



## ***Empowering Detroit: The Importance of Matrix Human Services Workforce Development Programs***

Matrix Human Services is at the heart of Detroit's efforts to rebuild, empower, and create opportunities for its residents. Through innovative workforce development programs, Matrix is transforming lives and driving long-term economic growth in the community. These programs are not just about jobs—they are about hope, stability, and a brighter future.

### ***Why These Programs Matter***

#### **Breaking the Cycle of Poverty**

Detroit's poverty rate stands at 33.2%, and many residents face barriers to employment. Matrix addresses these challenges by equipping individuals with the skills and support they need to achieve financial independence. Programs like Skills 2 Build and the Youth Workforce Development Program empower participants to:

- Secure jobs in high-demand industries
- Increase household income
- Build a stable foundation for themselves and their families

#### **Building Stronger Communities**

The impact of Matrix's programs extends beyond individual success:

- ⇒ Neighborhood Revitalization: Skills for Life participants work on city improvement projects such as cleaning parks and removing blight, enhancing community spaces for everyone.
- ⇒ Economic Growth: By training residents for careers in industries like construction, IT, and transportation, Matrix fuels local businesses and attracts new investments to Detroit.

#### **Empowering Youth**

For Detroit's young people, the Youth Workforce Development Program offers a lifeline:

- Provides career exploration and training for youth aged 14–24
- Equips participants with confidence, professional skills, and financial literacy
- Helps them take the first steps toward independence and success



## ***Impact by the Numbers***

### **Skills 2 Build program:**

- ⇒ 833 Program Enrollments
- ⇒ 344 Education Enrollments
- ⇒ 12 participants are still enrolled in Education
- ⇒ 57 participants obtained their GED
- ⇒ 362 participants completed Occupational Training
- ⇒ 88 participants are still enrolled in Training (the last Electrical/Carpentry class graduates on Friday, December 6 and the last Heavy Equipment class graduates December 19)
- ⇒ 321 Hire Records
- ⇒ Proposed 40 individuals to enter in pilot program in 2025 and earn Clean Energy and Advanced Mobility certifications in Electric Vehicle Fundamentals (EVF) and Certified Manufacturing Associate (CMfgA)

### **Youth Workforce Development Program:**

85 youth served in 2023, with a 60% job or internship placement rate

## ***Clients Served***

Matrix programs provide services to people of all ages with Head Start serving children ages birth to five years, youth programs serving individuals six to 24 years, and adult services servicing individuals ages 18 and older.

The majority of those served are Black or African American at 84%, with other races being served including Hispanic (10%), Arab (2%), White (8%), and two or more races or other (5%).

One hundred percent of families and individuals served by Matrix are low-income and live under the federal poverty guidelines, with the average household income being less than \$28,000.

## ***Sustaining the Vision***

With an annual budget of \$2 million and a cost of \$2,300 per participant, Matrix Human Services maximizes every dollar to create life-changing opportunities. Support from the State of Michigan will ensure the sustainability of these critical programs.



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HUMAN SERVICES

*"Touching Hearts, Changing Lives"*  
Established 1906

### ***The Future of Detroit***

Matrix Human Services is more than a workforce development provider—it's a catalyst for change in Detroit. By addressing economic disparities and equipping residents with tools for success, Matrix is building a stronger, more resilient community. These programs are essential to Detroit's ongoing recovery and growth, ensuring that every resident has the opportunity to thrive.

Together, we can invest in Detroit's greatest asset—its people.

For more information, visit <https://www.matrixhumanservices.org>