



CHICAGO COOK WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIP

A proud partner of the **AmericanJobCenter** network



The Partnership Annual Report Program Year 2021

July 2021 to June 2022

Messages from Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot and Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle

In recent years, our city shifted from pandemic recovery onto a path of stability and, eventually, prosperity. The Partnership continued to be an invaluable collaborator and asset during this time, setting Chicago residents up for long-term success. With their leadership on the Hire Chicago series, the Skilled Trades Career Fair, and Careers in Construction Month, they connected Chicago residents from all walks of life—and particularly those from underrepresented and underserved communities—with rewarding and stable careers that would support their growth and success. Their evolution of the Contact Tracing Corps into the Chicago Community Health Response Corps ensures our residents’ overall health and wellbeing with a continued focus on equity. In these ways and more, the Partnership has played a key role in the City’s work to uplift our residents and restore our city to its true vibrancy. I thank The Partnership staff and delegate agency network for serving our residents and employers as I look forward to our continued collaboration.



As the leader of the second most populous county in the nation, home to 40% of Illinois residents, I work every day to connect job seekers to careers and businesses in our region’s talent pipeline. Equity and inclusion are infused in all the work we do. I’m proud that Cook County is dedicating \$15 million over the next three years to fund a variety of workforce development programs. They include in-person Cook County Career Connector events throughout suburban Cook County, addressing the urgent hiring needs of employers and the Opportunity Works and Opportunity Summer paid internship programs, connecting young adults to sector-focused training while helping employers build a talented workforce. The County is also funding employment programming for people who have been incarcerated and increasing outreach and service navigation for people with disabilities and other barriers to employment. I look forward to continuing to foster economic development through workforce development with The Partnership, serving our residents and ensuring our businesses are able to recover and thrive.



A Message from the Co-Chairs of the Workforce Innovation Board

Welcome to The Partnership's Program Year 2021 Annual Report, highlighting the lives we touched and employers we partnered with during the past program year.

The year straddled two ways of life: a virtual world that relied on screens and internet connections and a return to an in-person world that for some literally and figuratively re-introduced those seeking opportunities with those wanting to fill them. Everyone's expectations were high, and we believe we met them!

During this time, The Partnership was proud to contribute to the recovery of the region's residents, employers, and economy. Our partnership with the City of Chicago, Cook County, and smaller public and private organizations allowed us to continue doing what we've done for a decade: leverage public and private funds to operate a network of agencies connecting thousands of job seekers and businesses each year.

Our team continued to create and bring to life innovative programs, linking job seekers to careers that make their spirits soar and lift their families up, and find the talented residents that employers sought during a well-documented workforce shortage.

Thank you for taking the time to get to know us by reading this report. We are confident that it illustrates our commitment to the region and The Partnership's positive work over the past year.

Sincerely,



Jacki Robinson-Ivy



George Wright

Overview

The Partnership is the non-profit umbrella organization that operates the largest public workforce system in the country. As the designated administrator of federal workforce development funding for Chicago and Cook County, The Partnership operates a network of more than 90 service locations, made up of American Job Centers, community-based organizations, and sector-driven centers. The Partnership began in July 2012 with a \$3 million cash advance on a \$30 million budget. Since then, the non-profit has grown from an organization with a sole focus on workforce development programs funded by the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) to one that in Program Year 2021 supported a diverse portfolio of more than a **dozen** non-WIOA funded initiatives.





CHICAGO COOK
WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIP

A proud partner of the AmericanJobCenter® network



The Partnership places

7,000 to **10,000**

residents in permanent employment each year.

Since its inception, The Partnership has

collaborated
with more than

2,000

employers;

administered
more than

\$599
MILLION

in federal and
philanthropic funds.



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Mission and Vision



Our Mission

To create, promote, and effectively manage a network of workforce development organizations that:

Design innovative solutions to address business needs, and

Prepare individuals for and connect them to career opportunities.



Our Vision

Every person has the opportunity to build a career; every business has the talent to grow and compete in a global economy.



Principles



Collaboration

We strategically engage a variety of local, regional, state, and national partners in workforce and economic development to ensure program effectiveness. The breadth of these activities allows us to connect businesses and individuals to a wide array of resources.



Dignity of Work

We believe in the value of work and the mutually beneficial impact that it has on individuals and the companies that employ them. We support investment in human capital as a means of strengthening local communities and the regional economy.



Equity

We intentionally acknowledge systems of oppression when providing workforce development resources and supports necessary to help people reach their full economic and human potential. We actively work to eliminate disparities people experience based on race/ethnicity, disability, economic standing, educational status, background, gender, age, or sexual orientation. We partner with employers who share our belief that all residents of our region can achieve a meaningful career that provides family-sustaining wages.



Financial Responsibility & Stewardship

As stewards of public, private, and philanthropic funds, we ensure effective and efficient management of our resources to achieve the maximum returns on investment and greatest impact on the business or individual served.



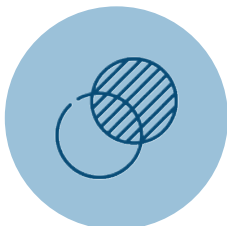
Innovation

We design and implement initiatives that result in dynamic outcomes for businesses and job seekers alike. We seek creative solutions to current and future workforce development challenges.



Quality

We commit to continuous improvement. We aspire to a standard of excellence that ensures the delivery of high-caliber services for all stakeholders while identifying opportunities for further growth.



Transparency

We clearly communicate our expectations, policies, and processes to stakeholders and partners. We openly and publicly share the results of our initiatives.

WIB Board Members

The Partnership serves as staff to the Chicago Cook Workforce Innovation Board (WIB), the federally mandated body that oversees the investment of the region’s annual Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) allocation from the U.S. Department of Labor.

In accordance with federal guidelines, the board is comprised of public and private sector leaders in business, organized labor, economic development, education and community-based organizations. The WIB is committed to supporting the development of innovative programs and partnerships that fuel a thriving economic climate in the Chicagoland region. Board members are appointed by and serve at the pleasure of Mayor Lori Lightfoot and President Toni Preckwinkle for terms of one to three years.

** Signifies membership on the Board of Directors of both The Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership and Workforce Innovation Board.*

Innovation Board Members:



***George Wright,**
Co-Chair
Citi



***Jacki Robinson-Ivy,**
Co-Chair
Northern Trust



***Haven Allen**
mHub



Colin Cosgrove
S and C Electric



Michael Fassnacht
World Business Chicago



Don Finn
IBEW Local 134



Xochitl Flores
Cook County Bureau of Economic Development



Jennifer Foster
Illinois Community College Board



***Monica Haslip**
Little Black Pearl



***Adam Hecktman**
For Good Advisory



***Michael Jacobson**
Illinois Hotel & Lodging Association



Sylvia Jenkins
Moraine Valley Community College



Dan Lyonsmith
Illinois Department of Human Services



***Pam McDonough**
McDonough Enterprises



Richard Monocchio
Housing Authority of Cook County



Donovan Pepper
Walgreens



Robert Reiter Jr.
Chicago Federation of Labor



Juan Salgado
City Colleges of Chicago



***Marc Schulman**
Eli's Cheesecake



Jason Spigner
Sinai Health System



***Liisa Stark**
Union Pacific Railroad



Carrie Thomas
Illinois Department of Employment Security

Serving Job Seekers and Employers

Cook County Career Connector Events

Cook County allocated a three-year, \$15 million commitment of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to The Partnership to launch and expand programs to:

- Address the urgent hiring needs of employers.
- Scale programs to connect young adults to sector focused training and paid internships.
- Provide employment programming to people with prior justice system involvement.
- And increase outreach and service navigation for people with disabilities and other barriers to employment.

The Partnership is administering this suite of programs and estimates it will impact 500 businesses and approximately 14,000 residents of Cook County.

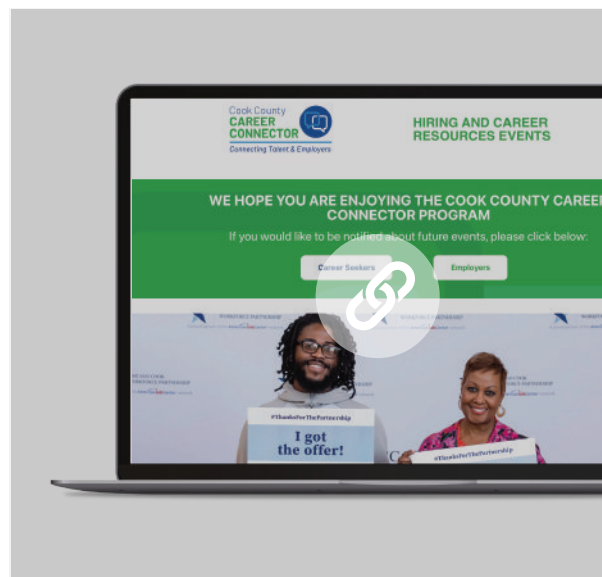
Cook County
**CAREER
CONNECTOR**



In May of 2022, Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle announced the launch of [The Cook County Career Connector Program](#). The Program consists of holding hiring events at suburban Cook County sites within The Partnership’s network and promoting a more inclusive and equitable economy as Cook County emerges from the pandemic. These efforts are designed to connect residents to quality jobs while connecting employers to a skilled and diverse talent pool. The Program includes two main types of events: six large-scale signature regional events led by The Partnership’s five suburban [Cook County American Job Centers \(AJCs\)](#) and smaller hyper-local events, some of which targeted certain populations or industry sectors.

