

# ANNUAL REPORT 2018

**Social Development Commission** 

1730 West North Avenu Milwaukee, WI 53205

www.cr-sdc.org







### Social Development Commission

### Pathways from poverty to success

### HISTORY

The Social Development Commission (SDC) has served as an advocate, planner, coordinator, and provider of human service programs for low-income individuals and families in Milwaukee County for more than 50 years. In 1963, SDC was established as an intergovernmental commission under Wisconsin State Statute 66.0125. Then in 1964, under President Lyndon B. Johnson's historic "War on Poverty", SDC became the Community Action Agency for Milwaukee County. To date, SDC is the largest Community Action Agency in Wisconsin.

### WHO WE ARE

SDC works to ensure that all Milwaukee County residents have equal access to resources needed to achieve economic self-sufficiency. As a Community Action Agency per state and federal law, we are tasked with helping – even advocating for - Milwaukee County residents who live in poverty. SDC focuses on:

- Research
- Fostering Collaboration
- Planning
- Advocacy
- Program Operation/Incubation
- Program Evaluation
- Human Relations

We're different. We're not bureaucrats sitting on the outside looking in. We were created to give people in poverty a voice and influence over policies and resources impacting their lives. One-third of our governing board members are elected representatives of low-income residents of Milwaukee County. We work together to solve poverty-related issues in our community.

As times change, we change, but we remain steadfast as we continue to attack the root causes of poverty in Milwaukee County.

#### Dear Friends:

It's that time of year. As we gather for our annual meeting, we pause to reflect on the various ways our agency serves Milwaukee County residents. I'm pleased to report that SDC expanded programs with successful outcomes. Always forward thinking, we launched new initiatives to better advocate, train and strengthen our community. For example, ranked high on our list of 2018 accomplishments is SDC's annual Summit on Poverty. It remains one of our most important events. In 2018, we took bold, unprecedented action as we united rural and urban communities. Nationally-acclaimed thought-leaders highlighted common issues that keep communities trapped in poverty. SDC facilitated tough, honest conversations that have momentum to spark major policy change at local, state and even national levels.



GEORGE P. HINTON

In 2018, health care in Milwaukee County was another important issue. SDC refused to sit silently on the sideline while proposals to cut community medical services shook Milwaukee County residents to the core.

#### There's more.

Also, in 2018, SDC further fulfilled its mission to financially empower Milwaukee County residents by offering its ChefStart Culinary class. Instruction will help dozens of aspiring business owners open catering businesses and food trucks. Other graduates are employed at some of the region's most successful restaurants. Our Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA) helped thousands of residents file tax returns and keep more of their money.

We hope you take a moment to thumb through the pages of this annual report because like any report card, it reflects the work we do everyday.

Finally, I'd like to take this opportunity to publicly thank SDC's Board of Commissioners and retiring Chairperson Stephanie Findley for generously sharing their time and talents in order to benefit Milwaukee County residents experiencing poverty.

#### Sincerely,

**George P. Hinton,** CEO Social Development Commission

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#### Dear Friends:

As I transition off the Social Development Commission Board of Commissioners, my heart is full. During my tenure with SDC, I had an opportunity to meet wonderful people from all walks of life. It was truly an honor to serve our community in this capacity.

As a result of my experience with SDC, I believe – more than ever before - that poverty can be eradicated. While we are not there yet, the Social Development Commission continues to change this condition – one person at a time.

SDC is a model that works. I've seen it and I will continue to share my testimony about the good work SDC does.

We're better together. And I wish you continued success as we build a new generation of leaders and help all STEPHANIE FINDLEY Milwaukee County residents live their best life.

