

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE**  
INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION

**DATE:** April 21, 2017  
**TO:** Supervisor Theo Lipscomb, Chair, County Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** James Tarantino, Economic Development Director, Department of Administrative Services  
**SUBJECT:** Informational Report Related to UpLift MKE Fourth Quarter 2016 Results

**REQUEST**

There is no request at this time; this report is for informational purposes only.

**BACKGROUND**

UpLift MKE is a workforce development program that was created in 2015 (File #15-669) to help job seekers from Milwaukee County's most disadvantaged areas obtain employment. UpLift is a partnership between the County and Employ Milwaukee, formerly known as the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board. Employ Milwaukee serves as a broker of employment opportunities and wraparound services specific to the job seeker's needs. Through the UpLift program, Milwaukee area employers pledge to use Employ Milwaukee as a "first source" for job posting and hiring qualified candidates. In turn, Employ Milwaukee will identify job seekers that live in the 10 zip codes that have above average unemployment as compared to the County's median unemployment rate.

Employ Milwaukee is to report quarterly results to the Economic Development Division. Attached to this informational report is a summary of the activities conducted in support of the program through the fourth quarter of 2016.

During this quarter, Employ Milwaukee conducted fourteen customized recruitment events with a focus on pre-screening employability training. Additionally, eleven sector-based training sessions were held, in which 144 individuals completed the training. In the fourth quarter of 2016, 44 individuals from Tier 1 zip codes and 12 individuals from Tier 2 zip codes were placed in employment with an average length of employment of 155 days and an average starting salary of \$12.04 per hour. In total for 2016, 181 individuals were placed in employment with an average starting hourly wage of \$13.93.

**RECOMMENDATION**

There is no recommendation at this time; this report is for informational purposes only.



James Tarantino  
Economic Development Director, Department of Administrative Services

Attachment: Uplift Q4 2016 Report.pdf

cc: Chris Abele, County Executive  
Economic and Community Development Committee Members  
Teig Whaley-Smith, Director, Department of Administrative Services  
Raisa Koltun, Chief of Staff, Office of the County Executive  
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, County Board of Supervisors  
Steve Cady, Research & Policy Director  
Shanin Brown, Committee Coordinator