“As we continue to emerge from the effects of the pandemic, we have heard the needs of the thousands of residents still looking for employment and hundreds of businesses struggling to meet their talent needs,” said President Preckwinkle. “The Career Connector events bridge the gap between employers and job seekers in this incredibly tight job market.”

More than 1,200 job seekers and nearly 400 employers attended a dozen Career Connector events in the summer and fall of 2022 in suburban Cook County.



Building the Road Home for Returning Residents

Roughly 10% of the people The Partnership serves through federally funded jobs programs self-identify as having had prior justice system involvement. In collaboration with Cook County's Justice Advisory Council, The Partnership created the Cook County Coordinated Reentry Council, which convened over seven months to develop recommendations for systemic changes to the region's reentry system.

This effort includes The Reentry Navigation Initiative: The Road Home, a 34-month demonstration project, intended to address people's holistic needs upon returning to Cook County from incarceration in Illinois' penal institutions. This initiative includes an emphasis on workforce development, occupational training, and permanent, unsubsidized job placement.

Launched in early 2022, The Road Home initiative offers 150 eligible participants enrollment into a comprehensive reentry program beginning pre-release that addresses the barriers to successfully return to the community. Cook County's investment of ARPA funds will allow the program to expand, serving those who have returned to the community but continue to face barriers to employment.



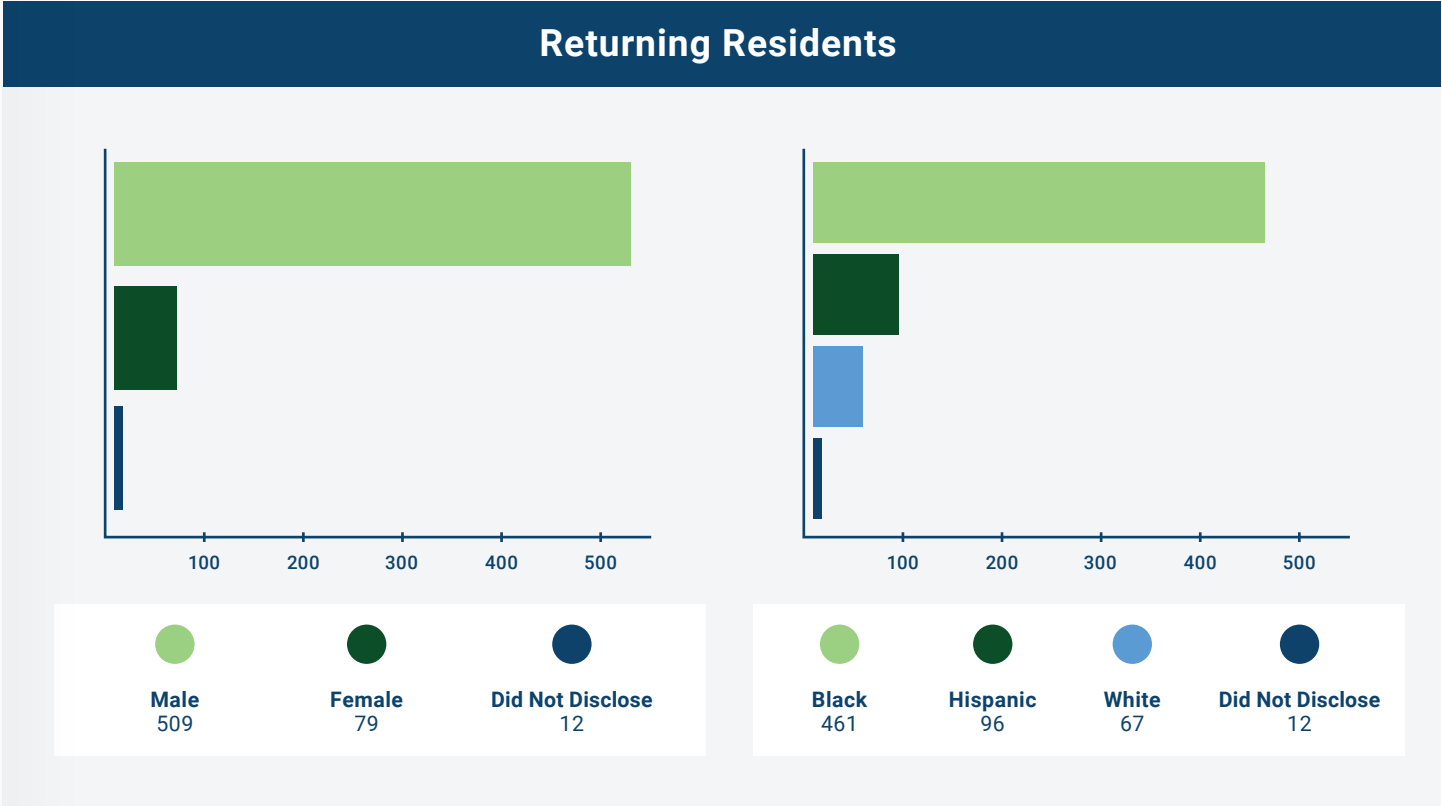
“

If you take a step back and look at resources available to people returning home from incarceration in Chicago and Illinois, The Partnership's introduction of the navigator model became the connective tissue that brought all of those resources together to create one seamless reentry.

”

– Francisco Perez, Reentry Navigator

Within the last Program Year, The Partnership’s network served 600 returning residents. **Of those 600 served, 214 were placed into employment in a variety of industries, with more than half of those 214 working in the manufacturing and transportation sectors.** Returning residents earned an average of \$23.88 per hour. The Partnership continues to work with the remaining individuals to find employment opportunities.



“ Reentry is vitally important because it addresses the restorative aspect of the individual and community that is often overlooked by our criminal justice system. Reentry is public safety. ”

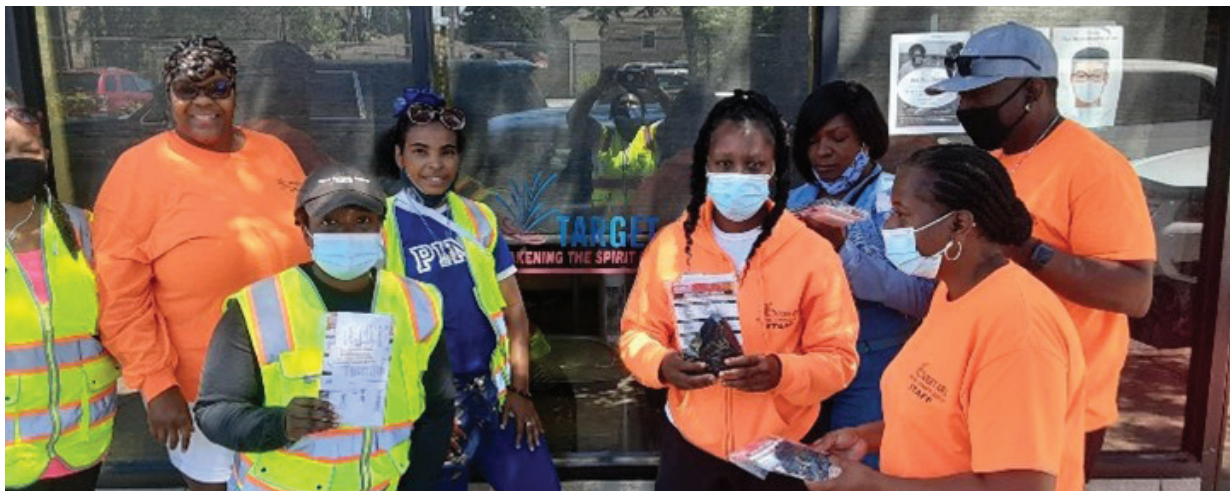
– Michael Cannon, Reentry Navigator

National Dislocated Worker COVID-19 Disaster Recovery Grant

As the designated administrator of the Local Workforce Innovation Area (LWIA) for Chicago and Cook County, The Partnership received \$4.275 million from a National Dislocated Worker COVID-19 Disaster Recovery Grant. The grant provided individuals with subsidized employment assisting with a local effort to mitigate the impact of COVID -19 in Cook County. The grant also provided laid off and displaced workers with training and placement services. Through this grant, The Partnership made it possible for approximately 11 non-profit organizations to meet a variety of community needs created by the pandemic. These included addressing food insecurity, distributing masks and sanitizer, and COVID-19 education and outreach.

The Disaster Recovery Grant funded 158 job seekers with temporary work in disaster relief positions and assisted an additional 130 displaced workers with training and placement services. Included in this group was a cohort of 32 participants trained by the Sinai Urban Health Institute in entry level community health work.

This six to eight-week training offered three health tracks: Behavioral Health, System Navigation, and Health Education. The grant also helped employers grow talent by upskilling 55 job seekers participating in on-the-job training programs. Overall, 66 Disaster Recovery participants found full-time employment after completing temporary employment and receiving career and/or training services through this grant.