Sincerely,

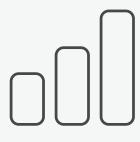
Stephanie Findley, Board Chair Social Development Commission

Board of Commissioners



SDC BOARD CHAIR

### **FINANCIALS**



#### **REVENUES**

\$11.287.00 General **Operating Grants and** Contributions \$13,940,641.00 **Charge of Services** \$118,693.00

Total \$14,070,621.00



#### **EXPENSES**

Career Services	\$890,077.00
<b>Education Services</b>	\$437,656.00
Financial Services	\$350,374.00
Food Services-Enterprise	\$83,267.00
Health Services	\$1,116,369.00
Nutrition Services	\$3,060,254.00
Quality, Research and	
Policy	\$1,029,579.00
Residential Services	\$6,729,871.00
Youth Services	\$456,026.00

Total \$14,153,473.00

### **2018 BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Stephanie Findley,** Board Chair African American Chamber of Commerce of WI

**Attorney Vincent Bobot**, Vice Chair District 6

**Dan Gomez.** Treasurer Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

> **Vi Anna Jordan,** Secretary District 4

**Alma Ramirez,** *Member-at-large* District 5

**Nikki Purvis** 

**Sara Van Winkle** Interfaith Conference

Elmer Moore, Jr. Greater Milwaukee Committee

> **Dr. Regina Smith** MATC

**Donna Brown-Martin** Milwaukee County

Milwaukee Area Labor Council, AFL-CIO

Vacant

**Rosemary Holley** TARP Governance Committee

> Dr. Gary L. Williams UW-Milwaukee

**Matthew Boswell** Milwaukee Public Schools

**Terese Caro** Office of the Governor

> **Lelah Huntley** District 1

**George C. Matthews** District 2

> **Craig Sanders** District 3



# CAREER SERVICES

SDC prepares individuals for work. We coach, train and position customers for career success. We provide certified pre-apprenticeship programs like Absolute Advantage, YouthBuild and ChefStart.

### **PROGRAMS**

- Absolute Advantage
- Business Academy
- Career & Skills Enhancement
- ChefStart Culinary Arts
- ProTech
- YouthBuild
- Youth Employment Program



### **Profile: WOMEN IN TRADES**

In 2018, The Social Development Commission (SDC) launched a new initiative.

Locally, the construction industry was booming. However, developers struggled to find a steady and qualified pool of workers. With experienced construction workers retiring in record numbers, SDC adopted a national model replacing older construction workers with a new generation of employees - women.

Today, about 9 percent of workers in the construction industry are women. With a commitment to financially empower more women, SDC continues to lead the way by positioning



women for these family-sustaining jobs. SDC recruiters actively target women for apprenticeship programs. And the construction work includes more than the development of big buildings.

Regina, a recent Absolute Advantage graduate, spent much of her career as a pharmacy technician. Now she wants to work for herself and start a home remodeling business. Looking to strengthen skills needed for the job, Regina was one of several women who enrolled in SDC's pre-apprenticeship program, Absolute Advantage.

For Regina, construction will become a family business. Her son also enrolled in SDC's construction pre-apprenticeship program, YouthBuild. "He wants to be an electrician," Regina says. "I can do the carpentry, remodeling, kitchens and baths. He can do the electrical part. We can be one company offering many things."







### **Our Impact**

**Enrolled in Career Services Training Programs** 

> **Enrolled in Career & Skill Enhancement**

"This is a great experience for me. It has taught me a skill that will never leave me. I can teach generations how to do their own electrical work and carpentry work. When you know how to build something from scratch, you'll never be in a crisis." - Jamie Stewart, Absolute Advantage Graduate

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### **EDUCATION SERVICES**

Education is essential to the success of every individual. Here at SDC, we believe there are many ways to define success and there are different paths to finding it. We provide programs for adults of all ages to earn their General Education or High School Equivalency Diplomas as well as provide wrap-around services to help them succeed in life.

### **PROGRAMS**

- General Education Development (GED)
- High School Equivalency Diploma
- College Career Pathways
- Pearson Vue Testing Center

### Profile: **NEVER TO LATE!**

While working two jobs and raising three kids, Jutan Turner put her dreams on hold. Her children were her first priority. Turner wanted the kids to get what she didn't, a high school diploma.

