



Employ Milwaukee

# IMPACT REPORT

2024



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# DEAR PARTNERS,

This year has been a testament to the power of collaboration, resilience, and shared purpose. As the Workforce Development Board serving Milwaukee County, Employ Milwaukee continues to be a cornerstone in the community, supporting workforce development in numerous ways—whether that’s through running programs, distributing funds to partners, or connecting individuals to essential resources.

Throughout this report you will notice icons next to each of our initiatives. These icons represent the many evidence-based strategies that shape our work, ensuring that the programming we offer the community is purposeful and driving positive, sustainable change.

Together with our valued partners and stakeholders, we have made great strides in 2024, providing stability, growth, and opportunity for individuals, families, and local employers. We look forward to continuing this important work, united in our mission to build a strong, inclusive workforce in Milwaukee and beyond.

Thank you for your continued partnership and trust in Employ Milwaukee.

*Sincerely,*



**JULIE CAYO**  
Interim CEO



**CARLA CROSS**  
Board President



**MAYOR CAVALIER JOHNSON**  
Chief Local Elected Official

## ICON KEY

These six icons represent evidence-based strategies integrated into programming to ensure participant success and long-term impact. In addition to these below, all initiatives incorporate three core strategies: *accessible entry points along a career pathway, youth engagement, and wraparound supportive services.*



**Work Based Learning:** A structured approach that integrates real-world, hands-on work experiences into education and training to enhance skill development and career readiness. This includes Registered Apprenticeships and internships.



**Industry Partnerships:** Collaborating with industry leaders in planning and coordinating to align training with labor market needs, ensuring participants gain the relevant skills for in-demand occupations in our region.



**Worker Voice:** Allowing space for and incorporating participant and job seeker perspectives to shape programs to better meet their needs and improve job conditions.



**Regional Impact:** Collaborating with partners across multiple counties to create broader impact on workforce development and economic growth.



**Career Pathways:** Providing occupational skills training that equips participants with the technical skills needed for jobs in in-demand, high-growth industries, offering participants clear opportunities for advancement and long-term career development.



**Digital Literacy & AI:** Enhancing participants' skills in digital tools and emerging technologies to prepare them for the evolving job market.

# OUR IMPACT

As the workforce development board serving Milwaukee County, Employ Milwaukee collaborates with the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development and other partners to operate three American Job Centers and multiple satellite locations across the city. These centers, established under federal workforce legislation, act as the “front door” to employment services, providing job seekers with access to career counseling, job listings, training referrals, and other employment-related services, ensuring that more residents can connect to opportunities for skill-building and long-term career success.



## Employ Milwaukee Pop-Up & Satellite Locations

- 1. Jericho Church Without Walls** | 8086 N 76th St, Milwaukee, WI 53223
- 2. Good Hope Library** | 7715 N Good Hope Rd, Milwaukee, WI 53223
- 3. Villard Square Library** | 5190 N 35th St, Milwaukee, WI 53209
- 4. Atkinson Library** | 1960 W Atkinson Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53209
- 5. Center Street Library** | 2727 W Fond du Lac Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53210
- 6. Washington Park Library** | 2121 N Sherman Blvd, Milwaukee, WI 53208
- 7. City on a Hill** | 2224 W Kilbourn Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53233
- 8. Mitchell Street Library** | 906 W Historic Mitchell St, Milwaukee, WI 53204
- 9. Bay View Library** | 2566 S Kinnickinnic Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53207
- 10. Capitol Library** | 3969 N 74th St, Milwaukee, WI 53216
- 11. East Library** | 2320 N Cramer St, Milwaukee, WI 53211
- 12. Tippecanoe Library** | 3912 S Howell Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53207
- 13. Zablocki Library** | 3501 W Oklahoma Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53215

## American Job Center Locations

- 14. Milwaukee Job Center Central/Maximus** | 4201 N 27th St, Milwaukee, WI 53216
- 15. Southeast Wisconsin Job Center** | 1915 N Dr MLK Dr, Milwaukee, WI 53212
- 16. Milwaukee Southeast Job Center** | 2701 S Chase Ave Suite C, Milwaukee, WI 53207

## VISION

Develop workforce solutions that promote regional economic growth and employment opportunity for all job seekers.

