

SFY 2024 Project Restore

Final Report

1/9/2025

Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development  
Employment and Training Programs Division

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## Introduction

The purpose of the direct appropriation for Project Restore Minnesota (“Project Restore Minnesota ”) is to provide youth with pathway program for careers in the culinary art. This is a onetime appropriation and is available until June 30, 2027.

Funds for this project are appropriated in [Minnesota Session Laws – 2023, Chapter 53, S.F. 3035, Article 20, Section 2, Subdivision3(t)](https://www.revisor.mn.gov/bills/text.php?number=SF3035&session_year=2023&session_number=0&version=latest). The amount available to Project Restore Minnesota for SFY 2025 is $190,000.00. (Minnesota Department of Employment & Economic Development is permitted to retain up to 5% of the $200,000.00 appropriation for administration and monitoring of the grant.)

## Summary of Goals and Objectives Presented in the Work Plan

The funding supports Project Restore Minnesota’s development and implementation of expediently train youth to work in hospitality industry with pathways for direct partner hires and self-employment exploration. The grant funds services and activities to achieve the following goals and objectives:

1. Hands on experimental learning working in a micro grocery store and coffee bar: enhance professional experiences in inventory control, customer service and cash flow management.
2. Transferrable skills classes: foster accelerated soft skills to effectively navigate various industries/job sectors.
3. Mentorship: expand youth’s professional network.
4. Empowerment classes: increase youth’s life skills and personal development.
5. Kitchen skills, food preparation, and menu creation: connect youth to direct employment to work in a fully functioning kitchen.
6. Barista training: teach customer service and drink creation and innovation.
7. Recruitment events: recruit and interview 15 candidates to enter fellowship.

## Partnerships

Project Restore has five partners: Soul Bowl, Purpose Restaurants, TST Creative Catering, Faith City Church, and Chef Brian Stansberry.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of Organization** | **Name & Address of Organization** | **Type of commitment (time, staff, resources, space, referrals, etc.)** | **Contact person (including email address and/or phone number)** |
| Restaurant | Soul Bowl  520 North 4th Street  Minneapolis, MN 55401 | Training, kitchen skills, and direct hire | Gerard Klass  612-408-1812 |
| Restaurant | Purpose Restaurants  266 E Lafayette Frontage Road  Saint Paul, MN 55107 | Kitchen skills and direct hire | Brian Ingram  201-759-3087 |
| Caterer | TST Creative Catering  1494 Dale Street North  Saint Paul, MN 55106 | Kitchen Training | Tony Moran  651-802-5142 |
| Faith Organization | Faith City Church  781 7th Street East  Saint Paul, MN 55106 | Mentorship and support services | Carl Johnson  651-358-4004 |
| Community Partners | Chef Brian Stansberry | Mentorship and Coaching | Chef Brian Stansberry  612-559-0263 |

## Participant Data

**Participants Served: Individual Services (cumulative)**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | | **Project to Date:**  **7/1/2024 –9/30/2025** | |
| **Total Participants Served** | |  | |
| **(1) Gender** | | |  | |
| (1) Male | | 0 | |
| (2) Female | | 13 | |
| (3) Gender Non-Confirming | | 0 | |
| **(2) Age** | | |  | |
| (1) Under 14 | | 0 | |
| (2) | 14-15 | 0 | |
| (3) | 16-17 | 0 | |
| (4) | 18-19 | 5 | |
| (5) | 20-21 | 6 | |
| (6) | 22-24 | 2 | |
|  | | |  | |
| (1) Hispanic/Latino | | 3 | |
| (2) American Indian or Alaska Native | | 1 | |
| (3) Asian/Pacific Islander | | 0 | |
| (4) Black, African American, or African | | 10 | |
| (5) White | | 0 | |
|  | | |  | |
| (1) 8th grade and under | | 0 | |
| (2) 9th Grade-12th Grade | | 0 | |
| (3) High School graduate or equivalent | | 13 | |
| (4) Post-Secondary Education | | 0 | |
|  | | |  | |
| (1) Limited English proficient | | 0 | |
| (2) Participants who receive Public Assistance | | 13 | |
| (3) Low-income | | 13 | |
| (4) Participants who report a disability | | 0 | |
| (5) High school drop-out – all participants included | | 0 | |
| (6) Participants who are justice involved | | 2 | |
| (7) Pregnant or parenting youth | | 2 | |
| (8) Person from 1st Generation Immigrant family | | 0 | |
| (9) Participants showing as Homeless Participant/Runaway | | 3 | |
| (10) Not employed at program enrollment – all participants included | | 10 | |
| (11) Veteran – all participants included | | 0 | |

