

# Industry Led. Community Focused.

**MAY 2024 E-NEWSLETTER** 

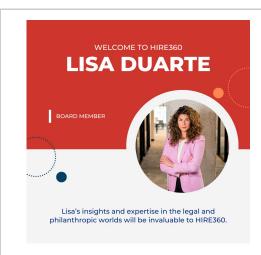
# **Board of Directors**

HIRE360 is thrilled a group of such great leaders has agreed to join our board of directors to provide us with sound advice and direction over the coming years.

Please join us in extending a warm welcome to our new board members!



Pat serves as the secretary-treasurer of the Illinois AFL-CIO representing labor unions, works on the Illinois State Employment Security Advisory Board and was the former President of the Association of Fire Fighters of Illinois. With his experience advocating for workers' rights and commitment to community welfare, we know Pat will be an asset to our board.



Lisa has a wealth of experience in economics and governmental law, having served as legislative counsel at the City of Chicago Mayor's Office and as a current partner at Croke Fairchild Duarte & Beres. Her insights and expertise in the legal and philanthropic worlds will be invaluable moving forward.



Pastor Harrell brings a wealth of experience and a deep commitment to community service. From co-founding the Black Men United Foundation to his tireless efforts in supporting urban communities, Pastor Harrell's dedication is truly inspiring. We are honored to have him on board and look forward to the positive impact he will undoubtedly bring to our organization.



Julia brings with her a wealth of experience, having served as the immediate past President of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, one of the nation's largest philanthropies. Her dedication to community welfare is evident from her previous roles, including Commissioner of the Department of Housing for the city and Chief of Staff to Mayor Richard M. Daley. With her extensive background and passion for social impact, Julia will be a valuable addition to our board!

# **Training Center Update**

The Training Center is really coming along.

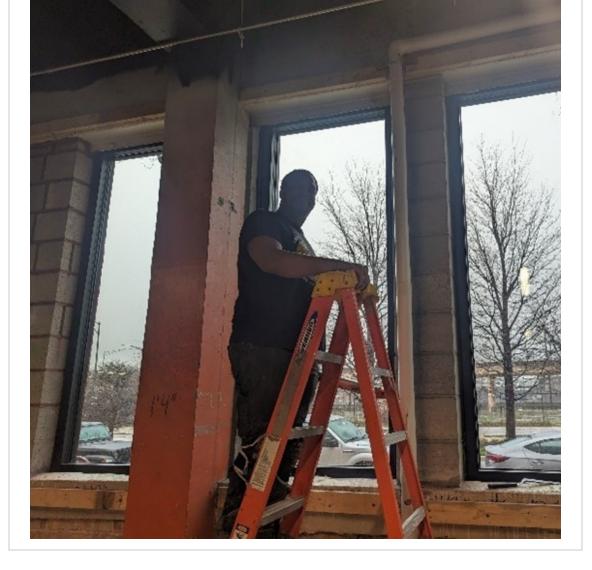
A huge thank you to <u>Duravit AG</u> and <u>Delta Faucet</u> for their generous donations of fixtures and porcelain to outfit our training center. We cannot thank Gerard Pagliuco at <u>Added Sales Company</u> enough for his help putting this all together. And thank you so much to the team at <u>Great Lakes Plumbing and Heating</u> for helping make everything come together – especially Tony. Looking great!



Thank you to Cristina, John, Carlos, and the whole team at Chicago Voice & Data Authority for getting us connected and secure!



A big thank you to <u>SG Metal & Glass</u> for their help with a few additional windows. A huge thank you to <u>Pepper Construction</u> for all their help with all our windows and exterior or training center. Looking great.



# Workforce Development

#### Success Story: Laurence Jackson

At 40 years old, Laurence Jackson hails from the Englewood neighborhood and is a proud father. His diverse work history includes janitorial roles, factory work, and servicing rail cars for the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA). An alumnus of Englewood Technical Prep Academy, Laurence pursued further education in telecommunication systems management at Midlands Technical College, but his studies were cut short due to having to move out of state.



