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SEPTEMBER 2023 E-NEWSLETTER

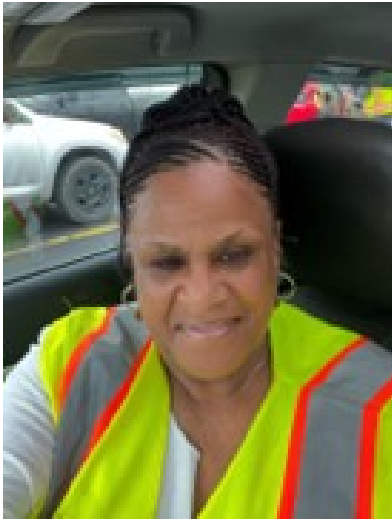
Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility Panel

This month HIRE360 hosted the Chicagoland Association of General Contractors (CAGC), the Association of Subcontractors and Affiliates (ASA) and the Chicago Building Congress at our in-progress training center for a panel discussion program. Attendees enjoyed an insightful and engaging discussion led by moderator Kelly Hogan, on the benefits of diversity and how it drives growth and success in organizations.

Thank you to all those who attended and special thank you to the exceptional panelists Jimmy Akintonde, President of Ujamaa Construction Tomas Huerta, President at Anagnos Door Company, JuanPablo Prieto, Director at Chicago Transit Authority, Keiana Barrett, Director of Diversity & Strategic Development at Sterling Bay and Mike Meagher, President of McHugh Construction. Your inspiring stories and unwavering dedication to advancing diversity within the construction industry are truly commendable. We also want to give a big shout out to Dan Allen and Jamillah Muhammad from CISCO for everything they do to support our industry!



Success Story: Amena Muhammad



Amena Muhammad grew up in Auburn Gresham and currently lives in West Chatham. Six years ago, Amena embarked on a journey of exploration and research to discover opportunities within the construction industry that could propel her career forward. She had initially worked as a Polymer Chemist but made a deliberate choice to pivot into a different career path. Amena was accepted into [Dawson Technical Institute's](#) Highway Construction Career Training Program where she learned all about construction from Electrical Theory to concrete forming. In March of 2020, Amena found HIRE360. At the time she was looking to become laborer but with the end goal of becoming an [Operating Engineers Local 150](#). Amena attended several workshops including our resume workshop and job clubs. Amena stated, "HIRE360 helped me get exposure to contractors through Career Fairs." After working for various contractors as a laborer she was accepted into the Local 150's Operating Engineers apprenticeship program where she has been an apprentice for the last 5 months. " I would recommend HIRE360 to a family or friend". We cannot wait to see what else Amena accomplishes!

Success Story: Nicholas Gamino

Nicholas Gamino, 23, grew up in Chicago's Little Village. He first learned about HIRE360 when he joined [Illinois Works Pre-Apprenticeship Program](#). Through this program Nicholas was introduced to various construction trades and attended workshops covering the history of the Union, what having a career in construction means, and participated in our test prep to help him with the trades apprenticeship aptitude test. After graduating from the program, Nicholas applied to and was accepted into [IBEW 134](#). He is now a first-year apprentice with IBEW 134 and will be working for [Elite Electric](#) at Roosevelt Square. "I am so proud of Nicholas for going through with our program! I know he will accomplish great things!" said Genesis Montes De Oca, Case Manager.



Success Story: Reshaun Scott

Reshaun Scott, 35 grew up on the West Side of Chicago in the North Lawndale area. He was valedictorian of his elementary school and graduated from the prestigious Whitney Young High School. Reshaun is the father of a 13-year-old daughter and is very family oriented. He previously worked for the [U.S. Postal Service](#) but is now in his first year of the [Laborers](#) apprenticeship program. He became a



member in the construction field through a mentor in the field. Reshaun stated that HIRE360 helped him purchase the equipment and supplies he needed for work through the Barrier Reduction Fund. He is in constant communication with his HIRE360 case manager to get guidance throughout his career journey. We look forward to seeing Reshaun grow during his apprenticeship and beyond!

HIRE360's Green Energy and Construction Pre-Apprenticeship Program

HIRE360 is excited to launch our upcoming **Green Energy and Pre-Apprenticeship Program** starting October 23. This is an 8-week pre-apprentice training program that will introduce our candidates to construction and energy industries. This program will help transition participants to a skilled trade apprenticeship.



Additional Project Offerings:

- MC3 certificate
- Test prep readiness f
- CPR and OSHA certification
- Career planning
- Site tours
- Networking opportunities
- Stipend upon program completion

To be eligible for the program, candidates must be an Illinois resident who is 18 or older, authorized to work in the U.S., have a valid driver's license, possess a GED or HS diploma with a C or better in HS Algebra or higher and have a genuine desire to seek a construction job. For more information contact us at training@hire360chicago.com.

UNITEHERE! Chicago Hospitality Institute Recruits for Upcoming Cohort

UNITEHERE! Chicago Hospitality Institute

is recruiting for their next cohort for their Chef de Partie Apprenticeship Program. This comprehensive 8-week pre-apprenticeship program will provide candidates with the necessary skills and tools they need to start off a great career working as an apprentice in world-class kitchens and preparing gourmet meals for restaurants, banquet halls, hotels, and more. The program includes job placement assistance with union employers, skills development and case management.