## MISSION

Build a strong workforce development system by planning, coordinating, collaborating, and monitoring workforce initiatives with businesses, partners, and community stakeholders at the local, regional, and state level to ensure a skilled and productive workforce for the 21st Century.

## THE RESULTS

*July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024*

# 11,891

individuals served

# 1,273

completed workforce training

# 1,085

gained employment

# 818

credentials  
earned

# \$18.97

average  
wage

# 702

employers  
served



# YOUTH PROGRAMS

For many years, Employ Milwaukee has created and developed innovative youth workforce programs that equip young people with the skills and experiences needed to succeed. Employ Milwaukee and its partners understand that investing in youth early is essential for fostering a thriving workforce and building a strong community. Employ Milwaukee youth programs serve ages 10-24 and offer a variety of services including access to education, career exploration, mentorship, and hands-on experiences.



Milwaukee Bucks employees visited Camp RISE to speak about their careers in marketing, photography, human resources, sales, and more. Camp RISE employer partners include PepsiCo, Aurora Healthcare, Port of Milwaukee, City of Milwaukee, Esports, humanskills.ai, Bell Ambulance, Milwaukee Police Department, and Milwaukee Fire Department.

## CAMP RISE

In 2024, Camp RISE engaged over 280 young people aged 10-13, providing them a positive space to learn and grow over the six-week summer programming. Camp RISE is a first-of-its-kind youth career exploration program that offers stipends for young people while introducing them to various career pathways, developing in-need soft skills, and promoting community engagement. Through field trips, workshops, and community projects, Camp RISE creates a sense of belonging and empowerment among youth, preparing them to be the community leaders of tomorrow. Many eligible youth return to Camp RISE: since launching in 2022, over 50% of campers have been returning students. Once students age out of Camp RISE, they are offered a spot in Earn & Learn to continue their career engagement and workforce experience. Camp RISE 2024 partners included City of Milwaukee and Milwaukee Public Schools.

## EARN & LEARN

Earn & Learn connects young people aged 14-24 with paid internships and work experience, allowing them to explore careers and gain work experience while earning a paycheck. This program is a cornerstone of Employ Milwaukee's approach to workforce development, offering students opportunities to gain meaningful work experience in a variety of industries. In 2024, 622 youth started work experiences at 93 employers across the city committed to providing mentorship and helping young people build their resumes, expand professional networks, and gain a competitive edge in the workforce. In 2024, Employ Milwaukee enhanced the program by collaborating with Educators Credit Union and Summit Credit Union to incorporate financial literacy training for all participants and open free bank accounts, providing youth with the knowledge and tools to build long-term financial stability.

## BRIGHTER FUTURES

In partnership with the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Milwaukee, Brighter Futures provides a comprehensive, trauma-informed approach to preparing at-risk high school students for graduation and post-secondary success. Brighter Futures focuses on students who are at risk of dropping out, truancy, or criminal involvement. The program offers academic tutoring, career exploration, workforce readiness training, financial literacy, and paid work experience, helping young people develop the skills needed for life after high school. Nearly 200 Milwaukee high school students were enrolled this past year and offered leadership development, adult mentorship, and social-emotional learning to help launch them towards the path of success.

## WIOA YOUTH

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Youth program is designed to help young people between the ages of 14 and 24, both in-school and out-of-school, gain the skills and support they need to succeed in today's job market. WIOA is a federal program aimed to enhance the nation's public workforce system, providing comprehensive services to help young people more easily access employment, training, and supportive services. Both in-school and out-of-school youth incorporate the **14 Youth Program Elements**, designed to provide a holistic approach to career and education development.



### Success Story

A Brighter Futures participant (name withheld for privacy) joined the program over a year ago, driven by a strong interest in becoming a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA). She completed the CNA program offered through Brighter Futures and immediately began preparing for her state exam. Although she passed the knowledge portion on her first try, she failed the skills exam. Determined to succeed, she took initiative and sought additional help from her Brighter Futures Career Planner at Boys and Girls Club, coming in after school to practice her skills. Her tenacity paid off and she passed on her second attempt. After becoming CNA certified, she collaborated with her Career Planner to create a strong resume and apply for jobs, aiming to secure a CNA position to save money for college. Despite her initial applications not yielding offers, she remained focused and resilient. In August 2024, she was offered a position at a nursing home, where she has since started work and is excited for her future!