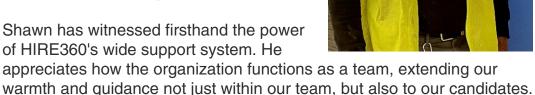
Driven by a desire to advance in a trade that promises growth in a booming economy, to explore new opportunities, and to meet high standards that pave the way for a promising and stable future, Laurence joined HIRE360. In 2023, he took part in the <a href="Take Charge Electric Vehicles Program">Take Charge Electric Vehicles Program</a>, enhancing his skill set with resume writing, test preparation, and obtaining certifications in CPR, OSHA, Fall Protection, and

Scaffolding through the Trades Futures grant.

Laurence applied to the <u>IBEW Local 134</u> and successfully completed its Jumpstart Program this year. Currently, he is employed by the CTA as a Flagger, as he awaits his results from IBEW134. We are filled with pride and eagerly anticipate Laurence's next achievements!

#### Success Story: Shawn Watts

Shawn's journey with HIRE360 has been nothing short of transformative! With our assistance, he was able to manage his bills and rent, making it possible for him to navigate through the challenging 11-week pre-apprenticeship. Shawn's participation in our mentorship program opened up a world of networking opportunities. He found himself invigorated and motivated, connecting deeply with other candidates who shared the same aspirations. In his words, it was "uplifting".



"We help people and direct them in the right direction," he says.

As a new father, Shawn acknowledges the challenges of staying focused. However, he overcomes these obstacles by mentally programming himself to be self-disciplined in pursuit of his life goals. His advice to anyone aspiring to join the Construction Industry is to stay focused on their vision and maintain self-discipline. Currently, Shawn is working with <u>Gurtz Electric Co.</u>, contributing to the electrical work at HIRE360's new Training Center. His work has been nothing short of

His experience has been so positive that he has referred about 7 people to HIRE360, including his own brother. This is a testament to the impactful work we do at HIRE360. Let's continue to make a difference!



#### **Empowering Futures Graduation**

amazing.

HIRE360 and <u>Constellation</u> celebrated their 1<sup>st</sup> <u>Empowering Futures</u> graduation at the HIRE360 Training Center. This program provided 15 candidates with the opportunity to explore three different career pathways which were: Apply to

Constellation job opportunities; Apply to Building Trades Apprenticeship Program and Apply to potential job opportunities with partners. Since completing the program, three individuals have found employment, and one individual has been accepted into the <u>Laborers</u> Apprenticeship Program. Thank you to our guest speaker, Cook County Commissioner Dennis Deer for the empowering words shared with our graduates. A special thank you to our partner <u>Constellation</u> for your partnership and allowing us to conduct this program. Congratulations to our Empowering Futures graduates!





#### Illinois Works Graduation

HIRE360 celebrated our Illinois Works candidates at their graduation ceremony. We were joined by Dr. Norman Ruano, Deputy Director of the Illinois Works
Program at Illinois Department of
Commerce and Economic Opportunity
who spoke with our candidates about how this is the just beginning of their new career. Thank you to DCEO and to everyone working on the program and congratulations to our graduates!





#### Citywide Career Fair

HIRE360 recently participated in Malcolm X College's Citywide Career Fair. Employers and organizations were there to provide job opportunities and resources to job seekers. HIRE360 was joined by partner organizations such as <a href="The Chicago Transit Authority">The Chicago Transit Authority</a>, <a href="Chicago Transit Authority">Chicago Women in Trades</a> and <a href="Revolution Workshop">Revolution Workshop</a>. Approximately, 300 individuals attended this event and received valuable information and resources. HIRE360 Staff met with numerous individuals who were interested in a career in the construction trades.



