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Cavalier Johnson, Mayor, City Milwaukee  
**Chief Elected Official**

Carla Cross, **Chair**

## EMPLOY MILWAUKEE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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### Youth Committee

Wednesday, Wednesday November 8, 2023

1:30pm-3:00pm.

Via Zoom Technology

### APPROVED MINUTES

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**Members:** Katrice Cotton, Jimmie Gonzalez, Karen Sotak, Sharlen Moore, Deshea Agee, Sylvia Swan, Jolene Cooley, La Toya Sykes, Bevin Christie

**Members Absent:** Chytania Brown, Derick Cornelius, Dionne Grayson, Karen Higgins, Donte Holmes, David Knutson, Gerard Randall

**Guests:** None

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

**Dr. Katrice Cotton called meeting to order at 1:35pm.**

#### 1. Youth Committee

##### a. *Approval of Minutes from May 10, 2023, Youth Committee meeting*

*Jolene Cooley motioned for approval of minutes from May 10, 2023, and seconded by Karen Sotak; meeting minutes approved unanimously.*

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

Youth-Related Reading & Resources, the team reviewed the nationwide unlocking Pathway Summit series. This series gives very nice resources about accessing good paying jobs through President Biden's economic development agenda. The Department of Labor has published a fact sheet outlining protections against discrimination in federally funded programs and activities.

Informational resources: a white paper publication by the National Inventors Hall of Fame that talks about recommendations about out of school time, programs to help educators make better decisions and how to keep the students engaged. The Urban Institute created an interactive map outlining debt in America, that speaks about the young adults, and financial health. The last resource is another equity toolkit, by Achieving the Dream which provides research and resources to help college teams design an operationalize equity centered approaches. Links to material to be sent out.

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**3: Youth Program Reports:** Camp Rise, has hired 34 counselors that served 239 youth. Field trips the campers participated in were Discovery World, Havenswoods State Forest, Incrediroll, and Jones Island. We received Brewer's tickets, and the student of the year was able to go on the field with Mayor Cavalier Johnson. Aurora Healthcare opened their doors and should the kids, cpr, and how the defibrillator works, it also opened their eyes to see that male nurses are ok. We partnered with Milwaukee Police Department and completed neighborhood beautification projects that helped build relationships with the police department. The campers had some classroom time learning financial literacy, soft skills and conflict resolution. We approached the planning this year wanting to deliver a traditional camp feeling and leaving the camp saying they made new friends and awesome memories. Looking at next year we have already received 451 interest forms from campers, and organizations are reaching out wanting to be involved in the program.

Earn & Learn had 3971 Registrations started, 1043 participants assigned to 117 worksites, 91% completed the full 6 weeks. 250 participated in enrichment workshops, which was a partnership with Boys and Girls Club and METC that gave opportunities to participate in automotive, financial, construction, culinary, health care and welding sessions. These sessions happened on Wednesday's and the funding was through the Workforce Innovation grant. This year we had good worksites, and the animal worksite gave the youth a robust experience that focused more on career experience and not job experience. Essentially Empowered took the youth to their prenatal health nonprofit and they walked away with certification in trauma, informed care and financial literacy, they had career day and job shadowing opportunities with doctors in different prenatal healthcare fields, childcare centers, and career day with the Milwaukee Fire Department and the Office of Violence Prevention. They had the opportunity to launch a podcast on Spotify called Young Truth. The Marcus Corporation sponsored the older kids 18 and up for more of an intern opportunity in their IT department.

The YouthBuild received a new grant you will find that YouthBuild overlaps. The next classes will be construction November 23, 2023 – June 24, 2023, and the next group will be construction plus transportation to start December 23, 2023, to June 24, 2023. Partners include Milwaukee Christian Center. The construction cohort started October 30<sup>th</sup> and currently has 8 participants enrolled and will have 4 more by the end of November. Finalizing the construction plus(C+) transportation program that will be with WRTP/Big Step. The Updated numbers for the 2021 grant (7/1/2021 – 10/31/2024), total enrolled 78, 41 completed, we still have 34 active, 30 received credentials, 14 HSED obtained, Unsubsidized employment 42. The participants will have a 1 year follow up period.

Brighter Futures is a calendar program coming up on the last 2 months of the program. The goal is 200 participants and actual is 140 right now. Having a meeting with the Boys and Girls Club they have a number of individuals in the pipeline that they are confident that they will reach the goal 200. Academic and Career planning is behind at 106 with a goal of 180. To meet this goal, they are going to engage at a higher level with the school counselors who are the ones that are doing the ACP in the schools. The subsidized and unsubsidized work experience has a goal of 150 and they are at 65, we offered our business solutions team to provide them with after school and weekend employment opportunities, and they are also going to use their own philanthropic funding to host subsidized work experience locations. Finaly job readiness training and social emotional learning completion are behind also. Romell Greer is going to step in and help assist with increasing the numbers by planning and implementing 2 cohorts on a Saturday that will combine social emotional learning and job readiness training.

WIOA Title 1B ISY program contract year is July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024. The enrollment goal is 145 they have 34 enrolled, training and education and credentials earned are low, and we are working with them closing to get those numbers up. The services that are offered are low due newness of the contract those number should increase closer to May of 2024.

For the WIOA Title 1B OSY program contract year is July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024. New enrollment is 135 and the goal is 290, training and education currently is 98 with the goal of 174, credentials earned 72 with a goal of 118, placements are at 39 with a goal of 232, we are monitoring that number closely to increase as well as the paid work experience having a goal of 174 and the actual is 36.

**4: Agenda Item: Committee Member Updates:** Sylvia Swan talked about their success with Career Fairs they are having at the Job Corp center, they are always looking to partner with individuals. Bevin Christie My Brothers Keeper Milwaukee just received Level 1 certification, just getting started but having issues finding data that is gender and ethnicity specific. Sharlen Moore Milwaukee County Youth Commission still recruiting, Running for the 10<sup>th</sup> District Alderwoman. MPS will have a job fair November 5<sup>th</sup> at Central Office that will be hiring for every position that is currently available.

*Meeting adjourned at 2:30pm CST.*

**Next Youth Committee meeting is scheduled for February 14, 2024, at 1:30p.m. -3:00p.m.**

**Next Board of Directors meeting is September 14, 2023, at 8:30a.m.-10:00a.m.**