The 11 Non-Profit Organizations Include:

- 1 **BEDS Plus Care:** delivered food and personal protective equipment (PPE) to individuals in homeless shelters throughout southwest suburban Cook County.
- 2 **Bethel Family Resource Center:** delivered food and PPE to individuals in homeless shelters and/or elderly throughout the south suburbs.
- 3 **Greater Auburn Gresham Development Corporation:** packed and distributed PPE, assisted at COVID-19 testing centers, and conducted street outreach in the Greater Auburn Gresham community.
- 4 **Greater Chicago Food Depository:** collected, prepared, packed, and distributed emergency food assistance to food pantries throughout Chicago and surrounding suburbs.
- 5 **Housing Forward:** delivered food and PPE to individuals who were in homeless shelters and/or elderly throughout the western suburbs.
- 6/7 Together, **CARA** and **Northwest Side Housing Center:** provided cleaning and sanitizing assistance to small businesses impacted by COVID-19. The organizations also conducted street outreach and COVID-19 education in Chicago's Belmont Cragin community.
- 8 **South Shore Works Planning and Preservation Coalition:** Packed and distributed PPE, assisted at COVID-19 testing centers, and conducted street outreach in Chicago's South Shore community.
- 9 **Top Box:** collected, prepared, packed, and distributed emergency food assistance throughout Chicago and surrounding suburbs.
- 10 **University of Illinois at Chicago Department of Public Health Street Outreach:** conducted street outreach, COVID-19 Education, and provided connections to resources in communities on Chicago's West Side.
- 11 **Respond Now:** delivered food and PPE to individuals who were in homeless shelters and/or elderly throughout the south suburbs.

Serving Chicago Housing Authority Residents

More than
2,500 CHA
residents
have enrolled in Partnership programs.

The Partnership works with the CHA to offer a comprehensive job training program to CHA residents and Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) recipients. The Partnership offers dedicated career coaching, job training, and employment services to the CHA community as part of its shared investment in the talent and potential of communities across our region.

The goal is to help CHA residents find fulfilling jobs in their fields of interest and put them on a path to long-term employment. We work closely with employers to create opportunities for our participants and help them build the skills needed to land jobs that pay a living wage.

The program focuses on helping participants improve their resumes and interview skills to compete for jobs in high-growth industries such as Healthcare, Information Technology, Manufacturing, and Construction. Services include:

- Placement into family-sustaining employment,
- Computer skills training,
- Technical skills training,
- Interviewing skills training, and
- Resume building.

Funding for these initiatives comes from two U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grants: a \$2.8 million grant CHA received in 2020 to provide training and employment services to CHA residents and a \$20 million JobsPlus grant to help families who reside in public housing increase their earned income and become self-sufficient. This funding resulted in a JobsPlus program specifically serving residents of Altgeld Gardens and Dearborn Homes, to connect them with employment, education, and financial empowerment services.

Returning to the Workforce

AARP Foundation Back to Work 50+ Initiative

The Partnership serves a wide range of jobseekers, from a 16-year-old looking for his first job to a woman in her mid-50's ready to restart her professional life. While many workers aged 50+ are busy raising children and helping aging parents, more than three million are also looking for full-time employment. The Partnership's Back to Work 50+ program, funded by AARP, was designed to help people age 50+ gain confidence and skills while exploring opportunities to compete and succeed in today's workforce.

Participants benefit from workshops that focus on:

- The latest and best job-hunting techniques,
- Training resources,
- Individualized career counseling,
- Job coaching and skills development,
- Needs assessments, and
- Referrals to supportive services that serve workers aged 50+.

Nearly **4,000** people have enrolled in the Back to Work 50+ Initiative since it's inception.

Some engage in its primary programming, called 7 Smart Strategies for 50+ Jobseekers, while others seek additional training.

Nearly **700** participants reported finding a job after participating in the program.

Others used the skills they gained to seek employment later or continued training in specific areas of interest.



"I came back to work as a better person," says Jacquie J. At 54, Jacquie needed to restart her career after caring for her mom. After facing difficulties in her job search, she turned to The Partnership's AARP Foundation Back to Work 50+ Program. The program, led by Latonya B., The Partnership's Program Manager, is for unemployed and underemployed people aged 50+ who want to successfully explore the skills needed to compete in today's workplace.

Digital Literacy: Bridging the Digital Divide

The digital divide refers to the gap in internet access, computer availability, and digital fluency faced by residents of underserved communities. Several Partnership programs work to address this disparity by collaborating with public, private, and philanthropic partners. This work focuses on increasing digital literacy and fluency through access to quality broadband service and devices (hardware), as well as training to use both. The Partnership hosts free, online digital literacy workshops monthly in English and Spanish. The Program served many participants over the past program year.



Total participants registered

1,499



Total webinars provided

283

- * LinkedIn: Professional Social Media Resume Development
- * Employment Portfolio
- * Job Search Tools
- * Professional E-mail Components
- * Microsoft Office
 - Microsoft Word
 - Microsoft Excel
 - Microsoft PowerPoint
- * Google Apps
 - Google Docs
 - Google Sheets
 - Google Slides
 - Google Drive

Free Virtual Workshops March 2022

Visit ChICookWorks.Org/Workshop to register

Mondays, March 14, 21 and 28
Resume Development: Employment Portfolio (Application Tracking System)
9 am to 10:30 am

Professional EMAIL Components (Domain, Attachments and Format)
11 am to 12:30 pm

Every Wednesday in March
LinkedIn: Professional Social Media (Branding, Networking and Opportunities)
9 am to 10:30 am

Job Search Tools (Web-based Applications)
11 am to 12:30 pm



Seminarios Gratis en Vivo ABRIL 2022

Regístrate en ChICookWorks.org/Cursos

Lunes, 11 de Abril
9 am a 11 am
Microsoft Excel

Aprenda a utilizar una hoja de calculo gratis que nos permite la creación de reportes, gráficas y estadísticas, generar reportes de ventas o hasta llevar la nomina de su negocio.

Lunes, 18 de Abril
9 am a 11 am
Google Sheets

Una hoja de calculo gratis que nos permite la creación de reportes, gráficas y estadísticas.

Lunes, 25 de Abril
9 am a 11 am

Utilice herramientas digitales para las tareas diarias
Aprenda a comunicarse de manera más eficiente a través de correos electrónicos, búsquedas en internet y documentos digitales.



Free Virtual Workshops November 2022

AARP Foundation's Back To Work 50+
Visit ChICookWorks.Org/Workshop to register

Tuesday, November 8
Back to Work 50+
Virtual 7 Smart Strategies
1 pm to 2:30 pm

Tuesday, November 15
Back to Work 50+
Virtual Cohort Sessions
Prepare Job Campaign Checklist Identify Goals, Skills, and Interest
1 pm to 2 pm

Wednesday, November 16
Back to Work 50+
Virtual Cohort Sessions
Create Personal Marketing Tools
1 pm to 2 pm

Thursday, November 17
Back to Work 50+
Virtual Cohort Sessions
Preparing for Jobs and the Interview
1 pm to 2 pm

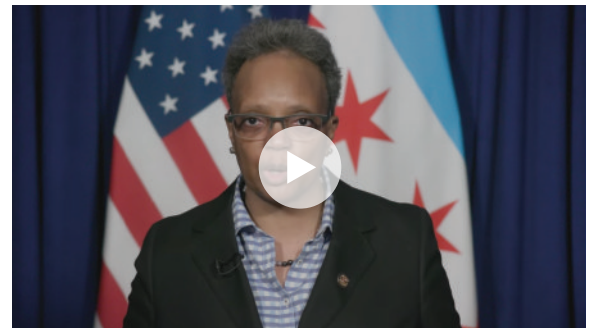


The City of Chicago COVID-19 Community Response Corps

In July 2021, the work of Chicago’s COVID-19 Community Contact Tracing Corps expanded beyond contact tracing to strive towards COVID-19 recovery and prevention by supporting community health needs related to the pandemic. The Corps changed its name to the Chicago COVID-19 Community Response Corps to reflect the expanding nature of the Corps’ initiatives and impact.

During this time, the Corps focused centered on:

- Continuing to staff the City of Chicago’s inbound COVID-19 hotline.
- Assisting community members with inquiries on vaccine appointment scheduling, COVID-19 testing locations, positive COVID-19 cases, vaccine incentives, vaccine medical records/lost vaccine cards, resource coordination, and more.
- Conducting outbound call projects for vaccine follow-up and COVID-19 booster outreach, particularly for Chicago Public Schools families and the most at-risk, vulnerable community members in Chicago.
- Conducting hyper-local outreach and canvassing in Chicago’s lowest-vaccinated neighborhoods, known to the communities as Vaccine Ambassadors and Promotores de Salud.
- Staffing ongoing community-led and city-led events, such as Swap-O-Rama Flea Markets and City Colleges of Chicago vaccination sites, to assist with line management, vaccine scheduling, outreach, and logistics.



The Corps engages in community outreach, promoting and attending 519 city-wide events with vaccination sites. For example, the Corps supported a Swap-O-Rama event in Chicago where more than 2,000 residents were vaccinated.

30 Community Based Organizations Employed Corps Member Programs From July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022:

- Alliance Center 360/Brothers Health Collective
- Calumet Area Industrial Commission
- Centers for New Horizons
- Central States SER
- Greater West Town Community Development Project
- Habilitative Systems
- KLEO Community Family Center
- Phalanx Family Services
- Puerto Rican Cultural Center
- SGA Youth and Family Services
- The Resurrection Project
- Ada S. McKinley Community Services
- Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council
- Breakthrough Urban Ministries
- Community Assistance Programs
- Envision Community Services
- Goodwill Industries Metro Chicago
- Institute for Latino Progress
- Latino Resource Institute of Illinois
- Lawrence Hall
- Leave No Veteran Behind
- Metropolitan Family Services
- National Able Network
- North Lawndale Employment Network
- Safer Foundation
- South Side Help Center
- Southwest Organizing Project
- St. Sabina Employment Resource Center
- Westside Health Authority
- YWCA Metropolitan Chicago

In April 2022, The Partnership held a [hiring event](#) to connect Corps members with healthcare career opportunities outside of the Corps.

More than 200 Corps members and 29 employers connected at the event.

About a quarter of the Corps members that attended reported finding their next job at that event!