For more information about this opportunity, candidates can attend a free information session, which will be offered on a rolling basis this Fall. Contact your HIRE360 case

Mentorship News

Our HIRE360 mentees participated in a career panel hosted by [CTA](#). Thank you to our panelists [CTA Senior Signal Manager Rick Caraba](#), [CTA General Manager Leonardo Romano](#), and [SQN Associates Construction Manager Sonya Jasper](#) for taking the time to speak with our group and William Mooney for facilitating a great panel discussion. A special thank you to [CTA's Director JuanPablo Prieto](#) for helping bring this event together.



Apprenticeship Program Openings

HIRE360 is excited to announce our trade partners are accepting applications for their apprenticeship programs:

- [The International Union of Operating Engineers Local 150](#) is opening applications on October 3 for the trade of Heavy Equipment Operator on October 3. Applications remain open for trades of Heavy Equipment Repair Technician, Geothermal Well Driller Operator, and Construction & Building Inspector. If you are interested, contact your case manager.
- [Sprinkler Fitters Local 281](#) will be accepting application starting November 8. The Sprinkler Fitters Local 281 are pipefitting specialists in fire protection. To learn more about this trade or to apply contact your case manager directly.
- [Plumbers' JAC Local 130](#), UA will be accepting only online applications for admission to the Plumbing Apprenticeship Program starting November 13, 2023 through February 16, 2024. For a letter of recommendation please contact your case manager TODAY.
- [Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers District Council Training Center](#) applications are accepted year-round on Mondays through Fridays between 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. Application MUST be submitted in person all year-round applications. If you are interested, contact your case manager.
- [Iron Workers Local 63](#) - Architectural and Ornamental is accepting applications all year-round apply online. If you are interested, contact your case manager.
- [Iron Workers Local 63](#) - Fence Erectors Apprentices are accepting applications on **September 6th**. Apply online. If you are interested, contact your case manager.
- [Roofers Local 11](#) – The Roofers are responsible for installing, maintaining, waterproofing, protecting and coordinating other trades working on rooftops from your local school to the tallest skyscrapers in the city. Apply online anytime!
- [Electricians Local 134](#) – Construction electricians assemble, install, maintain, and test every aspect of electrical equipment and support componentry, including power distribution, power generation, energy storage, and renewable energy production components. Applications are accepted every Wednesday 9-3 pm at their Alsip location. If you are interested, contact your case manager.
- [Pipefitters Local 597](#) - The next application date for our welders in Local 597 is

October 4. Your case manager can help you make a reservations to apply if you're interested in a high-tech career welding in a wide array of environments, from nuclear power plants to hospitals.

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

Business Development

CISCO Golf Outing

Despite a steady downpour, more than 140 golfers, including HIRE360's Manager of Business Development and Supply Chain, Dave Thomas, Director of Workforce Development, Ana Maria Montes de Oca-Rojas, and Industry Representative, Dexter Oliver, braved the elements to participate in the [Construction Industry Service Corporation's \(CISCO\)](#) annual golf outing. Proceeds from the outing will benefit local charities "Gateway to Learning" and "Christmas Without Cancer." The trio were joined by John Hill, Jr. a Salesforce consultant who also provided (much needed and appreciated) golf lessons.



Youth Engagement

Union Pacific Awards \$10K Grant to Next Chicago Builders Program

HIRE360's Next Chicago Builders program was recently awarded the [Community Ties Giving Program Workforce Development grant by Union Pacific](#). This \$10,000 award will go to our efforts of expanding opportunities for youth to discover and pursue careers in construction trades. This grant is a part of [Union Pacific's](#) "long-standing commitment to improve the quality of life" in the communities they serve, civic leadership, and being recognized as an excellent corporate citizen.



We're honored to be in working in partnership to create more diverse, equitable, and inclusive communities!



Partner Spotlight

Urban Alliance was founded in 1996 in Washington, DC. Since then, they have expanded their programs across the DC metro area to include Montgomery County, Prince George's County, and parts of Northern Virginia, and expanded to Baltimore, Chicago, and Detroit. Over 25 years, they have placed more than 6,000 young people in paid internships, and reached an additional 23,000 youth through career training.

Urban Alliance connects high school students to equitable, inclusive careers through paid work experiences, mentorship, and professional development. They work with schools and employers to address systemic barriers to economic mobility for young adults of color and to bridge the gaps between education and workforce



Small Business Spotlight

Space Continuum is a specialty interior, commercial furnishings, distribution, technology, and services firm. They provide consultative interior design, space planning, renovation, and installation services. The company is owned by Principal Owner, John G. Johnson and Vice President, Joshua Johnson. They represent over 75 manufacturer product lines including Herman Miller Knoll Commercial furniture under the commercial brand of Miller Knoll. Space Continuum holds various other national and local agency certifications including MBE, DBE and NMSDC.

Performances

Space Continuum has executed major commercial furniture contracts with the Cook County Capital Planning Department valued at \$4 mil for the

development for all young people. Urban Alliance has partnered with HIRE360 with signing a MOU with the hope of helping residents in the community learn more about the process of entering unionized construction and culinary careers.

years 2021 - 2024. They have executed a nationwide master commercial furniture contract with Exelon valued at \$17 mil. They have executed a Chicago Public Schools furniture contract to provide commercial children and administrative furnishings for the years 2021-2025 valued at \$14 million dollars.

Technology

In 2023, Space Continuum recognized the need to change and add to its portfolio of offerings and remain relevant in the marketplace. They are a national distributor of EV charging stations for commercial and residential customers and can provide destination infrastructure building services and products for fast, easy, and safe charging.

HIRE360

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