgage.

"These are good jobs. There not necessarily entry level jobs, they're jobs within the banking industry where there's a career track," says Sandy Parker, President of Rochester Business Alliance.

"We have a very highly educated population. These jobs are going to have higher salaries associated with them. And i think all of that bodes well with the white collar town this has become," says Zimmer-Meyer.

The jobs will be based in Rochester's Chase Tower on Main and Clinton streets. Parker says these jobs will have a huge impact on Rochester's economy.

"You're going to have 250 more people working downtown, eating in restaurants downtown, buying coffee ."

That will make it easier to entice additional retail stores and restaurants to move to downtown Rochester.

"Its very inexpensive to do business in Rochester versus NY or other bigger cities where I know Chase has significant operations," says Zimmer-Meyer.

Chase wouldnt comment exactly how much the jobs were paying. But they did say the salaries will be competitive. They're hoping to fill the positions by the end of the summer.

So what are some of the open positions? Chase is hiring loan specialists, underwriters, and people to work in processing at its processing center. The center helps homeowners make their mortgage payments.