Skilled Trades Career Fair

The Partnership hosted a Skilled Trades Career Fair from March 22-24, 2022 at McCormick Place Convention Center, Lakeside Center on behalf of Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot and Chicago Public Schools (CPS).

The event exposed over 2,000 CPS students to more than 50 local employers, trade unions, and workforce agencies.

The Skilled Trades Career Fair laid the groundwork for ongoing, high-quality career exposure and programming for young adult job seekers in Chicago, and piloted key initiatives identified as priorities of Mayor Lightfoot.

The Career Fair provided in person, face-to-face engagement for career options, exposing and connecting elementary and high school students with work-based information and tools to explore a profession in the skilled trades. The majority of students who participated in the Career Fair represented residents who are historically underrepresented in the skilled trades and may be at risk of becoming disconnected from work and advanced school. In its outreach, the City prioritized schools from the city's south and west sides to ensure that students living in communities with lower economic opportunity rates have access to skilled trade opportunities. This includes CPS program Choose to Change students, students from Options schools, and well as those from traditional schools. Students participated in work-based learning opportunities throughout the event, including guest speakers, site visits, and potential internship and youth apprenticeship options available after high school graduation.

The event was sponsored by the Chicago Department of Family and Support Services (DFSS) and the Chicago Community Safety Coordination Center (CSCC) and co-hosted with Chicagoland Workforce Funder Alliance, Chicago and Cook County Building and Construction Trades Council, Construction Industry Service Corporation (CISCO), and HIRE360.

“Everywhere you look, you can see how the skilled trades and union labor has influenced and built our strong city,” said Mayor Lightfoot. “Skilled trades and their unions are vital to keeping our communities running. Additionally, these well-paying, sustainable careers provide pathways to financial security and job satisfaction. I’m pleased to introduce our CPS students to these opportunities and all the career possibilities that this sector holds.”



Hire Chicago

In August 2021, The Partnership joined Chicago Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot and World Business Chicago to create Hire Chicago, a five-week hybrid (virtual and in-person) event aimed at readying residents and employers for the new post-pandemic economy.

Hire Chicago connected Chicagoans to careers in high-growth industries and/or career counseling and training programs preparing them for the jobs of tomorrow. Chicago employers were encouraged to participate to gain access to the city's diverse and skilled workforce.



Each of the five weeks focused on a different industry sector. Virtual workshops and prescreening events were held each week on Mondays and Tuesdays, while virtual interviews were held on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Employers extended conditional offers of employment during the no-cost event.

- Week 1 - August 2: Manufacturing
- Week 2 - August 9: Food Service/Hospitality and Tourism
- Week 3 - August 16: Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics
- Week 4 - August 23: Healthcare
- Week 5 - August 30: Information Technology



Nearly 300 employers brought more than 14,000 career opportunities to nearly 3,000 job seekers who attended the virtual event.

In promoting the event, Mayor Lightfoot said, “The pandemic has changed us individually as people and collectively as a workforce. What worked in January 2020 no longer works for us today, as our priorities have shifted and our lifestyles have changed. Good-paying, sustainable jobs and careers are foundational to the success and happiness of our residents, and I am proud to dedicate the month of August to making these employment opportunities as accessible as possible—especially for our underserved communities on the south and west sides.”

The event was born out of the City of Chicago’s COVID-19 Recovery Taskforce (RTF), created to advise city government as economic recovery efforts began in the wake of the pandemic. The RTF drafted a change study, which placed a sharp focus on inequities in Chicago and the role those inequities play in deepening the impact of the crisis for many Chicagoans. Hire Chicago addressed many of the RFT’s recommendations, such as re-imagining the region’s workforce infrastructure, creating a plan to invest in displaced and young workers, building upon the region’s historic strength in manufacturing, and re-imagining regional tourism and travel. The timing of Hire Chicago aligned in part with the early September 2021 expiration of pandemic-era extension of federal unemployment benefits and supplements in Illinois, as well as a return to in-person education in some of Chicago’s schools. This shift allowed some caregivers the opportunity to consider returning to employment.



Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Investment

Building Careers and Supporting Employers

The Partnership is the designated administrator of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Investment funding for the City of Chicago and each of the 132 municipalities within Cook County. Over the past program year, The Partnership invested more than \$52 million dollars of WIOA funding into comprehensive workforce development services for more than 9,700 participants. These funds provided basic and individualized career services, including occupational training, to eligible Adults, Dislocated Workers (adults who have lost their jobs), and Youth both in and out of school (ages 16-24). The Partnership met or exceeded performance expectations in serving these customers, by helping them gain new skills and secure long-term employment with good wages.

WIOA 2021 Outcomes

WIOA Performance Measure	Adult	Dislocated	Youth
Employment in 2nd Qtr. after Exit*	66.49% (984/1480) Met	75.32% (1184/1571) Met	70.48% (771/1094) Met
Median Qtr. 2 Earnings*	\$9,052 Exceeded	\$12,428 Exceeded	\$4,790 Exceeded
Employment in 4th Qtr. after Exit**	64.41% (950/1475) Met	74.88% (963/1286) Met	66.94% (733/1095) Met
Credential Rate**	68.71% (696/1013) Met	73.71% (586/795) Exceeded	68.18% (376/577) Exceeded
Measurable Skills Gain***	54.6% (1085/1987) Exceeded	56.17% (874/1556) Exceeded	50.59% (517/1022) Exceeded

*Outcomes based on exit cohort from 7/1/20-6/30/21

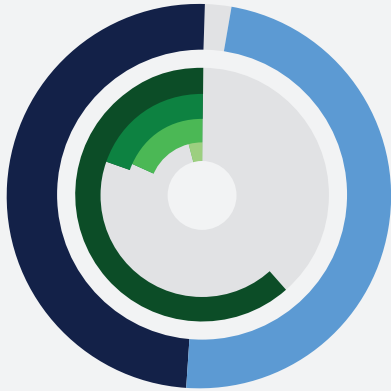
**Outcomes based on exit cohort from 1/1/20-12/31/20

***Outcomes based on enrollment anniversaries from 7/1/2021-6/30/2022

WIOA Program Year 2021 Adult Snapshot

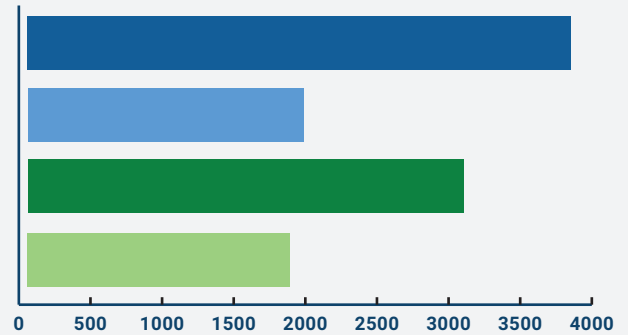
July 2021 – June 2022

Demographics



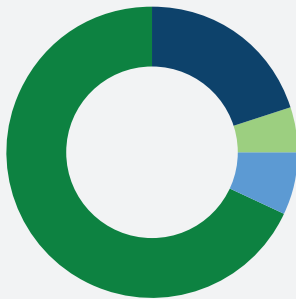
- Female 48.4%
 - Male 49.5%
 - Did Not Disclose 2.1%
 - Black 61.9%
 - White 21.8%
 - Hispanic 18.6%
 - Asian 4.3%
- *Race/Ethnicity exceeds 100% because respondents can identify as more than one.*

Registrants Served



- Registrants 3,795
- New Enrollments 1,922
- In Training 3,043
- Exiters 1,831

Education



- College Graduates 20%
- Some College 7%
- High School Diploma/Equivalency 68%
- Less Than High School 5%

Economic Barriers



- Low-income* 78%
- Homeless 1%
- Basic Skills Deficient 43.5%
- Veterans 2%
- Prior Felony 7.4%

*65.3% of respondents receive supplemental nutrition assistance.

1,113 Exit with Employment
\$22.51 Per Hour (Average Starting Wage)

WIOA Program Year 2021 Dislocated Workers Snapshot

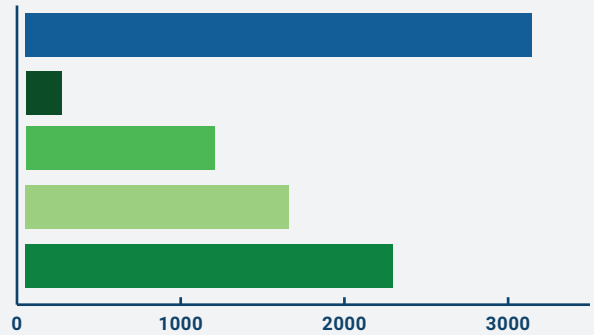
July 2021 – June 2022

Demographics



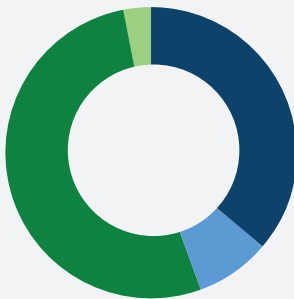
- Female 39.9%
 - Male 57.6%
 - Did Not Disclose 2.1%
 - Black 43.3%
 - White 36.1%
 - Hispanic 24.6%
 - Asian 5.1%
- *Race/Ethnicity exceeds 100% because respondents can identify as more than one.*

Registrants Served



- Registrants 3,096
- New Enrollments 1,154
- In Training 2,243
- National DW Grant 216
- Exiters 1,609

Education



- College Graduates 36%
- Some College 8%
- High School Diploma /Equivalency 52%
- Less Than High School 3%
- Did Not Disclose 1%

Economic Barriers



- Low-income* 41%
- Receiving Benefits 77.4%
- Exhausted Unemployment 20.7%
- Long-term Unemployment 16.4%
- Basic Skills Deficient 27.8%
- Veterans 3.3%
- Prior Felony 2.4%

*14% of respondents receive supplemental nutrition assistance.

