



## EMPLOY MILWAUKEE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

---

### Youth Committee

Wednesday, Wednesday, August 14, 2024

1:30 pm-3:00 pm.

Via Zoom Technology

### APPROVED MINUTES

---

**Members:** Karen Sotak, David Knutson, Jolene Cooley, Chee Thao, Sharlen Moore, Bevin Christie

**Guests:** None

**Employ Milwaukee Staff:** Julie Cayo, Brenda King, Romell Greer, Cindy Anderson, Suzanne Reinstein, Kodi Harding, Oscar Delgado

**Karen Sotak called the meeting to order at 1:31 pm.**

#### 1. **Youth Committee**

##### ***a. Approval of Minutes from February 14, 2024, Youth Committee meeting***

*Jolene Cooley motioned for approval of minutes from February 14, 2024, and seconded by Chee Thao; meeting minutes were approved unanimously.*

#### 2. **Agenda Item 2: General Updates**

##### ***Youth Resources and Information***

Resources that we would like to share out with the committee, Partnership to Advance Youth Apprenticeship Field Building that gives examples of structures and approaches that other intermediaries and apprenticeship providers could apply to their own programs. In Our Own Voices highlights a diverse group of editors across the US to elevate the voices of young people who change their communities and our world through serving. The National Youth Employment Coalition will host a workshop entitled Social Capital Building for Youth Career Success, that will look at strategies for building and leveraging social capital, accessing hidden job markets, mentor roles, building networks and leveraging social media platforms.

##### **3: Youth Program Reports:**

Camp Rise – Romell Greer reported that the camp completed on July 26<sup>th</sup>. Applications received 1,066, accepted 306 participants, boys and girls and 242 campers completed the program. Highlighting some

Employ Milwaukee is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Service Provider. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. If you need this information interpreted to a language you understand or in a different format, please contact Carrie Hersh ([carrie.hersh@employmilwaukee.org](mailto:carrie.hersh@employmilwaukee.org) or 414-270-1726). Callers who are deaf or hearing or speech-impaired may reach us at Wisconsin Relay Number 711.

of the activities Aurora Healthcare were the campers had hands on activities, The Port of Milwaukee introducing the girls to new career opportunities, and PepsiCo where they received a tour of the plant and so how the process of bottling and shipping Pepsi around the world. The participants had a successful camp and we they were able to recognize 5 campers of year awards, gave an insightful, best personality and best turn around awards.

Earn & Learn Kodi Harding, reported that they were able to service 622 participants and had 93 different work sites this year. 70% of the participants ages were 14-16. They were able to receive financial literacy from Educators and Summitt Credit Unions and 75 participants opened up bank accounts. 196 received job readiness training through the partnership with the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Milwaukee and CareerWorks. The new partnership with Manpower Group made the payroll process employer-friendly. We closed out the year with a summer bash that was supported by Palermo's Pizza, Milwaukee Public Library, Manpower Group, Milwaukee Area Technical College, Hmong American Friendship Association and other Earn and Learn worksite partners. The older participants were able to complete internships with Melanin Minded LLC, the City Planning Department, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and The Marcus Corporation, these internships helped of few of the youth to change career paths after having those hands-on experiences.

YouthBuild Cindy Anderson has 2 pathways, 1 with Milwaukee Christian Center for construction. Participants started October 2023 and have 11 enrolled, recruitment for 2<sup>nd</sup> cohort started August 12<sup>th</sup>. The 2<sup>nd</sup> pathway is with WRTP/Big Step, and they have been enrolled since mid-January with a focus on roadbuilding. Currently, there are 13 participants enrolled.

Brighter Futures Romell Greer reported on the Brighter Futures program that has a contract year of January 1, 2024, to December 31, 2024, currently, there are 117 participants enrolled, 104 have received ACP grade level completions, 43 have subsidiary and un-subsidiary work experience, 86 completed job readiness training and 73 enrolled and completed the social and emotional learning.

WIOA Title 1B in school youth program currently has 133 new enrollments, 1 has completed training/education and this number will increase the next year, 23 have received credentials, 8 have job placements and 95 have received paid work experience.

WIOA Title IBY out-of-school youth, Suzanne Reinstein also reported that this group has 297 new enrollments, 212 have completed training/education, 139 have received credentials, 227 have job placements and 80 received paid work experience.

#### **4: Agenda Item: Committee Member Updates:**

Jolene Cooley DVR shared they had a successful summer workshop, and all the youth attended the entire time and participated. They brought in Muhibb Dyer to complete the trauma-informed workshop and it was excellent.

Sharlene Moore shared is looking forward to working with EMI next year for another successful earn and learn or any job opportunities for the youth.

Jolene Cooley motioned for adjournment.

*The meeting adjourned at 2:12 pm CST.*

**Next Youth Committee meeting is scheduled for November 13, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. -3:00 p.m.**

**Next Board of Directors meeting is September 12, 2024, at 8:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m.**