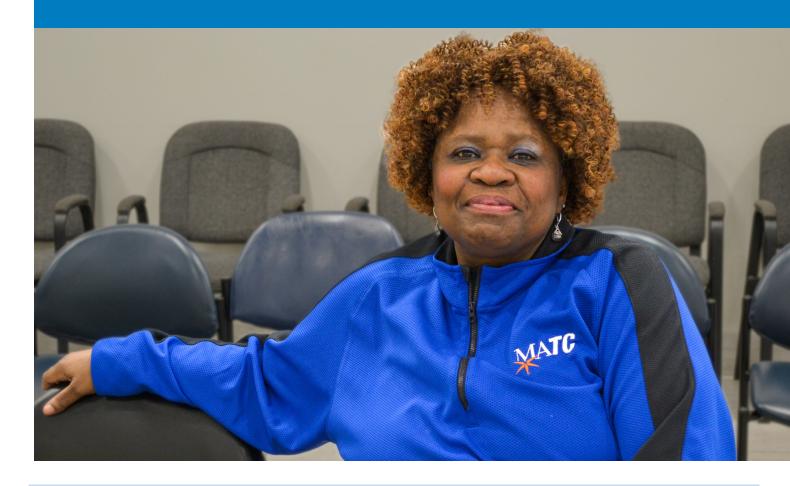
Once Turner's kids graduated, 55-year-old Turner began to think about the next chapter in her life.

"I went through that empty-nester syndrome," Turner remembers. "Then I said, okay, this is your chance to focus on you. What haven't you done with your life that you can do now?"

Turner turned to SDC and started taking classes to earn a high school diploma. Like anything else, going back to school as an older student was easier said than done. With the help of her instructors, SDC staff and fellow classmates, she successfully earned her diploma. But she didn't stop there.

Turner then enrolled in advanced social work classes at MATC. The school curriculum required her to complete an internship. Once again, Turner turned to SDC. After she completed her internship at SDC, she successfully graduated from MATC with her Associates Degree. SDC continued to support Turner by helping her find a higher paying job more aligned with the work she really wanted to do.

"It's been awesome," Turner says. "When you first start a journey like I did, you start to doubt yourself." But to have somebody behind you like the people at SDC... just thank you. You've been there from the start and that means a lot."



### Our Impact



**GED/HSED Graduates** 



**Completed Adult Literacy** Classes



**Post-Secondary Education Preparation** 

MILWAUKEE AREA Technical College

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# PERSONAL FINANCIAL & TAX SERVICES

Low-income individuals face many financial challenges such as limited savings and assets, no or poor credit history, and barriers that prevent access to financial institutions. SDC's financial services empower individuals with the ability to take charge of their finances.

### **PROGRAMS**

- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)
- Financial Education Workshops
- Financial Coaching

#### **VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE**

Did you know that Milwaukee was one of the first cities to offer the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program known as VITA? It's true. And when VITA was just a pilot program, the Social Development Commission signed on as an early partner.

With the help of the Social Development Commission, Milwaukee County residents continue to easily access this important program. Through VITA, IRS-certified volunteers offer free tax preparation with electronic filing to people who make \$55,000 or less. The program also helps Milwaukee County taxpayers who have disabilities or speak limited English.

This financially empowering service would not be possible without dedicated volunteers and sponsors. In fact, many are professional accountants who donate their time.



"It reminded me how fortunate I am and how important it is to support others, share knowledge. If we take this program away, people would be paying \$300 or more to get their taxes done. Quite frankly, they are living paycheck to paycheck, working very hard. They just don't have it."



"VITA. I was hooked. You saw the need. You saw people being apprehensive about having to prepare their own taxes. People who are comfortable doing their own taxes should be able to help other people who don't see that comfort."

- Julie Oren, Recognized for 30 years of Volunteer Service

- Monica McNaughton, New Volunteer



Volunteers assisted in making the VITA program a success and more are needed to help expand the effort in the coming tax season. Volunteer tax preparers, greeters and others will help the program serve even more residents at more locations. Training and certification will begin in December of this year with the actual tax preparation work starting in January of 2020.

