

# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

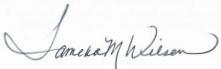
YouthBuild Lake County proudly celebrated its 20th anniversary this past year. Reflecting on two decades of transformative impact, we were inspired by the countless lives we've touched and the remarkable achievements made possible through the unwavering support of our donors and advocates.

This past year in particular has been an exhilarating year at YouthBuild Lake County, marked by significant impact, innovation, and growth. The 120 participants we served in the past year completed over 10,000 service hours on projects such as renovating houses, building a playground, a beach cleanup, and various building projects throughout the community. These experiences have instilled a strong sense of purpose and self-belief in themselves. Coupled with high school diplomas and industry-recognized credentials, these participants are now well-equipped to become knowledgeable and skilled contributors to both their community and the economy.

As the lives of individuals going through the YBLC program go through a transformation, so is the organization itself. We are excited by the launch of the Registered Apprenticeship Program in Building Maintenance and Repair and the opportunities this will create for those YBLC participants that want to continue down the apprenticeship path. With the expansion of our programs, the services we provide and the number of participants we serve, comes the need to expand our facility. In June 2025, YBLC will move into a building of our very own. While this move marks an exciting milestone, it's just the beginning. Over the next three years, we have a plan to renovate and add an addition to the facility, transforming it into a space that will support our mission well into the future. Once complete, the new facility will provide us with well-equipped classrooms, year-round indoor construction training space, mental health safe spaces, a collaborative environment for staff, and the flexibility to grow, expand, and adapt our programs for years to come.

While we celebrate these accomplishments, we recognize that our work is ongoing. We extend our deepest gratitude to our dedicated staff, board participants, volunteers, employer partners, and generous donors. Your ongoing support and commitment have made a profound difference for those we serve and have enriched a community truly deserving of your generosity.

Thank you for your continued support,



Tameka Wilson

