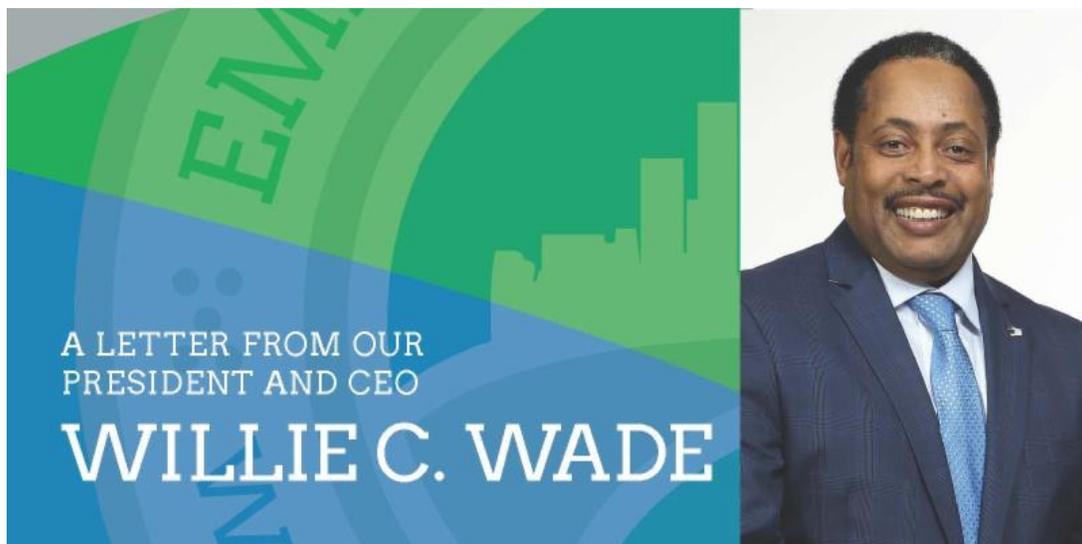




December 21, 2018



Dear Workforce Partners and Stakeholders,

I'm proud to say we are ending 2018 on a high note with several notable successes.

In October, Employ Milwaukee was awarded a \$1 million Community Impact Grant from the Wisconsin Partnership Program at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health for its project, the Milwaukee Re-entry Alliance, which aims to improve the return to the community for criminal justice-involved individuals.

Also, in October, the nationally celebrated organization BankWork\$®

announced it is partnering with Employ Milwaukee and the Wisconsin Bankers Association to expand its eight-week free training program to southeastern Wisconsin. BankWork\$® is a public-private partnership that primarily trains participants from underserved neighborhoods for careers in retail banking.

During National Apprenticeship Week, November 12-18, we hosted a breakfast event to provide information to companies interested in apprenticeship as a way to build their workforce. We were very pleased to have had dozens of companies represented to learn more about Youth Apprenticeship and Registered Apprenticeship employee training programs.

The Milwaukee Police Department Ambassador Program continues to introduce young people to careers with MPD. We are very proud of the 17 young people who completed the Ambassador Program. Their accomplishment was recognized at a Completion Ceremony held at the Milwaukee Police Academy on Tuesday, December 11th.

On Thursday, December 13th, we celebrated the newest group of YouthBuild Program graduates with a ceremony at the Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee. Congratulations to our 11 new YouthBuild graduates!

Finally, I'd like to say, I was truly honored to be named "Nonprofit Executive of the Year" by the Daily Reporter at their annual Newsmakers event.

Have a safe and happy holiday season!

Apprenticeship Business Info Session

In recognition of National Apprenticeship Week, November 12-18, Employ Milwaukee hosted an event to highlight both Youth Apprenticeship and Registered Apprenticeship employee training programs for area businesses. Apprenticeship increases productivity and reduces turnover; 91% of those who complete apprenticeships are still employed nine months later.



More than a dozen companies attend Apprenticeship Info Session. New Apprenticeships in IT and Finance were featured.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

New Partnership with BankWork\$

BankWork\$® Brings Financial Services Industry Training Program to Southeastern Wisconsin

On October 25, 2018, BankWork\$® announced a partnership with Employ Milwaukee and the Wisconsin Bankers Association (WBA) to expand its eight-week free training program to southeastern Wisconsin.

BankWork\$® is a public-private partnership that primarily trains

participants from underserved neighborhoods for careers in retail banking. The Milwaukee partnership will place adults with barriers to employment, in jobs in the financial services industry. The program is currently operating in Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Houston, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Portland, San Francisco, Seattle, and Tacoma, Washington.



Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett was on hand to thank BankWork\$ for selecting Milwaukee.

"BankWork\$® has placed more than 2,000 graduates into careers in the financial services industry. We are excited to see the impact the

program will have on Milwaukee," said Colleen Anderson, Executive Director at BankWork\$®.

"The WBA is excited to support another way of helping our communities while providing banks with trained and job-ready front-line employees," explained Rose Oswald Poels, President/CEO of the Wisconsin Bankers Association. "This is also a great way of promoting banking as a career in our state."

We would like to thank our partners for this wonderful career opportunity.

