

As Unemployment Soars, Home Care Job Opportunities Abound In Edwardsville

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EDWARDSVILLE – With the nation's unemployment rate at its highest in nearly half a century, job opportunities in labor-abundant industries—such as retail and dining—are running dry. On average, more than 775,000 Americans each week have filed a new unemployment claim since the <u>start of November</u>.

Though jobs remain scarce in many industries, major online retailers and grocery storeshave ramped up hiring during the pandemic, adding hundreds of thousands of employees to their workforce to meet growing consumer demand. While these companies continue to gain attention for rapid expansion, a lesser-known industry is setting out on a hiring expedition of its own: in-home caregiving.

"The demand for home care has grown exponentially over the last several years—and it continues to grow as more seniors isolate because of the pandemic," said Nikki Bishop, owner of the Edwardsville area Home Instead office. "Hospitals and clinics are overwhelmed. Professional caregivers can serve as an extension of the healthcare system and play a critical role in keeping vulnerable seniors safe and healthy at home."

With more St. Louis seniors and families seeking support, Home Instead offices across the greater St. Louis area are looking to fill more than 60 permanent CAREGiver positions.

From assisting with personal care and preparing meals, to running errands and providing companionship, CAREGivers help seniors with simple tasks that enable them to remain in their homes. The role is ideal for individuals seeking long-term job stability with a flexible schedule and supportive environment as well as continued opportunities for career growth.

"Caregiving is simply doing things to enhance the quality of life for older adults and help keep them independent for as long as possible," said Bishop. "We like to say that it takes a special person to become a Home Instead CAREGiver...not a special degree. It can be a rewarding career for individuals from every walk of life and age group."

Additional growth in the industry is expected for years to come. According to the <u>United</u> <u>Nations</u>, the global population over the age of 65 is expected to triple to 426 million by the year 2050. As a result of this rapid population shift, there will be an increased need for passionate and dedicated individuals in the industries that support the needs of older adults.

For more information about career opportunities at Home Instead, training and benefits, or to apply for a caregiving position, visit <u>HomeInstead.com/careers</u> or contact your local office.