



THE UNITED CHURCH DOWNTOWN MISSION OF WINDSOR INC.
664 Victoria Avenue, Windsor ON. N9A 4N2 • Tel: (519) 973-5573 • Fax: (519) 973-9389
www.downtownmission.com
Registered Canadian Charitable Organization No. 11926 0420 RR001

MEDIA RELEASE

Downtown Mission Graduates Job Ready Students Eager for Employment

March 29, 2022

Windsor- The good news about the \$5 billion investment in Windsor for an electric vehicle battery plant is it's a great elixir for our ailing economy. The investors are forecasting employment rolls upwards of 2500 people. Add spin off jobs from suppliers and the service sector, and the future is looking bright for the local economy for decades to come.

As the community gears up for a period of job growth the Downtown Mission (DTM) is doing its part to help people with barriers to employment obtain the job-ready skills they will need to be part of this hiring boom.

The DTM's Enterprise Program recently held its 30th graduation of hopeful and motivated students who are entering the job force encouraged by the prospects of landing gainful employment. The program is a needs specific program that offers vocational supports to employment challenged individuals. Participants can target their career goals to gather industry on the job training to acquire the skills they need to enter the employment market.

"The best and most effective way to lift people out of the cycle of poverty and personal struggle is through gainful employment. The individual thrives and the community is strengthened," said Rukshini Ponniah Goulin, Interim Executive Director.

The program has an outstanding record of graduates finding employment. The most recent class had 8 graduates. Three members of the class are interviewing for jobs, and one has received an offer of employment. The City of Windsor is a partner in the Enterprise Program and sees value in its investment and outcomes for the greater community. "The City of Windsor is proud to support this year's graduating participants of the Enterprise Program as they connect to valuable employment and training opportunities in our community," said Andrew Daher, Executive Director Employment & Social Services.

The importance of the Enterprise Program in the lives of its graduates is a life changing experience, providing all with an opportunity to achieve their life's goals. "The Enterprise Program is amazing! I was super nervous at first, but the instructors made it less stressful, they are amazing teachers. I would recommend the program to anyone who's having a hard time finding a job," Crystal Ethier said.

The next Enterprise Program class begins on April 5, 2022, and there are placements available. Interested students can call 519-973-5573 to speak with Program Manager Sharda Yadav.

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For more information contact Rukshini Ponniah-Goulin, Interim Executive Director at 519-973-5573

*The Downtown Mission exists as a Place of Sanctuary. In response to the mandate of the Gospel, through outreach we provide: **food** for the body, **nurture** for the spirit, **shelter** for the homeless, **advocacy** for the impoverished, and **opportunity** for human growth.*



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