

City of Milwaukee

EMPLOYEE RESOURCE GROUPS

MONTHLY UPDATE



MAY 2026

JOIN ONE OF THE EMPLOYEE RESOURCE GROUPS!

An Employee Resource Group (ERG) is an employee group formally recognized by the City that shares a common background, focus area, and set of interests or goals that foster an environment of inclusion.

Any City of Milwaukee employee can be a member of an ERG.



Start your own ERG!

Want to start an ERG of your own?

We encourage City employees to consider creating other ERGs.

Example: Muslim, Interfaith, etc.

Interested? Check out the **ERG Policy & Application**.

Contact the HR Compliance Officer with any questions at 414-286-6210.



Visit milwaukee.gov/ERG for more information.



AVANZANDO ERG

milwaukee.gov/AVANZANDO

Contact: Jessica Sanchez | jessan@milwaukee.gov

GET TO KNOW US!

Avanzando promotes the advancement of the Hispanic/Latinx community working at the City of Milwaukee by providing personal and professional development opportunities that attract, engage, and retain employees.

Avanzando aims to foster awareness, understanding, and inclusion of Hispanic/Latinx heritage within City services. Learn more at: www.milwaukee.gov/Avanzando

- Sign up to be a [member](#)!
- Avanzando is looking for the following:
 - Recruitment Chair
 - Committee Members

Avanzando would like to thank all members who participated in our April Member Meeting, where we discussed the 2026 Strategic Plan, HPGM memberships, and our member survey!

If you haven't completed the survey yet, please scan the QR code on the next page for a chance to win a \$25 lunch gift card.

For members interested in serving on the Avanzando committee, we will follow up soon with more information about the process and opportunities to get involved.



Avanzando wants to hear FROM YOU

**Take our member survey by scanning
the QR code below! Everyone who
participates will be entered for a
chance to win a
\$25 lunch gift card.**



***SUBMIT BY
June 19 2026***



BLACK AFRICAN AMERICAN ERG

milwaukee.gov/BAA

Our mission is to ensure that the City of Milwaukee cultivates an atmosphere in which BAA employees are valued, respected, supported, and encouraged to better serve the BAA Milwaukee population as seen through an increase in BAA employee recruitment, retention, and engagement in City of Milwaukee initiatives.

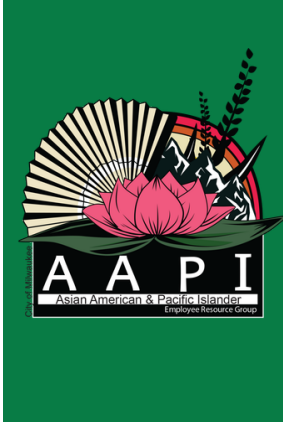
- Learn more [about us](#) and join us on [Teams](#).
- [Sign up](#) to receive communications from BAA ERG.
- Contact us: BAAERG@milwaukee.gov

In March, the BAA ERG Foodie Committee had a Meet Up with Young Professionals Social at the 3rd Street Market Hall.

In April, BAAERG proudly celebrated Earth Day and 414 Day by participating in the Tory Lowe Community Clean Up and BIG Clean MKE.



📌 **Our Upcoming Event: “Bowling with BAA ERG” Friday, May 29th at 5:30 p.m. Location: Landmark Lanes | 2220 North Farwell Avenue Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202**



ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER ERG

The AAPI ERG's mission is to promote diversity, equity, inclusion, and value for its members and the broader community by fostering community, mentorship, collaboration, advocacy, celebration of AAPI heritage, and resources to personal and professional career development and advancement opportunities.

Membership:

Interested? Please fill out our form: [AAPI Membership Interest Form](#).

Or feel free to email us at AAPIERG@milwaukee.gov. milwaukee.gov/AAPI

What's The Latest?

AAPI Heritage Month

May is recognized as Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month. In celebration of this, the AAPI ERG hosted its first-of-its-kind kickoff event at the City Hall Rotunda on **May 1, 2026**.



Film & Discussion

AAPI ERG partnered with OCA-WI Advocate to bring a short film, "From Section 48 to King Drive," highlighting Milwaukee's Chinese Laundry Era.

This film highlighted the historical markers recently placed on Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and at the Forest Home Cemetery. The film can be found screening at Central Library now, until early June.





