



Industry Led. Community Focused.

MARCH 2023 E-NEWSLETTER

Workforce Development

New Beginnings for a New Father



Ethan Jones was introduced to HIRE360 while attending a community job fair. Ethan was a merchant marine for many years and was happy despite being away for extended periods of time. Once Ethan discovered that he was going to be a father, his goals changed. Ethan made the decision that he would be around for his son and applied to the [Carpenter's](#) apprenticeship program to be closer to home. Ethan was attracted to a career in the trades because his father was also a tradesman.

Although Ethan, made this life-changing decision, he was still concerned how he would support his family for the first 9 weeks of pre-apprenticeship, since he would have no income. HIRE360 stepped in to assist Ethan with weekly stipends, books, tools, and boots to ensure that he would complete his pre-apprenticeship classes and succeed in his trade. This assistance not only allowed Ethan to complete his pre-apprenticeship program but it also helped him move forward with employment. Today, Ethan continues to work with HIRE360 for employment opportunities during down times. Ethan states that he would “recommend HIRE360 to anybody just entering a career in construction”.

Englewood Mother Finds Her Path through UHCHI Program

Connie Beasley came from a big family. Growing up in Austin and Humboldt Park, she didn't know what career pathway to follow – and with three little girls to care for, she needed to find something. She job hopped for a while but always had a passion for cooking.

After the pandemic uprooted her family to Iowa and back again, she found her way back to Englewood, where she saw an ad for the [UNITEHERE! Chicago Hospitality Institute](#). “I took complete advantage... it was like God heard and answered my prayers!”

Today Connie works at the Sheraton Grand downtown, where she’s making gourmet food for banquets and patrons. “I would totally recommend this program to any and everyone who’s interested in working in the culinary industry... HIRE360 provided a lot of services that have assisted with my goals.”

Congrats to Connie for finding her path!



Recruiting for Illinois Works 2023 Cohorts Now!



HIRE360 is recruiting candidates to join our 2023 [Illinois Works Pre-Apprenticeship Program](#)! This comprehensive program includes over 150 hours of instruction,

apprenticeship tours, job site tours, and more. This program is designed to help candidates understand the construction industry and prepare for an apprenticeship helping build Chicago. Benefits for participants include high-demand certifications, test prep, application supports and a stipend for participating.

Interested in joining? Contact us at getstarted@HIRE360Chicago.com.

HIRE360 Test Prep Brought to ComEd Construct Program

HIRE360 was invited this month to facilitate a math training for [ComEd's CONSTRUCT program](#). Our team covered fractions, mechanical reasoning and demoed paper folding to 90 + participants. “Thank you ComEd for having us!” – Fabiola Bautista, Lead Training Specialist



Mentorship Candidates Tour Lincoln Yards

This month our mentorship group toured [Lincoln Yards](#) thanks to [Sterling Bay](#). Our mentees gained insight on project development and building with the environment in mind. Thank you, Sterling Bay, for the hospitality. For more information regarding our mentorship program reach out to us at training@hire360chicago.com



Hire through HIRE360

HIRE360 is working to prepare the next generation of tradesworkers for careers in industries across Chicago. If you're a signatory contractor, you can work with our Industry Representatives to find qualified candidates with the skills you need to get the job done right. You can also sponsor a candidate who is eager for opportunity and ready to learn and grow with your organization. To get started, contact JobOrders@HIRE360Chicago.com.

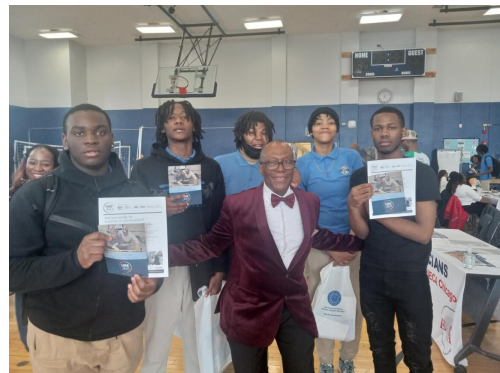
HIRE360's Virtual Job Club

HIRE360's Virtual Job Club is offered bi-weekly on Fridays at noon to provide insight to various opportunities on projects like [CTA:RPM project](#), [Bally's Casino](#), the [Obama Presidential Center](#). We feature companies like [WE O'Neal](#), [Kiewit Construction](#), [BOWA Construction](#), [Gilco Scaffolding Company](#) and many more. To learn more about these job opportunities, attend our next Job Club.

To register, please contact your HIRE360 Recruiter or email us at info@HIRE360Chicago.com.

HIRE360 in the Community

HIRE360 participated at the 2nd Annual Career & Trades Fair at [Hyde Park Academy](#). The Career & Trades Fair was designed for high school juniors and seniors to get exposure to several different trade and employment opportunities that they may consider post-graduation.



Apprenticeship Program Openings

HIRE360 is excited to announce our trade partners: [Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers \(BAC\)](#), [Pipefitters Local 597](#), and [Ironworkers Local 63](#) are accepting applications for the apprenticeship program.