### Youth Program Elements

- 1 Tutoring, study skills training, & dropout prevention
- 2 Alternative secondary school services or dropout recovery services
- 3 Paid & unpaid work experiences
- 4 Occupational skills training
- 5 Education offered concurrently with workforce preparation & training
- 6 Leadership development opportunities
- 7 Supportive services
- 8 Adult mentoring
- 9 Comprehensive guidance & counseling
- 10 Financial literacy education
- 11 Entrepreneurial skills training
- 12 Career awareness, exploration, & counseling
- 13 Postsecondary preparation & transition activities
- 14 Follow-up services 12-months post-exit

## YOUTHBUILD

YouthBuild continued to make a significant impact by equipping young adults with the skills and credentials needed for success in the in-demand industries of Construction and Transportation. Cream City YouthBuild serves 18–24-year-olds with a priority for those who are out-of-school or have not obtained their high school diploma. Participants receive GED instruction while gaining hands-on experience in a

high-demand field. Upon program completion, they are equipped with their high school degree, industry-recognized credentials, and real-life experience to take into their next step. Participants also receive mentorship and life skills development for a holistic program that fosters self-sufficiency as well as career readiness. Beyond personal growth, Cream City YouthBuild also contributes to the revitalization of Milwaukee by supporting the construction of affordable housing: Construction track participants gain hands-on experience by fixing city-owned properties that are connected to families in need upon completion. Cream City YouthBuild is funded by the Department of Labor and is run with partners Milwaukee Christian Center, Literacy Services of Wisconsin, and WRTP | BIG STEP.

# BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

## *Strengthening Milwaukee's Workforce Ecosystem*

Employ Milwaukee's Business Solutions team serves businesses, from small family-owned businesses to large employers considering a move to our area, through a variety of talent solutions. Business Solutions staff builds and maintains relationships to understand the needs of each business and tailors solutions that lead to results. These services include:

- ▶ Customized Recruitment & Pre-screening
- ▶ Training for Incumbent Workers, On-The-Job Training and Customized Training
- ▶ Rapid Response Resources
- ▶ Hiring Events

In the past year, Business Solutions hosted 18 hiring events with over 400 job seekers in attendance across all events. Hiring events were often held onsite at Employ Milwaukee's main office offering accessibility and a convenient location for jobseekers. Feedback from job seekers and employers highlighted the efficiency and positive atmosphere of the events, reinforcing the services provided as the workforce development board for Milwaukee County. First Source Hiring events yielded the biggest attendance of job seekers this year with over 200 individuals seeking jobs in the construction trades. These events are designed to provide employers with the City of Milwaukee's Resident Preference Program-certified construction talent and construction-trained job seekers to advance their careers.

In addition to supporting businesses through customized services, Employ Milwaukee also convenes businesses to explore best practices and emerging trends as part of Industry Advisory Boards and special events. Employ Milwaukee hosted a Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Winning with Wisconsin's Workforce event in October 2024. The event, held at Nō Studios, included remarks on the Governor's Task Force on Workforce and Artificial Intelligence recommendations from Meredith Dressel, DWD Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Administrator, followed by a facilitated discussion with basketball legend and entrepreneur, Sidney Moncrief and Debbie Allen of DNA Network on the future of the workforce and the importance of building partnerships within the public and private sectors.





# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

*Building Bridges for the Future*

Employ Milwaukee's Community Engagement team plays a pivotal role in connecting constituents with resources, employment opportunities, and partnerships to sustain a thriving community in workforce development. By leveraging relationships and partnerships, the Community Engagement team has secured financial and partner support for programs and workforce initiatives. Key accomplishments include:

- ▶ Engaging 937 individuals through 11 pop-up locations and satellite events.
- ▶ Supporting 67 community resource workers staffing shelters for vulnerable populations, including those experiencing homelessness.
- ▶ Facilitating career mentoring sessions in schools and community resource tables at events.
- ▶ Helping individuals secure sustainable careers through program completion.
- ▶ Collaborating with 40+ organizations via the Coordinating Council to host the 2024 Workforce Summit.

These efforts underscore Employ Milwaukee's commitment to fostering trust and delivering impactful programs that benefit the community. Through strategic partnerships and outreach efforts, the Community Engagement team enhances sustainability and access to vital resources.



