

July 16, 2021

Alderman Michael Murphy
Chairman, Finance and Personnel Committee
200 E Wells St, Room 205
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Honorable Council Members:

Crossroads Collective urges the Common Council to adopt Council File Number 210547, Mayor Tom Barrett's first allocation of American Rescue Plan funding. The Stronger Summer Plan provides over \$93 million in needed funding for a range of critical programs as a first phase in the Mayor's Recovery and Resilience Plan. These resources will help Milwaukee continue a strong recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic through the summer and into fall.

The Stronger Summer proposal is a strong first step toward a more resilient city. The plan is grounded in racial equity and inclusion, and takes intentional first steps to address the unequal impact of COVID-19 on Milwaukee residents.

The Stronger Summer package makes investments in affordable housing and homeownership that will benefit Milwaukee families this year. It provides funding to help Milwaukee's small businesses and diverse entrepreneurs weather what we all hope are the final days of the pandemic. The plan expands resources to households facing eviction, and funds important efforts to continue building high-quality early childhood education for families. It makes investments to increase employment and wages for Milwaukee workers through training and career pathways.

Your support of the Stronger Summer plan will help Milwaukee emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic stronger and more equitable. We urge you again to adopt the plan when it is before the Council this month.

Sincerely,

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