



201 East Washington Avenue, Room G200  
P.O. Box 8916  
Madison, WI 53708-8916  
Telephone: 608-266-8684  
Fax: 608-261-6972

Governor Scott Walker  
Secretary Eloise Anderson

Secretary's Office

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Contact: Joe Scialfa or Kathleen Scholl — 608-266-9000

## **DCF Secretary Eloise Anderson Visits Milwaukee Working in Recognition of Manufacturing Month**

(Milwaukee) – Today, Department of Children and Families (DCF) Secretary Eloise Anderson celebrated Manufacturing Month by visiting Milwaukee Working, the manufacturing division of Community Warehouse, a non-profit organization that provides employment and training opportunities for individuals with severe obstacles to employment due to a lack of work experience or a criminal record.

“Wisconsin has a proud manufacturing tradition,” remarked Secretary Anderson. “During Manufacturing Month it is great to see that tradition is still alive and thriving in our state, and can be used as a means to provide people in need of a second chance a way to experience the dignity of work.”

Governor Walker has [proclaimed](#) October 2016 as Manufacturing Month throughout Wisconsin to showcase the role the manufacturing industry plays in the state’s long-term prosperity and the great opportunities it offers to people who have struggled to find family supporting jobs move from government dependence to true independence.

During Manufacturing Month, Wisconsin manufacturers, technical colleges, and other partners are encouraged to open their doors for tours, open houses and other events designed to highlight the great careers available to individuals in manufacturing and fabrication.

Located in the heart of the central city, Milwaukee Working manufactures pre-hung exterior and interior doors, bathroom vanities, kitchen cabinets and an entire line of outdoor furniture made with re-purposed wooden pallets. The products built at Milwaukee Working are available for sale at the Community Warehouse storefront located at 521 S. 9<sup>th</sup> Street in Milwaukee and proceeds from sales are reinvested in expanding employment and training opportunities for individuals who face extreme challenges to obtaining work.

“Organizations like the Community Warehouse are vital to Wisconsin’s future,” said Anderson. “Wisconsin needs Milwaukee to have a healthy and vibrant manufacturing industry. But for Milwaukee to thrive there must be pathways to employment for all our citizens. The Community Warehouse and Milwaukee Working helps those who have made past mistakes re-enter the workforce and positively re-engage with their community.”

The Department of Children and Families is also committed to helping people with high-barriers gain needed work experience. DCF operates three subsidized employment programs, Transform Milwaukee Jobs, Transitional Jobs, and Trial Employment Match Program (TEMP).

These programs are public/private partnerships where the state pays program participants' salaries for a limited time period as an incentive to businesses willing to train and mentor individuals who require extra help transitioning into long-term, family sustaining jobs.

For more information about any of these programs visit <http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/w2/parents> or <http://www.milwaukeeeeworking.org/what-we-do.html>

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