

A SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SCAN FOR MORE
INFORMATION



| | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|------------------------|
| Frank Adams | Scott Hurwitz* | Alysa Parks |
| Jeff Coney | Hereford Johnson | Mike Rogers |
| Dave D. Davis* | Amy Katzoff | Ralph Segall* |
| Mary Dolan* | Jim Kauffman | Steve Shimkus |
| Jennifer Duncan | John Kennedy | Rosalinda Silva-Dimpfl |
| Howard Ellman | Jose Leon | David Spitulnik* |
| Louis English* | Kendra Morrill* | Jessica Ticus* |
| Tom Hazlett | Amy Mosser | Ericka Wrencher |
| Sergio Hernandez, Jr. | Doug Oettinger* | *Executive Committee |

Executive Director

Karen Demorest

Founder

Ann Jennett

AND TO OUR BRILLIANT STAFF

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| Christopher Bowns Career Advisor (SWOP) | Brittany Martin Career Advisor (Englewood) | Lisa L. Raymond Training Manager |
| Rosal Chavira Career Pathways Asst Manager | Ayesha Mirzakhail Out-of-School Career Advisor | Steve Strang Director of Finance and Administration |
| Tiara Davis Career Advisor (Chicago Heights) | Katy Murphy Manager of Individual Giving | Trevor Trieschmann Financial Opportunity Center Manager |
| Karen Tollenaar Demorest Executive Director | Taishiya Nix Manager of Training & Partner Relations | Destanee Williams Bridge Career Advisor |
| Peter Escobar Out-of-School Youth Career Advisor | Jeremy Pardoe System Administrator | NuDonna Williams Assistant Director of Career Pathways |
| Maria Gray Director of Development | Walter Pophin Project Accountant | Juleya Woodson Entrepreneurial Incubator |
| Jude Laude Director of Programs | Ivan Ramos Career Partnership Manager (Southside) | Claire Zajdel Entrepreneurial Incubator |
| Amanda Marks Project Manager | Renetta Porte' Office Manager | |

“THE FUTURE STARTS TODAY”



YOUTH JOB CENTER 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

A LETTER FROM OUR DIRECTORS

2021 was a triumphant year. It was a year for new challenges, new partners, and new collaborations. We emerged from the second year of the pandemic with better programs, growth in funding, and increased demand for our services. As we headed into 2022 we were, and continue to be, energized and optimistic about our plans for Youth Job Center this year. **The future starts today!**

All of this is possible because of the wonderful staff and great leadership that YJC has in place. That's why we are confident that when Karen Tollenaar Demorest announced her transition from her role as our Executive Director effective in June, we won't miss a step when we welcome a new Executive Director later this Spring.

In the years that Karen led YJC, even through this pandemic, **we expanded our programs and extended our reach to include neighborhoods in Chicago** which enables us to support more young people.

We have identified and continue to address two critical areas of work as priorities:

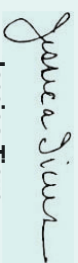
Support young people as they graduate from high school – Each year roughly half of every graduating high school class either does not go on to postsecondary education, or starts, but does not persist. We also know that many of these young people do not know what career options exist (of which there are many), or how to access them.

Know that a job is not enough – We help many young people enter the workforce. And we know that often the place they need to start is with an entry-level job. But we can't stop there. Our young people need access to the training options and career advancement options to learn, grow and navigate their paths toward a meaningful career at a living wage.

And there is so much more to do. Please know that with your support, we will not miss a beat through this transition. We will continue to learn, adjust, and step in to support our young people onto paths to meaningful careers. We couldn't do it without you.



