

March 28, 2023

Representative Jay Xiong, Chair MN House Workforce Development Finance and Policy Committee

Dear Chair Xiong:

EMERGE Community Development is thrilled to be included in your omnibus workforce bill for \$1M for workforce training. This funding will be used immediately to increase the number of participants we serve, enabling us to train and support 400 new individuals.

As you heard from Terra Mayfield and Larcell Mack in our testimony, EMERGE is rooted in the communities we serve, and draws from those communities to build our own capacity and leadership.

We invite you to visit our Cedar Riverside Opportunity Center, our Second Chance mattress recycling enterprise and reentry programs, and our EMERGE Career and Tech Center, in North Minneapolis, a historically preserved structure that is state's oldest standing library building. We are very proud of the work we do with the support of the state, and look forward to helping meet the workforce needs of the people and employers of Minnesota.

Please let us know if there is anything further that would be useful information about our programming.

Sincerely,

Mike Wynne President & CEO