#### **Clark Construction Event**

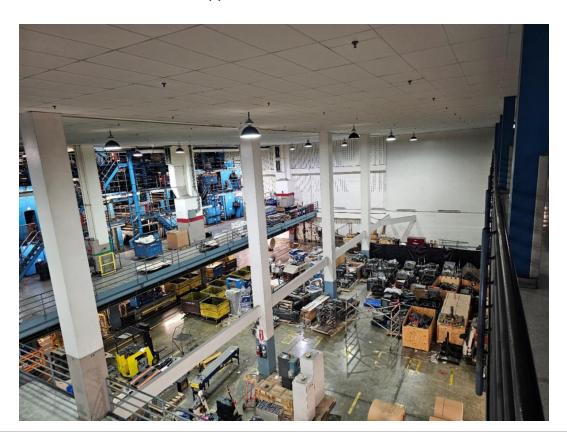
HIRE360 participated in the CTA/ Clark Construction Open House. There

were a combination of different contractor organizations and several agencies present to talk to the clients attended the event seeking employment and career opportunities. The event was held at the recently built CTA facility located at 255 East 63<sup>rd</sup> St. Chicago, IL.



### **CCBC Outreach Meeting**

HIRE360 participated in <u>Chicago Community Builders Collective</u> outreach meeting for the Bally's Chicago Casino Project. The meeting, held at the Chicago Tribune Freedom Center, gave interested business partners insight and information into the upcoming packages for this project. After the various scopes of work were discussed, the CCBC gave time to allow networking amongst the businesses present. HIRE360 is looking forward to partnering with this project and providing our candidates for these opportunities discussed.



Mentorship: Happy Earth Day

In honor of Earth Day, Mentorship candidates learned about clean energy and construction. Candidates attended a site tour of Lathrop Homes to learn about how they are using clean energy in their new and historic buildings and during construction. The community was awarded three certifications in LEED ND- Gold Certified, LEED v2 BD&C Silver Certification, and Enterprise Green Communities. Candidates were able to tour a model apartment and learn the ways in which each apartment is saving on energy and water. Candidates were able to see the high efficiency heating and cooling systems along with water efficiency plumbing fixtures. The tour also showed the trees that were preserved during construction and how the wood from trees on the property that could not be preserved were repurposed along with the clean up along the Chicago River that was done during the construction process including a public boat dock. Thank you to Related Midwest for hosting



#### **Curie High School Visit**

Seandra Steed, Recruiter, and Cindy Bojorquez, Manager of Workforce Development, had the pleasure of visiting Marie Curie High School to engage with Seniors and Juniors who have shown interest in the Culinary Field. Our morning was spent in enriching discussions with the Seniors, while our afternoon was scheduled for an informational session with the Juniors. In the interim, between both culinary classes, we were stationed at the Career Center, eager to converse with any students who are interested.



#### **Apprenticeship Program Openings**

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

- Glaziers Architectural Metal & Glass Workers Local 27: currently accepting applications until June. You must make an appointment, so contact your case manager for more details.
- <u>Pipefitters Local 597</u>: the next application date for welders in Local 597 is May 1. Your case manager can help you make a reservation to apply if you are interested in a high-tech career welding in a wide array of environments, from nuclear power plants to hospitals.
- Mechanics Union Local 701: Now accepting applications. The next class start is scheduled for July. For more information reach out to your case manager.
- Painters District Council 14: Finishing trades Institute of DC 14
   Chicago is accepting applications all year round. You must make
   an appointment online or by phone M- F from 7 am to 3 pm. For
   more information contact your case manager.
- <u>Electricians Local 134</u>: 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 from 9-11 a.m. at their Alsip location.
- Roofers Local 11: Roofing and Waterproofing: If you like working outdoors and often at heights. A Roofer and Water proofer perform many jobs: Applying hot and cold built-up roofing, applying various single ply roofing systems, Installing shingle, tile and slate roofs.
   Waterproofing foundations, plaza decks and traffic coatings. Lining ponds and tanks. Environmentally friendly green roofing systems.
- <u>Bricklayers:</u> Bricklayers create architectural works of art with stone and tile. As with all trades, you should be prepared to work hard, outside and at heights on a regular basis to succeed in this trade. They will take a class early next year.
- Boilermakers Local 1: If you have experience as a welder, and especially an AWS Welding certification, the Boilermakers are opening their apprenticeship program. This exciting career offers

