

TOGETHER AGAIN

2022
IMPACT
REPORT



MISSION

Equip young people with the skills to overcome barriers and succeed in education, employment, and in life.

PURPOSE

Inspiring and connecting youth to achieve a future beyond imagination.

VISION

Every young person is educated, employed, and career bound.



59
CITIES

101
PROGRAMS

**YOUTH
SERVED**

3,433
JOBS FOR MICHIGAN'S
GRADUATES

1,001
YOUTH SOLUTIONS
SELECT

23,500+
YOUTH SERVED SINCE 2008

At Youth Solutions, we know that we are stronger together. Over the past year, we have made it a priority to find the most effective ways to join with each other – in person wherever possible – to ensure that we continue to **inspire and connect Michigan's youth to achieve a future beyond imagination**. Throughout this year's Impact Report, you'll see the commitment to that purpose and how we are executing on our strategic plan, together.

Guided by a strong 5-year plan, we are continually evolving to help Michigan's youth prepare for their future through innovative educational options and exposure to career opportunities. We are proud to showcase the efforts of our dedicated team and how they positively affect those they work with on a daily basis. In fact, **we have served more youth than ever before during this year!** Throughout the growth and challenges of this year, elevating the voice of our youth to keep their development needs at the forefront, remains our priority. Remaining true to our priority, you'll see the faces of our youth throughout this report because they are at the heart of everything we do.

There is an African proverb that says **"If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together."** We believe that statement sums up the motivation behind our efforts and success this year. By joining together this past year, we have:

- **Served more youth in one year than ever before in our history: 4,344**
- **Attracted new, diversified funding sources**
- **Launched new and innovative pilot programs**
- **Delivered on the goals of our strategic plan**
- **Achieved a 98% graduation rate!**

It takes a dedicated team and a determined group of youth working together to create the impact that we've made over the past year. Looking to the future, we need your continued support to help us expand and deliver more services to more youth!

We hope you'll agree that *"Together We Can!"*



BARBARA ANDERSON
Board Chair



MOLLIE WALLER
Executive Director



"JMG will help me accomplish my dreams. JMG has helped me out a lot so far and has given me some nice leadership opportunities."

> Andrew

Wexford-Missaukee CTC

TOGETHER WE LEAD

94 YOUTH PARTICIPATED

Leadership Days

This youth-centered, annual event teaches valuable leadership and teambuilding skills through low ropes courses, high ropes courses, ziplining and more. Leadership Days give youth the opportunity to participate in a series of guided exercises that help them get to know their Jobs for Michigan's Graduates (JMG) peers from around the state and gain confidence in themselves.

This year's Leadership Days were held in-person – the first event in 2 years! We were so excited to be together for this inspiring event.

October 26 - YMCA Camp Ohiyesa, Holly, MI

October 27 - Camp Daggett, Petoskey, MI

October 28 - YMCA Camp Manitou-Lin, Middleville, MI



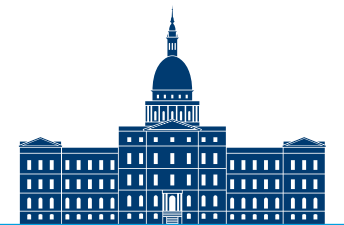
"Meeting the legislators in Lansing was a great opportunity. It made me proud that I was able to both represent myself and ask important questions. Having the opportunity to present the Legislative Champion award to Representative Cherry was also an honor. I realize that legislators are just like us with goals and ideas that they would like to achieve for the good of our community. This is an experience I will always remember."

> Arriya GST Michigan Works! Flint

Legislative Days

Youth from around the state are given the opportunity to meet with local legislators to share their experiences in the JMG program and advocate for their communities during our Legislative Days annual event. JMG youth tell their stories and voice their opinions in these legislative meetings. This is an empowering first experience speaking to their local elected officials, providing them with the opportunity to make their voice heard.

This year, Legislative Days were held in-person, in Lansing, on March 8 and 9, 2022.



