



Workforce Development Board
1 North Genesee Street, 1st Floor
Waukegan, Illinois 60085
Phone 847-377-2224

Statement Regarding Death of Audrey Nixon

From: Jennifer Harris, Lake County Workforce Development Board Chairperson

Members of the Lake County Workforce Development Board and staff mourn the death of Audrey Nixon.

In addition to being one of the longest-serving Lake County Board members, Audrey Nixon was an active member of the Workforce Development Board for over 20 years. Audrey served as an active contributor on both the Executive and One Stop System Committees. She was a leader in driving workforce decisions that impacted the lives of many Lake County residents needing help to transition to their next jobs.

Staff members found Audrey to be approachable, and board members found her to be diligent in fulfilling her duties. *“The Workforce Board is extremely grateful to have worked with Audrey. Her commitment to funding training and employment opportunities for people in Lake County, especially young people, will be deeply missed”* Jennifer Harris, Chairperson, Workforce Development Board.

Audrey was a big supporter of the Lake County Board Summer Youth Employment Program, a county-sponsored program that annually gives over 200 youth their first job. In 2015, she advocated that Lake County increase funding to this program. As a result, 25% more young people were employed. *“Programs that connect young people to their first job can have a tremendous impact on the path of that young person’s life,” she explained. “Kids who work are more likely to stay in school, less likely to get into trouble, and more likely to go on to future employment. You never forget your first job.”*