- opportunities building technical systems in energy production, manufacturing, and commercial construction. The deadline to apply will be in December, so reach out to learn more on how to apply now.
- <u>Electricians IBEW Local 701</u>: Local 701 are the construction electricians in DuPage County. While there is no residency requirement to live in DuPage, although be aware that the bulk of their work will be there. Construction electricians install and maintain electrical infrastructure in new and existing buildings. NOTE: applications are for their 2025 apprenticeship program, at their training center in Warrenville. There are two training programs available: Commercial Electrician & Telecommunications Electrician. You can apply for both at the same time!
- Sheet Metal Workers Local 265: If you're interested in HVAC and you're willing to work primarily in the Suburbs, the sheet metal workers offer an exciting opportunity. Sheet metal workers work with sheet metal products, designing, manufacturing, cutting, installing, and maintaining heating and cooling systems, metal siding, metal roofing and other productions in construction.

For those individuals interested in applying and needing a letter of recommendation, please contact your HIRE360 Case Manager today or email us at <a href="mailto:info@HIRE360Chicago.com">info@HIRE360Chicago.com</a>

# **Business Development**

#### Honoring Deborah Whitaker

HIRE360 is very proud that Deborah Whitaker, Director of Business Development and Supply Chain is being recognized for the invaluable assistance she has provided to so many suppliers and contractors.

AWBC media is honoring extraordinary black women including Deborah who is receiving the 2024 Business & Career Impact Award.

We hope you can join us and all the awardees at this exciting event. For more details, <u>click</u> here.



# **Contractor Matchmaking Event**



#### You're Invited - Interested Business Partners

#### Bally's Chicago Casino Project

Please join The Chicago Community Builders Collective (CCBC) on Tuesday, May 14, 2024, for a networking event related to the Bally's Chicago Casino project. The event aims to connect primes/ tier-1 contractors, MBE/WBE trade contractors, suppliers, vendors, professional services firms, and key stakeholders to build partnerships for potential business opportunities. It will be a great opportunity to network and explore potential collaborations to expand your business.

**Tuesday, May 14, 2024** 2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. CT

HIRE360 2540 S. State St. Chicago, IL 60616

#### Scopes of work includes:

- Concrete
- > Curtainwall
- > Electrical
- > Fire Suppression
- HVAC
- > Long Lead Electrical Equipment
- > Metal Panels
- Plumbing
- > Site Utilities
- > Fire Suppression

#### Scan to RSVP





**Who is the CCBC?** The CCBC is a nine-firm joint venture partnership comprised of minority and woman-owned businesses as majority partner. CCBC is serving as general contractor for the Bally's Chicago Casino Project. Bally's Chicago will be a flagship for Bally's Corporation, creating a world class casino, entertainment district and hotel.

















#### **Chicago Business Opportunity Day**

Building on the legacy of the organization's strong history, Chicago Minority Supplier Development Council is positioning itself to continue to be transformative in the work that it does through what is now known as the Chicago Business Opportunity Forums, a series of events spread out over several months and designed to focus on many of the council's strengths. The first event in this series was the Chicago Business Opportunity Day, which took place on April 16<sup>th</sup> at the Convene, located in the Fulton Market District. This event presented a unique opportunity

for hundreds of diverse business owners to interact with representatives from many of Chicago's largest corporations.

HIRE360's Dave Thomas, Manager of Business Development and Supply Chain, attended the event as did several of our contractor and supplier clients. Mayor Brandon Johnson was on hand to open the festivities with a few remarks about the importance of the day and the event. The event was concluded with a "Wine Down Reception" which presented a less formal opportunity to connect with new contacts, old friends, business prospects and fellow colleagues.



