

Workforce In Action

 **Training** a Skilled Workforce for
today's businesses

 **Connecting** People to Employers and
Employers to People

 **Developing** Employment Solutions
for the future

Located across from the Government Center
at 500 Russel Court in Woodstock, IL,
McHenry County Workforce Network has a
variety of programs and services for employers
and job seekers needing assistance in meeting
the challenges of today's job market.

We are an affiliate of Illinois workNet
which is a consolidated effort to provide a
one-stop system for employment related
services in McHenry County and part of a
nation-wide, grant funded system.

June 2025



500 Russel Ct., Woodstock, IL 60098
www.mchenrycountyworkforce.com



McHenry County Workforce Network

These are but a small sample of the successes our Workforce Program Participants who have taken advantage of the workshops, career advising, resume reviews, training opportunities and the many other tools available through the McHenry County Workforce Center.

See more of our workforce program customer stories at www.mchenrycountyworkforce.com

Project SEARCH Class of 2024/25



Adaptable, determined, and fun-loving; words that come to mind when describing the Project SEARCH Graduating Class of 2025. In partnership with the Parents Alliance Employment Project (PAEP), the McHenry County Workforce Network celebrated the success of 11 interns who completed the Project SEARCH program at Northwestern Medicine-Huntley Hospital.

Each intern completed rounds of internships through different departments in the hospital including Mother/Baby, Supply Chain, Food and Nutrition, Cardiac Diagnostics, and many more! In addition to their internship duties, the interns received classroom instruction. Topics included interview etiquette, how to make a great first impression, financial literacy, self-advocacy, and how to conduct a job search. Throughout the duration of the program, the Workforce Network provided bus cards allowing the interns to have consistent transportation to and from their internship, as well as incentive gift cards for successfully completing employment readiness activities.

Gaining these important skills meant that at graduation, 5 of the 11 interns had already found employment! For those who are still involved in job search, the Workforce Network and the staff of Project SEARCH are continuing to provide guidance on how to find employment that meets the needs and interests of the interns. From the beginning, it has been evident that this class is composed of individuals who are thoughtful, hard-working, and have a sense of humor that makes overcoming obstacles that much easier. We are proud of each of them for achieving their goals and working on the necessary skills to help them find employment.

Young Adult Stories

Nevaeh H. (60098)

Nevaeh came to the WIOA Youth Program with an interest in exploring healthcare career options. She was 18 years old and currently pregnant when she entered the program. She knew that utilizing occupational skills training would allow her to gain a certification in the medical field. This would

provide job security and allow her future career growth opportunities as she cared for herself and her child. With the help of her career planner at her local workforce center, Nevaeh enrolled in a WIOA-funded Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) training program. Through her hard work, Nevaeh completed her training and passed the state exam to become a Certified Nursing Assistant, all while caring for her newborn child and working a part time job. Nevaeh’s dedication to her family, her training, and her career is inspirational. She is now working in the medical field and can continue to expand her career with further training in the future.

Ronaldo G. (60102)

Ronaldo is a determined young adult and proud parent who transformed his future with the support of the WIOA Young Adult Program. Like many young parents, Ronaldo faced the challenge of providing for his family while trying to build a stable and rewarding career. He knew he wanted more than just a job — he wanted a future with opportunity and growth. Through the WIOA Young Adult Program, Ronaldo discovered a pathway to achieve his goals. With the help of WIOA funding, he enrolled in CDL (Commercial Driver's License) training, gaining the skills and certifications necessary to enter the high-demand field of truck driving. Ronaldo committed himself fully to the program, balancing the responsibilities of training with being a parent. His hard work paid off — he successfully completed his CDL training and has secured employment as a professional truck driver. Today, Ronaldo is not only providing a stable income for his family but also building a career with long-term potential. His journey shows what determination, hard work, and access to the right resources can accomplish!

Participant Successes

Taylor H. (60014)

Timing is important but in Taylor’s case-it was everything. Taylor had initially approached the McHenry County Workforce Network about training opportunities, but her personal circumstances prevented her from moving forward. A few months later Taylor reapplied and knew exactly what she needed to move forward with her career goals. After meeting with her Career Planner, Taylor decided to pursue her CDL-A Commercial Truck Driving License with 160 Driving Academy in Waukegan. It was important to Taylor that her training could start as soon as possible and be coordinated with her work schedule.

Taylor worked tirelessly over 6 weeks to balance training, work, and being a mom. She successfully obtained her CDL-A license and has already been speaking to employers about job opportunities. Taylor credits the Workforce will helping her fulfill her goal “I could not have done it without your help!”.



Christian S. (60014)

In today's job market, learning and growth go hand-in-hand. Evolving your skill set offers opportunities for advancement and improvement. This was the reason Christian decided to seek out the help of the Workforce Network. Christian had experience in the human resources industry but wanted to find opportunities to advance after being laid off. He had been active in his job search for months but wasn't having much luck. Initially, Christian's career planner offered resume guidance to help him stand out in the applicant pool. Christian discovered that many employers were looking for employees with Human Resources experience and specific certifications. After analyzing labor market data, Christian and his career planner narrowed down several certifications that were in demand and could utilize WIOA funding. Christian decided on a Professional in Human Resources certification prep course. Christian not only dedicated his time to his training but continued his quest for new employment. Shortly after beginning his training program, Christian was offered a position!

Christian not only completed his training program for the PHR certification he was also settling into a new role. After a few weeks, Christian had an idea. He reconnected with his career planner inquiring about the Business Services offered through the Workforce. He is hoping to develop a partnership with Business Services to garner interest in a potential internship within his office under his leadership. This is a great example of a "full circle" moment that highlights the benefits of the Workforce program and its impact on job seekers!

William N (60142)

William N. came to McHenry County Workforce Network having been laid off from his most recent job. He had a long and productive career in information technology, and knew he had a lot to offer prospective employers. William met with a career planner and reviewed his job experience and skills he had developed during his time in the field. Although he had many years of success, he did not have some essential certifications that would assist him in his career goal. William and his career planner determined that IT training supported by the WIOA program would help him get a job and continue his career. He found suitable training with the help of his career planner and enrolled in a program. He successfully completed his training and was able to secure a job in his field. The job search resources offered by Workforce and the opportunity to improve his skill set with the assistance of WIOA were the keys to his success. He is very grateful for the help he received during this challenging time.

You can see more stories at www.mchenrycountyworkforce.com or stop in and meet the staff:

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