 Prepared by the Office of Youth Development

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**Office of Youth Development – SFY 24 Direct Appropriations**

[**https://mn.gov/deed/programs-services/office-youth-development/special/direct-appropriations/**](https://mn.gov/deed/programs-services/office-youth-development/special/direct-appropriations/)

**30,000 Feet – SFY 2024 - $380,000**

The 30,000 Feet After School and Tech Job Program provides support through a tech apprenticeship program, academic coaching, after-school programming, and summer academic support to prevent summer learning loss. The program addresses educational disparities faced by African American students in St. Paul.

Local contact: Kevin Robinson, 651-208-8461, [kevin@30kft.art](mailto:kevin@30kft.art)

Legislative Report: <https://mn.gov/deed/assets/2023-30000-feet-annual-report_tcm1045-606802.docx>

**Big Brothers Big Sisters – SFY 2024 - $475,000**

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Twin Cities provides work readiness, employment exploration, and skills development for youth ages 12 to 21 in the Twin Cities, central Minnesota and southern Minnesota. The goal is to leverage the power of mentoring to help teens explore and embark on career pathways that align with their interests, goals, and high-growth, in-demand industries.

Local contact: Pat Sukhum, 651-789-2461, [psukhum@bigstwincities.org](mailto:psukhum@bigstwincities.org)

Legislative Report: <https://mn.gov/deed/assets/2023-big-brothers-big-sisters-annual-report_tcm1045-606801.pdf>

**Boys & Girls Club of Central Minnesota – SFY 2024 - $439,850**

The one-time direct appropriation for the Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Minnesota is to fund one year of free full-service programming for a new program in Waite Park and for planning and design for a new multiuse facility for the Boys and Girls Club of Waite Park and other community partners.

Local contact: Mary Swingle, 320-257-5112, [mswingle@bgcmn.org](mailto:mswingle@bgcmn.org)

**Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio (CLUES) - SFY 2024 - $950,000**

CLUES supports the expansion of culturally tailored programs addressing employment and education gaps for working adults and underserved youth in the Twin Cities and Greater Minnesota. Programing provides new job skills training to stimulate higher wages for low-income individuals, family support systems designed to reduce intergenerational poverty, and youth programming to promote educational advancement and career pathways.

Local contact: Ruby Azurdia-Lee, 651-379-4203, [rlee@clues.org](mailto:rlee@clues.org)

Legislative Report: <https://mn.gov/deed/assets/2023-clues-report_tcm1045-598998.docx>

**EMERGE Community Development - SFY 2024 - $475,000**

The direct appropriation supports the operation of the Cedar-Riverside Opportunity Center and its on-site partners to address employment and economic disparities for low-income unemployed or underemployed youth and adults who are primarily East African.

Local contact: Mike Wynne, 612-787-3755, [wynnem@emerge-mn.org](mailto:wynnem@emerge-mn.org)

Legislative Report: <https://mn.gov/deed/assets/2023-emerge-report_tcm1045-598997.docx>

**Fortune Relief and Youth Empowerment Organization (FRAYEO) - SFY 2024 - $79,167**

This project is dedicated to enhancing employment opportunities for East African youth in the Twin Cities, targeting 50 youth and providing them comprehensive workforce development. The primary goal is to facilitate equitable access to meaningful employment with fair wages, while enabling employers to tap into a skilled workforce for in-demand positions.

Local contact: Ukasha Dukane, 952-219-3013, [ukasha.dukane@frayeo.org](mailto:ukasha.dukane@frayeo.org)

**Greater Twin Cities United Way - SFY 2024 - $475,000**

The Career Academies initiative at Greater Twin Cities United Way works to unite public education and employment systems so all students have access to purpose driven, wealth-building careers. Strategies include, increasing participation of students of color and students experiencing poverty in dual enrollment and rigorous coursework and eliminating barriers and expanding opportunities for students to engage in high-quality work experiences.

Local contact: Megan O’Meara, 612-340-7529, [Megan.omeara@gtcuw.org](mailto:Megan.omeara@gtcuw.org)

**Hospitality Minnesota Education Foundation – SFY 2024 - $237,500**

The direct appropriation helps to increase the number of high schools and high school students participating in the ProStart and Hospitality Tourism Management Program (HTMP) throughout Minnesota. This education program helps young people advance careers in the hospitality industry and address critical long-term workforce shortages in the hospitality and tourism industry.

Local contact: Angie Whitcomb, 651-787-2400, [angie@hospitalitymn.com](mailto:angie@hospitalitymn.com)

Legislative Report: <https://mn.gov/deed/assets/2023-hospitality-report_tcm1045-598996.docx>

**Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB) – SFY 2024 - $712,500**

Teens and young adults work for the MPRB in jobs focused on the outdoors, immersed in parks and nature, with exposure to – and a path to – green careers, including seasonal and permanent employment with the MPRB and other agencies. Funds expand and enhance Youth Employment and Training Programs including Teen Teamworks, Mississippi River Green Team, Garden Crews, Power Crews, Youth Design Team, and pilot a new program for ages 18 to 24, Minneapolis Park Corps.

Local contact: MaryLynn Pulscher, 612-313-7784, [mpulscher@minneapolisparks.org](mailto:mpulscher@minneapolisparks.org)

**Minnesota Alliance of Boys and Girls Clubs – SFY 2024 - $950,000**

The statewide program serves youth, age 8-18, by preparing them for their future careers. The Career Launch Program includes workforce programs in career exploration and skill development. Participants also receive financial literacy training, mentoring, and job-search and work experience support.

