August 30, 2017

Members of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors Milwaukee County Courthouse 901 North 9th Street, Room 201 Milwaukee, WI 53233

Re: Nicole Brookshire, Candidate for Milwaukee County Office on African American Affairs

Dear Mr. Chairman and Supervisors,

We are writing to urge you to support Nicole Brookshire, candidate for the position of Executive Director, Milwaukee County Office on African American Affairs.

As you are all aware, Milwaukee County has the largest percentage of African American citizens in the state and is at the epicenter of Wisconsin's racial disparities. Frankly, this position has been vacant for far too long, and we encourage you to confirm Ms. Brookshire without delay. Nicole has established herself as a collaborative problem-solver who cares about getting results that matter. Under her leadership we are confident that the Office on African American Affairs will meet its objective of developing and implementing policies, plans, and programs to meet the needs of African Americans. Additionally, Nicole has a proven track record, through her work at the City of Milwaukee, of communicating proactively, openly, and effectively with all branches of government.

Ms. Brookshire most recently served as the Vice President of Operations for Junior Achievement of Wisconsin, overseeing a \$5.4 million annual budget and over 70 employees. Additionally, in her previous position as the Grants Compliance Manager for the City of Milwaukee Community Development Grants Administration, she administered annual budgets in the \$10-\$16 million range. During her time at the City of Milwaukee, Nicole led the neighborhood stabilization efforts for the Community Development Grants Administration where she ensured that the city's Neighborhood Stabilization Program funding was allocated and expended in the most rational and transparent manner possible, to ensure neighborhoods impacted the most received the most relief.

Ms. Brookshire's dedication to the Milwaukee community is evident in her impressive resume. As Director, she will be able to leverage her skills and networks she has built throughout her career for the betterment of all Milwaukee County and, specifically, African American residents. Nicole's impressive career includes work in the for-profit, non-profit, and public sectors which will uniquely position her for success in this new and vital role that is charged with building and fostering partnerships with County departments, State agencies, corporations, and foundations. Lastly, Ms. Brookshire is a leader who will build a strong team around her to represent the unique interests of Milwaukee's African American community. For these reasons, we implore the County Board to vote in the affirmative for her appointment. Thank you. Sincerely,

Rayna Andrews Feeding America Director of Community Engagement

Faithe Colas Salvation Army Assistant Director of Development

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Dr. Eve Hall Milwaukee Urban League President & CEO

Wanda Montgomery, President Black Child Development Institute-Milwaukee Affiliate

Barbara L. Joles

Barbara Toles Retired State Representative

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C. Michelle Bryant Milwaukee County Resident

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Renee Barber Americas Integrated Health Solutions at Medtronic Sr. Director of Operations

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Vera Davis Employ Milwaukee Healthcare Sector Project Manager

Martha Love

Martha Love Founder, Human Trafficking Task Force of Greater Milwaukee

Connie Palmer Outreach Community Health Centers President/CEO

Dana World-Patterson Chairperson, Human Trafficking Task Force of Greater Milwaukee