

Careership

Since 1998, our Careership apprentice program has served as a much-needed pipeline for channeling talented mid-career professionals of color into the local community development industry.

The program was developed in response to the rapidly changing demographics of the Twin Cities region and the relative lack of diversity among community development corporations. We believed, along with our funders, that there was an urgent need to make sure that the diversity of these nonprofits reflected the diversity of the neighborhoods they serve.



Of the 64 Careership graduates currently working in community development related jobs in the Twin Cities, 26 are in director or senior manager positions. These alumni are not only changing the face of the local community development industry, they're strengthening it in the process.

Careership graduates currently working in Twin Cities community development fields include:

Class of 1998

Shirley Alexander

Youth Employment Program Manager
HIRED
St. Paul

Denise Jamison

Technology Instructor
Edison Senior High School
Minneapolis

Mary Poe

Housing Consultant
St. Paul

Stephanie Walter Battle

Director, Supportive Housing & Services
YMCA of St. Paul

Class of 1999

Anna Young

Director, Chosen to Achieve Program
St. Paul Public Schools

Nieeta Presley

Executive Director
Aurora/St. Anthony Neighborhood Development Center
St. Paul

Natalie Johnson Lee

Executive Director
Minnesota African American Tobacco Education Network
St. Paul

TruShong Ya

Realtor
East Bethel

Class of 2002

Donnie Yolanda Brown

Executive Manager Leadership and Diversity programs
Minneapolis Area Association of Realtors

Donald Jones

Chef, Head Start program
Community Action Programs of Ramsey and Washington Counties

Ramon Leon

Founder and Executive Director
Latino Economic Development Center
Minneapolis

Valerie Martinez

Executive Director
Indigenous Peoples Green Jobs
Minneapolis

Class of 2003

Lennie Chism

Executive Director
Springboard Economic Development Corporation
Minneapolis

Shegitu Kebede

Executive Director
Going Home (job & cultural assistance for immigrants)
Minneapolis

Jackie Cooper

Assistant to Ramsey County Commissioner Carter
St. Paul

Pamela Yang

Consultant – Non Profit bookkeeping
St. Paul

Class of 2004

Angela Burkhalter

Communications/Outreach Manager
Dept. Human Rights & Equal Employment Opportunities
City of St. Paul

Anissa Beaseley

Family-School Coordinator
Osseo Schools

Keith McMoore

Real Estate Broker
Minneapolis

Deborah Mitchell

Manager, The ROOF Project
Amherst H. Wilder Foundation
St. Paul

Class of 2005

Charles Gbadebo

CERT Program Staff
Office of Human Rights and Equal Employment Opportunity
City of St. Paul

Repa Mehka

Executive Director, NEXUS Community Partners
St. Paul

Spolinsky Jacox

Mortgage Broker
Brooklyn Park

Rebecca Johnson

Senior Office & Administrative Specialist
Council on Black Minnesotans
St. Paul

Hussein Farah

Director of Finance & Business Development
African Development Center
Minneapolis

Marika Pfefferkorn

New And Emerging Projects Manager, MN Youth Work Institute
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis

Sonia Leon-Valadez

Business Consultant
Latino Economic Development Center
Minneapolis

Craig Wilson

Kandiyohi Development Partners
Minneapolis

Class of 2006

Jamela Pettiford

Education & Employment Coordinator
New Foundations
St. Paul

Jose Diaz

Researcher, Amherst H. Wilder Foundation
St. Paul

Veronica Burt

Consultant, Just Equity Coalition
St. Paul

Sarita Turner

Executive Director
West Broadway Coalition
Minneapolis

Stephen Wreh-Wilson

Director, Home Ownership Training
African Development Center
Minneapolis

Earl Rogers

Program Manager, Summit OIC
Minneapolis

Denise Strong

Property Management Assistant
Project for Pride in Living
Minneapolis

Diane Haulcy

Executive Director
Reuben Lindh Family Services
Minneapolis

Timothy Warren

Family Liaison For At-Risk Children
Anoka Hennepin Schools

Jason Sole

Jason Sole Consulting: At-risk youth development
Eagan, MN

Nene Matey-Keke

Project Manager
ModelCities
St. Paul

Earlsworth Latang

Manager
Midtown Global Market
Minneapolis

Rose Lewis

Pastor
Community Ministry
St. Paul

Hannah Getachew-Kreusser

Realtor
Gold Key Realty

Class of 2007

Brenda Ewing

Community Relations Specialist, Fund Development Dept.
CommonBond Communities
St. Paul

Jean Leake

Real Estate Agent, Homes & More
Minneapolis

Tonica Abdur-Salaam

Operations Director
Partnership Academy Charter School
Richfield, MN

Claudia Foussard

Community Organizer
Women's Environmental Institute
St. Paul

Jolene Mason

Program Coordinator & Outreach, Wellness Center
East Side Community Development Corporation
St. Paul

Tammara McAdory

Homelessness Prevention Advocate
Catholic Charities
Minneapolis

Kenya McKnight

Community Finance Specialist
Northside Economic Opportunity Network
Minneapolis

Nelima Sitati

Community Organizer
Harrison Neighborhood Association
Minneapolis

Monica Romero

Business Development Specialist
Latino Economic Development Center
Minneapolis

Lydia Poor

Compliance Officer
Northpoint Health and Wellness Center
Minneapolis

Class of 2008

Alvaro Rivera

Project Manager
ICA Foodshelf
Hopkins, MN

Nasibu Sareva

Business Consultant
African Development Center
Minneapolis

Rita Apaloo

Coordinator, Leadership program
Metropolitan Economic Development Association
Minneapolis

Emmanuel Muhozi

Employment Counselor
Goodwill/Easter Seals
St. Paul

Class of 2009

Gene Gelgelu

Executive Director
African Economic Development Solutions
St. Paul

Nimo Farah

Manager, New Markets Program
African Development Center
Minneapolis

O'Sheena Henry

Assistant Property Manager
CommonBond Communities
St. Paul

John Reynold

Americorps
Minnesota Homeownership Center
St. Paul

Sheng Lee

Director, Economic Development & Housing
Hmong American Partnership
St. Paul

Charity Mentan

Executive Director
African Network for Development, Inc (ANDI)
Minneapolis

ThaoMee Xiong

Public Policy Specialist
MN Battered Women's Coalition
St. Paul

Nicole Campbell

Employment Specialist
HIRED
St. Paul