EMPOWER YOUTH VOICES

2022 LEGISLATIVE DAY



112 YOUTH PARTICIPATED

32 STATE REPRESENTATIVES

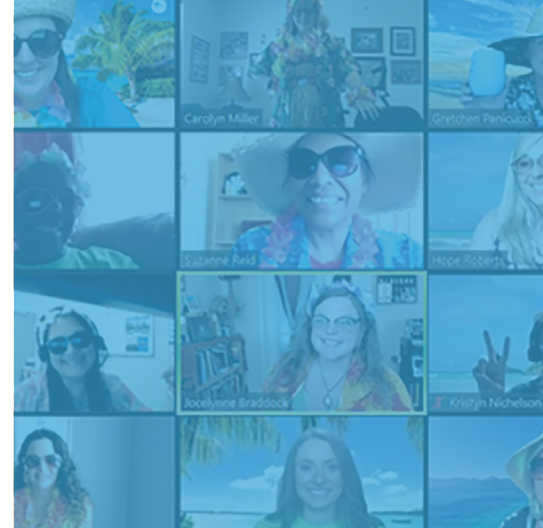
21 STATE SENATORS



Career Development Conference

Annually, youth from around the state gather in Lansing to showcase the skills they learned in the JMG program throughout the year. The Career Development Conference (CDC) highlights workplace skills and career based competitions that provide youth with real world practice for future employment opportunities. Another highlight of the event is announcing the JMG Youth and Alumni of the Year winners.

TOGETHER WE LEARN



"I would like to say thank you to Ms. Braddock, she is our JMG specialist. She has done so much for our classes and for me. Without her help, I wouldn't be the leader that I am today. I wouldn't be this year's President without her support along with the support of my peers."

> **Irais** Youth of the Year
Hartford High School

Summer Summit

Not only do we develop youth, we develop our people.

Our annual professional development conference gives us the opportunity to come together with our JMG managers and specialists from around the state to share best practices for delivering the JMG program and positively impacting youth. Although the 2021 conference was virtual, participants received extensive training in Project Based Learning and Trauma Informed Care, while participating in giveaways and having fun. A focus of the conference was our newly developed purpose statement, **inspiring and connecting youth to achieve a future beyond imagination**, and what it means to our specialists and the youth they serve.



> **Kristyn**
JMG Specialist
Michigan Works!
Southeast

"The purpose statement is the reason why I am in this field. I love providing support and creating a relationship with individuals who may not have that support and encouragement at home. Showing them what could be and providing them with hope and resources to get to where they want to go fills me with purpose."

"Thank you so much for awarding me the Youth of the Year award. I am incredibly honored to have been chosen for this title. I loved that I was able to create stronger bonds with my classmates and make memories that will last a lifetime."

> **Samantha** Youth of the Year
Marquette-Alger Technical
Middle College



65
EMPLOYER &
PARTNER
VOLUNTEERS

"Being in a professional environment and having the opportunity to network with employers at the CDC was something I've never done before, but JMG gave me the confidence I needed."

> **Lamont** Bridge Academy of
Southwest Michigan



"Thank you to everyone who contributes and dedicates themselves to JMG. The impact you are making on young people's lives is unmeasurable. I especially want to thank Mrs. Carolyn Miller, who introduced me to JMG my junior year of high school."

> **Delann** Alumni of the Year
Pershing High School

124
YOUTH
37
SPECIALISTS

7
ALUMNI
VOLUNTEERS



Alumni Volunteers








Jobs for Michigan's Graduates

The premier program; where it all started. This proven methodology is used throughout each of our programs, helping youth gain the skills necessary to succeed in education, employment and in life. **Jobs for Michigan's Graduates (JMG)** supports youth in both in-school (dropout prevention) and out-of-school (dropout recovery) programs. JMG is a state-based affiliate of the national **Jobs for America's Graduates** organization, dedicated to serving youth of great promise who face significant challenges, to help them reach economic and academic success.

"JMG has so many connections and resources that youth can take advantage of to help them along their career path. Every day I get the chance to help students explore and work toward achieving their goals in life."

> **Kim**
 JMG Specialist, Cadillac Innovation and Cadillac High Schools

		Dropout Prevention	Dropout Recovery
	Graduation	94%	77%
	Employment	61%	78%
	Full-Time Employment	81%	88%
	Full-Time Positive Outcomes	81%	76%
	Further Education Rate	55%	42%



TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

Youth Solutions Select

Youth Solutions (YS) Select supports schools and districts in the creation of a comprehensive Career Development program through collaboration with key stakeholders within the school. YS Select service is a multi-year process that focuses on collaboration and continued support to ensure student success. Through the implementation of a five-phase process, YS Select produces school-wide impact and helps all students achieve a future beyond imagination. The relationship established between the school and Youth Solutions is intended to be long-term, providing quality programming with lasting outcomes. The ultimate goal of YS Select is to create a school culture that prioritizes career development and impacts all students.

"YS Select is helping schools be more intentional in their efforts to build a career-ready, college-going culture. The methodical and comprehensive process has provided insight that should benefit students, school staff, and the community."



> **Wendy** Talent Pipeline Coordinator, West Shore Community College



"YS Select has allowed our districts a facilitated process of analyzing our collective school and community efforts around career exploration. Intentionality and strategic direction provided by working with Youth Solutions will allow enhanced connection between school and community, in turn providing students with more opportunities to explore and experience career possibilities as they navigate towards a bright future."

