



2024
CHICAGO PEACE FELLOWS

*Live as if you were to die tomorrow.
Learn as if you were to live forever.*

~ Mahatma Gandhi

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Executive Summary

The **Chicago Peace Fellows** is a unique leadership development program created by the **Goldin Institute** for grassroots leaders on the front lines of building safer and more peaceful communities across the city in partnership with the **Chicago Fund for Safe and Peaceful Communities**.

The Chicago Fund is a strategy of the **Partnership for Safe and Peaceful Communities**, a coalition of 50 foundations that are aligning their investments to support proven and promising approaches to reducing gun violence.

Designed in collaboration with past grantees of the Chicago Fund and with input from a wide range of civic leaders, this GATHER course provides a series of **core social change concepts and tools for authentic community engagement**. The curriculum encourages learning, practice and reflection, augmented through workshops led by partner organizations heading violence prevention work throughout the city.

The **Chicago Peace Fellows** program connects and equips a select group of past grantees of the Chicago Fund for Safe and Peaceful Communities representing neighborhoods across the West and South sides. The Peace Fellows come together as a community of practice, learning and working together to promote peace at a grassroots level.

Chicago Peace Fellows utilize the technology of the **GATHER** platform, an online learning hub built by the **Goldin Institute** to empower grassroots leaders. Each Fellow received a **stipend and access to the GATHER platform** for shared learning and real-time collaboration. By connecting Chicago leaders through GATHER, their work is more effective, interconnected and sustainable.

Chicago Peace Fellows learn from one another, their local communities, and the Global Alumni Network. Upon Graduation, Peace Fellows join the Global Alumni Network for ongoing training, monthly workshops and facilitative support. Through this global community, the Chicago Peace Fellows share their wisdom around violence prevention with civic leaders in Chicago and beyond.



Ana Maria Hernandez
City-Wide



Aniki Coates
Austin



Annette Cartman
Roseland



Annie Liddell
North Lawndale



Anthony Jones
City-Wide



Antonio Daniels
Austin



Antonio Davis
Washington Park



Ariel Rainey
City-Wide



Ava Hawkins
South Shore



Christopher Payne
South Shore



Elaine Marthel
North Lawndale



Irynn Ashaki Williams
Rogers Park



Jason Michael Maldonado
South Lawndale



Kevin Amaro
City-Wide



Parrish Brown
City-Wide



Pat Day-McCray
Austin



Riccadonna Chaidez
Austin



Steve Archer II
Englewood



Tai Donovan
City-Wide



Michael Henderson
Coordinator

The Goldin Institute



Since 2002, the Chicago-based Goldin Institute has **inspired, equipped and connected grassroots leaders in over 50 countries to lead community-driven social change.** By linking grassroots efforts from around the world in our global network, we provide opportunities to build broad partnerships that both adapt to particular local contexts and draw from creative solutions and approaches from around the globe.

Over the past **22 years**, we've seen first-hand how real and sustainable change is rooted in the power of communities working together to build on their own assets, where everyone can contribute, and where the people most impacted by a challenge take the lead in designing the solution.

Our work has always been **shoulder-to-shoulder** with grassroots leaders who are making a real difference in their communities. At the same time, we **leverage new technologies** to connect our global network and deepen collaboration between them.

In this spirit, we launched GATHER to **empower communities of practice.** We applied the experience we gained from working alongside our partners to an online platform that connects them with other grassroots leaders across the world. GATHER allows them to learn and work together using practical tools with global peers.

We are proud to bring insights from peacebuilding around the world back home through the **Chicago Peace Fellows.**

GATHER

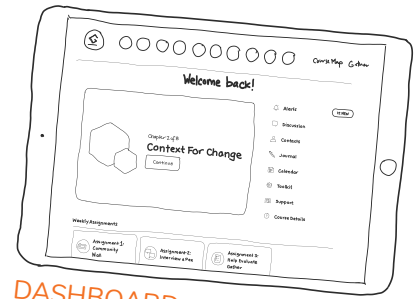
GATHER is an **online learning platform** designed to support shared learning and collaboration between a community of practice. The suite of tools on the GATHER platform enables Fellows to learn, work and reflect together on real issues facing their communities.

*In our world,
divide and
conquer must
become define
and empower.*

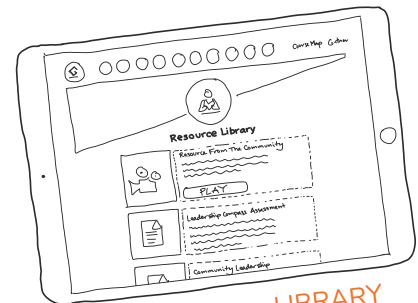
~ Audre Lorde



WELCOME



DASHBOARD



LIBRARY

Discussion Boards: A chance for the group to share reflections with each other about topics and practices.

Peer-to-Peer Chat: We invite Fellows to communicate with each other informally as well as through required interactive assignments with peers.

Resource Library: Fellows can dive deeper on key topics with curated resources and add their own knowledge and materials to the growing shared library.

Field Guides: Fellows have access to “just in time” summaries of key ideas and new skills that are easily accessible for use in the community.

Contacts: As Fellows meet new people through practical assignments, they capture contact information to grow their network and expand local partnerships.

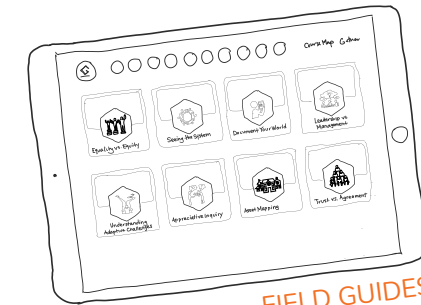
Budget Tracker: Fellows can keep track of their expenses using the budget tracker app to help them build a track record of fiscal management.

Weekly Roundtables: Through periodic workshops, key ideas and skills covered in the curriculum are presented and discussed with leading experts on the theme.

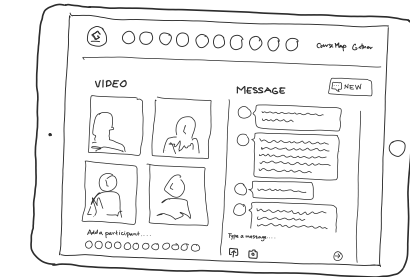
Digestible: Interactive content is designed to be mobile friendly so that Fellows can complete the curriculum and related activities in 2 - 4 hours per week.