### **Our Impact**



**Completed Financial** Literacy



**VITA Volunteer Hours** 



**Received Financial** Coaching



**VITA Customers** 

6,607



# MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS SERVICES

SDC operates a state-certified outpatient treatment program for both AODA (substance abuse) and Mental Health concerns. Counseling services are offered to Milwaukee County youth ages 8-19 and program eligible adults ages 18-25 and their families. SDC clinical staff provides screening, intake, assessment, treatment planning, individual/group/family counseling. Artistic/creative or other alternative therapy experiences are also made available to youth and their families in the context of special events, workshops, or open studio programs.

### **PROGRAMS & SERVICES PROVIDED**

- Education & Awareness Presentations
- Screening & Clinical Assessments
- AODA/Mental Health Outpatient Treatment
- Drug Urine-Screening
- Counseling
- Prescription Advocacy & Referral Service

SDC's Health and Wellness counselors understand young people. Evidence –based practices work. For decades, SDC counselors have served youth with creative programs that help them make healthy life choices. Using art, music and real-life experiences, SDC successfully hosts workshops with impact.

### Dedrick, SDC Alumni

We all make mistakes. Sometimes it helps to know we're not alone. When Dedrick was 14, he got into trouble for possessing marijuana. In lieu of jail, a court ordered Dedrick to spend time at SDC. With counseling from SDC's caring staff, Dedrick was able to turn his life around. And the story gets better. More than a decade later, Dedrick enjoys a successful career counseling youth who experience similar teenage issues. And from time to time, Dedrick comes back home to SDC where his clients also have a chance to benefit from innovative programming.

"They accept the lessons more when they hear it from people who have been there," Dedrick says. "Students need it real. A lot of the time what they hear is sugar-coated. This program is youth-oriented and interactive."

### Bernard, Student

"The person kept messing with me. I tried to walk away. They pushed me. I turned around. I just snapped."

That's how 13-year-old Bernard describes the school fight that got him charged with a crime. The court ordered him to SDC to complete 20-hours of community service. SDC mental health and wellness programming helped him change his behavior.

"I haven't got in trouble since my first day here. I come every other week," he says. "Programs like this are important because they tell us if we keep acting up we will end up either in juvenile (jail) or dead. I just want a normal life," Bernard says.



### Denise, Mother

Because change is a process, a changed attitude can be subtle. Often it's noticed first by a concerned parent or close relative. That's what Denise is looking for. She is attending a SDC workshop with her teenage son who received a truancy ticket after he skipped school. The workshop is designed to help teens understand the consequences that come with poor choices. "Young people don't have the programs we had growing up," Denise says. "I want him to see different roads. I just want the best for him. There is hope."

\*Customer names have been changed to ensure confidentiality.

### **Our Impact**

**96**Mental Health Counseling

115
Substance Abuse Screenings

79 Crisis Responses

50 Support Group Participants 115
Wellness Classes

**263**Parents/Caregiver Improved Skills

1,142
Individuals with Improved Health & Well-Being

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# **NUTRITION SERVICES**

In 1970, SDC's Youth Food Program began serving lunch and dinner to children. Our goal was simple, contribute to the growth and development of Milwaukee County's children by providing meals to satisfy basic nutritional needs. As the number of hungry children grew, so did we. We serve over 5,000 children, from infant to 18 years of age.

### Our Impact

**97**Organizations Served

5,429 Children Served 1,616,831
Meals Served



# RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

SDC provides eligible tenants or homeowners basic weatherization services at no cost. Services reduce energy bills, save energy, and make homes healthy and comfortable. Weatherization program staff conducts energy audits of eligible homes and then coordinates service work to make them more energy efficient. That work can include insulation of attic, walls, floors, water heaters and exposed pipes, furnace tune-ups, repairs or replacement, installation of ventilation fans, putting in energy efficient lighting, and information on maintenance and energy conservation. The NIP program encompasses total home renovations preserving homes, strengthening the stabilization of neighborhoods, while increasing pride in home ownership.

