

## **HILLSIDE WORKS!**

The Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee has received a \$2.3 million Jobs Plus grant for the Hillside Terrace community. The application amount will be supplemented by a total of \$1,224,488 of match/leverage from our partners. Residents have assisted in deciding on the name of our program: **Hillside Works!**

Jobs Plus is an innovative evidence-based program that was conceived in the mid-1990s by HUD, the Rockefeller Foundation, and MDRC, and put into practice in demonstration sites from 1998 to 2003, and more recently in new grants from 2014-2018.

The Jobs Plus model is made up of three core components:

1. **Employment-Related Services**—Assessment, case management, linkages to services (Job Coaches)
2. **Community Supports for Work**—Saturate communities with work-related messages and to mobilize resident networks and create a culture of work (Community Coaches)
3. **Financial Incentives to Work**—Enrollees granted 100% disregard of increased earnings after enrollment for grant period (Jobs Plus Earned income disregard—JPEID)

Jobs Plus will provide a network, a menu of resources and staff that will assist eligible Hillside residents to develop a foundation for their work lives that sustains their efforts to become an effective and consistent employee, even when there are “bumps in the road.” In addition to bolstering employment skills and expanding their career options, the program will develop supportive linkages that will allow each participant to appropriately focus on the job.

At the time of our application, there were an estimated 341 work-able adults (non-senior, non-disabled) in Hillside, of which about 60% are employed (though many are underemployed) and 40% are unemployed.

Any resident can sign up for the Jobs Plus Program and can benefit from the JPEID . Once enrolled, they will receive an assessment and referrals to services from Job Coaches. Community Coaches will assist in saturating the Hillside community with messages about Jobs Plus and employment through outreach and promotion, and will assist in providing community support through support networks and resident-led groups. A Job Developer with Employ Milwaukee will assist in making connections and linking residents to local employers, especially in sectoral career pathways.

This effort will have the strong support and assistance of some extraordinary partners, including Employ Milwaukee, the Adult Learning Center, Milwaukee Area Technical College, the Milwaukee Boys and Girls Club, Progressive Community Health Center, the Milwaukee Community Service Corps, the Wisconsin Regional Training Center and the Wisconsin Women’s Business Initiative Corporation.