



## EMPLOY MILWAUKEE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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### YOUTH COMMITTEE MEETING

**Wednesday, August 10, 2022**

Via Zoom Technology

1:30 to 3:00 pm

### APPROVED MINUTES

**Members Present:** Dr. Katrice Cotton (Chair), Deshea Agee, Karen Sotak, Chytania Brown, Jolene Cooley, Jakeim Jackson-Bell, David Knutson, Sharlen Moore, La Toya Sykes, Chee Thao

**Members Absent:** Christie Bevin, Dionne Grayson, Karen Higgins, Donta Holmes, Gerard Randall, Silvia Swan, Derick Cornelius

**Employ Milwaukee Staff Present:** Julie Cayo, Brenda King, Suzy Reinstein, Romell Greer

#### **Guest Attending:**

Dr. Katrice Cotton called meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.

#### **1. Agenda Item 1: Committee Business**

Welcome & Introductions

(Chair) Dr. Katrice Cotton welcomed members to the meeting.

#### **2. Agenda Item 2: Approve Minutes**

Review & Approve Minutes from May 11, 2022

Chair Dr. Katrice Cotton members review minutes from May 11, 2022. David Knutson moved to approve Karen Sotak seconded; May 11<sup>th</sup> minutes approved unanimously.

#### **3. Agenda Item 3: General Updates**

##### **a. General Employ Milwaukee Updates Chytania Brown:**

- **What does the Youth Committee do?** – Youth Committee is under the direction of the local WDB, the committee will give policy recommendations, design, develop and implement. Recommend ways to leverage resources and coordinate services with schools, public programs and community-based organizations that service youth. Recommend ways to coordinate youth services and seek eligible youth providers, give leadership support for the youth programs. Assist with planning, operational, and other issues related to services to youth and WIOA.
- **Youth Employment Data** – The City of Milwaukee is behind the County, but we are greatly higher on the national lever that shows how well with do with the in school and out of school youth. We have new reporting that we can capture from the Pew Research Report and the U.S. Census Report.

#### **4. Agenda Item 4: Annual Review of Policies:**

##### **a. Youth Incentive Policies (Update)**

This policy describes the incentives allowable and the procedures for awarding these to participants of EMI'S WIOA Title 1-B Youth Program. The Update is that a spreadsheet has been added to the policy to clearly define benchmarks for these incentive payments. The current policy references this spreadsheet; however, it was never formally attached to the local policy.

##### **b. Change 2 – Child Protection Policy**

The child protection policy provides guidance and defines the procedures in place to protect youth participants in EMI programs. The change is while the policy identified EMI'S staff, it did not include volunteers as well as safety procedures in place for volunteers to follow.

Dr. Cotton opened for approval of these policy updates that will go to Employ Milwaukee's Executive Committee for vote. LaToya Sykes moved for approval and Karen Sotak seconded the approval, unanimously approved.

#### **5. Agenda Item 5: Youth Committee member Updates**

**Camp Rise** – Was an Earn and Learn model for boys ages 10-14, it launched 6/21/2022 and ran for 7 weeks. We partnered with Milwaukee Public Schools, and the Voices of the Elders. Provided the registered participants transportation to and from camp and breakfast and lunch courtesy of MPS. The Campers went through an evidence-based curriculum that enriched workshops on teamwork, leadership, and responsibility. They went to different parks around the city and cleaned those parks. The campers had visits from notable individuals in the City of Milwaukee, The Mayor, The Chief of Police and Lieutenant Governor, they also received media exposure from the different news stations. Each camper received a daily stipend of \$40.00 a day that was paid out weekly on Friday's. The Campers were able to spend their funds on whatever they wanted. Mr. Bababtu was voted Elder of the year. We had 636 that registered for the 200 spots available and for 2023 we already have 81 interests registered now. We are looking at adding young girls to the program.

**Earn & Learn** – Implemented a new online software program that gave us the ability to track applicants more efficiently. Approximately 3,439 youth that began the application process, 2,113 youth completed the application, 1,355 youth were selected to receive work experience, 1,333 began the summer work assignment at over 119 different worksites. The worksites used the new software as well, and committee member Sharlen Moore shared that she felt it was more efficient and easier to use as a worksite. We will be enhancing the system.

**YouthBuild** - Completing the construction Co-Hort with 30 participants in that group 25 have attained measurable skills, 20 have attained HBI-PACT credentials, 4 have attained a HSED. The Healthcare Co-Hort has 10 participants that are currently working on obtaining CNA certification and are completing paid work experience at CBRFs. Recruitment is currently under the way for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Co-Hort with HACM & MCC we currently have 14 participants, and these programs will run from 11/7/22 – 9/30/23 10 months. A new healthcare cohort will start 11/7/22 – 5/30/22 and 04/03/23 – 09/30/23. Chytania Brown shared that we are trying to create the construction pathway to assist these young people to use YouthBuild to help them along that pathway.

**Brighter Futures** – Is a program that runs with the school calendar and within school year. Currently has 29 enrolled, and the goal for the year is 200. The Boys and Girls Club working on getting the more students enrolled so that number will increase. The Boys and Girls Club will have hired their staffing needs and will be able to help enroll individuals before the deadline date.

**WIOA ISY Services** – This program runs from July 2021 to June 2022 they had 67 individuals enrolled with the goal being 120. They have started enrollment for the new year coming up already.

**WIOA OSY Services** – This program runs from July 2021 to June 2022, they had 273 enrolled which exceeded the goal of 240, 167 receive trainings and education enrollment, 157 have been placed in employment, and 134 youth have paid work experience.

**Member Updates** – La Toya Sykes from Our Next Generation Friday is the last day of the summer program, they had an amazing summer and received goat certification and will be certified goat shepherds. Deshea Agee invited everyone out to Brownsville week. Early start MPS students will start and the Day 1 site with the red carpet will be at the Milwaukee High School of the Arts. The Boys & Girls Club will be adding 9 new after school programs this year. There will be a total of 51 sites that will be offering afterschool programs. The BCBG is experiencing some hiring issues they have increased the hourly pay and offering a bonus to new hires.

La Toya Sykes: a motion to adjourn La Toya Sykes 1st motion Sharlen Moore 2<sup>nd</sup> motion All Approved  
Chair Dr. Katrice Cotton adjourned meeting at 2:27 p.m.

**Next Youth Committee Meeting:** February 8, 2023, at 1:30 p.m.-3:00p.m. via Zoom

**Next Board of Directors Meeting:** December 8, 2022, at 8:30a.m. -10:00 a. m. via Zoom

