



Department of City Development

Housing Authority
Redevelopment Authority
City Plan Commission
Historic Preservation Commission
NIDC

Rocky Marcoux
Commissioner

Martha L. Brown
Deputy Commissioner

May 16, 2006

Ald. Joe Davis, Sr.
Chairman, Community and Economic Development Committee
Milwaukee Common Council

Dear Ald. Davis:

We are happy to have the opportunity to provide your committee with an update on the City of Milwaukee's 2006 Summer Youth Internship Program.

The CDBG funds provided for this program in 2006 will allow us to place up to 214 interns in part-time jobs with City departments. The interns will work 20 hours per week for eight weeks, from June 19 through August 11. They will earn just over \$7 per hour.

This year, 673 students applied for positions. Of these, just over 500 met the two key requirements for the program: residency within the CDBG target area, and current status as a high school junior or senior. Students also were required to provide a report from their school verifying the number of times they had been absent, and a letter of reference from an adult. All applications were taken online this year. The change from paper to electronic applications allowed us to reduce the amount of money spent on clerical support for the program, and increase the amount spent on wages for students. Fourteen team leaders have been hired to serve as job coaches for the interns.

As of May 15, City departments had created just over 200 jobs for the program. While the largest numbers of students will be in the Health and Public Works Departments, nearly every City department will host interns this summer. Our interns will perform a wide range of tasks -- everything from office-based activities like filing, data entry, creating PowerPoint presentations and conducting tours, to field jobs including assisting at construction work sites, landscape maintenance, neighborhood surveys, and distribution of fire safety information.

Several new community partnerships are supporting the City's internship program this summer. Most of our half-day "education Friday" programs will be presented on the Marquette University campus, using Marquette staff as instructors. This collaboration allows us to expose our talented interns to a university setting. Also, we've established a partnership with Legacy Bank. The bank has agreed to establish savings accounts for every intern; the students' weekly wages will be deposited in those accounts, and made available through a debit card. Finally, our interns will attend a special youth summit at the national convention of the League of United Latin American Citizens, which will be held in Milwaukee June 26 - July 1.

We are confident that the 2006 Summer Youth Internship Program will provide an outstanding experience for interns and City departments alike. We appreciate your ongoing support for this effort.

Sincerely,

Martha L. Brown
Deputy Commissioner

Cc: Members of the Community and Economic Development Committee

809 North Broadway, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Phone (414) 286-5900
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 324, Milwaukee, WI, 53201-0324, Web Site: www.mkedcd.org
T.D.D. Numbers: Rent Assistance 286-2921 and Community Services 286-3504