

# **DIVERSITY**



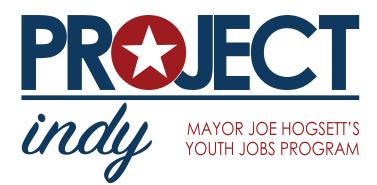
Benefiting



September 16th, 2020









In 2016, Mayor Joe Hogsett launched Project Indy, the city's first comprehensive youth jobs initiative. The program is a smart way to provide thousands of young people with job experience, useful skills, and safe and productive alternatives to crime over the summer months.

In 2018, Project Indy added Job Ready Indy, a workforce development initiative that aims to validate participants' attainment of job skills through an online badging system. By combining a strong respect for both participant skill needs and employer workforce needs, Job Ready Indy aims to serve both.

By connecting young adults with jobs and helping them attain basic employability skills, Project Indy is working to develop Indianapolis' future workforce. For the fourth year, the Mayor's Celebration of Diversity is serving as a fundraiser for Project Indy. Today, as we celebrate the diversity of our current workforce, we are also working to secure Indianapolis' future as an inclusive city with opportunities for all.



## Welcome from Mayor Hogsett



On behalf of the City of Indianapolis, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2020 Mayor's Celebration of Diversity.

Nineteen years ago, the Mayor's Celebration of Diversity was created by Mayor Bart Peterson to recognize the Indianapolis-based businesses and organizations that foster inclusive environments in their workplace. The strides we've taken together over the last nearly two decades have truly bettered our city.

Today, we virtually gather not only to celebrate those dedicated to creating a diverse and culturally rich city but to ensure continued progress along that path. Once again, the Mayor's Celebration of Diversity serves not just as a celebration but as a commitment—revenues raised today support Project Indy, through which we have engaged thousands of teens over the last four years, connecting them to jobs, workforce training, and mentorship opportunities.

Project Indy isn't just about giving teens jobs, it's about helping them build upon their talents, gain critical workplace experience, and most importantly, plan for their future and by extension our city's future. It is my hope that the teens that participate will gain a newfound appreciation for Indianapolis and help to maintain our reputation as a world-class city.

This year, I look forward to the work that will be done to support our diverse workforce, as well as, hearing from those that know practical and actionable ways organizations continue to develop internal efforts to ensure their workplaces are responsive and inclusive

Thank you to the Office of Minority and Women Business Development's Camille Blunt and Ava Taylor, EmployIndy, and all sponsors for the work that went into making this virtual event possible. I believe that today holds yet another important step for Project Indy and is just the beginning for the many Indianapolis teens that will benefit from your support.

Sincerely,

Joe Hogsett

Mayor - City of Indianapolis

## Agenda

#### **WELCOME**

Fanchon Stinger, FOX59 Dan Spehler, FOX59

#### SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Celebrating Our City

#### A LOOK AT THE LANDSCAPE

Angela Carr Klitzsch, EmployIndy Michael Huber, Indy Chamber

#### **KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

Janet Stovall, D&I Pragmatist & Executive Speechwriter

#### **REMARKS**

Tamika Catchings, Tea's Me Cafe - Indy

#### **REMARKS**

Dr. Sean L. Huddleston, Martin University

#### **SPECIAL GUEST**

Derris Ross, The Ross Foundation

#### **MAYORAL REMARKS**

The Honorable Mayor Joseph H. Hogsett

# PRESENTATION OF THE MAYOR'S CELEBRATION OF DIVERSITY AWARDS

Diversity of Workforce Award
Diversity of Leadership Award
Excellence of Youth Employment Award
Sam H. Jones "Best of the Best" Award

#### **CLOSING REMARKS**

Angela Smith Jones, Former Deputy Mayor of Economic Development

#### Nominees

Starfish Initiative

MSIL Staffing

Morales Group

US Hydrovac Inc

Peace Learning Center

Teach For America Indianapolis

Cornerstone Construction Group

Powers & Sons Construction Company

The Ross Foundation

Citizens Energy Group

GO Consulting LLC

#### Award Selection

Special thanks to the Office of Minority & Women Business Development for their work on the selection of this year's award winners.

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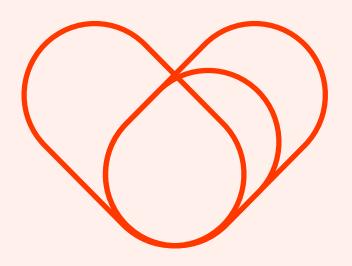






Genesys is proud to be the title sponsor of The Mayor's Celebration of Diversity

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