Interactive: Private journaling, discussion boards and practical assignments help Fellows learn, practice and reflect together.

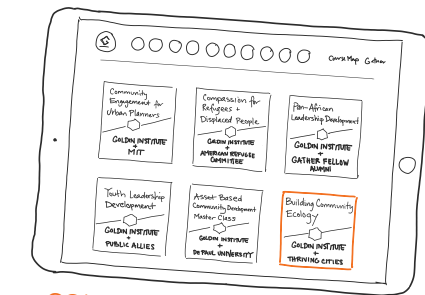
Audio-Visual: Each chapter includes a mix of writings, videos, illustrations, photos and other forms of content to reach a wide variety of learning styles.



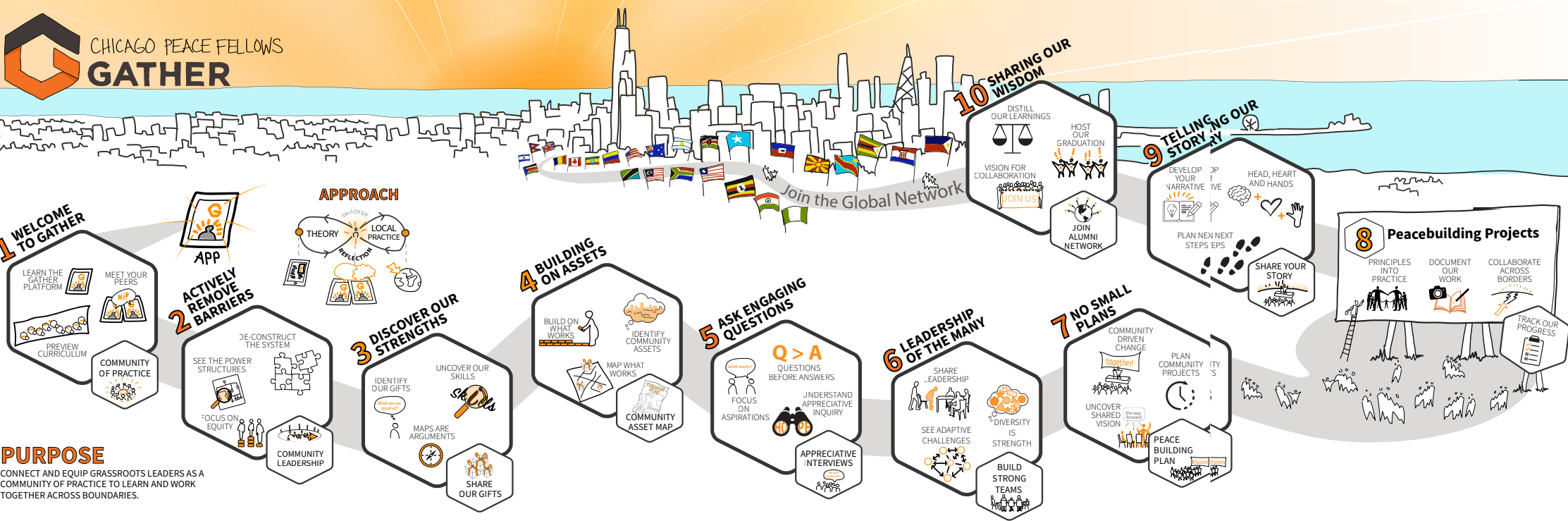
FIELD GUIDES



MESSAGING



COURSES



PURPOSE
CONNECT AND EQUIP GRASSROOTS LEADERS AS A COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE TO LEARN AND WORK TOGETHER ACROSS BOUNDARIES.

- 1 WELCOME TO GATHER**
Meet our peers and determine the principles and practices for our shared learning community.
- 2 ACTIVELY REMOVE BARRIERS**
Commit to inclusion and equity in our approach to community leadership.
- 3 DISCOVERING OUR STRENGTHS**
Embark on a journey of self-discovery by acknowledging what you bring to the table.
- 4 BUILDING ON ASSETS**
Shift from a deficit mindset to an asset-based approach and create a community asset map.
- 5 ASK ENGAGING QUESTIONS**
Learn how to frame issues and ask questions that produce insights and motivate action.
- 6 LEADERSHIP OF THE MANY**
Differentiate between leadership and authority and build a diverse team.
- 7 NO SMALL PLANS**
Design collaborative projects that leverage your community's assets towards a shared vision of the future.
- 8 PEACEBUILDING PROJECTS**
Practice planning and executing as a group taking into account your communities wishes and plans.
- 9 TELLING OUR STORY**
Reflect on our time together and learn the art of storytelling.
- 10 SHARING OUR WISDOM**
Share what you learned and achieved as a Goldin Global Fellow and inform partners and allies on how they can promote peace throughout the city at the graduation ceremony.

Learning Together

The **GATHER** curriculum is not a traditional teacher-to-student course, but rather an opportunity for a community of practice to learn and work together. Interactive chapters guide Fellows through key concepts and provide them space for shared reflection after they put those methods into practice. In addition to this online resource, Fellows participated in workshops with organizations doing violence prevention work throughout the city of Chicago.

Start where you are.

Use what you have.

Do what you can.

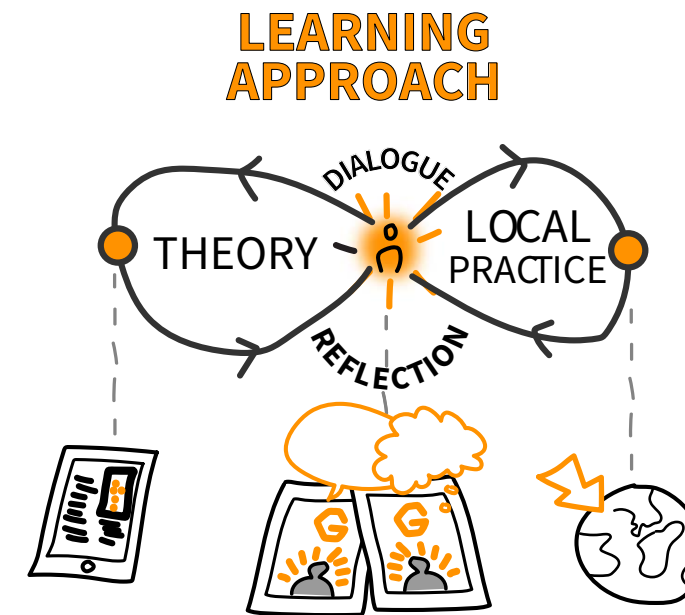
~ Arthur Ashe

The GATHER curriculum was developed collaboratively through a series of interviews and focus groups with over 50 past grantees of the Chicago Fund for Safe and Peaceful Communities, dozens of civic partners engaged in violence prevention, and with feedback from the network of alumni of the Chicago Peace Fellows program. The 2024 GATHER curriculum unfolds over nine chapters, each organized around a key question or theme critical to peace building in Chicago.