Local contact: Bryan Donaldson, 612-242-8868, [bdonaldson@bgca.org](mailto:bdonaldson@bgca.org)

Legislative Report: <https://mn.gov/deed/assets/sfy23-boys-girls-club_tcm1045-608686.docx>

**Minnesota Community of African People with Disabilities (MNCAPD) – SFY 2024 - $158,333**

This funding is for workforce development, activities for at-risk youth from low-income families and organized training for persons experiencing disabilities. Activities include job readiness training, including resume building, interview skills, and job search strategies; on-the-job training opportunities with local businesses; support services such as transportation assistance and childcare to help youth attend job training programs; and mentorship and networking opportunities.

Local contact: Nimo Ahmed, 612-345-4786, [info@capd.org](mailto:info@capd.org)

**Minnesota Grocers Association – SFY 2024 - $95,000**

The Minnesota Legislature appropriated funds to the Minnesota Grocers Association Foundation (MGAF) for “Carts to Careers” (CTC), a statewide initiative to promote careers, conduct outreach, provide job skills training and grant scholarships for persons interested in pursuing careers in the retail food industry.

Local contact: Jamie Pfuhl, 651-228-0973, [jpfuhl@mngrocers.com](mailto:jpfuhl@mngrocers.com)

Legislative Report: <https://mn.gov/deed/assets/2020-2021-grocers-carts-to-careers_tcm1045-515873.docx>

**Minnesota Technology Association – SFY 2024 - $950,000**

The Minnesota Technology Association direct appropriation funds serve to connect college students in STEM majors (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics), at least 18 years of age, in good academic standing, with paid internships in small to mid-sized Minnesota based companies (250 or fewer employees worldwide).

Local contact: Jeff Tollefson, 952-230-4562, [jeff@mntech.org](mailto:jeff@mntech.org)

Legislative Report: <https://mn.gov/deed/assets/2023-minnesota-technical-association-report_tcm1045-610295.docx>

**Pillsbury United Communities – SFY 2024 - $475,000**

The Pillsbury United Communities Career Pathways program prepares underserved students for successful careers in Minnesota’s future workforce. Programming is designed to provide students, ages 16-24, with the occupational, academic, and higher-order thinking skills needed to function effectively in a globally competitive marketplace and an information-based economy.

Local contact: Brenna Brelie, 612-302-3400, [brennab@pillsburyunited.org](mailto:brennab@pillsburyunited.org)

Legislative Report: <https://mn.gov/deed/assets/2023-pillsbury-united-report_tcm1045-602926.docx>

**Project Restore Minnesota – SFY 2024 - $190,000**

Project Restore Minnesota services Communities with fewer pathways to wealth equity, like Dayton’s Bluff and the East Side of St. Paul, experience greater rates of food insecurity, driven by affordability, accessibility, and knowledge and skills to prepare food. Through Project Restore Minnesota Culinary Training program, the aim is to change the trajectories of food insecure community members by providing them with the knowledge, skills, and opportunities to change their stories, increase their incomes, and source, prepare and present meals.

Local contact: Carl Johnson 612-358-4004, [carl@faithtothenations.com](mailto:carl@faithtothenations.com)

**Sanneh Foundation – SFY 2024 - $712,500**

The Sanneh Foundation’s Workforce Development Program for Youth combines career exploration with local employers, tangible work experience, social capital building developmental relationships, and Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) into a comprehensive year-round youth workforce development program, benefiting diverse youth and emerging adults and increasing their employability and opportunities.

Local contact: Tony Sanneh, 651-690-4855, [tsanneh@thesannehfoundation.org](mailto:tsanneh@thesannehfoundation.org)

**Ujamaa Place – SFY 2024 - $1,425,000**

Ujamaa Place delivers its “Theory of Transformation” program within a community environment that assists African and African American men (18 -30 years of age) with stable housing and re-engagement with their families, work, and life skills essential to self-sufficiency with a strong focus on education and work-entry programming, specific employment skills training, employment retention, and personal management curriculum.

Local contact: Michael Belton, [michael\_belton@ujamaaplace.org](mailto:michael_belton@ujamaaplace.org)

Legislative Report: <https://mn.gov/deed/assets/ujamaa-place-report-2023_tcm1045-608605.docx>

**White Bear Center for the Arts – SFY 2024 - $237,500**

White Bear Center for the Arts Studio Repose Internship Program is an artist-centered, paid internship program for high school students. Through this internship, students will learn the importance of leadership, teamwork, and critical thinking while obtaining critical and marketable job skills in a creative and supportive arts environment.

Local contact: Christopher Scholl, 651-756-7304, [cscholl@whitebeararts.org](mailto:cscholl@whitebeararts.org)

**YMCA of the North – SFY 2024 - $285,000**

The YMCA will address employment disparities and increase equitable outcomes for underrepresented youth via high-quality employment readiness services, workforce trainings, post-secondary and career exploration/planning, and support services to put youth on a path towards in-demand, high growth employment and careers. We intend to serve 60 youth/young adults annually – the majority identify as Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) and/or low-income youth.

Local contact: Sara Spiess, 612-330-3081, [sara.spiess@ymcanorth.org](mailto:sara.spiess@ymcanorth.org)

**Youthprise: East African Youth – SFY 2024 - $2,850,000**

The African Youth Economic Development Grant project, appropriated to Youthprise, is to provide economic development services designed to enhance the long-term self-sufficiency in communities with concentrated African populations statewide. Fifty percent is for subgrants to Ka Joog and fifty percent is for competitive subgrants to community organizations.

Local contact: Marcus Pope, 612-564-4858, [marcus@youthprise.org](mailto:marcus@youthprise.org)

Legislative Report: <https://mn.gov/deed/assets/2023-youthprise-progress-report_tcm1045-606861.docx>