

Working Together!

Shared Success!

What if you could fill some or your entry level positions while partnering with a local organization to teach and direct future generations of workers toward success?



Cunningham's Vocational Options staff can help recruit, train and supervise a new source of potential entry-level employees.



The best part is, we charge no fees to participate. Your only investment is the one you make in our participants' futures.

Our programs receive grant funding from the Workforce Innovation and

Opportunity Act (WIOA), the Department of Rehabilitation Services and the United Way of Champaign County.



About Cunningham

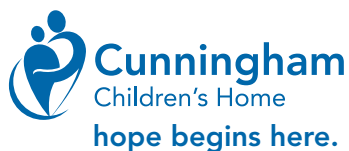
Cunningham Children's Home offers hope for youth with serious emotional and behavioral challenges and their families and adults with mental health, housing, food and employment needs.

On an annual basis, we serve 846 youth, adults and families through our residential treatment program for youth who have suffered severe abuse, neglect, and trauma; our education programs that serve the special education and behavioral

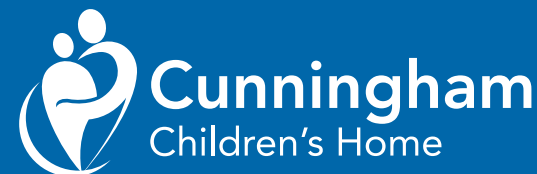


needs of kids who live at Cunningham as well as those who live in our community; our independent and transitional living programs; and our community-based programs that address the needs of those in our community who are going through difficult life situations.

Vocational education and training are key components to our programs, teaching our residential and community clients self-sufficiency skills through a combination of training, support, and real-world experiences.



1301 N. Cunningham Avenue, Urbana, IL 61802
cunninghamhome.org



BUSINESS PARTNERS PROGRAM



Vocational Options Program

Penne Biggers

tel: (217) 337-9059

fax: (217) 367-5910

pbiggers@cunninghamhome.org

Partner With Us

Cunningham Vocational Options Program provides vocational assessment, counseling, and job skills readiness training for our clients, ages 14-25, who are qualified for subsidized employment or transition to paid employment.

With our Business Partners Program, staff will:

- work with your business to identify participants who have the skill, interest, and ability to fill your entry-level opportunities;
- provide professional employment counselors who familiarize your business with our services and programs; and
- provide continued vocational support ranging from counseling to direct on-site supervision.

We ensure participants have what they need to be successful while working at your business.



We have worked with employers in a variety of industries including:

restaurants	hospitals	offices
hotels	retail	salons
child care	thrift stores	barber shops
factories	animal care	libraries
technology	churches	nursing homes
food pantries	construction	agriculture

WEX (Work Experience)

Work Experience (WEX) is a great opportunity for both businesses and our clients. Businesses receive additional help at no expense to them and our clients are provided a safe and helpful work environment to learn various skills and tasks that will be needed when entering into the competitive job market.

WEX Briefly

- The concept is similar to a paid internship.
- Our participants work specific positions for a business and develop job skills under the immediate supervision of the business. Cunningham's Vocational Options staff are available to provide additional assistance or job coaching to help with growth and development.
- Our participants are temporarily hired by the Regional Planning Commission (RPC) for training purposes.
- Following training, our participants are contracted to work for a business in the community (worksites).
- Our participants work for the business for up to 240 hours, and weekly schedules can range from 5-32 hours depending on the needs of both parties.
- Work hours are recorded on timesheets and turned in by Vocational Options staff. The RPC uses timesheets to pay at least minimum wage per hour.
- Businesses are not responsible for insuring the participant and are under no obligation to hire the participant following the completion of the WEX hours.

WEX is a service provided through funding from the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act grant.



Urbana Free Library

2019 Vocational Options Business of the Year

Benefits For You

In addition to receiving work support for your business at no cost to you, our Business Partners Program provides many benefits:

- Job matching by our employment counselors who will help secure the right participant to meet your company's needs;
- Supervision by employment counselors who will supplement your on-the-job training to ensure participants learn the necessary skills to perform their job assignments;
- A dedicated team of professionals that ensure that participants perform at the highest level;
- An investment in the local workforce by providing job experiences and learning opportunities for the next generation;
- The opportunity to associate with and support a respected organization known for making a difference in our community; and
- The satisfaction of giving a Cunningham Vocational Options Program participant a hand up, not a hand out!

For more information, contact:

**Penne Biggers, Intake & Billing Coordinator,
Community Services, at (217) 337-9059.**