

The H.I.R.E.D! News

H.I.R.E.D! Career Coaching Program Newsletter



The H.I.R.E.D Team at our monthly professional development meeting.

FALL 2022: BIG WINS AND MILESTONES

By: Jerrie Price

It has been a fun and eventful first semester for the H.I.R.E.D! Program! We have reached many milestones, and we are just getting started.

Grant Goals:

As a reminder, the most important goals of the H.I.R.E.D! Program are:

- To give students increased exposure to and understanding of the career opportunities that are available in Northwest Arkansas.
- To expose students to the pathways needed for various careers.
- To help students start down the pathway to their desired career, whether it requires college, technical school, apprenticeship or on the job training.

The above goals are being met in several ways. Here are a few ways we are increasing exposure to career opportunities and exposing students to the pathways for those careers:

- Individual Career Coaching and Career Research
- Online Career Seminars by industry professionals (Zooms with professionals in various fields that are in the form of breakouts for students to choose)
- Face to face guest speaking by industry professionals
- Industry tours
- Job shadowing opportunities
- Internship opportunities
- Youth Apprenticeships
- Teacher summer externships

Continued on the next page.

Newsletter Highlights

Fall 2022: Our Wins and Milestones

Next Steps: What the H.I.R.E.D! Staff Has Planned for the Spring

Event Recaps: A Few of the Events Students Participated In

Student Spotlights: Spotlighting a few students who have benefitted from the H.I.R.E.D! program.

FALL 2022: BIG WINS AND MILESTONES (CONT.)

The goal of having students start down the pathway to their chosen career is being accomplished by:

- Coaching students about CTE classes and technical programs available to them and about college classes they can take during high school.
- Placing students into paid youth apprenticeships which end with industry credentials.
- Placing students into paid or unpaid internships to learn job skills needed for future success.

Here are some of the milestones we have hit along the way:

- Coaches have met with over 650 students individually
- Coaches have met with over 2,000 students in small group or classroom settings.
- We have hosted 2 career seminars with a total of 29 industry professionals for students to choose from.
 - Over 160 teachers and 1800 students participated in each seminar and we have 3 more seminars to come.
 - We have launched our YouTube Channel with recordings of our Career Seminars to direct students to later. You can visit the channel [here](#) or search "hired career seminar" on YouTube.
- Connected over 1100 students (some multiple times) with industry professionals through guest speakers, tours and career events.
- Had over 2,000 students attend college events like financial aid nights, college visits, guest speakers from colleges and universities.
- Placed 28 students into both paid and unpaid internships and many more into job shadowing opportunities.
- Secured 30 paid youth apprenticeships. Some have started, others start this summer.
- Placed 17 teachers in teacher externships (last summer).
- Perhaps our greatest accomplishment has been building the capacity of our coaches to grow students and give them tremendous opportunities that, without the H.I.R.E.D! Program, they would not have had. I am SO proud of this team's work!

LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR: GRANT KING

Grant King is a senior at Lincoln High School. Last year, he was recruited by Nabholz during the Build My Future event. Nabholz Construction recognized his work ethic and skill and offered him a job. He worked a summer internship and has been offered full-time employment upon graduation. Career Coach, Sarah Simmons has had Nabholz recruiters come to Lincoln to visit with other students since then working toward getting other students opportunities at Nabholz Construction. Congratulations to Grant, and a huge thank you to Sarah Simmons for her efforts placing students like Grant into real world, long term opportunities.



Next Steps for the H.I.R.E.D! Program:

In addition to continuing the exploratory experiences with college and careers that we have offered students this fall, we will also be seeking additional internships and youth apprenticeships for our students who prefer that route to their chosen profession over attending college. We will also be starting work on teacher externships for this coming summer. Our biggest events of the spring will be multiple hiring events where we bring graduating students and employers together to find jobs suitable to the students' future needs. Some will be opportunities to work while in college, others will be full time work in the fields students are entering. Many of these jobs will be apprenticeships in the skilled trades. We will also be hosting signing days at each high school for students who have been placed in a full time job leading to a professional career. Lastly, we will be helping underclassmen work on their schedules for next year helping them determine which classes are a best fit for their futures, and helping seniors make any final preparations for college or technical school next year.

We are very excited about the work that is going on in each school district with our students. We truly feel that we are helping students set positive trajectories for their futures, and the best part is that we are just getting started!



SYDNEY BARTON INTERNS AT JJ'S LIVE MUSIC VENUE

Sydney is a senior at Greenland High School. Barton is a member and co-captain for the girls basketball team. Sydney is also a member of the “30 club” which is a group of students who have scored at least a 30 on their ACT. She did an internship at JJ’s Live in Fayetteville this past October and will be working with them in a paid position after basketball season is over.