1,169 Exit with Employment
\$29.34 Per Hour (Average Starting Wage)

WIOA Program Year 2021 Youth Snapshot

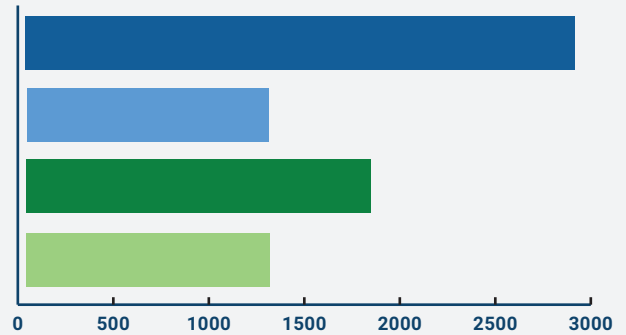
July 2021 – June 2022

Demographics



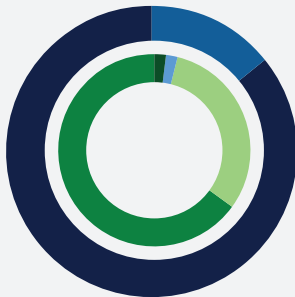
- **Female**
55.6%
 - **Male**
43.7%
 - **Did Not Disclose**
.7%
 - **Black**
60.2%
 - **Hispanic**
30.5%
 - **White**
17.7%
 - **Asian**
1.7%
- *Race/Ethnicity exceeds 100% because respondents can identify as more than one.

Registrants Served



- **Registrants**
2,875
- **In Training**
1,802
- **New Enrollments**
1,265
- **Exiters**
1,277

Education



- **College Graduates**
2%
- **Less Than High School**
31%
- **Post High School**
2%
- **In-School Youth**
14.2%
- **High School Diploma**
65%
- **Out-of-School Youth**
85.7%

*.1% of In/Out-of-School Youth not reported.

Economic Barriers



- **Low-income***
43.1%
- **Pregnant/Parenting**
15.5%
- **Living in Low Poverty Area**
47.1%
- **Basic Skills Deficient**
50.9%
- **Disabling Condition**
14%
- **Offender**
2.3%
- **Homeless**
10.5%

*26.5% of respondents receive supplemental nutrition assistance.

745 Exit with Employment
\$17.05 Per Hour (Average Starting Wage)

Gaining the Skills to Build a Career

Pursuant to WIOA, occupational training is provided free of charge through Individual Training Accounts (ITAs). ITAs serve as tuition vouchers that can be used to cover the cost of training resulting in industry-recognized credentials, certifications, or degrees obtained from approved training providers.

In Program Year 2021, The Partnership issued 2,487 ITAs valued at more than \$14 million. During the past program year, 80% of those who attended training through the ITA program successfully completed training and 74% of those individuals became employed.

Since January 2020, The Partnership has facilitated 70 enrollments into Department of Labor certified Registered Apprenticeship Programs.

What are the elements of a successful apprenticeship?

- Direct business involvement,
- On-the-job training,
- Related instruction,
- Rewards for skill gains, and
- Completion resulting in a national occupation credential.



Northwestern Medicine encourages applicants of all skill levels to participate in the Northwestern Medicine Work-Based Learning Program. The program helps candidates who may not possess all of the minimum requirements for a particular job at Northwestern Medicine receive on-the-job training (OJT). Joshua Robinson, a patient escort at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, found his job through the program.

Skilling Up Versus Letting Go

WIOA provides a variety of resources to support employers and prospective employees alike, helping employers train and retain staff so they can remain competitive and avoid unnecessary layoffs. These tools promote professional development, job retention, and career advancement through a variety of occupational training models including **Employer-Driven Training and On-the-Job Training (OJT)**.

OJT reimburses up to 50% of new employee training wages and costs for the first six months or 1,040 hours of employment. The trainee participant is an employee of the company actively engaged in “hands-on” experiential learning, acquiring the technical skills necessary for success in the new role. The OJT is provided by the employer.

During Program Year 2021, participating employers were reimbursed more than \$1.5 million for nearly 140 On-the-Job participants; 139 adults; 164 dislocated workers; and 8 youth members.

Incumbent Worker Training (IWT) reimburses an employer for job-specific skills training provided to its existing employees. Funded training must positively and substantively affect the qualifications of the employee for advancement in their field. The goal is to grow the skilled labor pool for the entire economic region, as well as to open entry-level opportunities left vacant by the advancement of trainees.

During Program Year 2021, the Partnership approved \$533,755 for IWT projects. This represents 230 employees trained for 18 separate training projects in the Manufacturing, IT, and Healthcare sectors.

American Job Centers: The Front Door to The Partnership's WIOA Network

The Partnership oversees a network of more than

90 community-based organizations,

made up of American Job Centers, satellite sites, and sector-driven centers.

The ten American Job Centers (AJCs), with five in suburban Cook County and five in Chicago, offer a range of employment services for adults, out-of-school youth, job seekers, incumbent workers, and businesses. AJCs offer valuable resources to aid in career exploration. Many services are free and include:

- Interview preparation,
- Resume building,
- Job search assistance,
- Career planning,
- Post-job placement services, and
- Work readiness training and more.

The Partnership contracts with scaleLIT as the “one stop operator” to assist in coordination and oversight of the AJC network. Throughout the past year, the scaleLIT team hosted 130 partner meetings, engaged all 16 core AJC partners, and distributed a customized resource newsletter. The team, using a collaborative human-centered design approach, has developed several systemwide solutions, including customer satisfaction surveys and a system-wide orientation. The Partnership worked with scaleLIT to create an online video orientation in English and Spanish to introduce residents and businesses to the AJC network.



Chatham Education and Workforce Center

The Chatham Education and Workforce Center, located at 640 East 79th Street in the South Side Chicago community of Chatham, opened in January 2021. The video, “Chatham Rising,” tells the emotional and impactful story of the Center’s creation.

The 11,000 square foot space conceptualized by The Partnership truly lives up to its name as a place for education and occupational advancement. The first floor is home to an office space, classroom/group meeting spaces, and a state-of-the-art Maker Lab where instruction is provided by the Jane Addams Resource Corporation (JARC) and Richard J. Daley College, one of the City Colleges of Chicago. Courses offered in the Maker Lab include 3D and laser printing, blueprint reading, introduction to electrical circuitry, Computer-Aided Design (CAD), and metrology (the science of measurement)—an important aspect of advanced manufacturing. The second floor boasts a Career Center, offering an array of services to job seekers and businesses, including resume preparation and training to job screening and placement. This floor also houses a computer lab/resource room and a large, sun-soaked multi-purpose room with a capacity to host more than 100 people for hiring events or community gatherings. The room can be subdivided into two or three classrooms as well. All services provided at the Center are no-cost and available during weekend hours to facilitate community use.

The Career Center is largely the result of a private sector investment by 4SBay Partners LLC and the work of IFF, a mission-driven lender, real estate consultant, and developer. IFF leveraged funds from JPMorgan Chase’s \$40 million three-year investment in Chicago’s south and west sides. 4SBay Partners LLC purchased the building from IFF and contributed more than \$3 million towards the purchase, build-out, and furnishing of the Center.

Other private sector funders continue to fund many of the Center’s services. They include:

- Blue Cross Blue Shield,
- ComEd,
- Verizon,
- Discover Financial Services, and
- Weinberg Foundation.



Serving Young Adults

Workforce Development Programs that Engage Young Adults

Even before the global health pandemic, the world faced an unemployment pandemic among people between the ages of 16 and 24, which yielded nearly 90,000 Opportunity Youth in Cook County—young people both out of school and out of work. To address the dire need for opportunities, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act specifically mandated that at least 75% of all youth funding be directed to services for Opportunity Youth. The Partnership, in alignment with local needs, directs 85% of its federal youth funds to this population, with the balance of funding serving high school students. Over the past program year, we continued to focus on youth programming, utilizing trauma-informed tools that recognize and respond to signs, symptoms, and risks of trauma to better support the needs of youth who have experienced trauma related to COVID-19.

The Partnership will invest more than \$16.5 million in federal WIOA funding from now to June 2024 to serve youth ages 16-24 in Chicago and suburban Cook County. 42 community-based organizations in our network offer young adults experiences and skills to connect them with fulfilling career opportunities with family-sustaining wages.

\$2 million to serve youth in school.

\$11.7 million to serve youth out-of-school.

\$2.8 million in Individual Training Accounts (ITAs) to give youth access to training in high-demand, high-growth industries.

Chicago and Cook County Young Adult Workforce Development Portal

In 2020, The Partnership collaborated with career exploration non-profit organization, Roadtrip Nation, to launch the Chicago and Cook County Young Adult Workforce Development Portal. The portal is an online resource that helps job seekers explore promising career and training opportunities in our area. Since then, we've continually worked to improve the site by introducing new video content and features that can better serve Cook County's young adults in their search for fulfilling careers.

Over the past program year, The Partnership sent young people from the Chicago and Cook County area on a mini-road trip to interview local professionals working in Manufacturing, Healthcare, Food Service, Information Technology, and Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics—all industries of growing opportunity, as highlighted by the Chicago Recovery Task Force's 2020 Advisory Report.