# SUCCESS STORY

## *Empowering Careers Through On-the-Job Training*

Employ Milwaukee's Business Solutions team collaborates with local businesses to provide On-the-Job Training (OJT) opportunities that support both employers and employees. Through OJT, businesses receive up to 75% wage reimbursement for eligible participants during training, easing financial burdens while helping workers develop essential skills. "OJT is a win-win for both businesses and job seekers," says Jeffrey McAlister, Business Solutions Manager at Employ Milwaukee. "Employers receive financial support to develop their workforce, while participants gain hands-on experience that builds a strong foundation for long-term success."

Emem Group, a Milwaukee-based real estate firm dedicated to building affordable rental units and homes, has partnered with Employ Milwaukee to utilize OJT services, successfully hiring three participants, two of whom, Demetrius and Rodney, are actively completing their training.

Demetrius, new to construction, is gaining hands-on experience as a Construction Laborer, learning job site safety, blueprint reading, and material handling. Rodney, an experienced carpenter and general contractor, is stepping into the role of Construction Superintendent. His OJT is allowing him to refine his leadership skills, manage complex projects, and oversee quality control. His training is particularly valuable as he serves as the Project Superintendent for Emem Group's Midtown Duplexes project, a development of 20 affordable homes that will transition to tenant ownership after 15 years.

"[Employ Milwaukee] OJT funds allowed us to obtain a skilled carpenter and train him to manage a large, logistically complicated project in the heart of the city," said Michael Emem, President & CEO of Emem Group. "We're excited to help him grow his skill set so he can lead even larger projects and continue building our community. I would highly recommend employers utilize Employ Milwaukee's programs!"

This partnership demonstrates the real-world impact of OJT, helping businesses build a skilled workforce while giving participants the experience needed to grow in their careers. Employ Milwaukee remains committed to connecting employers with skilled talent and promoting long-term career growth.



*If your business is interested in utilizing OJT opportunities, scan the QR code to learn more.*



*Emem workers at the Midtown Duplexes project.*

# REENTRY SERVICES

**Reentry** refers to the process of individuals returning to the community from jail or prison and/or being within the community on supervision. While employment greatly reduces the risk of reoffending, many face challenges due to limited education and job skills. Employ Milwaukee's Reentry Services are designed to address these barriers, offering support and training to help individuals transition successfully into the workforce. Additionally, close collaboration with employers ensures they are equipped to support reentering citizens, fostering inclusive workplaces that benefit employees, employers, and the broader community.

## WINDOWS TO WORK

Employ Milwaukee is a proud partner of the Windows to Work program, a Wisconsin Department of Corrections-funded initiative serving individuals across the state who are returning to Milwaukee. This program assists individuals with employment, supportive services, cognitive restructuring, financial literacy, and workplace competencies. Case Managers work with individuals six to nine months before release to ensure readiness for reintegration and provide twelve months of follow-up support post-release to offer ongoing guidance and resources for long-term success.

## REENTRY SIMULATIONS

In partnership with JustDane, Employ Milwaukee hosts reentry simulations for community members, elected officials, and employers to experience the challenges faced by individuals reintegrating into society. Simulations immerse participants in the barriers of securing housing, employment, and services, fostering a deeper understanding of the obstacles reentering citizens face. Following the simulations, Employ Milwaukee leads two open discussions—one for the community and one for employers. In community discussions, participants explore solutions and strategies to better support reentering individuals. In employer discussions, participants identify policies, practices, and cultural norms that may hinder hiring and retention, and develop action plans to address these challenges. These conversations are an integral part of raising awareness and building empathy, creating a more supportive workplace environment for individuals transitioning back into society.



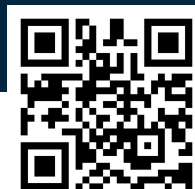
Participants attending a Reentry Simulation.

## MILWAUKEE COUNTY COMMUNITY REINTEGRATION CENTER

Employ Milwaukee has a longstanding relationship with the Milwaukee County Community Reintegration Center (CRC) where a dedicated case manager is stationed to provide pre- and post-release services for individuals preparing to reenter the community. Individuals within 180 days of release are given access to career planning, job readiness training, and skills development tailored to the local labor market. Employ Milwaukee's Reentry Case Manager works closely with participants to create individualized employment action plans and provide referrals to American Job Centers, providing access to WIOA programs to further guide their transition.