Through the online GATHER platform, the Fellows explored themes like Asset Based Community Development, intersectionality, the nature of community leadership, and approaches to creating shared visions for the future with neighbors. Curriculum like readings and videos were complemented by the practical application of these concepts in the real world. Fellows met weekly to reflect on these concepts and to share their experiences putting these ideas into practice in their work and lives.

Complementing the content on the GATHER platform, the Peace Fellows also participated in 22 workshops, events and roundtable discussions over the course of the six month fellowship.

These workshops and roundtables were designed to deepen understanding of the core themes of the course, to build community and collaboration between the Fellows, and to create connections with key leaders in Chicago's violence prevention and peacebuilding communities.



KEY WORKSHOPS

In addition to the content explored on the GATHER Platform, the Chicago Peace Fellows experience offers the opportunity to meet leaders of institutions and initiatives supporting a more peaceful and safe Chicago. In 2024, the Fellows met with a wide range of organizations including government agencies, universities, non-profits, and more.

Through interactive workshops with leading organizations, the Chicago Peace Fellows engage in the broader conversation around violence in the city and highlights the unique roles of grassroots community leaders in prevention and healing. Great care is taken to ensure that these are level conversations where the Fellows have an equal and respected voice at the table.

Chicago Peace Fellow Welcome Event

On March 14th, the Chicago Peace Fellows class of 2024 convened at the Chicago Cultural Center to meet one another and learn about the program. At this event, Fellows were welcomed by the Goldin Institute team and philanthropic leaders and shared insights about how best to support one another throughout the journey ahead.



Actively Remove Barriers

On March 28th, the Chicago Peace Fellows visited Bethel New Life. Advocate Health presented their work in helping gunshot victims by providing holistic services such as housing, food, employment, counseling and family support with the hope that they can interrupt the cycle of violence and retaliation. Bethel gave an overview of their community initiatives and laid out opportunities to join in their work. The Fellows were able to learn about the public health model of violence reduction and explored how they can support ongoing efforts.



Asset Based Community

On April 11th, Chicago Peace Fellows participated in a virtual workshop with program director Burrell Poe to explore their talents and strengths. In this workshop, Fellows shared the results of the Gallup Strengths Finder program with one another with an emphasis on how they can impact grassroots leadership. Fellows had an opportunity for self-reflection and develop an appreciation for the gifts of others as an important part of the Fellows process.



Asset Based Community

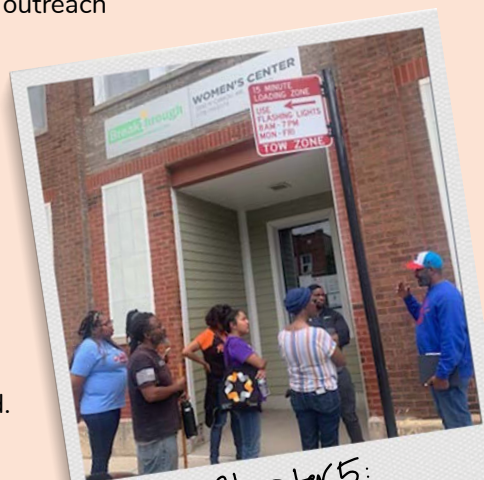
On April 25th, Chicago Peace Fellows met at the Logan Square Library to learn about asset mapping. Goldin Institute's Senior Director of Programs John Ziegler presented on ABCD - Asset Based Community Development - and his experiences using it in his work. Fellows shared insights about their neighborhoods as they identified hidden assets where they lived and worked. Fellows mapped their locations on a large Chicago map, finding relationships, and identifying ways to collaborate across the city.



Chapter 4:
Building On Assets

Peace Building in Garfield Park Breakthrough Ministries

On May 16th, Chicago Peace Fellows took a tour with 2020 Alumni Damen Morris, Senior Director for Violence Prevention at Breakthrough Urban Ministries in Garfield Park. Fellows had an opportunity to see the variety of services provided by Breakthrough and learn about street outreach as a tool for violence reduction. Fellows explored the philosophies and values that inspire their work and made connections to places that can help those in need.



Chapter 5:
Ask Engaging Questions

Role of Design in Peacebuilding

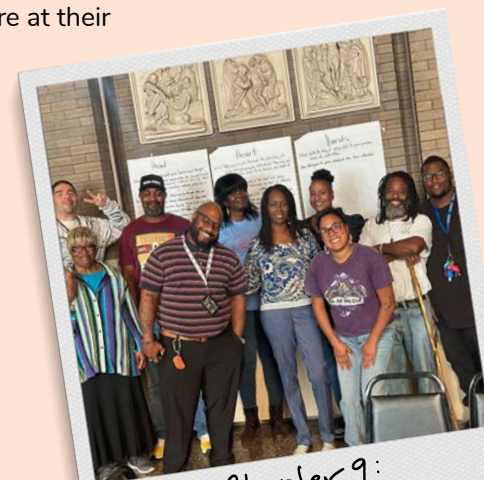
On May 30th, Chicago Peace Fellows met at the Black Star Project with Gloria Smith, Chicago Peace Fellow 2019, who shared about the impactful work the organization has accomplished for decades. Led by CPF Director Michael Hendersen and Senior Director of Programs John Ziegler, the Fellow learned of ways to differentiate between leadership and authority, ways to remove barriers for participation in neighborhoods, and strategies for convening the right people to add to your team.



