

Robert Crown Community Center Economic Benefit Program Update 10/16/19

Program Goals:

Local Employment Program (LEP):

1. 15% of all hours worked onsite are to be performed by Evanston residents
2. Hire a minimum of 1 local Resident

Minority, Woman, Evanston Business Enterprise (M/W/E/B/E) Participation:

1. 25% of project direct work to be awarded to and performed by M/W/E/B/E businesses
2. 3% of project direct work is to be awarded to and performed by Evanston Business Enterprise

Results to Date:

LEP:

1. Current 6% of the total hours worked to date have been completed by Evanston residents, forecast at completion 10%
2. Current 6 residents have been hired and worked onsite, forecast at completion 13 resident hires

M/W/E/B/E:

1. Current 21% of direct work awarded to MWEBE Firms, forecast at completion 23%
2. Current 5% of direct work awarded to Evanston based business, forecast at completion 6%

Additional efforts to reinforce the spirit of program goals:

- **Project as Learning Lab for youth:** hosted multiple classes of Washington Elementary Students using project as a learning lab during early construction
- **Conduct Outreach Meetings:** staffed multiple, focused Robert Crown Project outreach meetings for vendors and residents in summer of 2018 to spread the word on upcoming project opportunities.
- **Employment Fair:** attended a City led union employment fair and distributed union apprenticeship program materials.
- **Community Meeting:** staffed annual "National Night Out" event in Ward 5 to continue to communicate opportunities.
- **Apprentice Sponsor:** hired and sponsored 1 candidate into the carpenters union that came from a local youth development program.
- **Apprentice Sponsor:** project electrical subcontractor, Gurtz Electric, offered to sponsor Evanston resident apprentices in local 134. Worked with Kevin Brown to advertise program. There were no applicants.
- **Conduct Weekly Diversity Meeting:** chair weekly diversity meeting with Sharon Johnson, City of Evanston Business Diversity Manager, to review standing agenda of MWEBE topics and status of engagement and surface new ideas or opportunities.
- **Trade Award Meetings:** meet consistently with Sharon Johnson, Director Business Diversity City of Evanston upon major trade work award recommendation to insure maximum engagement by prospective trade award contractor.
- **Community Meetings:** staffed the annual Back to School, Community Picnic at Civic Center to continue community outreach to explain/answer questions regarding employment and union apprentice programs.

Robert Crown Community Center
Economic Benefit Program Update
10/16/19

- **Local media advertising:** multiple platforms (Evanston RoundTable, Evanston Now, Evanston Woman & Evanston Man, La Voz de Evanston) engaged to communicate project vendor, business and trade worker opportunities
- **Union Engagement:** require every subcontractor to engage their unions in surfacing membership that reside in Evanston and status of employment to offer project employment opportunities directly.
- **Create SOAR Program:** In collaboration with Kevin Johnson, Community Services Manager and Sharon Johnson created the SOAR Program (Skills Opportunities and Resources), a comprehensive 12 week program of enrichment, education providing exposure to all the functions, positions and careers in the construction industry outside of the traditional field trade worker role. Program kickoff planned for 9/30/19. Currently 3 local residents participating in the program.