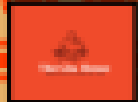
FOOD TRUCK DAY



MAY 21ST 11:30AM - 2:00PM

RED ARROW PARK
920 N WATER ST

HOSTED BY CITY OF MILWAUKEE'S AAPI ERG
IN HONOR AND CELEBRATION OF AAPI HERITAGE MONTH





CAREER DEVELOPMENT ERG

 milwaukee.gov/CDERG

CDERG strives to provide opportunities for increased connection and collaboration of career-minded public servants across departments to provide greater access to professional development, networking, and mentorship opportunities.

Become a Member!

Interested in joining the Career Development Employee Resource Group? New CDERG members may sign up for meeting notifications and links [here](#).

Our board members include Tristan Goetz (Co-Chair), Stacy Sommerville (Co-Chair), Lanesha Baldwin-Rojas (Secretary), and Tim Lundburg (Treasurer).

Event Planning Survey

Please complete a short survey to help us plan motivating and engaging events in 2026. Link to survey: <https://forms.gle/BsLfxiW73VTC3jsWA>

CDERG updates!

CDERG members had the opportunity to participate in two informative department tours:

On **April 22**, members toured the City of Milwaukee Health Department.



On **May 4**, members visited the Milwaukee Water Works Meter Shop for a behind-the-scenes look at operations, equipment, and the vital services that support Milwaukee residents every day.



Thank you to everyone who attended and helped make these experiences engaging and successful.

We're looking forward to a **CDERG Summer Social** — date and details coming soon. Be sure to check your emails for upcoming event information, announcements, and opportunities to connect with fellow members throughout the summer.



COMMUNITY SERVICE ERG

Helping our community, the City of Milwaukee, and our commitment to serve by volunteering our time to local organizations. The group will help further the City of Milwaukee brand, while acting as volunteer ambassadors and promoting civil service.

WANT TO BE A LEADER?

- Find local volunteer opportunities on the [United Way Volunteer website](#).
- [Check out photos from our recent events here!](#)
- Click [here](#) to join our monthly planning meeting.
- Please complete this [interest form](#) to receive updates on CS events/activities .

We are always looking to grow our support to include City of Milwaukee events! If you have a work-related event or opportunity that would benefit from volunteer support, please contact [Susan Picione](#) or [Paul Keltner](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS!!

Opportunities: City/Community

- **2026 Girls on the Run Spring 5K - Sunday, May 31, 2026**
 - GOTR offers programs designed to inspire girls of all abilities to recognize, embrace, and celebrate their inner strength and make meaningful connections with others; it's an amazing organization!   **Join our Cheer Group and provide supportive energy to run participants!**
 - [Click here to sign up!](#)
 - Select our group when registering: **"CHEER GROUP – CITY OF MILWAUKEE"**
- **Forest Home Cemetery seeks City Employees** to support upcoming volunteer events! Please reach out to CSANDVERG@milwaukee.gov if you would like additional information on how to get connected! General details:
 - **Friday, May 22 (8:00 am-1:00 pm):** help oversee small groups of high school and middle school students on their service day.
 - Assist at your own availability.



COMMUNITY SERVICE ERG

📌 UPCOMING EVENTS!!

Opportunities: City/Community

- **3rd Annual City Connect Vendor Fair event at City Hall:** May 28th from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 - This event supports current and prospective vendors by offering information, workshops, and resources. General assistance to help attendees navigate the event is needed!
 - Please reach out to CSANDVERG@milwaukee.gov if you would like additional information on how to get connected!
- [Eastside Senior Services](#) needs volunteers. Click the link to learn more.

Did you know?

*City employees are eligible to receive up to 32 hours per year of paid time off to participate in mentorship programs through [Mentor Greater Milwaukee](#). Find policy information as well as request/verification forms [here](#) (#31).

And, as a City of Milwaukee employee, you can use up to 8 hours of paid time for volunteer activities? Find policy information as well as request/verification forms [here](#) (#65).



THE DATA & INSIGHTS GROUP (DIG) ERG

The Data & Insights Group (DIG) connects colleagues to stay informed about evolving data analytics and research practices by fostering knowledge sharing, networking, and research support. DIG aims to improve understanding of data, artificial intelligence, and research, share current research methods, and build connections within and beyond the city.

Join the Group - No membership application required!

Join now by emailing TheDIG@milwaukee.gov with Subject: Join.

We will add you to MS Teams, giving you access to the community channels and resources.

Community Platform: Our community will live and breathe on MS Teams, with ongoing updates, member interaction, and weekly resources posted.

