

20th Annual

**MAYOR'S**  
**CELEBRATION**  
— OF —  
**DIVERSITY**



*Benefiting*

**PROJECT**

*indy*

MAYOR JOE HOGSETT'S  
YOUTH JOBS INITIATIVE

*August 19th, 2021*

# PROJECT

*indy*

MAYOR JOE HOGSETT'S  
YOUTH JOBS INITIATIVE



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.

Learn more about Project Indy at [www.projectindy.net](http://www.projectindy.net).



# - Welcome from Mayor Hogsett -



Greetings!

On behalf of the City of Indianapolis, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the 20th Annual Mayor's Celebration of Diversity.

Two decades ago, Mayor Bart Peterson created the Mayor's Celebration of Diversity to recognize Indianapolis-based businesses and organizations that foster inclusive workplace environments. As this tradition has continued, our community has evolved.

Now more than ever, we must recognize organizations in our community that bring people together and value unique perspectives. The Mayor's Celebration of Diversity is more than a celebration—it's a commitment. All funds raised today are supporting Project Indy, a city-wide initiative to incentivize employers to prioritize diverse youth employment for a more representative community.

Project Indy provides our city's young people with job opportunities and trains the next generation of Indy's workforce. Project Indy is centered around the knowledge that early participation in the workforce helps young people gain critical workplace experiences, develop workplace skills, hone their talents, and most importantly, use these experiences to plan for their future. Participation from employers is not only beneficial for our city's young workers, but also for Indianapolis' workforce and economic development. Investing in youth now is vital to a future workforce with the necessary skills and knowledge to succeed and grow our city's economy.

Today, I look forward to celebrating the work our community has done to support our diverse workforce and to hear from voices in our community who know there is still work to be done, who will share with us actionable ways to continue moving forward—ensuring our places of work are responsive and inclusive.

Thank you to the Office of Minority and Women Business Development's Ava Taylor, EmployIndy, and all sponsors for the work that went into making this virtual event possible. All support of today's event is so valuable because it will help our residents get a start on a pathway leading to future of success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe Hogsett". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Joe Hogsett

Mayor - City of Indianapolis

---

# Agenda

---

## **WELCOME**

Fanchon Stinger, FOX59  
Dan Spehler, FOX59

## **MAYORAL REMARKS**

The Honorable Mayor Joseph H. Hogsett

## **A LOOK AT THE LANDSCAPE**

Angela Carr Klitzsch, EmployIndy  
Michael Huber, Indy Chamber  
Tehea Harding, EmployIndy

## **SPECIAL VIDEO PRESENTATION**

### **PRESENTATION OF AWARD**

Diversity of Leadership Award

### **REMARKS**

Kelli N. Jones, Be Nimble Foundation & Sixty8 Capital

### **PRESENTATION OF AWARD**

Excellence of Youth Employment Award

### **REMARKS**

Pamela Ross, CICF

## **SPECIAL GUEST**

Consuelo Poland Lockhart, Latinas Welding Guild

### **PRESENTATION OF AWARD**

Diversity of Workforce Award

### **REMARKS**

Ava Taylor, OMWBD

## **KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

DuJuan McCoy, Circle City Broadcasting

### **PRESENTATION OF AWARD**

Sam H. Jones “Best of the Best” Award

## **CLOSING REMARKS**

Alan K. Bacon, GANGGANG  
Malina Simone Jeffers, GANGGANG

---

*Nominees*

---

Arcamed

Bondry Consulting LLC

Citizens Energy Group

DeliverEnd

Indianapolis Airport Authority

OneAmerica

RYAN Consulting Group

Shrewsberry & Associates, LLC

US Hydrovac Inc.

---

*Award Selection*

---

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

*Silver Sponsors*



**THE INDIANAPOLIS  
FOUNDATION**

A CICF AFFILIATE



**ONEAMERICA®**



---

## Bronze Sponsors

---



---

## Award Sponsors

---

Ascend Indiana

National Bank of Indianapolis

CHA Consulting, Inc

Pull-A-Part

Glick Art

Visit Indy

Indianapolis Motor Speedway

WDi Architecture, Inc.

MIBOR Realtor Association



20th Annual

**MAYOR'S**

**CELEBRATION**

**OF**

**DIVERSITY**

*Benefiting*

**PROJECT**

*indy*

MAYOR JOE HOGSETT'S  
YOUTH JOBS INITIATIVE

[www.projectindy.net](http://www.projectindy.net)