> **Alyssa** Coordinator, Oceana College Access Network

Youth Solutions Digital

YS Digital is evolving into a tool for Youth Solutions to streamline and support engagement in career development and follow-up services. It also is a means for data collection and analysis to provide continuous improvement. YS Digital is launching a Virtual Job Shadow (VJS) pilot program for Specialists who would like to work with this customizable career exploration and development platform. During the pilot, youth participants will align their interests to career clusters through VJS's interest and career clusters surveys; develop employability skills; complete a resume and job application for a current job posting in their community; and begin pathway planning with VJS's My Plan tool.

TOGETHER WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Employer Partner: Amway

Our program at Northview Next Center in Grand Rapids was fortunate to add Amway as an exemplary JMG employer partner. Amway's hands-on approach, teaching about careers in manufacturing, has elevated the student's experience. This partnership has enhanced Northview Next Center's immersive career and professional development program. Thank you for your continued partnership, Amway!



THANK YOU TO OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors is a group of diverse and dedicated professionals who support and guide our strategic direction. We would like to extend a sincere THANK YOU to our board for giving generously of their time and talents. We encourage you to learn more about the members of our board on our website.

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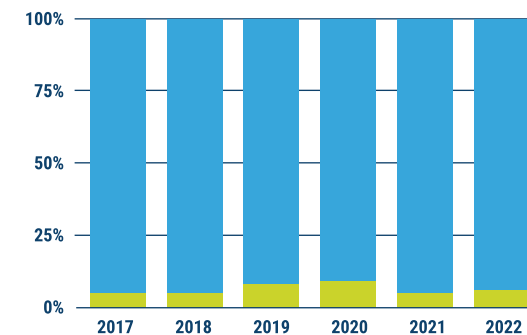


A special thank you to:

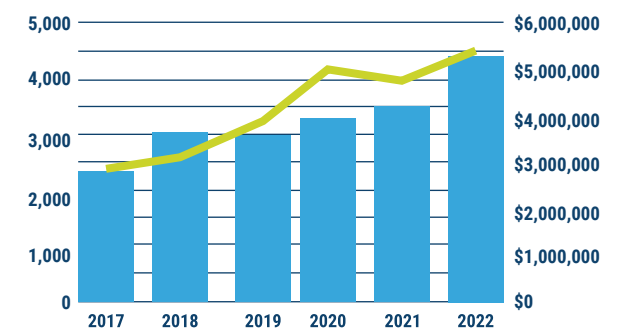


MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF
LABOR & ECONOMIC
OPPORTUNITY

2022 FINANCIALS



Youth Programs 94%
Admin Costs 6%



Youth Served 4,434
Revenue \$5,413,466

Youth Solutions leverages approximately \$3M in support of program delivery.



"We have been a long-standing partner of Youth Solutions and their premier program, Jobs for Michigan's Graduates. Together we have worked to create a statewide network of organizations spanning education and workforce development that now includes 15 of the 16 Michigan Works! Agencies. This network provides skills and pathways for Michigan's vulnerable youth to succeed in education, employment and, in life."

Stephanie
Director of the Michigan Department of
Labor and Economic Opportunity's Office of
Employment and Training

With the generosity of our supporters, we are able to impact more youth around the state.

EVENT SPONSORS

- ABC Michigan
- DCI Marketing
- Lyons Industries
- Michigan College Access Network
- Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association
- Operating Engineers 324
- Southeast Michigan Construction Academy
- Spectrum
- Vail Rubber
- WestRock

GRANTORS

- Consumers Energy Foundation
- DTE Foundation
- Jobs for America's Graduates
- Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Opportunity
- Strada Education Services
- United Way of the Lakeshore
- United Way of Southwest Michigan

PROGRAM PARTNERS

Michigan Works! BCVB

Beaverton Junior and Senior High School

Benton Harbor High School (Youth Solutions)

Bridge Academy

Bridge Alternative School

Capital Area Michigan Works!

Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation

Eau Claire

Grand Rapids Public Schools

Michigan Works! Great Lakes Bay Region

in partnership with the Institute for Excellence in Education

GST Michigan Works!

Hartford High School (Youth Solutions)

Kent ISD

Marquette Alger Technical Middle College (MATMC)

Michigan Works! Region 7B

Michigan Works! Southeast

Michigan Works! Southwest

Muskegon Heights Academy

Muskegon Public Schools

Networks Northwest

Michigan Works! Northeast Consortium

Northview Public Schools

Oakland County MW!

Peckham, Inc.

SEMCA Michigan Works!

Upper Peninsula Michigan Works!

West Central Michigan Works!

West Michigan Works!

Westshore ESD



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