2026 Rolling Survey

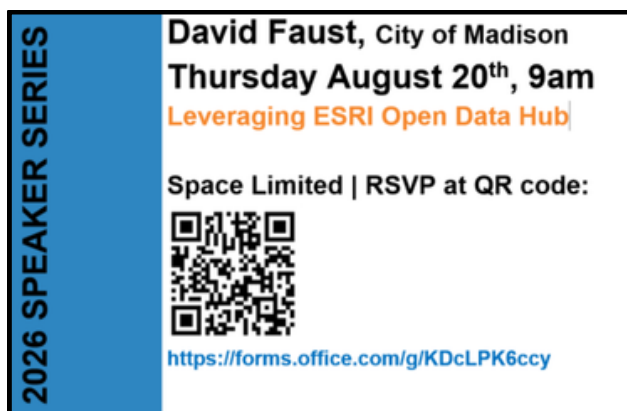
Your input is valuable! Please take a moment to complete a brief survey to help us plan meaningful and engaging programming for 2026.

<https://forms.office.com/g/SMMqgkAYta>

Upcoming Events:

📌 Thursday, August 20th David Faust | Leveraging ESRI Open Data Hub

- **Register:** <https://forms.office.com/g/KDcLPK6ccy>



Launch Team: Luis Martinez, Chuck Irby, Dana Messerschmitt.

If you're interested in joining or have questions, contact us at: TheDig@milwaukee.gov



THE HIVE ERG

 milwaukee.gov/TheHive

The Hive seeks to make the City of Milwaukee a safe and thriving workplace and city for LGBTQ+ employees, families, and allies, through recruitment, retention, and support of the LGBTQ+ community in city employment and services.

BECOME A MEMBER

- Sign up to become a member & receive updates on what The Hive is up to!
- Contact us at TheHiveMKE@milwaukee.gov. Join our mailing list to stay in the know!
- Love the LGBTQ+ community? Love making things happen? Want to stretch your leadership wings? The Hive is looking for folks to join the Board!
 - Co-Chairs
 - Secretary
 - Events Chair

Volunteer with The Hive:

Want to help out but can't commit to a board role?

We always need volunteers to help with events and initiatives! Whether your special skill is writing policy, talking to strangers, or schlepping boxes, we can use it!

Have you heard the latest buzz?!

There's a new breakout group in The Hive! It's called The Hive: TNB, short for The Hive: Transgender and Non-Binary. We seek to create and provide a means of support for gender-diverse employees and their friends and family.

We:

- Strive to offer emotional support through shared experiences.
- Maintain a knowledge resource and repository with our Get and Give program.
- Share your journey and learn from others
- Identify safe navigation through aspects of a gender diverse existence.
- Promote allyship for all gender queer individuals, friends, and families

Have a voice! Share your journey! Help others!

Email TheHiveMKE@milwaukee.gov with the subject line **TNB**.



MILITARY SERVICES & ALLIES ERG

We focus on supporting the City of Milwaukee's military veteran employees by fostering connection, advocacy, and community.

Our goal is to create a network where veterans and their allies can find camaraderie, share resources, and address issues unique to military service. Through our efforts, we hope to support and empower veterans in the workplace.

JOIN US!

Would you like to know be part of our ERG? Feel free to reach out to Dave Mann at damann@milwaukee.gov.

Scheduled Meetings:

- Date:
 - Wednesdays May 27th and June 24th
- Time:
 - 1:00 p.m.
- Location:
 - RCW's Cafe, Below ZMB & City Hall

We warmly invite you to join us for a time of community and fellowship!

For more information, please feel free to reach out to our lead contact, David Mann at damann@milwaukee.gov.



WANT TO BE A MENTOR?

MENTOR Greater Milwaukee

Providing access to quality mentors to Milwaukee's youth by strengthening the organizational capacity and caliber of mentoring organizations.



In 2016, the City of Milwaukee, along with Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS), funded a study to explore the development of a Mentor Affiliate in Milwaukee. They enlisted the Public Policy Forum (PPF) to conduct research titled "Mentoring in Milwaukee: Developing a Regional Mentoring Network."

The study involved more than 13 additional mentoring organizations in a strategic planning process. The findings indicated a significant unmet demand for quality mentors in the community. As a result, several organizations, including Milwaukee Public Schools, the Milwaukee Bucks, and the City of Milwaukee, agreed to partner in addressing this need.

One of the main objectives of Mentor Greater Milwaukee (MGM) is to enhance the capacity of agencies that currently provide mentoring services. Additionally, MGM aims to foster collaboration among these services by establishing an administrative component that will coordinate recruitment and training efforts.

Click the button below to learn more!

LEARN MORE >>

If you would like to be a mentor, click [here](#) to learn how the program works!