

Dear Community,

WestCare Wisconsin is committed in “uplifting the human spirit” by bringing opportunities and good energy to our communities. We work daily by bringing the best out of communities to eradicate poverty, balancing our environments through prevention and healthy alternatives, increasing social capacity through prevention, jobs and building readiness, mentoring programs, holistic approach in remediating legal challenges for residents and always working to assist low income Veterans become homeowners and bring stability to their lives.



Our philosophy –“uplifting the human spirit,” has been exhibited by spirited engagement in Milwaukee with partners and networking to maximize benefit and opportunities in an effort to improve the quality of life to neighborhoods. WestCare Wisconsin supports investments in people, neighborhoods and communities. The strategy is to empower youth and families through prevention and positive interaction in neighborhoods, so they may attain prosperity and the American Dream. Let us share how we changed people’s lives with positive results in 2017.

Uplifting the Human Spirit,

*Elizabeth M. Coggs*

Elizabeth M. Coggs Regional Vice-President

## **WESTCARE FOUNDATION & WESTCARE WISCONSIN HISTORY**

WestCare Wisconsin, Inc. (WCWI) is a subsidiary of WestCare Foundation, Inc., a national nonprofit network of behavioral health and human services organizations operating in 19 states and 3 U.S. territories with programs addressing job readiness, placement and retention. Founded in 1973, WestCare’s mission is to empower everyone with whom we come into contact to engage in a process of healing, growth, and change benefitting themselves, their families, coworkers, and communities. Today, WestCare serves more than 65,000 people annually, maintains a diverse workforce of more than 1,500 professionals, operates more than 100 programs, and has an annual operating budget of over \$120 million, WestCare Wisconsin’s budget for 2017 was \$797,000.

In 2012, WCWI established operations in Milwaukee under the leadership of the Rev. Dr. James G. White along with his team of committed community-minded citizens who refused to let the Harambee agency programs and services vanish because of unfortunate historical circumstances. WCWI is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with a plethora of human service experience serving adolescents and adults; through the practice of our community development proverb “*Uplifting the Human Spirit*”, which is our National Motto. The WestCare Wisconsin team has partnered with local organizations, pulling together our resources to work on prevention initiatives that identify and address local youth re-entry issues, justice involved youth, substance abuse problems and violence in our community. WestCare Wisconsin operations are in the heart of the Harambee/Bronzeville community.



For the past five years we have provided services to our predominantly African American clients all over Milwaukee in the Granville, Harambee and the Milwaukee Promise Zone areas. In 2017 WestCare Wisconsin expansion was dynamic we uplifted the human spirit by various touchpoints we started the E.A.T.S Food Pantry every Wednesday in Harambee, the Love up Lock down...Gun Locks Save Lives gave out 1,300 gun locks from the result of an collaboration of partners like Master Lock and the Office of Violence Prevention; we built a strong job readiness program that we collaborated with Employ Milwaukee through the Earn and Learn and Careers Plus Programs. WestCare presented another worthy Veteran



a brand new home and he became a homeowner. The Youth Action Council took the lead with the Hugs No Drugs Program training other youth on the negativity of drugs in their communities.

Our funding sources for 2017 were: (1) City of Milwaukee CDBG-Community Development, in four different areas, (2) City of Milwaukee Neighborhood Improvement Program and (3) WHEDA providing home renovation specifically for veterans in the Woodlands condo area, (4) Forest County Potawatomi Foundation- home counseling for low income residents and veterans, (5) Employ Milwaukee-Earn and Learn and Careers Plus (6) Families Moving Forward Funding- to provide behavioral drug and violence prevention through the Hugs, No Drugs Program and (7) the Love Up, Lock Down...Gun Locks Saves Lives where we gave out 1300 donated gun locks from Master Lock and the Office of Violence Prevention funded the outreach team to be everywhere in Milwaukee and (8) the Milwaukee County Disabilities Services funding allowed us to work with youth and young adults had various disabilities to prepare them for the world of employment through our Project A.B.L.E. Program.



