

Notes from Subcommittee discussion of guidelines for judging and selecting proposals that are presented to the Task Force

It is the sense that this body wants to focus on implementation (not “study something to death” in the words of Task Force members and state Senator Lena Taylor).

The two most recent reports have problem statements and policy recommendations included. Should we be starting with those ideas?

The Crisis Deepens: Black Male Joblessness in Milwaukee 2009

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

UWM Center for Economic Development

Marc V. Levine

October 2010

http://www4.uwm.edu/ced/publications/blackjoblessness_2010.pdf

Structural Issues Impacting Black Male Employment Opportunities in Metro Milwaukee

Community Relations – Social Development Commission

Dave Celata, Policy & Research Division

June 2010

<http://www.cr-sdc.org/DefaultFilePile/PolicyandResearch/StructuralIssuesImpactingBlack.pdf>

In our subcommittee meeting Deborah Blanks shared examples of criteria they have used in Requests for Proposals at SDC for selecting programs.

We need to select action proposals based on how they respond to a barrier to African American male unemployment.

As we do so, we need to be mindful of the role of both the public and private sector. Right now, the public sector is driving most of new job creation through recovery funds. Much of the opportunity that has been created for African American males/minorities has been driven by initiatives in the public sector.

The process must not look at Black men as recipients of programs but of contributors to the solutions. We make progress toward creating a better community for all of us by increasing Black male employment.

Formulate a goals statement for the Task Force, and evaluate proposals in how they address the goals.

We need to put together a spectrum of ideas, from short to long term solutions

1) Job Creation Strategies:

- Transitional jobs - short term employment
- Infrastructure investment - longer term

2) Labor Market Analysis

Understanding Spatial Mismatch -- connecting jobs and people

Sectoral Targeting, identifying the growing sectors in Milwaukee and workforce prep needed (especially focusing on jobs that require 2 years or less of training, 54% of all jobs currently)

3) Review of best practices in the public and private sectors for increasing Black male employment

4) Education, the pathway to opportunity

5) Legal/Legislative barriers

- drivers license
- corrections background

Aspirational Goal: a workforce that reflects the diversity of the County population