**Program Services, Activities, and Other Related Assistance**

|  | **Number** |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Received Education or Job Training Activities | 13 |
| 1. Received Work Experience Activities | 13 |
| 1. Received Community Involvement and Leadership Development Activities | 13 |
| 1. Received Post-Secondary Exploration, Career Guidance and Planning Activities | 0 |
| 1. Received Mentoring Activities | 13 |
| 1. Received Support Services | 0 |

## 

## Outcome Data

During the past year, Project Restore has increased work ready skills, prepared meals, verified employment, increased income, and adverted everyday hunger for all 13 participants. This was measured by completion of fellowship program, post-interviews with network of employers, post-job hire interview, and post-program interview.

**Indicators of Performance**

|  | **Number** |
| --- | --- |
| 1. Attained work readiness or education goals | 6 |
| 1. Received academic credit or service-learning credit | 0 |
| 1. Obtained high school diploma, GED, remained in school, obtained a certificate or degree, or dropout: returned to school | 0 |
| 1. Earned an occupational credential | 0 |
| 1. Obtained unsubsidized employment in chosen career field | 2 |
| 1. Entered post-secondary education, vocational/occupational skills training, apprenticeship, military, job search or employment | 6 |
| 1. Completed program objective | 4 |

**COVID Impact on Programming**

COVID had no significant impact on programming.

## Expenditure Data

Expenditures from July 10, 2024, through December 31, 2024, for grants 4PRM6300:

| SFY 2024 Budget Category | SFY 2024 Budget | SFY 2024 Expenditures through December 31 2025 |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Administration | $ 190,000.00 | $ 190,000.00 |
| Direct Services/Project Staff | $ 56,160.00 | $ 56,160.00 |
| Participant Wages and Fringe | $ 96,160.00 | $ 96,160.00 |
| Support Services | $ 18,680.00 | $ 18,680.00 |
| **TOTAL** | **$ 190,000.00** | **$ 190,000.00** |
| **SFY 2025 Budget Category** | **SFY 2025 Budget** | SFY 2025 Expenditures  through December 31 2025 |
| Administration | $ 190,000.00 | $ 3,600.00 |
| Direct Services/Project Staff | $ 56,160.00 | $ 17,907.50 |
| Participant Wages and Fringe | $ 96,160.00 | $ 22,839.88 |
| Support Services | $ 18,680.00 | $ 2,494.64 |
| **Total** | **$ 190,000.00** | **$ 46,842.02** |

## New Grant Funds

Currently, Project Restore Minnesota expended their full SFY2024 December 31, 2024 and already begin SFY2025 expenditures concurrently with PY24 due to SFY 24 grant extension . Project Restore staff expects all state grant funds for the SFY 2024-2025 biennium will be 100% expended within the allowable grant time period.

## Success Stories

Story 1:

Black Identified Female was homeless and staying with various relatives and was out of work. She joined the program and became work-ready. She also fell behind her bills and got her car repossessed, leading TOD scenarios.

She communicated and we created safety nets one to receive a bus pass and Lyft rides to program events. This led to a connection to an affordable apartment and the purchase of a new car. This was made possible by support from 180 Degrees and Social Kitchen Project partnership. The cohort fellow has a place to live and a vehicle to travel in for the program.

Story 2:

Black identified Female was living in a low income affordable rental with many obstacles with the apartment complex with infestation of mice and even water leak that was discovered because a tenant passed away and no one knew. The cohort member was empowered through our community leader to talk with Ramsey County Commissioner to speak about her issue and she is now in a new place with no rodent infestation and new plumbing.

Our goal is training for culinary programming but we have seen the quality of life change for these participants because of the living wage and the empowerment of speakers that build a network of change.