

2023

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

JULY 1, 2022 -
JUNE 30, 2023





100 Participant Served
Across 2 Programs

77%
Secured
Employment

25
Employer
Partners

12,356
Community
Service Hours

14
Service
Projects

Our mission is to provide underserved young adults with the education, training and life skills necessary to become gainfully employed and build a better future.

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

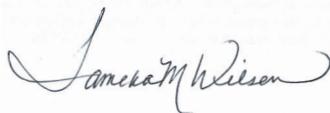
It has been an exciting year at YouthBuild Lake County full of impact, innovation and growth. This year we **served 100 people** through our two programs! Participants renovated a home, built four residential garages and participated in a variety of service projects in the community. These projects have given them a sense of purpose and belief in themselves. This, combined with earning high school diplomas and industry recognized credentials, will help them succeed as knowledgeable and skilled contributors to their community and the economy.

In 2022 the Board of Directors adopted a three-year strategic plan and I am proud of the tremendous strides we have made towards achieving the goals set forth in the plan. As a result, we have launched or enhanced several aspects of our agency.

- Expanding our offerings with a DOL Registered Apprenticeship Program
- Increased mental health support by hiring a part-time psychologist available for crisis intervention and short-term counseling
- Established a new partnership with Community Youth Network to provide weekly group counseling sessions and also weekly nutrition groups
- Restructured internal processes and procedures in the areas of finance, hiring and retention, and employee development
- Raised a record breaking \$976,000 from foundations, individuals and corporations

While we have made achievements this year to strengthen our agency, our work is never done. Thank you to our staff members, board members, volunteers, employer partners and donors for supporting those that we serve and for giving back to a community so deserving of your generosity.

Yours in service,



Tameka M. Wilson
Executive Director



YOUTHBUILD PROGRAM

The YouthBuild Program provides young adults, ages 17-24, a pathway to earn their high school diploma, real world work experience, and industry recognized credentials. After completing this 9-month program participants will be ready for placement in employment, college, or vocational training. YouthBuild is a comprehensive program that offers extensive wrap-around services to assist participants with overcoming barriers to succeed.



"YB has open doors for me that I've never thought I had access to, like a local college, university or even a local job! Having a team that pushes students to success instead of failure will forever make YBLC stand out. Knowing I have staff to reach out at any time for my education will never go unnoticed!"

- **Lizabeth**, YouthBuild Participant





ANGEL YOUTHBUILD GRADUATE 2023

After being kicked out of school, Angel applied to YouthBuild Lake County and turned his life around. He joined the YouthBuild program because he wanted more for himself. "I didn't have an idea of what I wanted for my future or even know how I would get my diploma," Angel said during an interview.

"My time in the YouthBuild program turned out well in the end", said Angel. "At the start of it I was still reckless and immature - I'm glad they didn't give up on me. There were a lot of days where I did slip up, but I enjoyed the program and what I learned while I was in it. About school. About construction. About myself." Through his efforts on the construction site, personal coaching from staff, and self-motivation, Angel graduated YBLC with high honors. He earned the *Most Improved*, *Teamwork*, and *Above and Beyond* awards while completing the most AmeriCorps service hours among his cohort. He now works full-time as a Construction Aide at YBLC, working to better his community by building and renovating low-income housing.



PRE-APPRENTICE PROGRAM

Through the Pre Apprentice Program participants gain hands-on experience with the building trades on site and in a classroom setting. They also earn certifications in OSHA 10, NCCER, and CPR. At the end of the 12 weeks, graduates will be equipped with the experience and certifications necessary to enter a Department of Labor certified apprenticeship in one of the building trades.

PARTCIPANTS

41
Served



CREDENTIALS

78% NCCER CORE Attainment **100%** OSHA 10 Attainment **83%** CPR Attainment

EMPLOYMENT

71% Secured Employment **39%** Applied to DOL Apprentice Program **7** Union & Facility Tours



"What I gained from the (pre-apprentice) program was confidence in myself. I learned that I could keep going in the construction field. I hope that the skills that I learned in construction along with the training that I'm receiving with hvac/r will help me in the future to become an exceptional general contractor."

- Alicia, Pre-Apprentice Graduate 2023



LAQUON PRE-APPRENTICE GRADUATE 2023

Before joining the Pre-Apprentice Program, LaQuon was working job after job in the industrial field while providing for his young daughter. After seeing our ad, LaQuon decided to look into YouthBuild. He wanted to gain skills in construction. "I enjoyed it. I learned a lot. There were great teachers and great staff. It was all very informative. I learned an easier way to do math, the proper name for power tools and hand tools, how to build certain things that you would think are complicated, but if you have the right knowledge, it's pretty simple."

After finishing his programming, LaQuon was hired at ReNew Communities as a full-time level 1 carpenter dedicated to building and renovating low-income housing in the community. His goal is to own his own nationwide carpentry business. "The sky's the limit. The program has changed my life tremendously. Joining was a great decision. I would do it again."



REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP

YBLC is prepared to launch an apprentice program in Facility Maintenance and Repair. We are forming partnerships with employers such as hotel associations, housing authorities, housing developments, residential apartment home communities, and corporate office developments.

