



Hired on the Spot: DuPagePads 2nd Annual Career Fair Success

More than 200 job seekers attended DuPagePads 2nd Annual Career Fair on June 19 at College of DuPage, a 67% increase over last year's inaugural event. This year's new venue hosted 35 local employers looking to hire with free admission and free parking.

35 DuPagePads program participants attended the event and while results are still coming in, one DuPagePads client was hired on the spot, two more were hired as a result of attending the Career Fair and six clients have upcoming interviews.

Nickea, a DuPagePads client, shared, "This Career Fair provided wonderful opportunities for advancement. I'm now optimistic for my future."

Preparation:

To help prepare our participants for the Career Fair, DuPagePads hosted several workshops leading up to the event. These valuable workshops provided:

- Proper interview attire
- Makeup, manicures and hair styling
- Networking techniques
- Finishing touches on resumes
- Creative writing classes
- Mock interviews



During the Event:

Through a partnership with College of DuPage, DuPagePads was fortunate to more than DOUBLE the number of employers at this year's Career Fair.

From healthcare to manufacturing, tech support to retail and more, applicants had the opportunity to network with an even more diverse pool of employers.



What our Employers are Saying:

In addition to the positive feedback we've received from attendees, employers who have hired DuPagePads clients in the past also had some positive remarks.

"We recently hired someone from DuPagePads who is doing great and is very reliable."

Patti – 

"The candidates we have seen from DuPagePads have been well prepared and very excited to work. One in particular has been super punctual, even arriving early for shifts. DuPagePads career staff follow up regularly to make sure their clients are doing well."

Karina – 

"We have interviewed and selected several qualified candidates from DuPagePads. It is always a pleasure to see these individuals prosper with Georgia-Pacific and we look forward to our continued partnership with DuPagePads."

Betty – 

Hired On the Spot (Continued)



Positive Feedback from Clients

Angelina

“DuPagePads helped me obtain clothes to wear for the Career Fair and my interview, update my resume and shared valuable job readiness skills. Everyone at DuPagePads has been so friendly and helpful.

As a result of DuPagePads Career Fair, I had three interviews in one day at the same company.

Later that day I got a call saying I got the job. I was so excited and jumping up and down, that I forgot to say ‘yes’ at first. I was just so full of joy in that moment.

Now that I have a full-time job, I’m starting to look at housing options so my son and I can get our own place. I would recommend anyone to come to DuPagePads Career Fair and their Career Employment Solutions program. Everything about the event was on point.”

Danielle

“As a 19-year-old, I didn’t know how to put together a resume. I came to DuPagePads hoping to get a career and didn’t know how to get started. I sat down with one of their volunteers who helped me create a professional resume.

One of the employers at the Career Fair called me the next day and asked if I could swing by. When I arrived, she introduced me to their manager and we had a spontaneous interview.

I was hired on the spot! It felt amazing!

I don’t know how to put into words how tremendously grateful I am for DuPagePads for providing these opportunities. They have helped me and my family with everything from a place to stay to helping me get a new social security card.”

This year’s employers included:

- Advocate Health Care
- Best In-Home Service Inc.
- Chartwells
- CINTAS
- College of DuPage
- Conduent (formerly Xerox)
- DRF Trusted Property Solutions
- DuPage County Human Resources
- FedEx
- G4S Security
- Georgia-Pacific
- Grove Dental Associates
- Hyatt Lodge
- JD Norman Industries
- Jobs Corps
- Lexington Health
- Little Friends, Inc.
- Mariano’s - Kroger Co.
- McDonald’s
- MiraMed Revenue Group
- Monarch Landing
- NICOR
- O’Reilly Auto Parts Distribution Center
- Pace Bus
- RSA Medical
- Sears Appliance and Hardware
- Sodexo
- Speedway LLC
- State Farm
- SWD
- Symbol Training Institute
- The Home Depot RDC
- UPS - Human Resources
- Walmart Supercenter
- workNet DuPage

Meet our New Board Officers

“I am inspired to volunteer when I see the positive impact that the programs and employees of DuPagePads delivers to the lives of the individuals that come through our doors.”

– **Valerie Jungels, Board Chair**



“As an educator, I have seen the difficulties related to homelessness firsthand. DuPagePads provides a solution and I want to be a part of that!”

– **Kathryn Birkett, Vice Chair**



“I’ve been volunteering and supporting DuPagePads for many years. I find myself continually amazed every time I hear success transformations. They would not be possible without DuPagePads.”

– **John J. Schroeder, Vice Chair**



“I continue to support DuPagePads because everyone involved in the agency is so supportive of the mission. It is inspiring.”

– **Maryellen Skerik, Treasurer**



“I can’t think of a mission more important than helping homeless families and individuals. I’ve grown to love and appreciate the big hearts at DuPagePads who improve the lives of the homeless, with housing, health and career services.”

– **Christopher S. Camp, Secretary**



I Saw Firsthand...A Father’s Note

“I am writing to thank your organization for the outstanding work that you do. I saw firsthand how generosity and compassion can encourage someone with little or no hope, to envision a future for himself.

My son, Charles found himself homeless and in trouble with the law, after I retired and moved to Mississippi. To make a long story short, he was given probation instead of jail time and ended up at DuPagePads.

He was unable to get a job on his own or with anyone else’s help for over 3 years. However, under the guidance of DuPagePads Career Employment Program, he got a job that he was proud to have.

He spoke to me every night from the homeless shelter. He was amazed at the quality of the meals provided every night and how nice everybody at your organization was. He was just so grateful for everything that was done for him.

Charles died May 14, 2016.

After his passing, I went to DuPagePads to meet Carlos and Lutisha and thank them for helping my son. He spoke so highly of them and everyone else.

I just donated and will for years to come. I read some of the stories on your website and was brought to tears because I know how grateful those people are.

Forever in your debt.”

– Charles Sr.



Pictured, Carlos Johnson, DuPagePads Career Employment Specialist with Lutisha Jefferson, DuPagePads Career Employment Director.

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13 Annual Run 4 Home
5K & 10K Run, 5K Walk
Saturday, September 16, 2017, 8:00am
DuPagePads, 703 West Liberty,
Wheaton



New this year...Kids Corner featuring face painters, balloon animals, games and prizes. The congregation with the largest number of attendees will win a free ticket for each race participant to our Wake Up Your Spirit Breakfast. Sign up today: www.padsrun.org.

First Annual Swing for 25
Sunday, August 27, 2017, 11:00am
Frontier Park, Naperville

Batter up! This softball tournament will feature 16 teams aiming to “Strike Out Homelessness” by raising \$25,000 for DuPagePads.

Visit www.dupagepads.org for more information.



Wake Up Your Spirit Breakfast
Wednesday, November 8th; 7:00am
Benedictine University, Lisle

Enjoy an uplifting morning featuring keynote speaker Eric Soderholm, former Chicago White Sox third baseman and Sporting News 1977’s “American League Comeback Player of the Year”. Soderholm will share how his life has dramatically changed since his baseball days. You’ll also hear from a DuPagePads client whose life has been transformed by our housing programs and support services.



Upcoming Events