

Al Directora de la Biblioteca Pública de Milwaukee
Milwaukee Public Library
814 West Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, WI
53233

Respetada señora:

Por este medio los abajo firmantes tenemos el honor de dirigirnos a su usted muy respetuosamente, deseándole muchos éxitos en sus labores cotidianas.

Ahora pasamos a lo siguiente: Hemos tomado la decisión de redactar esta petición para expresarle nuestros más elevados sentimientos de solidaridad y, también, plantearle algunas inquietudes y preocupaciones que tenemos en nuestra comunidad.

Estamos conscientes del hecho que las operaciones de las bibliotecas públicas en Milwaukee representan un alto costo para el presupuesto de la ciudad. Este tópico obedece a los rumores que han trascendido en algunas oficinas de las propias bibliotecas del Sur de la ciudad de Milwaukee que, se corre el riesgo que se van a suprimir algunos servicios muy vitales que se han estado brindando a los vecinos de esta área, los cuales han sido de mucho beneficio para la comunidad en general.

Dichos servicios son las clases de computación y el centro de trabajo, éstos han sido de mucha ayuda a los usuarios porque tienen a dónde recurrir a la hora de buscar un trabajo; y, el otro, es la clase de computación. Queremos comentar que a los cursos de computación asisten personas de avanzada edad, ya sea para distraerse un momento, o van con la idea aquella que nunca es tarde para aprender.

Estos servicios son proporcionados por la profesora Laura Patiño, quien con su vocación de educadora ha desempeñado, para nosotros, con extraordinaria capacidad y, ante todo, la paciencia que le caracteriza como maestra.

Por lo tanto, si se suprimen los servicios arriba aludidos, lógicamente la maestra Patiño quedaría vacante o trasladada a otro sitio, de ocurrir esto la comunidad del Sur de la ciudad perdería a una buena maestra.

Le pedimos encarecidamente, señora directora, se considere la decisión de mantener, siquiera sólo en la Forest Home, los servicios que hemos mencionado y, por ende, a la maestra Laura Patiño, quien ha sido muy colaboradora con la gente que le pide ayuda y no precisamente con las clases de computación o buscar algún trabajo, sino en todo lo relacionado con la búsqueda de información en internet.

La biblioteca Forest Home es la que tiene mucha afluencia de gente latina, más que las otras bibliotecas. De manera que si estos servicios se mantienen, aunque no parezcan, propiciarán el desarrollo para nuestra comunidad.

Sin otro particular, nos suscribimos respetuosamente de usted como su deferente servidor.

Preparado por/Prepared by: Miguel Ignacio Acabal

To the Director of the Milwaukee Public Library
Milwaukee Public Library
814 West Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee, WI
53233

Respected Madam:

By way of this petition, the undersigned have the honor to respectfully address you, and wish you much success in your daily work.

We now turn to the following:

We have made the decision to compose this petition to express to you our highest feelings of solidarity and, also, raise some concerns that we have about our community.

We are aware of the fact that operating the Milwaukee's public libraries represents a high cost to the city's budget. Because of this high cost, we are aware that some very vital services that are provided for residents are at risk of being cut, services which have been of great benefit to the community.

These services are Computer Classes and Job Centers. These programs are essential to Milwaukee residents because they often have nowhere else to turn when searching for a job. Also, computer classes are often attended by older library patrons, with the idea that it is never too late to learn.

At Forest Home Library these services are provided by Laura Patiño, who with her educational vocation has taught us with extraordinary capacity, and, above all, patience.

Therefore, if you cut the services mentioned above, Laura Patiño would either be transferred to another site or leave MPL. In which case, the Southside community would lose a good teacher.

We strongly ask that as the Library Director, you consider the decision to maintain, even if only at Forest Home Library, the services that we have mentioned above. And therefore, retain Laura Patiño, who has been very helpful to all library patrons, not only computer class students and Job Center attendees, but assists patrons in everything relating to searching for online information.

The Forest Home Library serves a large Latino population, more than other libraries. If these services remain, although it may not seem so, they will greatly influence and assist in the development of our community.

Without further ado, we respectfully submit this petition.

Preparado por/Prepared by: Miguel Ignacio Acabal

10/18/2013

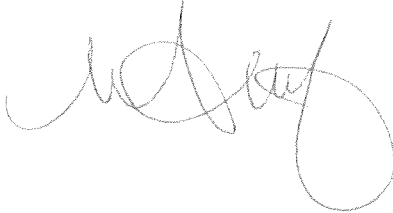
Common Council,

Please don't take away the computer classes at the Milwaukee Public Library. The classes are so very helpful! Most of the jobs now-a-days need some kind of computer skills.

I am learning so much with the computers and I am confident in using all the skills that Laura is teaching us at the library.

Please don't downsize or take away our computer class! Plus it helps low-income families with the access of these classes instead of paying

for them, since we can't
afford the classes.

Sincerely,
Michelle Swartz


Michelle Swartz 88@yahoo.com

P.S. Please reconsider!
Keep the Computer Classes!
Laura is doing such
a wonderful job.