### **PROGRAMS**

- Weatherization
- Weaterization Deferral
- Emergency Furnace Program
- Energy Conservation Demonstrations
- Neighborhood Improvement Project (NIP)



### Profile: THIS IS WHAT GOOD PARTNERSHIP LOOKS LIKE!

In 2018, SDC was proud to be recognized by Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele with this Weatherization Day proclamation. By working closely with partners including Milwaukee County's Energy Assistance Office, SDC's weatherization team helps Milwaukee County residents stay warm during Wisconsin's bitterly cold winters.

"Collaboration is important," says Melissa Olmo, SDC's weatherization coordinator. "The majority of our customers are referred by Milwaukee County Energy Assistance Program. With this partnership, we're able to reach more people with the resources we offer."

SDC helps Milwaukee County residents make their homes more energy-efficient. Low-income households spend a disproportionate share of income on electric bills.

"It's important," says Olmo. "Most people think heat escapes through old windows or doors. However, the bigger problem is a lack of insulation in the attic or walls."

After weatherization services, the typical home saves an average of 35% on energy consumption



or a little more than \$400 each year. This also means that families have more money for other necessities like groceries, medicine and clothing.

### Our Impact

540 Home Repairs Completed

npleted Weatherization & Healthy Home Services

2,079
Energy Efficiency
Improvements

5,122
Participants in Energy
Conservation Demonstration



## SENIOR SERVICES

SDC provides supportive services and programs for seniors that improve their wellness and overall quality of life.

### **PROGRAMS**

- Foster Grandparent Program
- Senior Companion Program
- Senior Benefits Program

### Profile: A DAY IN SDC'S SENIOR COMPANION PROGRAM

If you happen to hear jazz coming from Bob's apartment, there's a good chance Joe, the SDC Senior Companion is there. On this day, the gentlemen sit in Bob's cozy, sun-filled apartment listening to Miles Davis' Kind of Blue. With an appreciation for arguably the best trumpeter ever, the men close their eyes. There's no small talk, just the joy that comes with comfortable companionship.

Some days they listen to music. Most days include Bob's passion for poetry which helps him manage the range of emotions that come when living with an often disabling disease, Multiple Sclerosis. This visit is about more than the love of music, poetry or even friendship. It actually promotes good health.

According to researchers, social isolation and loneliness contribute to poor life quality and health issues among older adults. SDC's Senior Companion Program is a solution helping many seniors stay healthy and independent in their home.

The Senior Companion Program matches companions (age 55 and older) with elderly individuals who may be homebound, alone or at risk of institutional placement. By taking care of simple chores, providing transportation to medical appointments, and offering contact

to the outside world, SDC's Senior Companions provide services that frail, elderly people need to live independently.

"At first it was something to do," Senior Companion Joe says. "I always tried to help people – simply because I can and they can't. I like doing things to make people feel good about themselves and their environment."

SDC's Senior Companion Program also gives caregivers like Bob's wife, Chris, a break.

"It's been very good to have Joe here because I can get away and do something that I like to do," Chris says. "It's one day that I get to go to the library because I love to read too."

Meanwhile in the house, Bob and Joe dig deeper into the poetry pile.

"That was a free-verse!" exclaims Joe. Do you have a sonnet?" Bob ruffles through some papers and pulls out another poem. This time he pulls a sonnet written for his wife. When he's finished reading out loud, Bob looks up at Joe and flashes a big grin. Joe gives a nod of approval. For a magical moment, it seems Bob's physical limitations are gone.

This was a good day. And they frequently are when a companion comes to visit.



### Our Impact



**Senior Companion Volunteer Hours** 

66,509



**Foster Grandparent Volunteer Hours** 

37,532



# YOUTH SERVICES

SDC offers programs for income-qualifying youth that live in Milwaukee County. Our experienced staff guide and counsel youth to aid in their development. We provide them with the foundation and skills necessary to achieve their goals.