Courtesy of ChicagoMSDC

photo by Powell Creative Services

# Save the Date



# HIRE360 BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT PRESENTS "LEAD THE WAY HR CONCEPTS"

Please join us for a presentation from Aleta Way, CEO of Lead the Way HR Concepts, LLC. She will provide valuable information on the importance of having a sound human resources infrastructure for your business.

June 17, 2024, 12:00PM - 1:00PM

To register for this event, please contact Dave Thomas at <a href="mailto:DThomas@HIRE360Chicago.com">DThomas@HIRE360Chicago.com</a>.

#### **Succession Planning Recap**

HIRE360 is offering a series of webinars presented by industry experts designed to help clients be prepared for all aspects of business ownership and growth. The first of these presentations took place on April 16<sup>th</sup> as they featured James K. Luster, owner of J King Advisors, LLC, a company that provides business insurance, employee benefits, and succession planning services. Luster presented a webinar on the subject of Business Ownership Plans, particularly succession planning.

Luster discussed the different aspects of a Business Owner Plans (BOP) which included:

- · Business Succession Plans
- Salary Continuation Plans
- Key Employee Retention Plans
- Executive Bonus Plans
- Buy-Sell Agreements Funding
- Retirement Savings
- · Bank-Owned Life Insurance

Bolstering this presentation were the numerous real-life examples of what can happen if you are a business owner, and you don't have a BOP in place such as owners unexpectedly passing away, leaving the surviving family members to sift through stacks of records in order to understand the structure and status of the company, current contracts, which showed just how important this topic was for business owners.

For a recording of the presentation, please contact Dave Thomas at <a href="mailto:dthomas@hire360chicago.com">dthomas@hire360chicago.com</a> or by contacting J King Advisors, LLC, James K. Luster at <a href="mailto:jluster@benefitmngt.com">jluster@benefitmngt.com</a> or (708) 704-0215.

# Youth Engagement

#### HIRE360 & CDA Explore Careers on O'Hare Airport Tour

HIRE360 along with the <u>Chicago Department of Aviation</u> hosted over 50 students from <u>Prosser High School</u> and the <u>CPS Chicago Builds program</u> at the CDA main office at <u>O'Hare Airport</u>. We were able to share great information about careers in aviation and construction as well as conduct a tour of construction sites at O'Hare. Other participants included <u>BOWA Construction</u>, <u>AECOM</u>, and the <u>FAA</u>. Our final tour of the school year will be on 5/29 with an additional 50+ students from two other high schools.







The Labor Council For Latin
American Advancement
(LCLAA) is a national 501(c)3
non-profit Latino labor
organization with chapters
across the U.S. and Puerto
Rico, their power is seen and
felt through community
advocacy, education,
organizing, and engagement
that elevates the social, political,
and economic advancement of
Latino working families.

The LCLAA believes in the power of the labor movement. They unify voices and bring people together in solidarity to press for social, economic, climate, and labor justice for the two million Latino union workers and families they represent.

Throughout their programs they promote leadership, specially among young Latinas, advocacy in our communities, civic participation, and they defend workers' rights.



iJ Design Studio is an architecture and design firm located at 1052 W. Fulton Market Street in Chicago. The firm was founded by Janeen Harrell, AIA, who also serves as the firm's Director. As both an architect and interior designer, Harrell approaches her work with a unique and thorough perspective. She is responsible for the design, management, and successful completion of a broad range of projects including commercial, residential, and corporate buildings and interiors. The Studio strives to help broaden access to architectural design and ensure that more businesses and communities of color benefit from it.

iJ Design Studio's mission is to actively enhance the health and well-being of their communities through design that honors creative expression, the human spirit, and the natural environment. They have Lastly, LCLAA has partnered with HIRE360 by completing an MOU and collaborating to get clients into the unionized construction trades.

extensive experience in varied phases of projects and consistently deliver thoughtful, contextual, well-crafted design solutions to the built environment while maintaining excellent client and consultant relationships. They have a strong interest in the intersection of sustainable and affordable design and have crafted their professional services for the benefit of their clients.

HIRE360

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