From these candid conversations, Roadtrip Nation produced a suite of new video content to be featured on the Chicago Cook Young Adult Workforce Development Portal, including five new industry features that will help more young people across Cook County discover possibilities within these growing fields. These videos highlight a variety of local businesses—from powerhouse Northern Trust, to community favorite Peach's Restaurant—as well as providing job seekers with an exclusive look into a day in the life of Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle.



In summer 2021, the Roadtrip Nation van pulled up in Chicago to interview local leaders. Those featured were:

- **President Toni Preckwinkle** - President, Cook County Board of Commissioners - Public Service
- **Jasmine Thornton** - Respiratory Therapist, Comer Children’s Hospital - Healthcare
- **Rukiya Curvey-Johnson** - Executive Director of Rush Education & Career Hub, Rush University Medical Center - Healthcare
- **Trillis Rollins** - Executive Chef, Peaches Restaurant - Hospitality, Tourism, & Food Service
- **Stephanie Dremonas** - Executive Officer, Pete’s Fresh Market - Hospitality, Tourism, & Food Service
- **Kymbria Brown** - L6 Operations Manager, Amazon - Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics
- **Jeannie Alexander** - Vice President of Rail Station Management, Chicago Transit Authority - Transportation, Distribution, & Logistics
- **Juatise Gathings** - Regional Operations Director, Discover Financial Services - IT / Technology
- **Tanya Griggs** - Vice President & Product Manager, Northern Trust - IT/ Technology
- **David Robinson** - Director of External Affairs, Manufacturing Renaissance - Manufacturing

In addition, Cook County funded a \$250 stipend for each young adult who completed the Roadtrip Nation online curriculum over a two-month period. The stipend was funded by dollars from the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (2020) and the Coronavirus Response and Consolidated Appropriations Act (2021).



Opportunity Works

Working with the Office of Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle and private funders, The Partnership created Opportunity Works. Opportunity Works is a paid internship program for Opportunity Youth (young adults who are not in school and not connected to employment) in suburban Cook County. The program connects them with businesses in high-growth, high-demand sectors, and exposes the interns to careers they may not have considered in Manufacturing; Information Technology; Healthcare; and Transportation, Distribution and Logistics. The program graduated its 1,000th intern in 2020 and has now served more than 1,300 young adults. The program funds the interns' wages, allowing employers to provide paid internships at no-cost, while connecting interns to career-pathway opportunities.

- Opportunity Works is an eight-week paid internship program in high-demand, high-growth industries that is offered year-round to out-of-work or out-of-school suburban Cook County young adults. **Cook County's investment of American Rescue Plan funds allowed the Opportunity Works program to double the number of young adults it assisted, growing from 200 to 400 young adults served. The program pays interns \$15 an hour, 25 hours a week.** The program is available to all suburban Cook County young adults.
- Opportunity Summer is a seven-week paid summer internship program that provides a foundation for future full-time employment. **This new summer program serves 200 interns and is funded by American Rescue Plan funds distributed by Cook County. The program launched in summer of 2022 and pays interns \$15 an hour, 25 hours per week.** The program is available to all suburban Cook County young adults.



Working with Employer Partners During a Workforce Shortage

The Partnership takes an industry-centered, demand-driven approach to workforce development rooted in the region's seven high-growth, high-demand sectors:



Business and Professional Services



Information Technology



Manufacturing



**Construction/
Skilled Trades**



Healthcare



**Retail, Culinary
and Hospitality &
Tourism**



**Transportation,
Distribution
and Logistics**

High-Growth, High-Demand Sector Centers

To further support the region’s employers, The Partnership created four industry Sector Centers to meet employer needs through access to federally funded resources. The sectors include Healthcare, Hospitality and Tourism, Information Technology and Transportation, and Distribution and Logistics. The Sector Centers deliver recruitment and retention services to employers. These services include but are not limited to:

- Coordinating recruitment events for large or small hiring needs.
- Promoting work-based learning, such as apprenticeship programs that provide new skills to entry-level employees to increase employee retention.
- Providing applicant pre-screening services to ensure a business is presented with a qualified talent pool from which to choose potential employees.
- Implementing train-to-hire initiatives to create a pipeline of pre-trained new hires who are ready to “hit the ground running” and enhance employer services.
- Working with employers to create customized training plans and develop innovative programs for current employees and new hires.
- Connecting employers to tax incentives and training reimbursement grants to create cost savings that can be reinvested in a business.



The Partnership's Healthcare Sector Center

In the post-pandemic workforce, a great demand continues for a variety of certified, trained allied healthcare workers throughout the Cook County region. The Partnership continues to partner with Chicagoland healthcare employment organizations to provide innovative solutions to workforce and talent acquisition challenges. Over the past year, The Partnership's Healthcare Sector Center expanded upon its employer-driven incentivized training projects, which included working with prominent employer partners such as Advocate Aurora Health, Northwestern Medicine, Sinai Health, University of Chicago Medical Center, and NorthShore University Health Systems. Recruitment and training projects are funded through federal WIOA employer business services grant dollars. These dollars allowed employers to "skill up" to retain their current workforce and develop innovative ways to "staff up" through work-based learning training initiatives.

Over the past year, the Healthcare Sector Center recruited for over 250 job openings and placed 160 individuals into healthcare employment.



Josephina A. connected with The Partnership's network, working with Central States SER. She was placed as a Medical Assistant at Alivio Medical Center, a Partnership Healthcare Sector Center employer-partner, where she is now building a career as a healthcare clinician.

“ We help to provide medical care for the underprivileged, uninsured, and undocumented patients that walk through our doors. My healthcare career journey began as a volunteer at the University of Chicago Medical Center. Your dreams can come true with hard work and dedication. Love what you do, and you will do what you love! ”

– Josephina A.

“ I like to think that the work that I do rekindles someone's lost hope. That it supports them to the path of employment or re-employment, allows them the opportunity to build on their healthcare careers, take care of themselves and their families, and ultimately help the people and communities that they serve as a healthcare worker. That is why this work engages me and I know it makes a difference. ”

– Kathleen Brannigan,
Healthcare Sector Center Specialist

The Partnership's Information Technology (IT) Sector Center

Information Technology (IT) is intertwined with nearly every facet of our personal and professional lives, and it is one of the fastest growing and strongest job sectors in Chicago, Cook County, and the country. As our region emerges from the pandemic, it continues to find the tools and technology solutions introduced over the last few years useful, time-saving, and efficient. The IT Sector Center focuses on opening access to opportunities in this sector to residents of Chicago's 77 neighborhoods and surrounding suburbs while providing local and regional employers with eager, energized, and well-trained professionals.



Over the past program year, the IT sector center recruited for 285 job openings.



Lama B. was a WIOA client who completed training and obtained advanced IT certifications in cloud and data management, and data analysis. Upon completion, she was referred to the IT Sector Center for job search assistance. The IT Sector Center assisted her with resume updates, interview prep, and setting up a paid work experience that built upon her training and certifications. With assistance from the IT Sector Center, Lama was referred to several employers for open roles and secured a position with a leading healthcare organization as a Data Analyst in July 2022.

The Partnership's Hospitality and Tourism Sector Center

The Hospitality and Tourism sector is the second largest employer in Chicago and Cook County, second only to government, and the largest private sector employer in the Chicago metropolitan area. It is a national leader, and the robust industry features world-class hotels and Michelin Star restaurants. Chicago was recently named “Best Big City” by Conde Nast Traveler Magazine for a historic sixth time, further confirming the region’s status as an industry leader.

The Hospitality and Tourism Sector Center assisted 251 businesses, supported hiring for over 1,500 positions, and placed over 246 job seekers into employment over the last program year.

Employer partners range from household names like Starbucks and Aramark to some of the world’s largest hotel chains, such as Marriott, Hyatt, and Hilton. The Partnership’s Hospitality and Tourism Sector Center’s federal grant is overseen by Pyramid Partnership, Inc., a workforce development agency in operation since 1985.



The Hospitality industry is renowned for its ability to foster personal and professional growth. The Partnership’s Hospitality and Tourism Sector Center hosted a Hospitality hiring event with SMASHotels. Several individuals received on-the-spot job offers and second round job interviews.

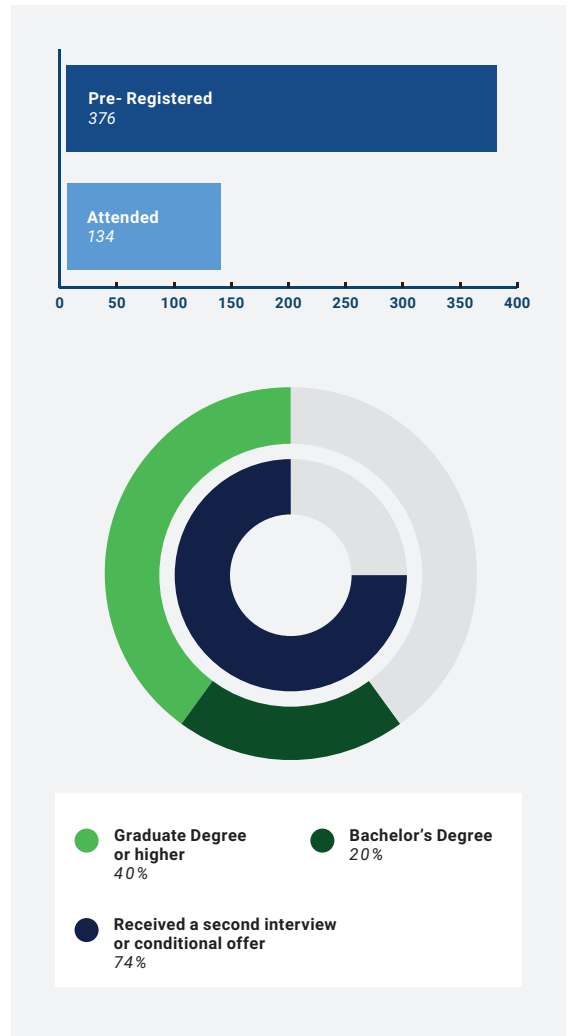
“The Hospitality and Tourism Sector Center has collaborated with delegate agencies, American Job Centers, and The Partnership’s other Sector Centers to provide suburban Cook County and Chicago businesses and jobseekers with a robust array of WIOA workforce services centered on this vital industry during its most critical moment.”

