

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

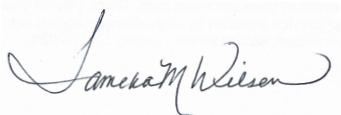
It has been an exciting year at YouthBuild Lake County full of impact, innovation and growth. This year we **served 100 people** through our two programs! Participants renovated a home, built four residential garages and participated in a variety of service projects in the community. These projects have given them a sense of purpose and belief in themselves. This, combined with earning high school diplomas and industry recognized credentials, will help them succeed as knowledgeable and skilled contributors to their community and the economy.

In 2022 the Board of Directors adopted a three-year strategic plan and I am proud of the tremendous strides we have made towards achieving the goals set forth in the plan. As a result, we have launched or enhanced several aspects of our agency.

- Expanding our offerings with a DOL Registered Apprenticeship Program
- Increased mental health support by hiring a part-time psychologist available for crisis intervention and short-term counseling
- Established a new partnership with Community Youth Network to provide weekly group counseling sessions and also weekly nutrition groups
- Restructured internal processes and procedures in the areas of finance, hiring and retention, and employee development
- Raised a record breaking \$976,000 from foundations, individuals and corporations

While we have made achievements this year to strengthen our agency, our work is never done. Thank you to our staff members, board members, volunteers, employer partners and donors for supporting those that we serve and for giving back to a community so deserving of your generosity.

Yours in service,



Tameka M. Wilson
Executive Director