## Community Organizing – NSP Area 6

[Historic Harambee]



The historic Harambee neighborhood in the city of Milwaukee (zip code area 53212) is known for its community pride, cultural significance, and progressive development. WestCare Wisconsin operates the Harambee Community Involvement Center through CDBG funding provided by the City of Milwaukee Community Development Grants Administration. We serve as the Neighborhood Strategic Planning (NSP) lead agency for Area 6 in the 6th Aldermanic District to address the issues of public safety, property values, economic vitality and quality of life through our presence in the Harambee community. As a community organizing agency we have established activities at the Harambee Community Involvement Center to uplift the community with our housing improvement program, community outreach and special events, as well as youth and family enrichment services. We collaborate with the City Alderwoman's office and local police department (MPD District 5) to help *improve the quality of life* for area residents by bridging the service gaps that exist between community needs and available resources. We offer space (limited seating) for the area residents / businesses to use to hold non-political meetings and community events that will educate, enrich, encourage and positively engage the community.



## Community Organizing – NSP Area 18

[Historic Granville]



Granville is a historically working class neighborhood located on the far northwest side of Milwaukee in zip code areas 53223 and 53224. WestCare Wisconsin has a site office adjacent to The Woodlands located in the Northwest YMCA at 9050 North Swan Road, through CDBG funding provided by the City of Milwaukee Community Development Grants Administration. We serve as the Neighborhood Strategic Planning (NSP) agency for Area 18 in the 9th Aldermanic District to address the issues of public safety, property values, economic vitality and quality of life through our presence specifically in The Woodlands condo community which has over 500 housing units and approximately 2,000 residents. As a community connection conduit, we have established activities at the Northwest YMCA to uplift the community with our neighborhood outreach and special events, as well as youth and family enrichment services. We collaborate with the City Alderwoman's office and local police department (MPD District 4) to help *improve the quality of life* for area residents by bridging the service gaps that exist between community needs and available resources. We work with the area residents to hold non-political meetings and community events that will educate, enrich, encourage and positively engage the neighborhood.





## Making Milwaukee Work for Youth (MMW4Y) (Collaboration)



The Making Milwaukee Work 4 Youth program, funded by the Department of Labor and supported by Midwest Re-Entry and Employment Network (Safer Foundation), offers WestCare Wisconsin Harambee Community Involvement Center the opportunity to provide local youth with assistance that include career counseling, training, mentoring, paid work experience and legal services (on a case by case basis). To be eligible for the program you must be between the ages of 14 and 24, have prior or current involvement with the Juvenile Justice System and have never been convicted within the adult Federal, State or local criminal justice system. We're pulling our resources together with our community partners to give our youth a chance and options to succeed!



## 2017 Earn & Learn Summer Youth Employment Program (Collaboration)



WestCare Wisconsin served as a work site for the Earn & Learn Summer Youth Employment Program which provided youth and young adults with work opportunity to learn how to develop job-specific skills and abilities while earning an entry-level income for six to eight-weeks throughout the summer.

Young people earned a subsidized wage for a maximum of 20 hours each week while developing work readiness skills and talents, such as worksite communication and punctuality; and gaining a better understanding of expectations and collaboration. Work experiences available through the Earn & Learn Program at WestCare Wisconsin varied from developing leadership skills to community engagement and helping to improve the quality of living in the neighborhoods.



## Careers Plus Program (Collaboration)



WestCare Wisconsin served as a worksite for the Careers Plus Program. Primarily funded through a Summer Jobs and Beyond: Career Pathways for Youth (CPY) grant from the U.S. Department of Labor, the Career Plus program provided youth with career services, paid work experience and access to in-school enrichment programming such as financial literacy, social-emotional learning, and STEM education.

The WestCare Wisconsin team worked with the Career Coordinators in area high schools to help create the bridge many students need between high school and postsecondary education or employment. Our youth workers came from participating high schools in the Milwaukee Public Schools system.