By participating in the services offered, youth are able to discuss topics and social encounters that they experience day-to-day helping them to acquire conflict resolution and leadership skills.

SDC operates recreational leagues available to males and females, and some leagues are co-ed. Good sportsmanship and teamwork are emphasized to ensure youth have a rewarding experience in their league choice.

Other aspects of Youth Services that may be available to youth include job readiness, trainings, and job placement.

### **PROGRAMS**

- ACT Prep Workshops
- Youth Advisory Board
- Teen Talking Listening Circles
- Conflict Resolution & Meditation Workshops
- Baby Think It Over
- Recreational Leagues

#### Community Service Alternative Program



Foster Grandparent Tutoring Program

# Profile: : SDC'S BACK-TO-SCHOOL RESOURCE FAIR

Few events are as memorable as the first day of school. Every year, kids look forward to getting new clothes, new backpacks and new school supplies. It's a fresh start and often sets the tone for the rest of the school year.

To help ensure Milwaukee County students are ready to learn, the Social Development Commission hosted a Back to School Resource Fair. Staff, volunteers and community partners passed out boxes filled with pencils, paper and even scientific calculators.

Required supplies can easily cost parents more than \$100 for each student. And when there are several students in the family, expensive supplies could become a burden and negatively influence a child's attitude towards school.

"We wanted to give out supplies so they would be ready on day one," says SDC's Health and Wellness Program Manager, Sheila Sampton. "We know that parents run out of supplies. We wanted to make sure that under-served and under-resourced kids had the supplies they needed to be successful at school."

LaTesha Johnson is a parent that benefits from the program. As a mother to six school-age children, she appreciates the support SDC offers.

"The supplies can be very expensive with six children and a grandbaby," Johnson says. "Of course,



Also helped by the program was Sheila Jones. This grandmother was trailed by a line of her grandchildren enjoying the back-to-school resource fair.

"This is an awesome idea. I brought five grandkids." The ages range from 3 to 13," Jones said. "I'm just very grateful to be able to take advantage of a situation like this."

It's well established that a lack of education is a major factor keeping individuals trapped in generational poverty. Through partnerships and community outreach, SDC 's Youth programs bring the SDC mission statement to life by providing Milwaukee County residents with resources to move beyond poverty.



**Received Education Support Services** 245



**Participants of Before & After School Activities** 840



**Received School Supplies** 201



**Participants in Summer Youth** Recreational **Activities** 

63

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# **SDC ADVOCACY**

### ad-vo-cate/noun

a person who publicly supports or recommends a particular cause or policy

Advocate.

At SDC, it's who we are and what we do.

Before President Johnson's War on Poverty enlisted the Social Development Commission in the fight against poverty, SDC was already working on an important mandate from state, county and city leaders. As a commission, the Social Development Commission was called to study poverty and make recommendations or advocate on behalf of Milwaukee County residents living in poverty.

In 2018, SDC continued to meet this obligation as it flexed its advocacy muscles taking a stand on two important issues affecting Milwaukee County residents living in poverty.

### **HEALTH CARE**

When a newspaper announced that a community residents were in an uproar. Many worried this would create a health care desert, leaving the area's poorest residents with no critical medical care nearby. Feeling frustrated, powerless and ignored, community leaders asked the Social Development Commission for help.

By amplifying community concerns, SDC was able to keep this urgent issue in the forefront and increase dialog in public forums. By helping to create an environment that empowered local residents and increased understanding, the hospital eventually abandoned publicized plans and announced any changes to hospital service are on hold.



#### **VOTER EDUCATION**

As a non-partisan organization, SDC is a safe haven. As a result, it is uniquely poised to help Milwaukee County residents exercise their right to vote. That's why in 2018, SDC opened its doors and became one of Milwaukee's voter registration hospital planned to cut critical medical services, sites. With local, state and national elections influencing quality of life in Milwaukee County communities, SDC is a resource to empower Milwaukee County residents and help them independently build communities that reflect their values and vision.