- **Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers:** open year round! in related trades install and repair brick, stone, tile, marble, ceramic, concrete and other masonry. These trades often combine skill and careful planning with craftsmanship to build structurally sound products and create architectural art. They also tuck point masonry and build fireplaces, industrial furnaces and sewers. For more information reach out to your case manager.
- **Pipefitters:** The next application date for our welders in Local 597 is **April 5th!** If you're interested in a high-tech career welding in a wide array of environments, from nuclear power plants to hospitals. Your recruiter can help you make a reservation to apply.
- **Ironworkers Local 63:** **open year round!** Architectural and Ornamental

Ironworkers build steel structures for windows, stairwells, door frames, and other critical infrastructure inside buildings. [Click here](#) to learn more about this amazing trade. For more information reach out to your recruiter.

For those individuals interested in applying and a letter of recommendation, please contact your HIRE360 Recruiter today or email us at info@HIRE360Chicago.com.

Business Development

Upcoming Event

On April 18 - 19, [the Chicago Minority Supplier Development Council, Inc. \(ChicagoMSDC\)](#) invites you to join the Chicago area business community for the historical and unprecedented 56th Annual Chicago Business Opportunity Fair (CBOF56) to be held at the [Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile](#).

[Click here to register.](#)

56TH ANNUAL
CHICAGO BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY FAIR
APRIL 18-19, 2023 • CHICAGO MARRIOTT DOWNTOWN

THE FIRST AND LARGEST, LOCAL PROCUREMENT CONFERENCE
connecting minority-owned business suppliers with corporate and government buyers

Workshops • Matchmaking • Awards • Trade Fair • Connections • Resource Guide

REGISTER ONLINE!
VISIT CBOF56.COM

#CBOF56 @CHICAGOMSDC

Youth Engagement

CPS Skilled Trades Fair Panel Discussions

HIRE360 held a 2-day panel discussion about careers and pathways in construction at the [Chicago Public Schools \(CPS\) Skilled Trades Fair](#) at [McCormick Place](#). Panelists included HIRE360's board members, [Don Biernacki](#) and [Brian Ortiz](#), diverse contractors and individuals that have worked with our programs to gain employment and expand business. These panels interacted with thousands of students from nearly 100 high schools in Chicago, answering questions and encouraging youth to pursue careers in the field of construction.



HIRE360 Needs You This Summer to Host Students!

This summer, HIRE360 is partnering with [Chicago Public Schools \(CPS\)](#) and their [Career Tech Education's Construction & Architecture](#) programs to provide unique work-based learning opportunities for students. We are seeking companies that can host between 1-3 student interns from June 26 – August 4, 2023. The intern(s) can participate in a rotational program, working with your team in day-to-day project tasks, meetings, and some administrative work. Student will be paid and supported by CPS and HIRE360! If you are interested and ready to support youth in construction, please contact Rashaan Meador at rmeador@HIRE360Chicago.com to register your company today!





Our Mission Is to Expand Employment Opportunities

IN THE NEWS

HIRE360 Helps Woman to Expand Business
Weekly Citizen, Tia Carol Jones, March 30, 2023

Cristina Villafuerte Beran is the owner of Chicago Voice & Data Authority, a telecommunications company. Through working with HIRE360, Beran was able to expand her business.



[Read the full article here.](#)



Partner Spotlight

HIRE360 is proud to announce that we have signed an MOU with I AM A GENTLEMAN, INC. (iAGG) to help help young men learn more about the process of getting into the construction trades.



Small Business Spotlight

Secure Source America (SSA) is a certified minority woman owned U.S. based manufacturer of cabinets and flooring. HIRE360 participated in a facility tour at their Lemont, IL factory and distribution center. The team enjoyed their time

Founded by Jermaine Lawrence, iAGG is revolutionizing the game in a society where young African American men find it difficult to fit in.

The nonprofit provides award-winning, male mentoring and leadership development to thousands of African American males and their families throughout the Chicagoland region.

Students who complete the academy promise to alter their outlook on life and acquire priceless teachings based around giving back, taking responsibility, and making life better for others.

Many corporations, organizations, corporate professionals and media stakeholders have aligned with I AM A GENTLEMAN, INC. including [Boeing](#), the [Chicago Police Department](#), [Chicago Public Schools](#) the [Chicago Bulls](#), [Ford Motor Company](#), [Walmart](#) and [ABC7 Chicago](#).

and discussions and feel very confident in SSA's value to the construction industry and commitment to excellence that will become a benchmark standard of minority businesses having greater impact on communities and development projects. SSA is also the largest domestic cabinets and flooring wholesaler in the United States. With their extensive history in construction materials, they have an excellent reputation and are industry leaders producing some of the most in demand cabinet styles. Current clients include some of the most recognized names in the industry including Empire, Luna, Lowes and many of the nation's most recognized names in home development, home improvement and home furnishings.

SSA is also very committed to supporting the [Buy American Act](#) and Made In The USA initiatives.

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