**Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund**

**2020 LCCMR Proposal Project Manager Qualifications & Organization Description**

Phyllis Wheatley Community Center’s

Camp Katharine Parsons

The mission of Phyllis Wheatley Community Center (PWCC) is to provide comprehensive quality programs in life-long learning, child development, and family support to the diverse greater Minneapolis community. Our organizational work falls in three buckets: Early Care and Education, Youth Development, and Family Empowerment.

Camp Katharine Parsons, established in 1956 and owned by the PWCC, represents a center for youth development, environmental education, conservation, and community building. Its focus is working with youth and organizations committed to improving North Minneapolis and the surrounding areas.

**Executive Director,** Gertrude Matemba-Mutasa. Mrs. Matemba-Mutasa brings extensive non-profit leadership, program development, and fundraising experience to Phyllis Wheatley Community Center. Since joining the team in 2018, financial processes have been revamped, enrollment in the child care center has increased significantly, community partners have renewed partnerships and support, and the center has been remodeled.

**Director of Programs**, Valerie Stevenson. Ms. Stevenson has been working with youth and families at Phyllis Wheatley Community Center since 2001. Valerie has more than 35 years of experience establishing collaborative and community services that will empower children and families. The determination and commitment demonstrated by the children and families motivates Valerie to continue developing new and positive community collaboratives that will ensure the successful outcomes for the students and families.

Valerie is a former longtime resident of north Minneapolis, and as a teenager Valerie attended Phyllis Wheatley Community Center for enrichment and recreation activities. This inspired Valerie to seek a profession that would allow her to help children and families.