OCT 9 13
(1022)

Good evening -

My name is Valerie ^{Wilson} and I'm here to speak upon the budget proposal that will cut the Drop in Job help program that (MLK Library offers). I lost my job in OCT 2011 which I worked 20+ years, due to a Payroll expense reduction.

Some of us are not fortunate to have computers or laptops. This program, with the assistance from the Facilitator Paula has helped me and others to search online for jobs, to complete applications, write a resume online, obtain a free E-mail account, update cover letters, as well as network with others. I'm truly grateful for this help. It would be a tremendous loss if the program is eliminated. I do hope

that you will take all of this into consideration. Thank you for listening

Thank you "

My name is Bernadette

I want you to know, that the program which you are proposed

to cut at the Martin Luther King Library has been a great help to me.

I ended up getting two job offers because of the help; I received from Paula. I landed two jobs one beginning the Marriott Hotel also the Goodwill. Without her help, I would not have these jobs. I do not have a computer. I'm able to come to the library for help. Please keep this program open because it will be a loss for those who are trying to gain employment.

Thanks

inclosing

Just because you're down on your lucky doesn't mean you're not trying.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak about current sanitation department issues .I have been given two minutes to share with you our concerns. I have 2 pages The highlights are as follows:

*the new employees hired within the last 2 years are not given a copy of an updated memorandum of understanding otherwise known as the MOU and work place policy which seem to differ from area to area . Most managers , supervisors and senior members are aware and follow the guidelines on a daily basis. In short it outlines the procedures and policies including pay policy It is unfair to the New Hires, not to inform them of this during the interview process itself. Turnover of New hires is a constant challenge and on the rise. It costs YOU money that could be put to better use , and it costs US valuable time that we don't have, constantly training new employees who if told about the MOU and guidelines perhaps this would give the candidates a more realistic view of what the job entails before they take the position. Additionally input from the driver doing the training should be considered before hire.

*Our workload has increased three fold(First) there has been more and more bags and trash on the ground , illegal dumping and contaminated recycling carts on our routes (attributed to changes in self help regulations and cart fees)it forces us to take on this incredibly time consuming task. (Second)- we are now forced to do "paperwork on the run" for example writing up skid piles, contaminated recycling carts and broken carts,delivering city ordinances to every home and conducting surveys. (Third) longer than expected furloughs have placed an extra burden on our daily routine. Trash continues to pile up whether we are there or not when we return it puts us behind. We race to pick up twice as much trash and make extra dump runs.All this mad rushing around to get it all done within a set period of time is another reason why our department has such a high rate of injuries.

*in 2012 our department accounted for over 50% of injuries suffered on the job in DPW and that percentage will continue to rise. This statistic should be taken seriously. With health care costs continuing to rise coupled with the continuous cutting of positions/and or equipment in the name of "operational efficiency"(like understaffing skid loaders that have proven to prevent injuries) increased workloads place your employees in a precarious situation .You work faster and risk injury, To make matters worse, those who are injured are forced to come in and work during what is supposed to be considered their "recovery period". The temporary assignment is usually sitting behind a desk doing something you are already paying someone else to do. When injured in most cases it hurts to even move much less drive so they have to find transportation so that they may take their medication Because of this an employee must use vacation if available or use their sick time. Not to spend time with family but to heal from a work related injury.

In 2011 a year that the CPI rose by 3% the economy in a free fall and because of that our members understood and agreed to a contract with no raise for 2010 and 2011. We agreed to furloughs and for the first time in our cities history agreed to contribute to our health care. We agreed to have new employees contribute 5.5% of their salary to their pension for their entire career. We even agreed to frozen pay steps within our title. One which required 10 steps to reach full pay more than any other city title. With great weight during the vote given to article 19 Section 4 of this agreement which states unless otherwise specified, employees shall move from the minimum step in the pay range to the maximum step in annual increments. The administration of the pay plan shall be in accordance with the salary ordinance. Effective pay period 1 2010, there shall be no step advancement for the term of this agreement. This provision SHALL expire at the end of pay period 26 2011" Which is now long past null and void. More over due to prolonged negotiations any member who received a step advancement in 2010 lost that step and were required to pay back that step many as much as \$1500. As you know the step program was abolished with no alternative program implemented .In July a raise of 1.5% for city residents was approved. That raise extended even further the pay differential between members of our title at full pay as of 2009 and those in the step program.

The average age of your sanitation workers is approaching 50 years old .While other local municipalities are hiring with a starting wage close to if not eclipsing our top pay how are WE going to decrease this average with no hope of ever advancing within the title?

*Despite declining morale and feeling slighted over being the only city title that does not receive a minimum of \$21.93 an hour to operate our plows that allow emergency vehicles to safely respond to calls. We have been praised for having the city cleaner than it has ever been. We have followed our part of the agreement and made sacrifices. Now with the new budget you have the opportunity to rebalance the scales, and do right by your employees. In a statement to the Milwaukee Journal Mayor Barrett said "I felt the city workers had not had a pay raise in so long that just out of decency they deserve a raise" Mayor you had it half right we do deserve that raise but not just because it's the right thing to do but because we have worked hard for it. As for the step pay all we are asking for is to be treated fairly, equitably and to be given what we were promised when we were hired .

Thank you for your time and consideration