

# WESTERN ILLINOIS WORKS

Serving Adams, Brown, Hancock, Henderson, Knox,  
McDonough, Pike, Schuyler, and Warren Counties

## STAFF TESTIMONIAL

### Information About You



**Name:**

Darin Dunphy

**Organization:**

Western Illinois Works

**Job Title:**

Career and Employment Specialist

#### What was your first interaction with Western Illinois Works?

My first interaction with WIW was during the interview process. I first discovered WIW while searching for job opportunities on their website. After seeing they were hiring, I decided to apply on a whim, and I'm glad I did—it turned out to be a great opportunity that matched my skills and interests.

#### What led you to become a staff member?

I was drawn to the opportunity to directly impact individuals' careers and be part of an organization focused on helping people achieve sustainable employment. The position was a great fit for my background and passion for career services.

#### What makes you proud to represent Western Illinois Works?

I'm proud to represent WIW because the organization truly makes a difference in individuals' lives by providing them with the tools, resources, and support they need to succeed in the workforce. I strongly believe in WIW's focus on empowerment and opportunity.

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#### What do you believe is the purpose of Western Illinois Works in your community?

WIW's purpose in the community is to provide individuals with the skills and resources necessary to gain meaningful employment and advance their careers. We help connect people to training and educational opportunities that will benefit them in the long term.

#### What is your purpose in your role at Western Illinois Works?

My purpose is to guide individuals through their career and training options, ensuring they can access the resources and support needed to succeed. I work to build relationships with clients and empower them to achieve their career goals.

**What impact do you believe Western Illinois Works has in your community?**

WIW plays a vital role in the community by helping individuals overcome barriers to employment, whether they need training, resume assistance, or guidance in navigating career transitions. The organization helps strengthen the workforce and gives people the tools to create better futures for themselves.

**What is the most challenging aspect of your job?**

The most challenging aspect of my job is working with clients who face significant barriers to employment, such as lack of work experience or educational attainment. Finding the right resources to address these barriers can be complex but also the most rewarding challenge.

**What is the most rewarding aspect of your job?**

The most rewarding aspect is seeing clients succeed in their career goals, whether landing a job, completing a training program, or gaining new skills. Knowing that my efforts contributed to their success makes the work truly fulfilling.

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***“I work at WIW because I believe in helping people take control of their future and achieve their career goals.”***

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**How does Western Illinois Works make a difference in the lives of your clients?**

WIW makes a difference by providing tailored support for each client’s unique needs. For example, I worked with a client without prior work experience but was interested in pursuing a commercial driving career. We secured funding for his CDL training, and he now has a full-time job and a stable career.

**If you were to explain to someone why you work at Western Illinois Works, what would you tell them?**

I work at WIW because I believe in helping people take control of their future and achieve their career goals. The work we do is impactful and has a lasting effect on individuals and the community.

**Where do you see Western Illinois Works heading in the future?**

I see WIW continuing to expand its outreach and impact in the community. We’re constantly adapting to meet the needs of the workforce, and I’m excited to be part of an organization that is growing and evolving with the times.

**What makes you most excited about the future of this organization?**

I am excited about the future opportunities at WIW and the potential for professional growth within the organization. I look forward to continuing to support our clients and seeing them thrive in their careers.