## Success Story

In partnership with CRC and Milwaukee Area Technical College, Employ Milwaukee helped reintroduce on-site occupational skills training after more than a decade. This new welding program offered residents the opportunity to gain hands-on experience, earn digital badges, and gain college credits. Gil (right) was one of the welding lab participants, gaining new skills to support his family and change his life. Read his full story at the QR code below.



# ADULT PROGRAMS

Employ Milwaukee's Adult Programs provide individuals with the training, resources, and support to advance in their careers and navigate an evolving workforce. By partnering with employers, educators, and community organizations, these programs help build a stronger, more resilient workforce in Milwaukee.

## SKILLS TO BUILD

Skills To Build is a Department of Labor-funded workforce training program that prepares jobseekers for medium- to high-skill careers in information technology (IT), advanced manufacturing, and professional/technical services. By partnering with local employers ranging from start-ups to global corporations, the program provides students and job seekers with paid work-based learning opportunities that directly connect them to high-demand careers. In 2024, 75 students participated in the program, gaining valuable skills and career development support.

Skills To Build enhances student success through strong partnerships with local colleges, including Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC) and UW-Milwaukee. At MATC, a grant-funded student services specialist and educational assistant provide on-site support with tutoring, career coaching, tuition assistance, networking, and job-search preparation, ensuring participants are well-equipped to transition into the workforce. The program also partners with UW-Milwaukee's civil engineering department, expanding opportunities for students and employers in the field.



Skills to Build is an essential part of building a strong infrastructure workforce in Southeastern Wisconsin, supporting the region's growing sectors in renewable energy, transportation, and broadband infrastructure. In 2025, Skills to Build will deepen its advanced manufacturing training and expand its reach across Southeastern Wisconsin.

## FRESH COAST TECH UP

Fresh Coast Tech Up (FCTU) offers accelerated IT occupational skills training at no cost to the student and is equivalent to a 12-credit college semester, taught by MATC professors. Graduates earn an MATC IT Service Center Technician Certificate, MATC Digital Badge, and Wisconsin Certified Pre-Apprenticeship Program Certificate, with potential to also earn CompTIA A+ and CompTIA Network+ certifications.

One of 2024's 48 graduates, Calvin Walker (pictured left), was hired on at IBM as a Systems Services Representative making \$25.05/hour just weeks after graduating. Calvin had prior experience with technology through his device repair company Cream City Cellular, and applied for FCTU so he could increase his knowledge base in everything tech.

*"I had a great instructor through Dr. Martinez and supportive staff at Employ Milwaukee throughout this entire process," Calvin said. "I've been away from college for years and this has taught me invaluable skills about teamwork, discipline, and keeping an open mind to learn new concepts."*

## MILWAUKEE EQUITABLE NURSING DEVELOPMENT



The Milwaukee Equitable Nursing Development (MEND) established itself as a valuable resource for nursing students, healthcare professionals, and hospitals in 2024. The program has multiple entry points, accepting participants who are just starting out in healthcare, as well as those already working in the field. MEND is one of only 25 nursing expansion grants in the U.S., performing vital work in combating the nursing shortage.

MEND partners with the Center for Healthcare Careers of Southeast Wisconsin (CHC) to provide an accelerated, tuition-free on-the-job training program for medical assistants. The Medical Assistant Accelerated Pathway to Employment Training (MAAPET) offers 10 weeks of lab and skill training, followed by 160 hours of clinical/practicum training, reducing medical assistant training time by up to 85%. This allows unemployed and underemployed participants faster access to employment. In the two 2024 cohorts, participants had a 100% pass rate on state exams. The program also offers bilingual CNA training with Hispanic Collaborative and financial assistance for nursing students at Marquette, UW-Milwaukee, and MATC.

In 2025, MEND will continue to work towards its goal of serving 440 participants, with an added focus on preceptor training, which teaches existing nurses how to mentor newcomers.



## SERVE MKE



Serve MKE is a U.S. Department of Labor-funded initiative aimed at increasing job quality in critical sectors traditionally seen as offering low-wage, low-quality jobs, such as hospitality. The program's goal is to enhance job quality, shift industry perspectives, and improve the well-being of employees while boosting retention and outcomes for employers.