## Neighborhood Improvement Project (NIP)



The Neighborhood Improvement Project is funded by a grant from the City of Milwaukee Community Development Grants Administration, which selected WestCare Wisconsin to serve as the participating NIP Agency in NSP Area 6 (Harambee community). NIP oversight is provided by the Department of Neighborhood Services (DNS). The NIP program offers financial assistance to eligible owner occupants in order to correct municipal building and safety code violations and also reduce lead-based paint hazards so that residents can remain in their homes. WestCare Wisconsin works with the DNS Inspector to assess the scope of work to be done and estimate the reasonable cost of the proposed renovation. Maintenance work includes minor carpentry, roofing, painting, lead work, gutters, window repair / replacement, etc. Mechanical work includes electrical, plumbing, heating or major masonry work. The maintenance portion of the repair work is paid for by a forgivable loan. If you continue to own and occupy the property for five (5) years after you sign the covenant agreement, the loan is forgiven.



WHEDA

Wisconsin  
Housing &  
Economic  
Development  
Authority

## WestCare Wisconsin Veterans Village Housing Project

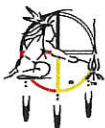


WestCare Wisconsin received funding to rehab one three-bedroom condominium for the Veterans Village homeownership program, at The Woodlands in order to provide permanent housing and affordable homeownership for a valued veteran and their family who meets the low-income guidelines. The Woodlands is located on the far northwest side of Milwaukee, which is adjacent to the Village of Brown Deer, in zip code area 53224. The WHEDA Foundation make grant funds available annually through the Housing Grant Program, which mission is to assist in the improvement of the state of Wisconsin housing for special needs populations. Since the inception of the Housing Grant Program in 1985, the Foundation has granted funds to over 40% of total requests received.



A Partnership with

## WestCare Wisconsin Veterans Village – Project HOPE



FOREST COUNTY  
POTAWATOMI  
Keeper of the Fire

WestCare Wisconsin offers a host of wraparound supportive services under the *Housing-Opportunities-Partnership-Engagement* (HOPE) Program, which is designed to assist low-income and homeless military Veterans and other clients with gaining affordable homeownership through eligibility intake, homeowner education and safety classes; providing advocacy, case management, financial counseling and budgeting.

WestCare Wisconsin acquired ownership interest in several condominiums in The Woodlands, located within the far northwest city limits of Milwaukee; in order to help transform the neighborhood struggling to shake the adverse views and become a more vibrant, safe and stable settlement someday filled with a growing number of valued Veterans and their families whose spirit have been uplifted!





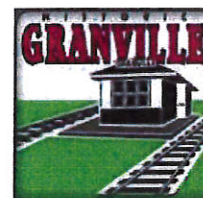


## #Choices 4 Our Future Historic Harambee / Historic Granville



WestCare Wisconsin recognizes that education is the key to the future and the success for a strong community begins with collective work and responsibility. Building strong leaders with a purpose, discipline and compassion to uplift self and the community is the guiding force for the “#Choices 4 Our Future” program.

Our youth programs are designed to address urban quality of life issues; and services offered are intended to increase skill level and readiness for employment; reduce teen/young adult unemployment; provide job placement and retention; encourage participation in continuing public safety education and campaign; and violence prevention mentoring that will help to reduce aggression and fatalities amongst teens/young adults.



## Pre-Apprentice Certificate Training (PACT) Program



The WestCare Wisconsin Pre-Apprentice Certificate Training (PACT) Program, which integrates work-based learning with vocational and academic skills training, is in full effect! The PACT curriculum teaches students about the theory and practice of building for a range of industry trades and exposes them to a variety of industry careers. WestCare Wisconsin is offering practical experience to participants in our Face Forward Program, Veterans from any branch of military service and other interested city of Milwaukee residents. Successful PACT graduates will earn the qualifications to secure entry-level or semi-skilled employment in their chosen trade – carpentry, electrical, plumbing, landscaping, masonry, painting, facilities maintenance, and weatherization – as well as other related residential and light commercial construction careers.





