



WHO WE ARE:

EMERGE is an award winning community based organization well-known for its work to alleviate racial and economic disparities in Twin Cities communities that experience the highest levels of unemployment and lowest household income levels. EMERGE serves thousands of BIPOC community residents in key neighborhoods that are proportionally under-resourced to offer workforce and economic support services that are highly cost effective and produce a significant return on investment.

SUPPORT CONTINUED CRITICAL WORK:

EMERGE is seeking a direct appropriation from the Minnesota Legislature of \$1.2 million for the 2026-2027 biennium to stand up, support and reinforce critical work in three key service areas/locations:

EMERGE Career & Technology Center:

Economic opportunity center -North Minneapolis
& **Cedar Riverside Opportunity Center:**
EMERGE-led partnership in south Minneapolis

Both delivering employment readiness, financial coaching, career pathway training, job seeking support and place and retention services.

EMERGE Second Chance Programs

(multiple sites): Services that support community reentry of recently incarcerated adults through paid work training, career pathway training, mental and chemical health counseling, and post training placement services.

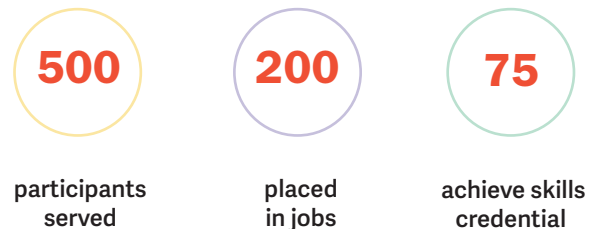


THE PROJECT:

Funding will directly support program and center operations, core employment services (i.e. – pre-employment training, coaching and placement/retention activities), skills training and financial coaching services. EMERGE will work with dozens of Twin Cities’ employers to place individuals in jobs that average more than \$20/hour.

Special emphasis is placed on partnering with employers who pay offer living wage opportunities with limited training needed.

The project seeks the following documented outcomes over 2 years:



EMERGE’s team is highly reflective of the communities served at all levels of the organization, with two-thirds of all staff and 60% of all managers and supervisors identifying as BIPOC. Several leaders also reflect the lived experience of participants.

Emerge Community Development Leadership Team:

Michael Wynne, President & CEO, wynnem@emerge-mn.org;

Terra Mayfield, Sr. Vice President of Programs, mayfieldt@emerge-mn.org;

Mohamed Ali, Sr. Director of Workforce & Cedar-Riverside Opportunity Center alim@emerge-mn.org

Larcell Mack, Director of ReEntry Services, mackl@emerge-mn.org

2023 REVIEW:

2023 Direct Appropriation: EMERGE received a direct appropriation of \$1,000,000 (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2025) to support a continuum of workforce development services for youth and adults at three EMERGE locations: Cedar Riverside Opportunity Center (in South Minneapolis) EMERGE Career and Technology Center (in North Minneapolis) and Reentry Services programs (multiple locations). Services included employment readiness coaching, credential skills training, job placement and retention assistance and support services.

EXCEEDING ALL MEASURES AT EMERGE:

All data on track to exceed goal by end of contract

CONTRACTED OUTCOME:

PROJECT TO DATE: 7/1/23-12/31/24

200+ participants served

1090 participants served

150+ participants will demonstrate upskilling

524 participants demonstrated upskilling

\$30K in funds spent for participant support services

\$33,865.81 in funds spent for participant support services

\$30K in funds spent for participant training costs

\$50,873.26 in funds spent for participant training costs

100+ participants placed into jobs

190 participants placed into jobs

Average starting wage of \$17/hour

Average starting wage of **\$20.33/hour**

Average starting wage with career credential of \$20/hour

Average starting wage with career credential of **\$25.91/hour**

Job retention goals

3 months retention: 70%

6 months retention: 65%

12 months retention: 60%

Actual retention:

3 month: 92%

6 month: 82%

12 month: 81%

Emerge has facilitated or participated in 11 job fairs reaching 829 community members.

286 participants engaged in career training - **238** of those starting during the funding cycle. A total of **206** participants completed training successfully - **193** obtaining an industry recognized credential. **111** participants are still working towards completion.

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