Chapter 6:
Leadership of the Many

Power of Storytelling

On September 19th, Chicago Peace Fellows attended a storytelling workshop at Free Street Theater. In this workshop, Fellows learned about the different elements of effective storytelling and the power of crafting compelling narratives. Fellows also had a chance to practice sharing their stories and receiving feedback, which helped Fellows reflect on the message they want to share at their graduation.



Chapter 9:
Telling Our Story

Building a Community of Practice

*There are no
right answers to
wrong questions.*

~ Ursula K. Le Guin

Shared Principles

As a community of practice, it is important to establish a shared foundation of trust and respect. As part of the GATHER curriculum, Fellows worked together to determine their own **principles for shared learning**. By committing to these principles, the Fellows leaned into their shared virtues and opened a pathway to learn and collaborate together.

Action/ Process

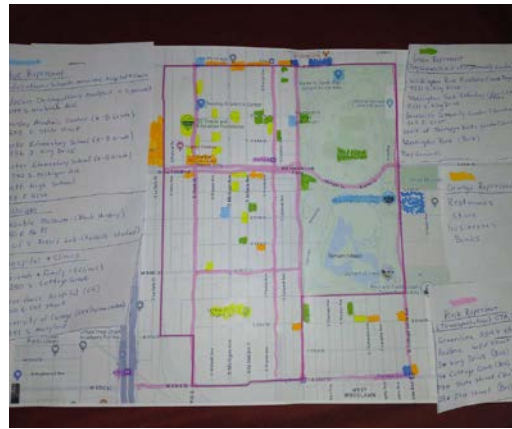
- contribution
- learn
- coordination
- collaboration
- relationship

Positive Attributes

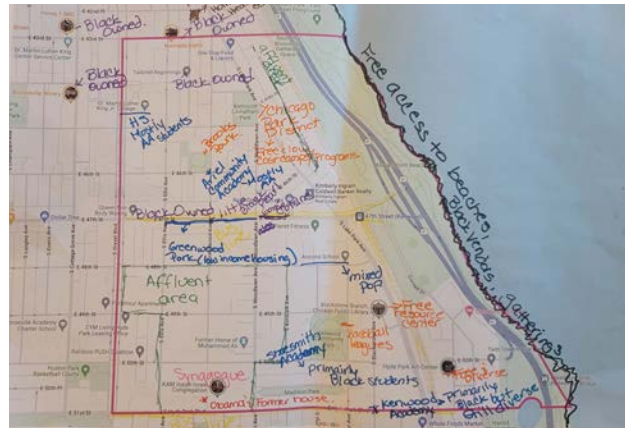
- awesome
- impact
- aspiration
- inclusion
- equality

Means & Methods

- conduit
- power
- intention
- community
- example



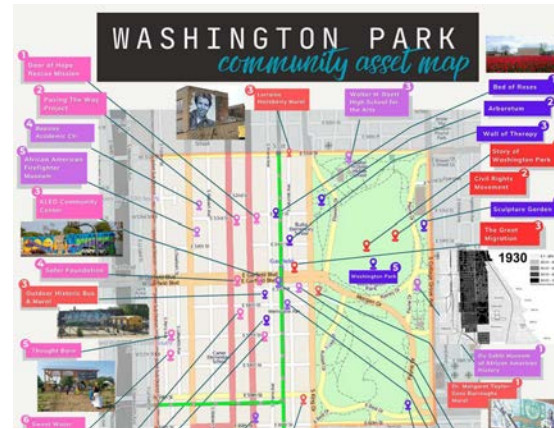
Antonio Davis' Asset Map
Washington Park



Ava's Asset Map
Kenwood



Jason Michael's Asset Map
South Lawndale



Tia's Asset Map
Washington Park



Kevin's Asset Map
West Englewood

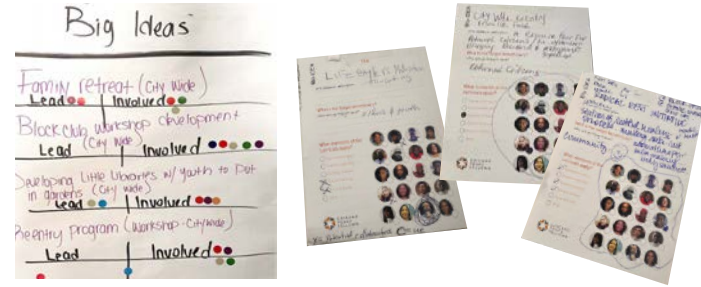
Working Together

Using a pool of **\$21,375** donated by philanthropic leaders in Chicago, the Chicago Peace Fellows **co-designed 7 collaborative peacebuilding projects** informed by the principles and practices explored in the curriculum to reduce violence and build peace across the city.

*When 'I' is
replaced by 'We',
even illness
becomes wellness!*

~ Malcolm X

PLANNING WORKSHOPS



Initial project ideas suggested by Fellows.

After four months of intensive learning and trust building as a community of practice, the 2024 Chicago Peace Fellows put the **principles of community driven social change into practice** by co-designing six peacebuilding projects in Chicago. These projects were designed by the Peace Fellows to model the structural changes they seek: collectively they are 19 grassroots leaders who live and work in the communities they serve on the West and South sides, and they practice a liberatory model of shared leadership, collaborative decision-making and collective action.

As grassroots leaders, Peace Fellows are on the front lines of responding to the challenges of violence that impact their communities on the West and South sides. The spirit of **collaboration and the commitment** to equity and justice



Fellows present their ideas to the group.

runs deep amongst the Chicago Peace Fellows, and these co-designed projects collectively help get to the root issues driving violence.

These projects were designed in a highly collaborative series of **three workshops** with a foundation of trust built on months spent **learning and working together** through the GATHER Platform, where Fellows explored the principles of community-driven social change — like asset mapping, community engagement, framing issues, intersectionality, appreciative inquiry and frameworks for community leadership.



Teams create Project Partner Cards to share actionable strategies.



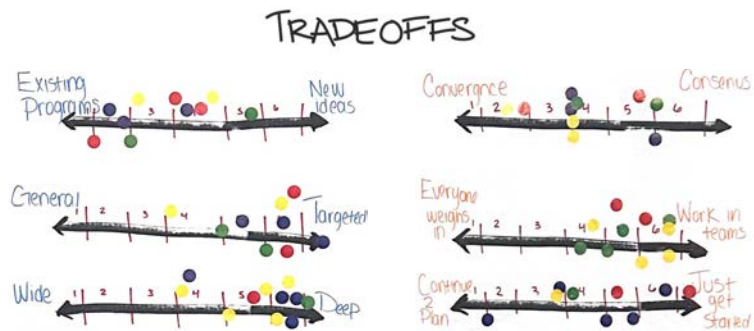
Fellows meet in person to hash out details for summer project logistics.