Karen Tollenaar Demorest



Jessica Ticus

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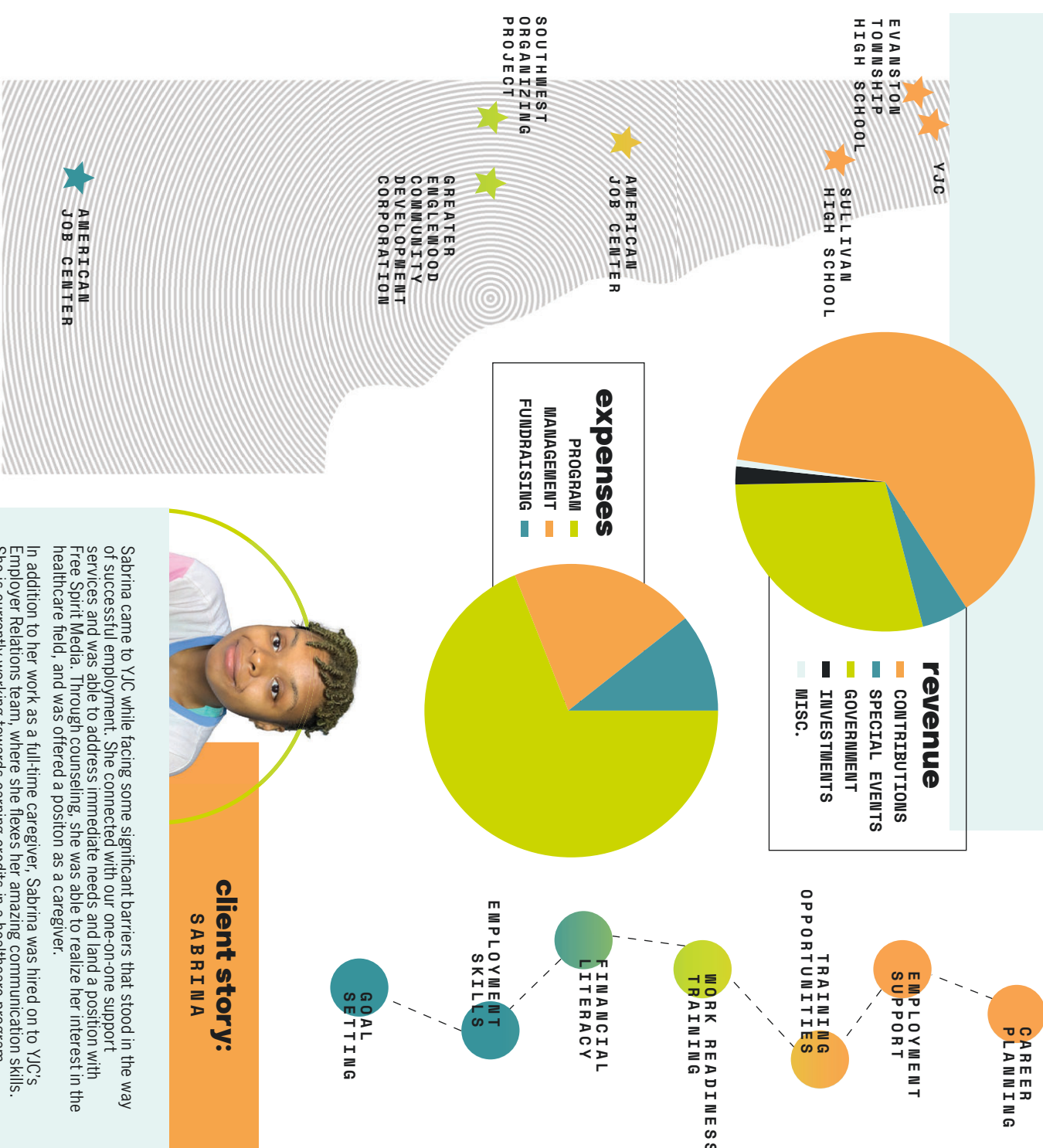
CLIENTS SERVED

442

POSTSECONDARY AND
GOAL PLANS CREATED

We couldn't do it without your support.

WE SERVE AGES 16-24 AS
THEY START THEIR CAREER JOURNEY



253

JOB PLACEMENTS

86

VOCATIONAL AND
WRT CERTIFICATES

YJC LOCATIONS