

Engineer and Education Leader Helps Others Launch Tech Careers



Inset: Ali Rafieymehr. Above: Pathways2Success, a program Rafieymehr previously taught at River Valley Community College.



COURTESY OF ALI RAFIYMEHR

Drawing on his decades of experience as a software engineer and education leader, Dr. Ali Rafieymehr launched **Saman Technology Solutions** in Hudson last October to help people launch technology careers or pursue advanced degrees.

"These programs are for high school juniors and seniors as well as adult learners who may want to change careers," says Rafieymehr. "Through an arrangement with **Manchester Community College [MCC]**, students who take these courses earn college credit and can continue to work toward a degree at MCC and then continue on to UNH Manchester or Durham if they want."

Rafieymehr's new role as founder and CEO of Saman Technology Solutions draws on his experience at Digital Equipment Corporation, Compaq Corporation and Avici Systems as well as his leadership at several colleges and universities, including serving as dean and director of the Manchester Campus for the **University of NH** and interim president of **River Valley Community College**. He also developed workforce training programs for former tech company Dyn in Manchester as dean of Dyn University and director of instructional design.

Saman Technology Solutions offers a 23-week Software Development Path program that introduces students to software development. Another pro-

gram, the 21-week Software Development and Entrepreneurship Bootcamp, provides participants with skills and insights they need as entrepreneurial software developers.

"There may be some who just aren't ready to start college, and through these courses, they could get a job as a junior programmer without a college degree. When they get a job, they could even continue to attend MCC or another college in the state," says Rafieymehr. "Because my background is a software engineer, I know what they need to become that junior software person."

Rafieymehr says Saman is focused on software and entrepreneurship. The Computer Technology Training courses are stand-alone programs with the specific goal of helping students master a particular skill such as Python or Java in seven weeks.

"One of the jobs I had at Dyn was building the future workforce. My passion, in addition to education, is to create an opportunity for students to find work or internships, and I have a goal to work with apprenticeship programs in the state," he says. "That way we are not just offering the classes but connecting them to the industries and creating pathways from my company to those firms that are hiring." For more information, visit saman.techsolutions.com.