Fellows establish shared values and review project ideas.



Several planning sessions were held to ensure full participation.



Fellows weighed trade-offs to help clarify their priorities.

Determining Our Shared Values and the Decision-Making Process:

In this session, the Fellows came up with a list of principles and shared values to guide the work ahead and affirmed the parameters for the decision making process.

Sharing Our Current Projects: In this session, Fellows completed project idea cards that document the work they are currently doing that they think could benefit from collaboration with others Fellows. This allows people to make their current work visible so they can create mental space for creative ideas in the future.

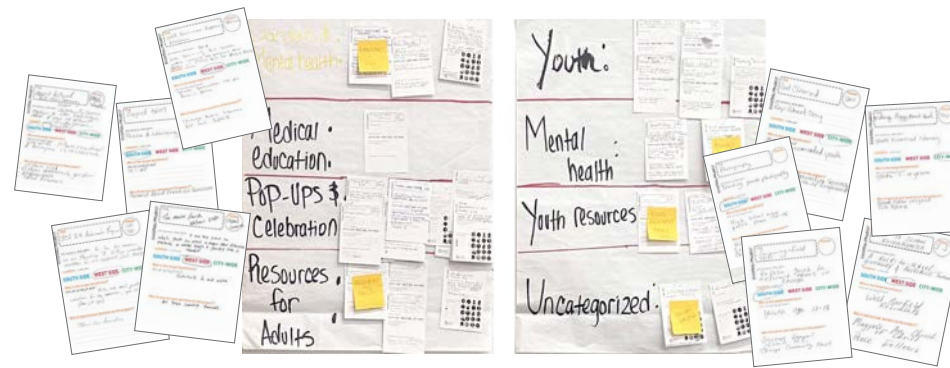
Envisioning New Projects: In this session, Fellows create new project idea cards documenting ideas they would like to pursue if they had the support they needed.



Big Ideas that were related were combined into project proposals.

Shared Aspirations: In these sessions, Fellows reviewed all of the “existing” and “new project” cards and grouped them under common themes they uncovered between the projects. Through this process of moving and sorting cards, they identified thematic areas of shared aspirations.

Setting our Priorities: In this session, Fellows were guided through a process of naming and negotiating the trade-offs inherent in program design. For example, deep vs wide: do we want to do as many projects possible or go invest in a smaller number of more urgent priorities? This session ended with a clarification of our key priorities for making project decisions.



Fellows “voted with their dollars” to make funding decisions based on shared values.

Refining Our Ideas: In these sessions, we returned to the collection of project idea cards and teams self-selected to take clusters of related projects and combine them as appropriate into discrete project proposal cards with timelines and budgets. Teams sought to get feedback from neighborhood leaders as part of the design and prioritization process.

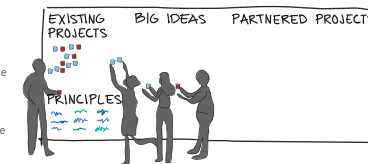
Collaborative Funding: The group refined these project proposals and selected final projects for consideration by the collective. All Fellows were then given equal portions of the available funding to put towards the projects of their choosing. If some projects received more than they needed, they expanded their project or shared their excess with other projects at the discretion of the team. In most cases, they chose to share their funding with other groups because they all had a stake in the work of the collective.

PLANNING WORKSHOP PROCESS AGENDA

ROUND #1

Surfacing Our Values & Existing Projects

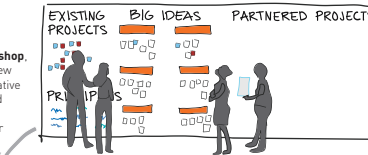
During our first virtual meeting, we will surface our values as a cohort and list all the existing projects that each of us is involved in outside the Chicago Peace Fellows.



ROUND #2

Generating New Ideas

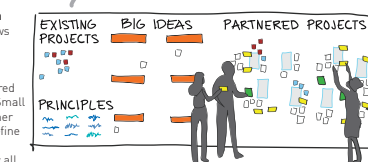
At this in-person workshop, we will come up with new BIG IDEAS for collaborative summer projects based on our shared values and existing work in our communities.



ROUND #3

Making New Connections

In this in-person workshop, fellows have the chance to present new PARTNERED PROJECTS inspired by the process. Small groups will partner to explore and refine ideas into initial plans and review all projects.



ROUND #4

Prioritizing Our Plans

In our last virtual meeting, we will fund the projects with our summer budget, establish Working Groups, and define our next steps.

REFLECT AND REIMAGINE

GROUP AND INNOVATE

SUMMER PROJECTS

Over the course of six planning workshops, the Peace Fellows collaboratively designed six initiatives that put the principles of the GATHER curriculum into practice on the West and South sides of the city.

The process was open and democratic and offers a vision and model for **truly participatory grant-making**, where the goals, evaluation and funding decisions are all made by those grassroots leaders closest to the issues.

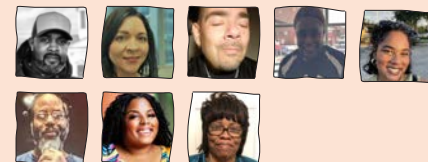
The only guidelines for the group were that projects had to be collaborative, with more than two Fellows working together, and designed to have an impact or meet a significant milestone this summer. Several of the projects will continue long after graduation, a testament to the ongoing commitment of the Peace Fellows.

BLOCK CLUB DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

Our vision is to see neighborhoods transformed into thriving, unified communities where every individual is actively engaged, supported, and empowered to contribute to collective wellbeing. We envision block clubs as the foundation for fostering lasting relationships, safety, and a deep sense of belonging in every community.

Budget: \$2,797

Chicago Peace Fellow Team:



SUMMER COOL DOWN

The 9th Annual Summer Cool Down event was amazing, with 500 people and 24 community partners attending. The event featured a resource table and a free store give-away, as well as raffle prizes provided by the summer funds. We brought the Carnival to the hood!

