

DeKalb Leadership Academy

Chamber of Commerce



Meet 2020-2021 Class Member | **Shaylee Hester** | Opportunity House

Shaylee Hester is a small town girl with big ambitions. She was born and raised here in DeKalb, Illinois. After graduating from DeKalb high school in 2016 she continued her education at Northern Illinois University. She graduated from NIU in May of 2020 with a bachelor's degree in Corporate and Organizational Communication Studies. (Go huskies!)

She is currently the Marketing and Development Coordinator at Opportunity House, Inc. in Sycamore. It is their mission to help people with disabilities work, live in homes of their choice and enjoy community life. She has enjoyed contributing to an organization that helps a disadvantaged group succeed and lead independent lives. Shaylee's passion to make a difference in the community extends beyond her career.

She is also a Sister of Alpha Phi Gamma National Sorority, Incorporated. She served as president her senior year at NIU. Alpha Phi Gamma's national philanthropy is the fight against domestic violence. She continues to support and attend philanthropy events to help raise awareness towards the cause in the community, such as Shout the Facts hosted by Alpha Phi Gamma and Take Back the Night hosted by Safe Passage.

She does not stop there. The DeKalb Leadership Academy has been a great experience for Shaylee. The program has helped her improve her leadership skills needed to make an impact in the community. She is currently working on a project to help bring a sense of belonging and togetherness to the community. Keep an eye out for what she has planned!

During her free time, she enjoys creating and editing videos for her YouTube channel, watching reality TV shows, and spending hours doing 1,000+ piece puzzles.



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