



Industry Led. Community Focused.

FEBRUARY 2022 NEWSLETTER

Celebrating Black History Month

Black History Little Known Fact

The Knights of Labor, the largest and most effective labor union of its time, formed in 1869. Perhaps inspired by NLU's inclusion of Black workers, it opened its union doors to Black and women workers. This move was unheard of at the time, and it became a powerful force in the labor movement.

Highlighting some of our great candidates!



Quinten Williams grew up in Roseland watching his family work in home remodeling, knowing he wanted to work in the trades. But when he applied and was accepted into the carpenters, he found himself in a huge industry without the network he needed to find consistent employment.

That was when Quinten applied with HIRE360 through the We Can Build It Program in partnership with the Obama Presidential Center.

HIRE360 recruiters immediately saw Quinten's potential and started sending his application to employers seeking apprentice carpenters. At long last, he was on the job, working as an apprentice with Milhouse Construction. "I've already referred three other guys," said Quinten "It was the connection I needed to get my career started."

Sencia Sanon, a 33-year-old single mother of two, is of Haitian descent and has been in the U.S. for 23 years. Sencia heard about UNITE HERE Chicago Hospitality Institute (UHCHI) through her union, UNITE HERE Local 1, and in July 2021, Sencia was accepted into the program. Even with the two small children, Sencia was committed to completing the program and was excited



about gaining the opportunity to work in a commercial kitchen.

HIRE360 helped Sencia with childcare using the Barrier Reduction Fund (BRF). She completed the training and started her apprenticeship at the Fairmont Chicago Hotel as a Pastry Cook.

Building Our Team

Meet HIRE360's Newest Staff Members



Alma R. Garcia is joining the HIRE360 team as a Recruiter. Born and raised on the South Side of Chicago, Alma worked in the Law business for 19 years and most recently worked at a Park Place Banquet Hall with Local 150 as an Administrator Recruiter.



Eric Poole is joining the HIRE360 team as an Industry Representative in our Workforce Development program. For over 10 years, Eric worked with at-risk youth in various roles. Most recently, Poole served as a WIOA Career Coach.



Sayisha Pendleton is joining the HIRE360 team as a Recruiter. Sayisha previously served at Chicago Public Schools for 5 years and has an extensive background in communications and public speaking.



Chiquita Hardy is joining the HIRE360 team as a Recruiter. Chiquita comes with a strong background in education and has over 10 years of experience working in nonprofit services.



Sandra Schwarz is joining the HIRE360 team as an Industry Representative and previously worked in the higher education management industry. It was there that Sandra developed connections with students and employers to allow for students to understand and pursue career paths in the industry based on their interest and aptitudes. Within that work, Sandra analyzed the labor market to create a roadmap of specific paths within the field, matched students to quality job opportunities and prepared students for job interviews.

On the Move



Chynna Hampton has taken a new position with the Illinois Climate Jobs Coalition, which is a subsidiary of AFL-CIO, to ensure that historically underrepresented individuals are represented through new Green Energy Legislation.

Chynna will strengthen partnerships for HIRE360 and developing two sister organizations in central and southern Illinois.

Workforce Development

Upcoming Trade Openings

A number of trades are opening soon for applications. Learn about the openings below and reach out to your HIRE360 Recruiter if you want to apply!

- **Tile Finishers** will accept applications until **March 11**. Tile Finishers work with a variety of ceramic products to make beautiful and functional rooms, furnaces and more.
- **IBEW Local 134** – Chicago's Electricians will accept applications for an

upcoming test until **March 30**. Applications are available at their training center every Wednesday.

- **Machinery Movers Local 136** – Machinery Movers help hoist and install heavy equipment for factories, airports, trade shows and more. They will accept applications starting on **March 7**.

More trades are expected to open in the coming weeks as construction season gets underway. Stay in touch with HIRE360 to hear about openings as they happen!

Business Development

Business Development One-on-One Quarterly Meetings

The Business Development Team is conducting Technical Assistance one-on-one meetings with all HIRE360 Business Clients. If your company has not received an appointment, please contact Dave Thomas at dthomas@hire360chicago.com or Deborah Whitaker at dwhitaker@hire360chicago.com to schedule one. Sessions are used to determine the services needed for scaling up your business. Among those services are access to capital, estimating training, mentor relationships, bonding and insurance.



Our Mission Is to Expand Business Opportunities

HIRE360 Voices

Melvin Henley, Principal at **PAC Leaders**, was featured on FOX 32 Good Day Chicago earlier this month. Melvin talks about building the Chicago Fire exhibit at the Chicago History Museum and how PAC Leaders helps trade workers and crafts-people to further their careers. Check out the segment here:





WD3 Associates

WD3 Associates is a 6-year-old, Illinois-based firm that specializes in concrete supply and placement, as well as concrete reinforcement products. They professionally complete projects of all sizes and levels of complexity. Projects range in size and scope today from \$30,000 to \$1,500,000. The dedicated staff possesses decades of collective experience, providing the ability to satisfy customer requirements for any project awarded.

WD3 Associates capabilities include rebar fabrication, concrete pumping, supply of concrete reinforcing products and ready mix supply. They hold MBE Certification in Chicago Minority Supplier Development Council, Mid States Minority Supplier Development Council (Indianapolis/St Louis), City of Chicago, State of Illinois and State of Indiana. Additionally, they hold DBE in Illinois DOT and Indiana DOT.



Thanks to a grant from the Union Pacific Foundation HIRE360 and OTIS were able to team to provide STEM education to middle school youth in Chicago. Over a number of Saturday afternoon sessions, students participate in a number of STEM activities and apply engineering and construction concepts to gain an introduction to careers such as the Building Trades. In a recent session, Otis provided STEM Learning Kits including the materials to build a paper roller coaster to learn how roller coasters work.

Thanks to Otis and Union Pacific Foundation for supporting young folks and introducing them to careers in construction!

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