Budget: \$914

Chicago Peace Fellow Team:

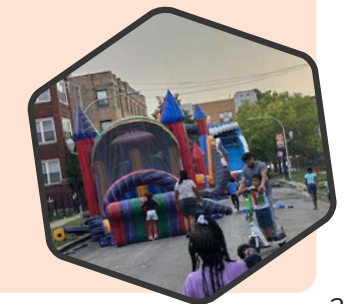


ADAMS BLOCK CLUB

During our end-of-summer celebration, the Adams Block Club, 5500, hosted a live band for our seniors and later wrapped up the evening with DJ Johnny Jones. As the night drew to a close, DJ Jones played a song that resonated deeply with me - "Jerusalema" by Master KG and Nomcebo Zikode. Something about that song captured the essence of what I believe our block should represent: love, joy, peace, and respect. Children played, parents engaged without worry, and everyone respected the atmosphere. The song, with its global message of hope and unity, was the perfect sound track for a moment that beautifully represented the life-giving, peaceful community we strive to be.

Budget: \$1,464

Chicago Peace Fellow Team:



BACK TO SCHOOL SUMMER CARNIVAL

The Summer Carnival is a vibrant celebration of community engagement! This fun-filled event is designed to bring families together with back-to-school giveaways, including backpacks and school supplies. Enjoy delicious food, exciting jumping houses, and a variety of games for all ages. Let's come together to feed the community and create lasting memories! Don't miss out on this day of fun, family, and fellowship!

Budget: \$1,472

Chicago Peace Fellow Team:



DEVELOPING LITTLE LIBRARIES

At this family-friendly event, you'll have the chance to build and decorate your own Little Free Library—a small, community book exchange where anyone can take or leave a book. Your finished Little Free Library will be displayed at various locations throughout Chicago, inspiring a love of reading and fostering connections among neighbors.

Budget: \$2,985

Chicago Peace Fellow Team:



RE-ENTRY WORKSHOP

The Re-entry Resource Fair is a Black & Brown Chicago unity event to show case the Illinois Latino ReEntry Reintegration community collaborative, which is 5 community organizations. Enlace Chicago, SER central state, Healthy Hoodz, Rincon services, PRCC. That cover the north and South side. We are encouraging Peace Fellowship members that are interested to have a resource table and bring participants. We will have food, Mexican and Jamaican cuisine. There will be 4 formerly incarcerated individuals who will be doing presentations. And gift bags with essential items for the participants.

Budget: \$3,720

Chicago Peace Fellow Team:

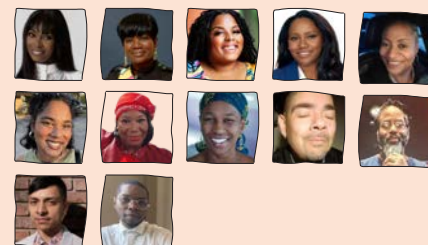


FALL INTO FAMILY FESTIVAL

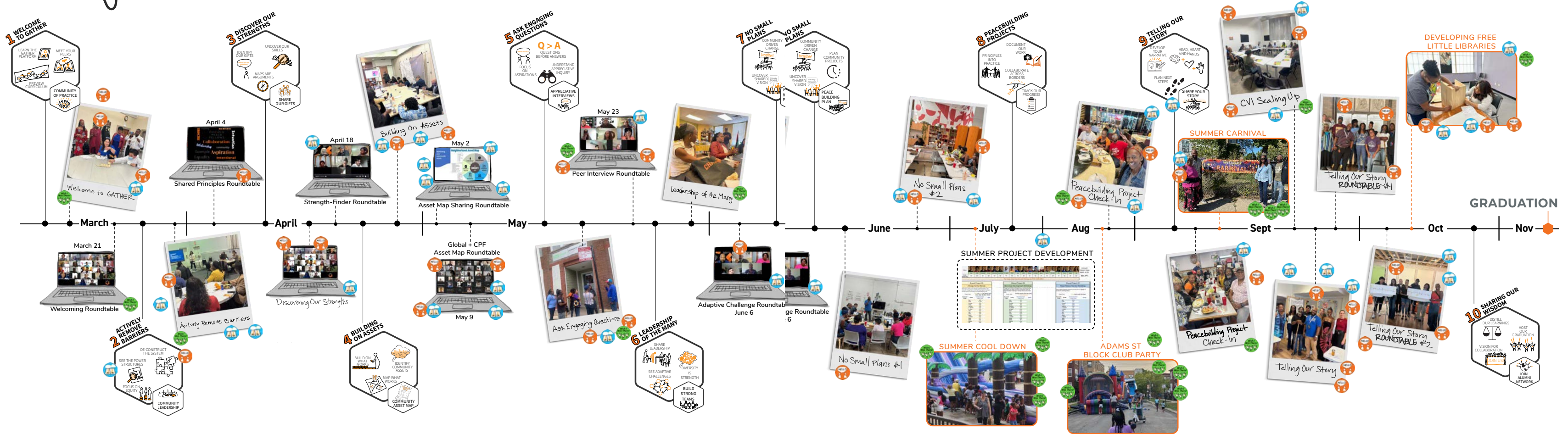
The Fall Into Family Wellness Event is a heartfelt initiative designed to provide individuals and families with holistic support across essential dimensions of wellness. By bringing together community vendors focused on physical, spiritual, emotional, occupational, financial, and intellectual well-being, the event offers a comprehensive experience that addresses the multifaceted needs of our community. This approach ensures that every attendee has access to the resources and services necessary to promote overall well-being and personal growth.

Budget: \$8,024

Chicago Peace Fellow Team:



Chicago Peace Fellows Event Timeline



Meet the Fellows

The **19 Chicago Peace Fellows** were selected from a pool of over 64 applicants recruited in collaboration with the Chicago Fund for Safe and Peaceful Communities. This diverse cohort of Peace Fellows live, work and serve in the community areas most impacted by violence on the city's South and West sides.

I have always thought that what is needed is the development of people who are interested not in being leaders as much as in developing the leadership in others.

~ Ella Baker

GATHER Chapter 5 Opening Reflection



Ana Maria Hernandez is an Arts Activator for Music Moves Chicago. An Afro-Colombian writer and independent scholar from the Austin neighborhood on Chicago's West Side, Hernandez earned a BS in Social Work and a BA in Political Science at Southern Illinois University, and a MS in Social Work in Leadership and Social Change with doctoral studies in Sociology at University of Illinois at Chicago.

