



JASON M. FIELDS

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

August 20th, 2017

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

Re: Confirmation of Nicole Brookshire, Executive Director Office on African American Affairs

Dear Mr. Chairman and Supervisors,

I am writing to urge your support of Nicole Brookshire's appointment to the position of Executive Director of the Office on African American Affairs.

Ms. Brookshire has worked in the non-profit, for-profit, and public sectors over the course of her career, giving her a unique and valuable perspective on the issues facing Milwaukee County's African American community and the means by which Milwaukee County can effectively collaborate with State agencies, County departments, and community organizations to address those issues.

In her work with Junior Achievement of Wisconsin, Ms. Brookshire collaborated with Milwaukee choice, charter, and public schools, using an annual budget of \$5.4 million to ensure that Junior Achievement met the needs of every student it served. Furthermore, as acting director of the Office on African American Affairs, Ms. Brookshire has already begun the important process of reaching out to community leaders doing similar work.

Alongside her commitment to collaboration, Ms. Brookshire has shown a steadfast commitment to Milwaukee County's African American community. Ms. Brookshire brought an innovative approach to neighborhood stabilization efforts during the foreclosure crisis, which disproportionately affected African Americans. She ensured that city funding was allocated in such a way that neighborhoods impacted the most by this crisis received the most support. She showed the same innovation in her efforts with Continuum of Care, once again ensuring that the homeless in Milwaukee and those who needed services received them in the most efficient and effective manner possible.

Ms. Brookshire's tireless efforts on behalf of Milwaukee County exemplify the type of leadership that the newly-formed Office on African American Affairs requires in working towards its goal of addressing critical issues facing the African American community and reducing the county's significant racial disparity. Her effective methods of collaboration and unique understanding of Milwaukee County's African American community make Ms. Brookshire an ideal leader for the Office on African American Affairs, and I fully support her and her confirmation.

Sincerely,

Jason Fields
State Representative-11th District
Vice Chairman of Committee on Urban Affairs