## Community Apple Orchard

Part of the Love & Faith Initiative



To build and maintain our community together and to make our brothers' and sisters' problems, our problems and to solve them together, is the purpose for this orchard that will serve as a community building place as well as an outlet to obtain healthy food and snacks. Our collective kingdom work for and responsibility to the constituents, through the Harambee Community Love & Faith Initiative, offers creative solutions to address some quality of life matters; and is brought to you by the WestCare Wisconsin Harambee Community Involvement Center, 4th District Senator Lena C. Taylor, 6th District Alderwoman Milele Coggs, 1st District Alderman Ashanti Hamilton, 9th District Alderwoman Chantia Lewis, City of Milwaukee CDGA/CDBG and DNS, Clara Mohammed School, Inc., Employ Milwaukee, Fitzhouse Enterprises, Grace Fellowship Church of Milwaukee, Groundwork Milwaukee, Growing Power, Inc., Northcott Neighborhood House, and Urban Grass Roots, Inc.



## Families Moving Forward: Family Crisis Prevention Services



WestCare Wisconsin Harambee Community Center is an active community partner in a league of concerned service providers that are dedicated to the empowerment of families and individuals by providing collaborative strength based services designed to improve their quality of life. Through a grant from the Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division, the Families Moving Forward Providers Network is a coalition of compassionate and qualified service providers, along with WestCare Wisconsin, who are contracted to provide domestic violence prevention or child abuse & neglect prevention workshops to families or family advocates. Participants learn the rules, laws, and consequences of intervention by the authorities. They are then given strategies for proactive steps to correct problems and get help before situations reach a legal or medical crisis level.



Youth  
Employment  
Collaborative



This successful private / public sector partnership is designed to uplift the human spirit in individuals who are ready to enhance their quality of life through job readiness training, employment opportunities, and guidance in becoming a productive citizen. In this four-week Professional Development Enrichment program, students will develop professional skills / soft skills that will help them in the workplace. This program will cover topics which includes branding, professional communication, networking, time management skills, interviewing practice, financial literacy, and Résumé building techniques. Students will also explore their interests, values, and talents so they can be cognizant of their own abilities and apply them in the workplace. There will be professional development team building tailored made to help the students gain a better understanding of collective work and responsibility.



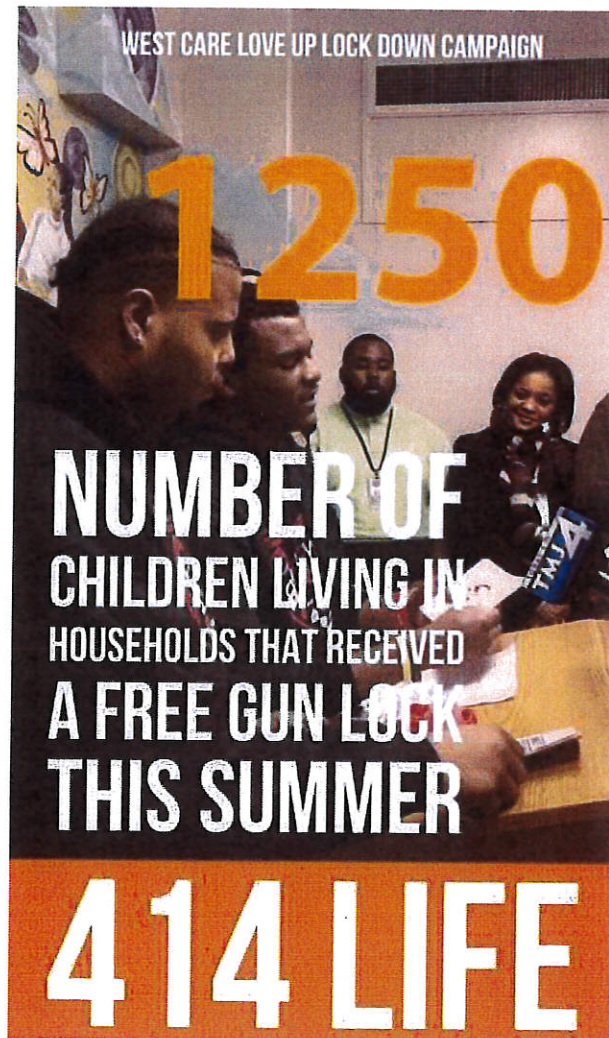


**“Love Up, Lock Down ...”**  
*Show Your Love for Life by Locking Down Your Guns*  
**Gun Safety Initiative**

**100** Greater Milwaukee  
FOUNDATION  
*greater together*  
[Consists of more than 1,200  
individual charitable funds]