During this 18-month program YBLC instructors will provide classroom curriculum while employer partners will hire participants and provide hands-on training. Upon completion of the program, participants will be repair Maintenance Technicians. During this program participants will learn many facets of maintenance including:



ELECTRICAL SERVICES AND REPAIRS



HVAC SERVICES AND REPAIRS



LOCK AND KEY SERVICES AND REPAIRS



REPAIR AND REPLACEMENT DECISIONS



PAINTING SERVICES



CONSTRUCTION SERVICES AND REPAIRS



MECHANICAL SERVICES AND REPAIRS



APPLIANCE SERVICES AND REPAIRS



IMPLEMENTATION OF A PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE





"Youthbuild has helped me immensely with my mental health, education and my social skills. All the skills I'm learning I'll be able to use for the rest of my life and I'm very appreciative about the fact that I was able to get this opportunity and I am very grateful!"

-Latrell, YouthBuild Participant



MOCK INTERVIEWS
COMPLETED



PARTICIPANTS RECEIVED
PRIVATE TUTORING



FAFSA APPLICATIONS
COMPLETED



SESSIONS OF INDIVIDUAL
COUNSELING PROVIDED BY
A PSYCHOLOGIST



BUS OR GAS
CARDS PROVIDED



PARTICIPANTS ATTENDED
DRIVERS ED AT YBL



EYE APPOINTMENTS OR
GLASSES PROVIDED

SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

Many participants at YouthBuild Lake County are managing multiple barriers that often have an impact on their success. Some are forced to choose between their education and working to survive. Some struggle to come to programming daily while juggling parenting or caring for family members. Some face mental health issues. At YouthBuild, participants receive supportive services to help overcome these barriers, allowing them to focus on their education and career aspirations. Participants receive a stipend for participating full time in one of our programs and resources to help them better understand themselves, problem solve, and meaningfully contribute to society.



BUILDING FOR THE BETTER

Over 90 YouthBuild participants restored a run-down, converted two-flat back to a single-family home with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, and office. Countless hours were spent learning about framing, drywall, flooring, cabinetry, and painting. We partnered with ReNew Communities for this project which involved a complete gut and remodel of the house.

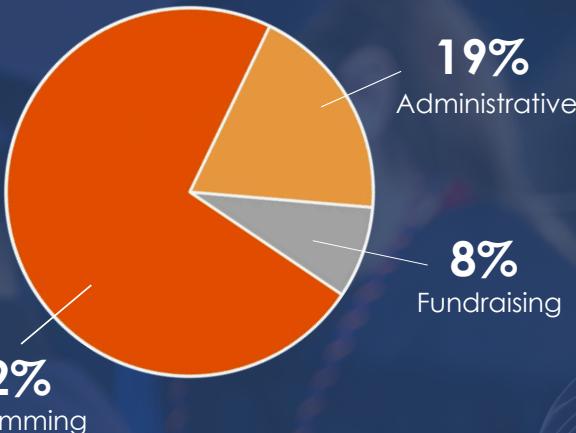


GREATFUL FOR GARAGES

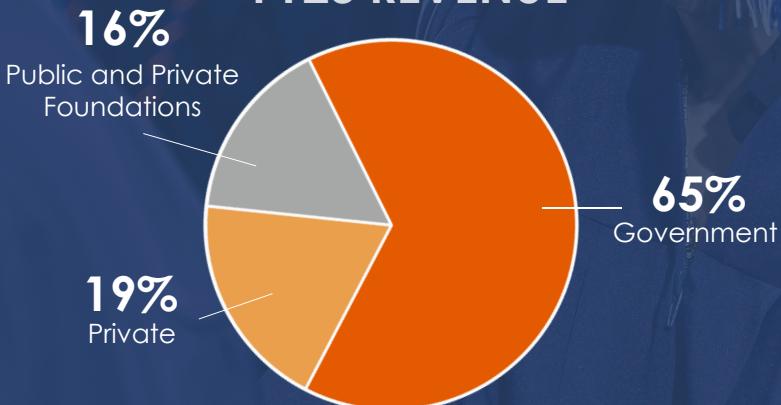
Our partnership with ReNew Communities provided YBLC an opportunity to build four residential garages from the ground up. Participants received hands-on training and practiced a number of skills while experiencing building something from start to finish. These skills will assist our participants as they transition into careers within the construction trades.

FY23 FINANCIALS

FY23 OPERATING EXPENSES



FY23 REVENUE



2023 Top Employer Partners

AbbVie
Blinderman Construction Company
Chalet Landscaping, Nursery & Garden Center
EMCO Chemical Distributors
Greystar
JVM Realty
Lake County Health Department

Lake County Housing Authority
National Gypsum
Naval Facilities Mid-Atlantic (NAVFAC MIDLANT) PDWD - Great Lakes
PGIM
Ravinia Plumbing, Sewer, Heating & Electric
Santana Equipment Trading Co -
ServPro

About the Department of Labor

The US Department of Labor funds YBLCS YouthBuild program through a YouthBuild Grant. This workforce product was funded by a grant awarded by the US Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The product was created by the grantee and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the US Department of Labor. The Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including any information on linked sites and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability or ownership. This product is copyrighted by the institution that created it. Internal use by an organization and/or personal use by an individual for non-commercial purposes is permissible. All other uses require the prior authorization of the copyright owner.

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Anonymous x3
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Jeff Cercy
Chalet Landscaping, Nursery & Garden Center
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Chicago Educational Research Foundation
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Bronze (cont.)

Consumers Cooperative Association
Exchange Club of Gurnee
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Copper \$500 - \$999

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