– **Carolyn King, CEO, Pyramid Partnership, Inc.**

Return of Hospitality Hires

April 2022 saw the return of Hospitality Hires Chicago (HHC), an in-person hiring event that focuses on the hospitality industry. The Partnership partnered with Choose Chicago, The Magnificent Mile Association, Illinois Restaurant Association, Illinois Hotel and Lodging Association, Chicago Loop Alliance, Near South Planning Board, World Business Chicago, and Cook County to host the 5th annual event at Palmer House, a Hilton Hotel. It included 60 employers with open positions who were ready to interview and hire the region’s diverse, work-ready, and skilled job seekers; **376 Job Seekers pre-registered and 134 attended the event. Nearly 40% of attendees reported having a graduate degree or higher and more than 20% reported having a bachelor’s degree. 74% of the job seekers moved forward, meaning they received a second interview or conditional offer.**

Since its inception, HHC has helped approximately 900 people obtain employment and/or conditional job offers. HHC includes employers from Chicago-area hospitality, tourism, food services, retail, and related sectors who are committed to hiring hundreds of job seekers. Open positions include well-paid, full-time, career-pathway opportunities with benefits and compensation perks (signing and retention bonuses).



“ I’m very thankful for all the people that put this event together. Thank you! ”

– Hospitality Hires participant

The Partnership's Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics Sector Center

The Partnership is committed to ensuring that historically underrepresented communities are represented in the Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics (TDL) Industry. The TDL Sector Center focuses on introducing potential candidates from disinvested neighborhoods to the multi-billion-dollar industry. The Sector Center works with employer-partners, such as Mondelez International, Inc. and Green Grease Environmental, that are dedicated to hiring qualified candidates. Through The Partnership, these and other companies provide On-The-Job Training (OJT) for candidates, so the companies remain competitive and employees are able to advance in their careers.

The TDL Sector Center recruited for 460 positions over the last program year and provided services to over 30 new businesses.

“Clay B. is great” are the words used to describe an OJT trainee with Green Grease Environmental. Green Grease Environmental is a “Triple Bottom Line” focused company aiming to make a positive environmental and social impact while mainlining a for-profit business. To date, Green Grease Environmental has utilized three On-The-Job Training grants to support the hiring and training of new employees.



The TDL Sector Center referred Clay B. to Green Grease Environmental, which then completed an OTJ contract with him.

The Manufacturing Sector

Chicago and Cook County continue to support a vast and diverse manufacturing economy. The field ranges from small businesses to international producers of every project imaginable. Recent trends toward automation have transformed the industry, yet the current demand for new workers -- whether skilled or ready to train -- has never been higher. The Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership is currently supporting training pathway development within companies so participants can learn in-demand skills with a lifetime of benefits.

Over the past program year, the Partnership approved \$533,755 for Incumbent Worker Training projects. This represents 230 employees who trained for 18 separate training projects in Manufacturing, IT, and Healthcare sector companies.



Danielle P., a Symbol Training Institute student, decided to make a career change. Danielle was working in construction and dishwashing at a hotel before enrolling at Symbol Training Institute. Symbol provided training and allowed Danielle to get her “foot in the door” by helping her to land her current role as a Tool and Die Apprentice at Tenneco. “I am beyond grateful!” says Danielle.



“I never thought this would become a passion, but it really has,” says Alma M. Alma is a former Jane Addams Resource Corporation (JARC) student who benefited from working with The Partnership’s network of services. She enrolled in the Computer Numerical Control (CNC) program at JARC and became a shop lead who manages trainees on the floor. Alma currently works at Lyon & Healy as a machinist.

Construction Initiatives



The CTA RPM Project is a major infrastructure initiative that has built a new track line for the Brown Line, bypassing the existing Red and Purple line tracks at the Belmont Transfer Station. Additional updates will bring up to standard four northside stations that are over 100 years old (the Lawrence, Argyle, Berwyn, and Bryn Mawr stations), including making them ADA accessible. These updates also include building new track and structures to support smoother more efficient ridership. The CTA is partnering with the CTA RPM project's contractor, Walsh-Fluor Design-Build Team, and The Partnership to link interested individuals with training and apprenticeship opportunities to help economically disadvantaged individuals and/or dislocated workers get access to job and skills training.



Chicago Works: Chicago Works is Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot's five-year capital plan to invest in communities through infrastructure. To help City residents obtain jobs and take advantage of the opportunities created by Chicago Works, the City of Chicago teamed up with The Partnership to fill positions created by City investments by working directly with contractors to identify job candidates.



ConstructionWorks is a free program designed to link job seekers with opportunities for rewarding careers in Illinois' high-demand, transportation-related construction industry, into which The Partnership has enrolled over 1,000 candidates. Nearly 200 candidates have been accepted as pre-apprentices by a subcontractor and over 100 have graduated from the pre-apprentice program.

For example, Terry P. Jr., had lost his job as a Laborer Journeyman and was collecting Illinois Department of Employment Security unemployment benefits. He enrolled in the ConstructionWorks program in March 2022. Three months later, he was hired by Walsh-Fluor (a joint venture on the CTA RPM project) to work on an Illinois Tollway project. The supportive services Terry received, including gas cards, work boots, and past due union fees, allowed him to return to work.



CDOT is working on roadway changes and mobility improvement projects in Chicago's Jackson Park that support the Obama Presidential Center and the Chicago Park District's South Lakefront Framework Plan. The Partnership, CDOT, and F.H. Paschen are collaborating to bring these career-pathway jobs to Chicago and connect residents with construction jobs.



The Public Building Commission of Chicago (PBC): The Public Building Commission of Chicago (PBC) and the Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership (The Partnership) have joined forces to spur greater minority and women participation in construction jobs and vocational training in the City of Chicago and the greater Cook County area. By working together, PBC and The Partnership will be positioned to recruit and recommend minorities and women job seekers who have traditionally been excluded from unionized career opportunities to become contractors on PBC's construction or renovation projects. In addition, The Partnership will assist career seekers with placement into the 27 trade unions and the necessary vocational training/resources to connect construction employers to a skilled talent pipeline.

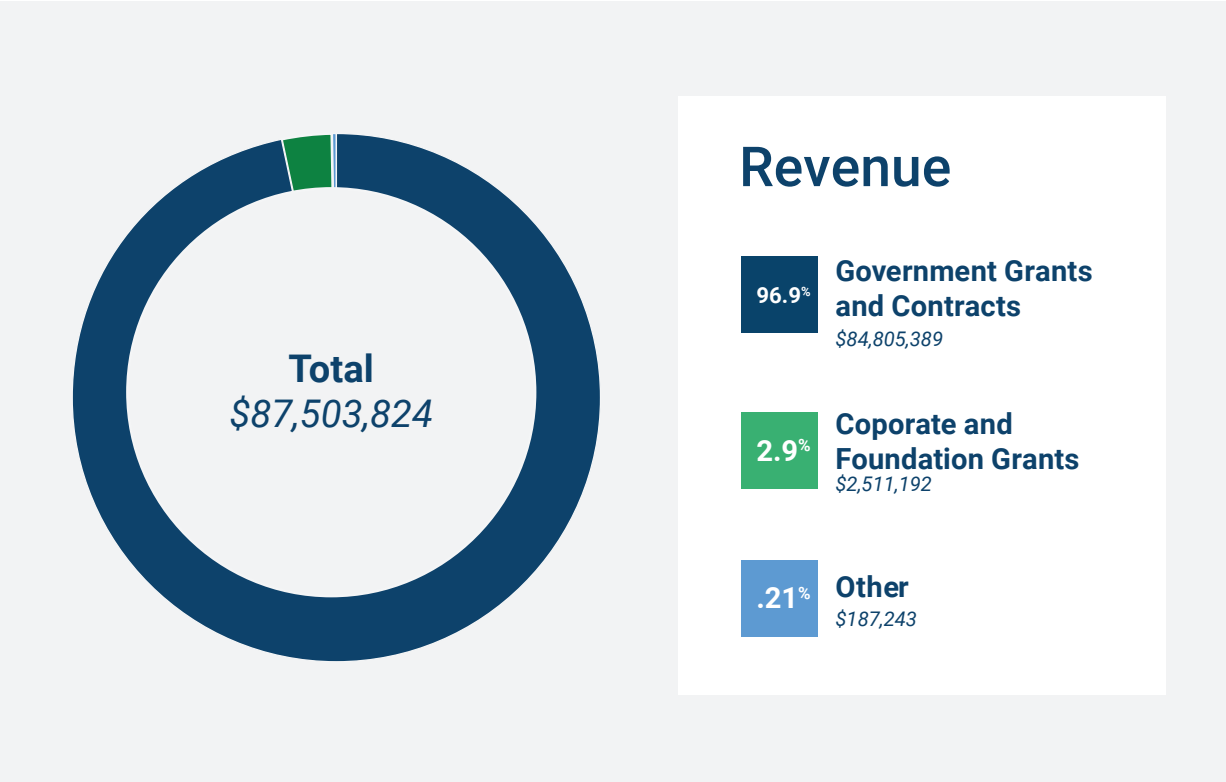
The Construction and Skilled Trades Sector

The Partnership works with the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority (The Tollway), the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA), Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT), and the City of Chicago to recruit and place individuals in the construction sector. Since 2018, The Partnership has served more than 2,300 candidates for apprenticeship programs and private contractors working on projects in the state combined. The Partnership works to ensure that women and people of color, have access to careers in this sector, as they have traditionally been excluded from these unionized career opportunities with family-sustaining wages.



