



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

OFFICE OF THE MANAGING DIRECTOR
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Council President Darrell Clarke
FROM: Michael DiBerardinis, Managing Director
DATE: April 7, 2016
SUBJECT: Responses to Questions Raised in MDO Budget Hearing

During City Council's budget hearing on the Managing Director's Office on April 5th, you and Councilwoman Gym both requested information about several workforce initiatives within city government. The information below is provided in response to these inquiries.

Center for Employment Opportunities

The Center for Employment Opportunities (CEO) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit providing employment services for individuals with recent criminal convictions. The organization focuses on providing life skills, transitional jobs, placement services, and retention support to participants in order to reduce recidivism rates and provide career opportunities. The organization has worked with the Philadelphia Department of Parks and Recreation since 2015, with financial support from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and private philanthropy. CEO partners with Parks and Recreation to provide paid work opportunities at the transitional employment phase, with participants using the work experience and skills developed at Parks and Recreation to then pursue unsubsidized employment. It is my understanding that of the 150 positions awarded, 98 individuals have completed the program to date and 32 have been placed in unsubsidized employment.

I have attached a program summary, which includes further detail about the program's approach.

PowerCorpsPHL

Attached to this memo is a fact sheet explaining the details of the PowerCorpsPHL initiative. I have also attached a list of other similar programs that provide pipelines to employment opportunities with the city.