Barton has already been accepted to Belmont University in Nashville, Tenn. where she will attend following graduation and where she will work towards a job on the business side of the music industry.

Jillian Hamm was Sydney’s supervisor during her internship and here is what she had to say about Sydney. “We loved having Sydney at JJ's Live! Every time she shadowed a show with us, she showed up with a great attitude and was always eager to learn something new. Sydney displayed a work ethic that is very hard to find these days, and we are confident that she will do great in any career she chooses. We are so thankful for our time with her!”

Congratulations to Sydney and a huge thank you to Amanda Creamer the Career Coach at Greenland High School for setting up Sydney's internship and helping her see the music industry in action, solidifying her choice to pursue a major at Belmont's Mike Curb College of Entertainment and Music Business.



GENTRY HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR: CAMDEN WRIGHT

Senior Camden Wright Camden was offered and accepted an HVAC Apprenticeship at Kimbel Mechanical Systems. Camden began his apprenticeship this month. We appreciate Kimbel Mechanical Systems partnering with us and giving H.I.R.E.D! students the opportunity to grow through work-based learning. Camden is our "pilot" student with Kimbel. They have agreed to also host youth apprentices in electrical and plumbing starting this summer (6 total youth apprentices). Kimbel has also had someone from their company speak at every career seminar. A HUGE THANK YOU TO KIMBEL FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF NWA STUDENTS!



Decatur students participating in career exploration at the Don Tyson School of Innovation. Students were able to meet with several industry partners to discuss and explore various careers.



Gravette Senior:
Christian
Acosta-Maqueda

Christian is a senior at GHS. Christian expressed an interest in majoring in finance or accounting after graduation. Together with Mrs. Smithers, his career coach, Christian developed his resume and worked on interview skills. Mrs. Smith reached out to Legacy Bank to discuss the possibility of an internship for Christian. Christian interviewed with Legacy Bank and has been working there for approximately 4 weeks. Thank you to career coach Mary Smithers for helping Christian gain valuable experience in his future career field!

TO SEE DETAILS OF WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE H.I.R.E.D! SCHOOL DISTRICTS CLICK THE LINKS BELOW

[GRAVETTE SCHOOL DISTRICT](#)

[DECATUR SCHOOL DISTRICT](#)

[GENTRY SCHOOL DISTRICT](#)

[LINCOLN SCHOOL DISTRICT](#)

[GREENLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT](#)

[HUNTSVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT](#)

Shout Outs:

H.I.R.E.D! Would like to thank the following community partners for investing in our students!

COMMUNITY PARTNERS WHO HAVE HOSTED STUDENTS FOR INTERNSHIPS JOB SHADOWING

Assemblage
Siloam Vet Clinic
Southwest City Vet Clinic
Lincoln Elementary School
Farmington Eye Care
FFA Livestock Barn
EMS Manufacturing
Lincoln IT Department
The Uncommon Label Boutique
Lincoln Fire Department
Farmer's Co-op
Lincoln High School Store
HopeBridge (formerly Autism in Motion)

JJ's Live Music Production Team
U of A Music department
U of A Athletic Department
SERC Physical Therapy
Theatre Squared
Watson Primary
Huntsville Middle School
University of Arkansas
Advanced Dermatology
Long's Northwest Hitch
Gentry Muffler and Exhaust
White River Contractors
HopeBridge (formerly Autism in Motion)

JANUARY 2023

**COMMUNITY PARTNERS WHO
ARE HOSTING OR HAVE
AGREED TO HOST STUDENTS
FOR YOUTH
APPRENTICESHIPS:**

Kimbel Mechanical

- Electrical Division
- Plumbing Division
- HVAC Division

Nash Electric

Quality Collision

Huntsville Vet Clinic

Rush Truck Centers

Landers' Toyota

Arkansas Center for Data Sciences

Knowlton Electric

C & K Tire

Ground Zero Construction

Garman Trucking

Assemblage

Gentry Public Schools

**COMMUNITY PARTNERS WHO
HAVE HAD SPEAKERS IN
SCHOOLS OR FOR OUR CAREER
SEMINARS, AND/OR HAVE
HOSTED INDUSTRY TOURS :**

Assemblage

Nabholz

Multi-Craft

Kimbel Mechanical

University of Arkansas

Northwest Technical Institute

Modus Studio Architecture

Simmons Foods

City of Siloam Springs

NW Health

Arkansas Neuroscience Institute

Arvest Bank

Cordova Educational Programs

Healing Edge Massage Therapy School

City of Springdale

Cerner

U.S. Army

Pernod Ricard USA

City of Fayetteville

Fayetteville Police Dept

McKee Foods

Nash Electric