The Reasons for Hope MKE Fund sponsored this opportunity for WestCare Wisconsin to educate youth and adults about the importance of gun safety. Our Youth Action Council (YAC), which engages justice-involved youth (ages 16-24) in community-building efforts in the historic Harambee neighborhood, will conduct the “Love Up, Lock Down” grassroots community education and social media campaign to help residents understand the dangers of unlocked gun. Gun safety training will be provided to YAC members who will share this knowledge with their peers and community at large by setting up booths at community events throughout the holiday season to talk about gun safety issues and pass out free gun locks to those who need them. The YAC members will produce a short public service announcement and collateral to promote gun safety that will run on YouTube, Facebook, Instagram and Snap Chat.



WEST CARE LOVE UP LOCK DOWN CAMPAIGN

**1250**

**NUMBER OF CHILDREN LIVING IN HOUSEHOLDS THAT RECEIVED A FREE GUN LOCK THIS SUMMER**

**414 LIFE**



WestCare Wisconsin Live Li Hood Community Engagement Academy cross instructs the art of community organizing and grassroots work in engagement, asset mapping, clean-ups/environment and our programs are committed to empowering individuals and developing life skills through grass roots community cultivation, outreach, job readiness with soft skills and high demand skill set and educational programming to strengthen ties within Milwaukee’s youth, families and any underserved area in our target. Milwaukee’s underserved communities. Programs are designed to inspire a greater appreciation for their neighborhoods by a variety engagement programs. In a city as diverse as Milwaukee, building a sense of community is vitally important. Our goal with Community Engagement “**LIVE LI HOOD**” meaning...livelihood, as defined by different individuals, families and communities has having a substances for a quality living.

Collectively with partners and networking, like Milwaukee Promise Zones, Families Moving Forward Coalition, the Light, red to Unite Coalition we work with partners all over the city to garner resources for an improved quality of lie, lite form a determination of independence and self-sufficiency. We want to engage and reinforce the notion of socio-economic development and innovation, improved education, skills development, job creation, and a better society overall. LIVE LI HOOD strives to meet these goals via various modes of service delivery that occur through outreach, training, programming and mentorship in an integrated learning, service learning model. Collectively working together to make a difference, but this engagement would not be effective without the co-operation of our partners.

LIVE LI HOOD is executed through the following focus areas:

- ■ Eradicating poverty and related conditions
- ■ Promoting human dignity and health
- ■ Increasing social capacity
- ■ Development
- ■ Education
- ■ Balancing a sustainable environment in a competitive industry

# # # # #





Harambee/Bronzeville Location  
335 West Wright St  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

## Community Organizing & Engagement



WestCare Wisconsin is proud to be serving the Harambee/Bronzeville and Historic Granville area. Our community organizing teams are always in the streets of the Harambee and Granville Neighborhoods as well as events around the city spreading the WestCare message and helping communities improve their neighborhoods and their quality of life!



## Youth Services Specialist

#Choices4OurFuture brings programs and engagement for teens and young adults for job readiness, leadership building and community volunteers services. Our Youth Action Council has worked on numerous projects including fundraisers, press conferences, door to door canvasses, Mother's Day celebrations and their most recent accomplishment the "Love Up Lock Down" Gun Lock Initiative and HUGS NO DRUGS Drug Prevention Programs!



#Choices4OurFuture

## WestCare Wisconsin Housing Programs

WestCare Wisconsin has a host of resources to offer the community! From Free Bread on Wednesdays to Community Clean Up and Block Club support to Veterans Affordable Home Ownership programs and so much more!



CALL US TODAY

414-239-9239

[www.westcare.com/wisconsin](http://www.westcare.com/wisconsin)

"Uplifting The Human Spirit"