In 2024, the program's primary focus was on the Serve MKE Council, a group of hospitality representatives and industry leaders convened by Employ Milwaukee. The Council played a pivotal role in shaping the program's direction by analyzing local labor market trends, identifying workforce gaps, and providing valuable insights on the needs of both employers and employees. The Council's work ensured that Serve MKE is tailored to address the unique challenges faced by workers in Milwaukee's growing hospitality industry.

Lyndon (pictured left) participated in Serve MKE and successfully earned his ServSafe credential, opening doors to better job opportunities in the hospitality industry. Looking forward, Serve MKE will continue to provide training opportunities, including on-the-job training, internships, Registered Apprenticeships, and incumbent worker training.



## QUEST

The QUEST program was created to address the post-pandemic shortage of childcare providers by offering training and hands-on experience at local childcare centers for individuals to become certified childcare teachers. Participants receive foundational education, paid work experience, and insight into running a childcare center, inspiring some to pursue dreams of opening their own.

The community responded strongly to QUEST: in 2024, Employ Milwaukee connected with almost 600 individuals interested in pursuing Early Childhood Education. Over 100 job seekers completed the program, taking classes and gaining work experience, before successfully entering the workforce. QUEST also partnered with Employ Milwaukee's Earn & Learn program this past summer to give teens the opportunity to discover what it means to have a career in Early Childhood Education

## WIOA

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) offers training, support, and other career services for adult and dislocated workers. The goal is to increase access to education and employment, and help participants become self-sufficient and succeed in the workforce.

Instead of focusing on training in just one field, WIOA offers a variety of trainings in all seven of the sectors Employ Milwaukee has identified as high-growth and high-demand: Manufacturing, Construction, Retail/Hospitality, Financial Services, Transportation, Healthcare, and IT. One participant pursued Commercial Driver's License (CDL) training and gained full-time employment with Schneider National as a Class A CDL driver, making \$1,140 a week. Another participant completed MATC's Cardiovascular Technology Associated program and accepted a job at Froedtert as an Echocardiographer, making \$34.82/hour.

## WORK WISE

Work Wise provides unemployed adults aged 55 and older with training and part-time paid work experiences in community service organizations, placing experienced and skilled workers back in the workforce. The ultimate goal is to help participants gain unsubsidized employment. In 2024, Work Wise connected 40 participants with paid work experiences. The program is so popular that there's currently a waiting list.

One participant, Verna T. (pictured right), was placed at Employ Milwaukee working the front desk, doing administrative work, and leading orientations for fellow Work Wise participants. Verna was recently hired on for a permanent administrative assistant position in the Business Solutions department.

*"My favorite part of Work Wise was just being able to work with people and help them," Verna said. "Some people that have exited the program still call me to see how I'm doing."*



## MILWAUKEE WATER WORKS COMMUNITY PROJECT

The Department of Labor-funded Milwaukee Water Works Community Project (MWWCP) accelerated efforts in 2024, aiming to train workers for well-paying jobs in the water industry, fill vacancies for essential positions at Milwaukee Water Works, and create a more diverse and equitable workforce. This year, 588 people expressed interest in the program.

The MWWCP offers a pathway for everyone; summer work experiences for youth, internships, on-the-job training and paid work experience for adults, and incumbent worker upskilling for existing employees. Local students pursuing water-related degrees can receive financial support for tuition, books, and other essential resources to help them complete their education.

Participants also benefit from personalized career guidance. A dedicated Career Navigator provides hands-on support with resumes, cover letters, and interview preparation while connecting individuals to critical supportive services, including childcare and transportation assistance, ensuring they have what they need to succeed.

## BANKWORK\$

BankWork\$ connects adults from low income and minority communities to training and well-paying jobs in financial services that can lead to a lasting career. This free, intensive eight-week course equips participants with the skills needed to succeed in the in-demand industry.

An essential piece of BankWork\$ success is engaging employer partners. While Bankwork\$ is a national initiative located in twelve cities across America, Employ Milwaukee's program has more employer partners than any other city that participates. BankWork\$ staff actively engage local banks and credit unions who play a hands-on role in the program by volunteering in class, mentoring students, and conducting on-the-spot interviews at graduation. In 2024, 48 students graduated from five cohorts. Most graduates secure positions with employer partners, earning competitive wages between \$17 to \$23 per hour, with many going on to receive raises, promotions, and bonuses.

BankWork\$ utilizes supportive services to help ensure participants' success. On top of financial assistance with challenges like childcare and transportation, Bankwork\$ partners with Goodwill and Bottomless Closet to provide free professional clothing to participants.

