

Global Day of Impact – November 2, 2023  
Housing First – A Paradigm Shift to Create Housing Stability,  
Supportive Services, and Reduce Homelessness

**Emily Kenney**, LCSW, works as the Director of Systems Change for IMPACT, Inc. In that role, she is the facilitator of the Southeastern Wisconsin Community Information Exchange called IMPACT Connect and the Coordinated Entry System for Milwaukee County. Ms. Kenney has worked for 14 years facilitating a homeless service delivery system that worked to decrease homelessness in Milwaukee County by connecting agencies and streamlining care coordination services in the most effective ways. Now, she is broadening the scope of this work to include all sectors and agencies through IMPACT Connect. Visit the IMPACT Inc. website at <https://www.impactinc.org>

**Eric Collins-Dyke** is the Deputy Administrator of Milwaukee County Housing Services and oversees supportive housing and homeless services. Collins-Dyke has been with Milwaukee County for 10 years and prior to that was with the Guest House of Milwaukee. His recent work has focused on local policy changes to increase the use of Housing First principles in relation to homelessness throughout Milwaukee County. Collins-Dyke's policy work focuses on decriminalizing homelessness, street outreach coordination, housing justice, and implementing best practices within the local supportive housing, and homeless services system. Collins-Dyke holds a BA in Sociology from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, and a master's in social work (MSW) from Loyola University-Chicago. Visit the Milwaukee County Housing Division website at <https://county.milwaukee.gov/EN/DHHS/Housing>.

**DeShanda Clark** is the Senior Vice President of Programs & Services at Pathfinders in Milwaukee. As a seasoned social work professional, she draws from her experiences with Walker's Point Youth Shelter, Division of Milwaukee Child Protective Services and Nia Imani Family, most recently serving as Assistant Executive Director. DeShanda has also been in a variety of roles at Pathfinders prior to her becoming Senior Vice President of Programs & Services in 2022 where she oversees all programmatic operations. She has been a trailblazer in visioning non-traditional mental health services and supportive economic opportunities for Milwaukee youth and has demonstrated a deep commitment to keeping young people's voices at the center of care. She has received recognition for her service by the WI Association of Child & Youth Care Professionals, Shepherd Express, and Mental Health Taskforce and is a WI LGBT Chamber of Commerce Emerging Leader. She continues to advance efforts in support of youth experiencing housing instability by serving on the Interagency Council on Homelessness. Visit the Pathfinders website at <https://pathfindersmke.org>

**Jeanne Geraci** has worked for over 20 years in non-profit social justice organizations and became the Benedict Center's Executive Director in August 2011. Founded in 1974, the Benedict Center is a leading agency in Milwaukee serving and advocating for women affected by the criminal justice system. Jeanne has increased the Benedict Center's capacity to empower women to improve their lives through direct services and systems change. Current work includes advocating for public health equity approaches to help women in the street sex trade instead of criminalizing them. Previously, Jeanne worked for Voces de la Frontera, Mental Health of America, Esperanza Unida, and the YMCA. She graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Economics. Visit the Benedict Center website at [https://benedictcenter.org/about\\_us/](https://benedictcenter.org/about_us/)