For more information or to invest in the BankWork\$ Program, contact Jovo Potkonjak at jovo.potkonjak@employmilwaukee.org or (414) 270-7529.

[BankWork\\$ featured in the MBJ](#)
[BankWork\\$ featured in the BizTimes](#)
[BankWork\\$ featured on CBS58](#)

YouthBuild Program Graduation

Graduates Celebrated at a Ceremony at HACM

The Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee (HACM) held a YouthBuild graduation ceremony on Thursday, December 13, 2018 for the most recent class of 11 YouthBuild program graduates. Three of the individuals will be participating in HACM's At-Promise Resident Training Program. They will be working part-time while furthering their education and receiving mentoring and other life skills training.



YouthBuild graduates pose with HACM Executive Director Antonio Perez and show off their certificates of completion.

Employ Milwaukee (EM) is the lead agent for YouthBuild funded under the U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration. The program partners with the Milwaukee Christian Center (MCC), Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee (HACM), Northcott Neighborhood House (NNH), and the Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership / Building Group Skilled Trades Employment Program (WRTP/BIGSTEP). The YouthBuild model balances project-based learning and occupational skills training that prepare disadvantaged youth for career placement. The academic component is an alternative education program that assists youth who are often significantly behind in basic skills to obtain a high school diploma or state high school equivalency credential. The occupational skills training component prepares at-risk

youth to gain placement into career pathways and/or further education or training, and also supports the goal of increasing affordable housing within communities by teaching youth construction skills learned by building or significantly renovating homes for low-income or homeless families or individuals.

[YouthBuild featured in the Shepherd Express](#)

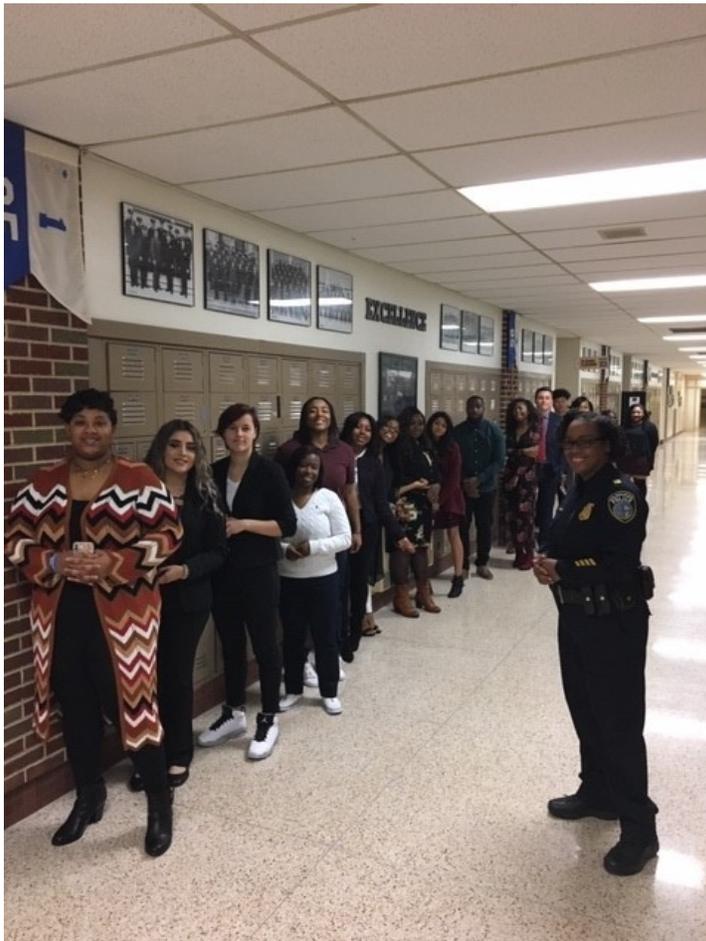
MPD Ambassador Completion Ceremony

Program Empowers Young People with Social, Leadership, and Work Skills

On Tuesday, December 11, the Milwaukee Police Department (MPD) and members of the community gathered for a Completion Ceremony for 17 Police Ambassadors. The Program empowers young adults with social, leadership and work skills, necessary for strong Milwaukee neighborhoods, public safety, vibrant communities, economic advancement and development of future leaders.

The Ambassador Program provides meaningful work experience to young adults who are

interested in pursuing careers or continuing their education in public safety or criminal justice. Additionally, the Ambassador Program is another tool for encouraging diversity in hiring of Milwaukee Police Officers and other careers within the Milwaukee Police Department.



MPD Ambassadors celebrate the completion of the program.

Employ Milwaukee News

[Daily Reporter Names Willie C. Wade "Nonprofit Executive of the Year"](#)



On Thursday, October 25, 2018, Willie C. Wade was honored by the *Daily Reporter* for "Nonprofit Executive of the Year." Wade accepts the award from Ken Kraemer.

[LINK TO ARTICLE](#)

Featured in the News

**MILWAUKEE
BUSINESS JOURNAL**

Willie C. Wade was recently named a Power Broker by the Milwaukee Business Journal. [Link to article.](#)

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