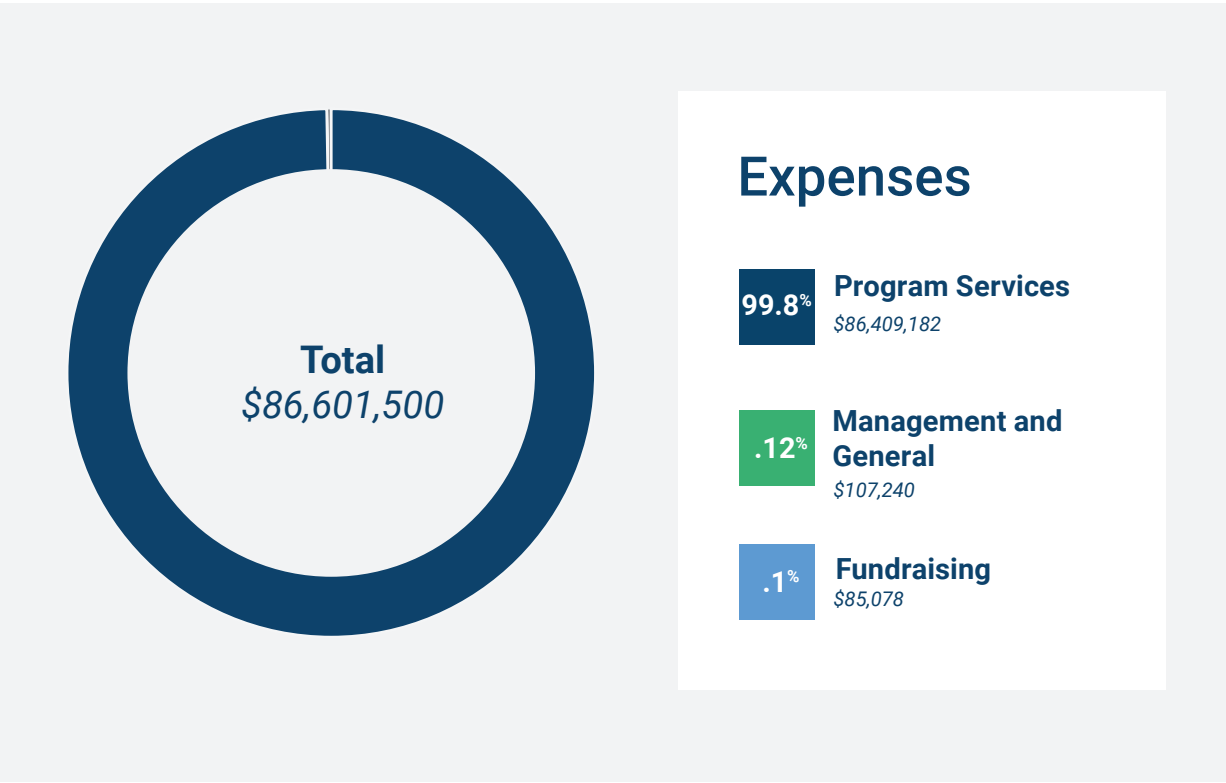
The Partnership's Hire Frequency podcast's episode, Building an Equitable Talent Pipeline in the Skilled Trades, was released on all major podcast platforms in February 2022. The Partnership's Construction Initiatives Program Coordinator Natasha V. hosted a discussion about diversity and inclusion in the high-growth, high-demand skilled trades sector with guest speakers: Orlando Bando, a skilled tradesman from Walsh Fluor Construction; Lawrence Davis, a first year Apprentice Carpenter from ConstructionWorks; Jurea Crudup, owner of Crudup Construction; Juan Pablo Prieto, Director of Diversity Programs and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Liaison Officer for the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA); and Shoshiwa Shields, Manager of Construction Initiatives at The Partnership.

Funding Information



Revenue

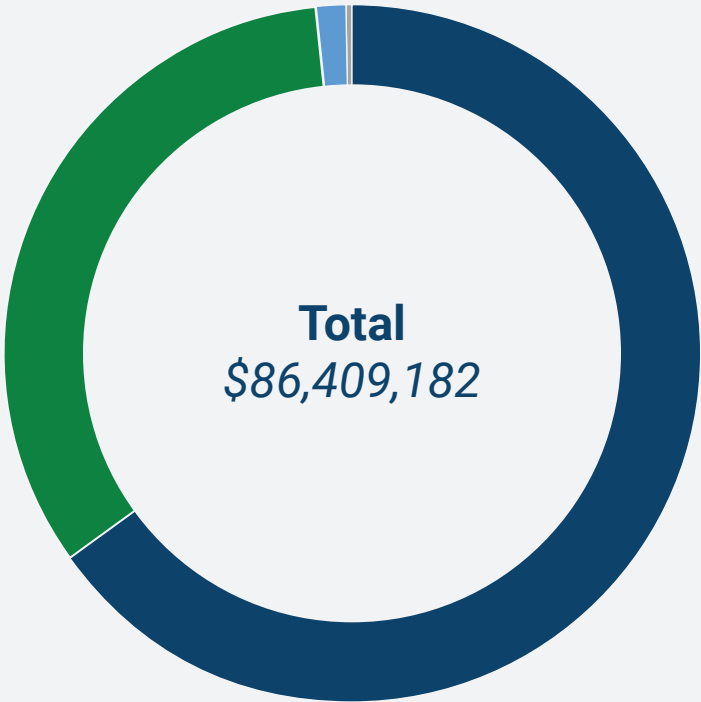
- 96.9%** **Government Grants and Contracts**
\$84,805,389
- 2.9%** **Corporate and Foundation Grants**
\$2,511,192
- .21%** **Other**
\$187,243



Expenses

- 99.8%** **Program Services**
\$86,409,182
- .12%** **Management and General**
\$107,240
- .1%** **Fundraising**
\$85,078

Program By Expense Area



65.2% **Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act**
\$56,360,199

1.5% **Sector Initiatives**
\$1,322,550

33.2% **Special Populations**
\$28,713,935

.1% **Workforce Demonstrations Pilot**
\$12,498

- **System Reform Initiative**
-

Partnership Delegate Agency Network

Delegate Agencies

Ada S. McKinley Community Services Inc.	Chicago Federation of Labor	Greater Chicago Food Depository
AERO Special Education	Chicago Women in Trades	Greater West Town Manufacturing
Alliance Care 360 (Brothers Health Collective)	Chigago City Wide Literacy Coalition	Habilitative Systems, Inc
Alternative Schools Network	Chinese American Service League	Haymarket Center
Asian Human Services	Community Assistance Programs	Housing Forward
Association House	Cornerstone Community Development Corporation, NFP	Howard Area Community Center
Aunt Martha's	Crudup Construction	Instituto del Progreso Latino (Instituto)
Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council	DESI, Inc. Washington Heights Workforce Center	Jane Addams Resource Center (Manufacturing) Bridge
BEDS Plus Care	DuPage County Workforce Development Division	Jewish Vocational Services(JCFS)
Bethel Family Resource Center	EDDR Corp.	K.L.E.O COMMUNITY FAMILY LIFE CENTER
Boys & Girls Club of Chicago	Elgin Community College	KRA Corporation
Breakthrough Urban Ministries Inc	Employment & Employer Services	Lagrange Area Department of Special Education (LADSE)
Bright Horizons/Ed Assist Solutions	Envision Community Services	Lake County Workforce Development Department
Business and Career Services	Equus/ResCare	Latino Resource Institute of Illinois
Calumet Area Industrial Commission	FoodHERO	Lawrence Hall
CARA Chicago	Goodwill Industries of Metropolitan Chicago	Leave No Veteran Behind
Centers For New Horizons	Greater Auburn Gresham Development Corporation	
Central State Ser		

Delegate Agencies Cont'd

Maine Township	Services, NFP
Malcolm X College	Sinai Urban Health Institute (SUHI)
Manufacturing Renaissance	South Shore Works
Marriott Bridges From School to Work	South Suburban College
Metropolitan Family Services	Southside Help Center
Moraine Valley Community College	Southwest Organizing Project
National Able Network, Inc.	St Paul Church of God
New Moms	St. Sabina Employment Resource Center
New Pisgah Community Service Organization	Symbol Training Institute
NORC at the University of Chicago	The Resurrection Project
North Lawndale Employment Network	Top Box Foods
Northwest Side Housing Center	Township H.S. Dist. 214
OAI, Inc.	Triton College
Phalanx Family Services	UCAN
Polish American Association	United Way
Prairie State College	University of Illinois Chicago School of Public Health (UIC-SPH)
Proviso Leyden Council for Community Action (PLCCA)	Westside Health Authority
Puerto Rican Cultural Center	Will County
Pyramid Partnership, Inc.	XD Tech
ResCare Workforce	Youth Connection Charter
Respond Now	Youth Guidance
Revolution Workshop	Youth Job Center of Evanston
Safer Foundation	YWCA
SERCO	
SGA Youth and Family	



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