In 2024, BankWork\$ expanded into Waukesha to reach and serve more individuals, allowing more participants to access high-quality training, employer connections, and wraparound support services that set them up for long-term success.



# FINANCIAL STATEMENT & PARTNERS

Employ Milwaukee actively manages and stewards funding from federal, state and local sources to strategically serve employers and individual job seekers in our community.

## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES *for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2024*

### SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Government & Service Contracts	\$15,633,754
Contributions	\$770,890
Other Revenue	\$1,168,236
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$17,572,880</b>

### EXPENSES

Youth	\$5,912,599
Adult	\$8,845,108
Dislocated Worker	\$1,141,156
Management & General	\$1,423,708
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$17,322,571</b>

### CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

**\$250,309**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Cavalier Johnson**, Mayor of Milwaukee, Designated Chief Elected Official of Employ Milwaukee

**Julie Cayo**, Interim CEO Employ Milwaukee

**Dan Bukiewicz**, Building and Construction Trades Council

**Carla Cross**, Cross Management Services, Inc., Chair of Employ Milwaukee

**Randy Crump**, Prism Technical Management and Marketing Services

**Dr. Anthony Cruz** (designee Phillip King), Milwaukee Area Technical College (MATC)

**Rodrick Cureton**, Milwaukee Bucks

**Edgard Delgado**, Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, Job Service

**Jennifer Fogarty**, WI Department of Workforce Development, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

**Eduardo Galvan**, Superintendent, Milwaukee Public Schools

**Eduardo Garza**, Center for Veterans Issues

**Andres Gonzalez**, Froedtert & Medical College of Wisconsin

**Kevin Jaskie**, United Steelworkers District 2

**Ernest Jones**, Columbia Savings & Loan

**Erik Kennedy**, Medical College of Wisconsin

**Mark Kessenich**, Associated General Contractors of Greater Milwaukee

**Shanan Lesselyoung**, Kohl's Corporation

**Amanda Manthey**, Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development, Unemployment Insurance (UI)

**Matt Martin**, Marcus Corporation

**Jose Martinez**, United Migrant Opportunity Services (UMOS)

**Jeff Mehrhoff**, IUPAT DC7

**Mark Mone**, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

**Darryl Morin**, Advanced Wireless

**Ugo Nwagbaraocha**, Diamond Discs International

**Alan Perlstein**, Lily Pad Gallery

**Karen Spindler**, Duracell



## FUNDED PARTNERS

Alma Center, Inc.  
Aurora Health Care, Inc.  
Benedict Center, Inc.  
Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee  
Center for Healthcare Careers of Southeast Wisconsin  
Center for Self Sufficiency  
Community Advocates  
Dynamic Workforce Solutions  
Equus Workforce Solutions  
EveryoneOn  
FOR-M Foundation, Inc.  
Home Builders Institute  
Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee  
Journey House  
Just Dane  
Literacy Services of Wisconsin  
Madison-area Urban Ministry  
Manpower  
Maximus, Inc.  
Milwaukee Area Technical College

Milwaukee Christian Center  
Milwaukee Urban League  
Milwaukee Water Works  
MMAC Community Support  
Multicultural Entrepreneurial Institute  
Next Door Foundation  
Project RETURN, Inc.  
Revitalize Milwaukee, Inc.  
Ross Innovative Employment Sol  
Mary Kay Sergio  
Social Development Commission  
The Community  
The Way Out, Inc.  
UNCOM  
Waukesha County  
Wauwatosa School District  
Carl Wesley Jr.  
Wisconsin Community Services  
Wisconsin Justice League  
Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership

## Social Hour Fundraiser

On Wednesday, October 30, Employ Milwaukee hosted its 2024 Social Hour Fundraiser at Nō Studios, bringing together community leaders, employers, and workforce development advocates for an inspiring evening. The event celebrated Employ Milwaukee's mission to connect residents with life-changing job opportunities and to foster a skilled, thriving workforce in Milwaukee County. Guests enjoyed networking, engaging discussions, and a showcase of the positive impact made possible by their support. Thank you to Presenting Sponsor, Ascension Wisconsin, our generous attendees, and supporters for making this year's event a resounding success.







# THANK YOU

Connect with us!

    @EmployMilwaukee

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