# **SUMMIT ON POVERTY**

The Social Development Commission (SDC) and the Wisconsin Community Action Program Association (WISCAP) expresses its sincere gratitude to Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield, our coalition of planning partners, and the Community Action Agencies of Wisconsin for making the Poverty Matters Summit, Statewide Edition a success.

Our outstanding speakers and workshop presenters enlightened attendees about rural and urban poverty as they shared stories and talked about solutions. The sessions were powerful and educational.

The keynote speakers, Tim Wise and Dr. C. Nicole Mason, shared impactful stories of their own and pointed out the realities of poverty and what must change at every level of society. Some words were uncomfortable but needed to be heard. Their words provided inspiration to work together to fight poverty in the state of Wisconsin.

Moving forward, we must continue to share our stories and cultivate our solutions. By working together, both rural and urban, we have the power to make a difference.

Again, we are grateful for your participation and for serving as ambassadors in the fight against poverty.

# **SUPPORTERS**

American Heart Association City of Milwaukee CDGA City of Milwaukee CDGA CDBG City of Milwaukee - CDGA HOME **CNCS Foster Grandparent CNCS Senior Companion** Department of Labor Department of Treasury IRS **Employ Milwaukee** Families Moving Forward Greater Wisconsin Agency Resources on Aging- MIPPA Greater Wisconsin Dept. on Aging MATC Career Pathways

Milwaukee County Milwaukee County Youth Employment Program State of Wisconsin Bureau on Aging and Disability State of Wisconsin Foster Grandparent Program State of Wisconsin Senior Companion Program WHEDA

Wisconsin Dental Association Wisconsin Department of Administration Wisconsin Department of Children/Families Wisconsin Department of Health Services Wisconsin Department of Justice Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

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# SD FOUNDATION

Dear Friends,

With the Milwaukee County poverty rate holding steady at about 28%, the Social Development Foundation is committed to continuing support of SDC's anti-poverty programs. In 2018, the Social Development Foundation Board of Directors successfully generated more awareness, identified more resources, and secured more support to advance SDC initiatives.

Here's how.

Each year The Social Development Foundation hosts several events including Strike Out Poverty and the Don Sykes Legacy Dinner. Proceeds from these events support SDC programming. Donations from individual donors, foundations and corporate sponsors also support SDC's programs. Our financial support enables SDC to offer lifechanging programs like: Absolute Advantage, ChefStart, VITA, Youth Employment and more.

I am proud of the accomplishments we made in the last year. As friends of SDC, I hope you will continue to support the Social Development Foundation. Together with SDC, we are moving low-income residents out of poverty and providing pathways to success.

Thank you for being part of our caring community.

Sincerely,

Albert L. Smith, President
SD Foundation





ALBERT L. SMITH SD FOUNDATION

### SD PROPERTIES

#### Greetings:

SD Properties is pleased to contribute to SDC initiatives that improve the quality of life in our community. We are committed to improving our neighborhoods and the buildings located in Milwaukee County.

In 2018, we were also proud to contribute to the Lindsay Heights neighborhood sustainability efforts.

#### Highlights:

- SD Properties installed a new roof, solar panels and LED lights on the warehouse adjacent to SDC's Headquarters on North Avenue.
- At SDC's Teutonia Avenue Food Service location, we are going green. A rubber roof, solar panels and LED lighting were put in place. As good stewards, we are committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and other dangerous pollutants in our environment.
- Foliage in SDC's parking lot bioswale continues to mature as this project protects our lakes and rivers from storm water pollutants.

With these improvements to our buildings, we have positioned SD Properties to reduce utility bills by as much as fifteen (15) percent and provide SDC with a workplace that is an asset to their continuing efforts to help people out of poverty.

In the future, SD Properties will continue to look forward to working hand-and-hand with SDC as we make a difference in the quality of life for people living in Milwaukee County.

Sincerely,

**Vince Bobot,** *Chair* SD Properties



VINCE BOBOT SD PROPERTIES

#### **COMMUNITY ACTION PROMISE**

Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.

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