Ana Maria is a lifelong learner, a proud Chicagoan, and a heavy Libra excited to connect with fellow changemakers who love and seek peace across our city.



Ana Maria shines in a selfie.



Ana Maria with her family.



Ana Maria with youth drumming at her organization.



Learning and growing at CVI training—committed to fostering peace and non-violence in our community!

“

I want to grow and build with other Chicagoans that are passionate about issues like gun violence prevention, community, and peace building

~Fellow
Ana Maria
Hernandez



ANA MARIA HERNANDEZ

City-Wide

organization

Music Moves Chicago

position

Arts Activator

for more information:

Instagram @musicmoveschi & @academic_amigas



ANIKI COATES

Austin

organization

Bethel New Life

position

Senior Manager of Horticulture & Wellness

for more information:

facebook.com/bethelnew4950/

Aniki Coates is the Senior Manager of Horticulture & Wellness at Bethel New Life in the Austin neighborhood on Chicago's West Side. She manages Bethel's gardens and programming to educate the community about growing a variety of seasonal produce, nutritional health, food security, and environmental issues. Aniki facilitates therapeutic horticulture sessions for inter-generational and partner programs.

A master urban farmer, she is also certified as an urban agriculturist and horticultural therapist, beekeeper, restorative justice circle keeper and professional chef trained by the legendary Washburne Culinary Institute on plant-based cuisine and food literacy.



Aniki's children together a church event.



Aniki documenting the conversation around Telling Your Story.



Aniki hosted fellows at Bethel, where she works, for a discussion highlighting organizations that combat violence in the community.



At the Mildred Wiley Wellness Campus powered by Bethel New Life horticulture program the campus is for children, seniors, and veterans.

“

I want to grow, be sharpened, and share so that the collective is enthused by what is possible, and as individuals, we are more influential in our work.

~Fellow Aniki Coates





ANNETTE CARTMAN

Roseland

organization

Doing Something Awesome

position

Owner

Annette Cartman founded Doing Something Awesome, a non-profit based in the Calumet district on Chicago's far South Side. Also known as 'The Awesome Lady,' Cartman has organized community clean-ups in coordination with the 5th district police station, and coached the Alex Haley cheerleading team, but she is especially proud of having provided services to her community throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, including a vaccination clinic in her home.

She started Doing Something Awesome in 2012, and restarted it in 2019 despite suffering a personal loss. A mother and mentor, Cartman also uses her double-dutch jumping skills to connect with young people.



Annette giving back at a community event.



Annette poses with the 40+ Women organization.



Annette poses with other volunteers of the Zakat Foundation.



Annette rolling up her sleeves and constructing a physical little library at the Free Little Libraries summer project.

“

I want to help make Chicago a safer and more peaceful city. With the Chicago Peace Fellows, I learned new ways to help improve my city and my community by meeting new people who are like-minded and committed to the same idea.

~Fellow Annette Cartman





Annie Liddell is the Executive Director of St. Paul Community & Family Services, a community-driven, non-profit organization dedicated to helping families in North Lawndale on Chicago's West Side. Liddell puts her whole heart into her work with families in North Lawndale and the surrounding communities to improve their quality of life, and always remembers her motto: Heal the Family, Heal the Community.

With support from her community, family and friends, she is committed to assist each member of the family unit - seniors, fathers, mothers, and children - achieve success for the entire family.



Pastor Annie poses with her late husband.



Pastor Annie reviewing plans for her upcoming Summer Cool Down project, creating excitement and buy-in.



Pastor Annie engaging with a community member at the Summer Cool Down collaborative project.

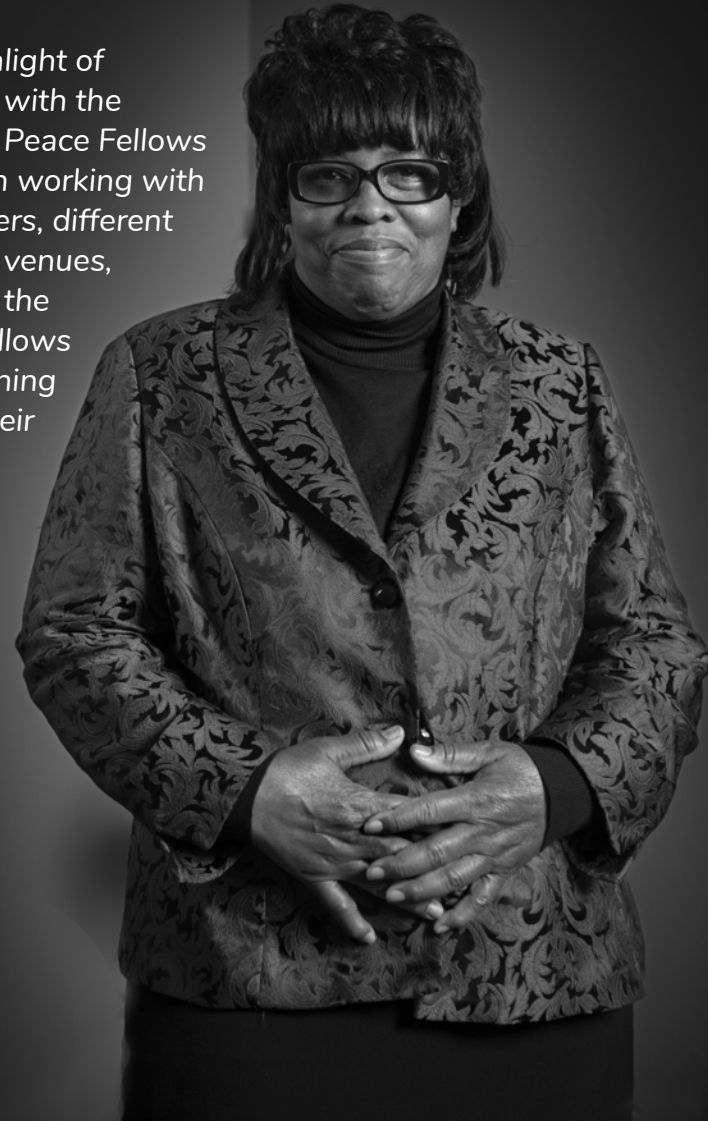


Pastor Annie expanding upon the values Fellows agreed upon together for how to fund their summer projects.

