



SEMCA-WORKFORCE INTELLIGENCE NETWORK YOUTH APPRENTICESHIP WEEK PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS, Youth Apprenticeship Week is celebrating its inaugural year of raising awareness of the vital role Youth Apprenticeship plays as a proven and industry-driven training model and key strategy to improving job quality, and creating access to good-paying, family-sustaining jobs for youth and young adults; and
- WHEREAS, the SEMCA Workforce Intelligence Network (WIN) recognizes the urgent need to prepare our students to address some of our nation's pressing workforce challenges such as rebuilding our country's infrastructure, addressing critical supply chain demands, supporting a clean energy workforce, modernizing our cybersecurity response, and responding to care economy issues; and
- WHEREAS, Youth Apprenticeship programs enable employers to develop and train the future workforce while offering career-seeking students affordable pathways to high-paying, high-demand jobs that meet the Good Jobs Principles with the ability to advance in those career pathways; and
- WHEREAS, WIN recognizes the role of Youth Apprenticeship in expanding opportunities in the workforce system that are inclusive of young people who have been historically underserved, marginalized, and adversely affected by persistent poverty and inequality, thus providing a path for all qualified individuals, including women, people of color, rural and tribal communities, justice-involved individuals and individuals with disabilities, to become apprentices and contribute to America's industries; and
- WHEREAS, WIN recognizes the pivotal role of Michigan Works! agencies, workforce development boards, community colleges, educators, school counselors, and educational institutions serve to not only bring awareness of Youth Apprenticeship opportunities to students and parents, but also serve as training providers, sponsors, and intermediaries.
- THEREFORE, on behalf of the SEMCA Workforce Intelligence Network Board of Directors, we, Gregory E. Pitoniak, SEMCA CEO, and Michele Economou Ureste, WIN Executive Director, do hereby recognize the value of Youth Apprenticeship, and support apprenticeship-building awareness events during the first annual event of Youth Apprenticeship Week: May 5, through May 11, 2024.

Gregory Pitoniak

Gregory E. Pitoniak
CEO, SEMCA Michigan Works!

Michele Economou Ureste

Michele Economou Ureste, MPA
Executive Director, WIN