“

The highlight of working with the Chicago Peace Fellows has been working with the leaders, different meeting venues, meeting the other Fellows and learning about their work.

~Fellow
Annie
Liddell



ANNIE LIDDELL

North Lawndale

organization

St. Paul Community & Family Services

position

Executive Director

for more information:

stpaulcommunityfamilyservices.org



Anthony Jones is the Project Manager for the You Matter program at the Darren Easterling Center. An educator, criminal justice reform advocate, and paralegal today, Jones was sentenced to life without parole at 20. He transformed his life in prison, pursuing higher education and spiritual resurrection, embraced a new name, Anaviel Ben Rakemeyahu, and became a respected leader.

He earned a paralegal certification, two college degrees, and a state certificate as a peer health educator and mentor. Jones helped many incarcerated citizens file successful petitions, including his own, and was released July 28, 2021 after almost 30 years incarcerated.

ANTHONY JONES

City-Wide

organization

You Matter at the Darren B. Easterling Center

position

Project Manager

for more information:

www.illinoisprisonproject.org,
www.secondlook.org



Anthony making a difference at the 2nd Annual Austin Resource Fair.



Promoting peace and beautiful spaces at the Beautiful Space Community in Englewood.



Anthony capturing the moment while participating in a discussion on Mental Health at Boston College.

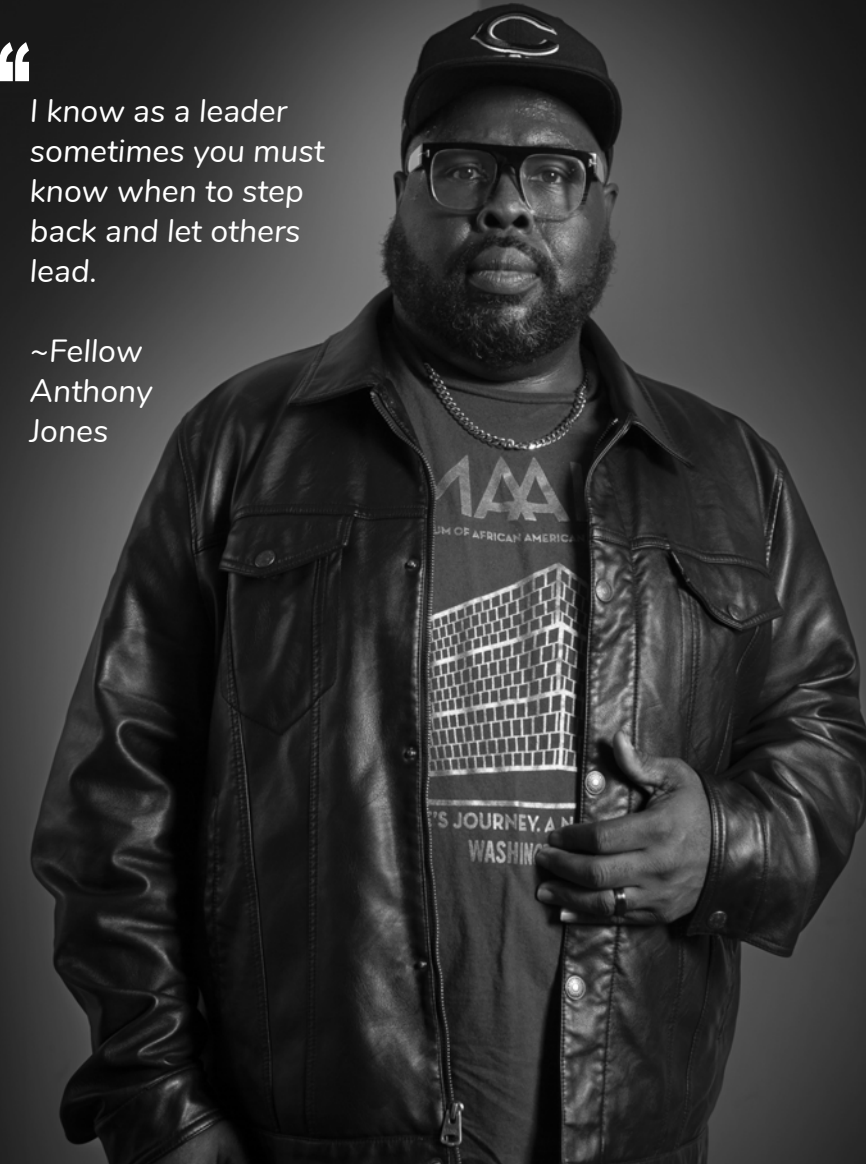


Anthony setting up to serve at Bethel Family Ministries Food pantry.

“

I know as a leader sometimes you must know when to step back and let others lead.

~Fellow Anthony Jones





ANTONIO DANIELS

Austin

organization

Adams Block Club

position

President

for more information:

www.facebook.com/groups/5500ABC/

Antonio (Tony) Daniels is President of Adams Block Club 5500 on Chicago's West Side. A man of abiding faith as well as a gifted writer and speaker, Daniels also is a principal partner, along with Wendy, his wife of 25 years, in Daniels Design and Décor, and serves as a Deacon at Chicago West Bible Church.

Additionally, he holds the role of Associate Director of Volunteer and Church Engagement at Breakthrough Urban Ministries, where he has dedicated 15 years of service. His commitment to family, faith, and community shines through his various roles and endeavors.



Antonio and others pose at the 5500 Adams Block Club party.



Antonio and group pose in front of the 5500 Adams Block Club sign.



Tony Daniels at a breakfast at Breakthrough Ministries.



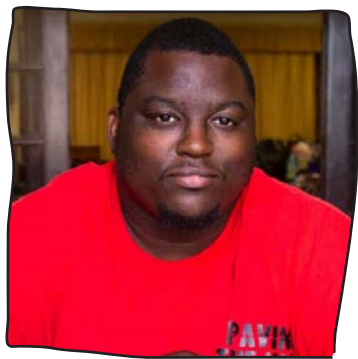
Tony Daniels works alongside friends in a food kitchen.

“

A system where darkness is used to keep others bound and unfruitful needs light to expose it, strength to overcome it, and nurturing environments to produce change.

~Fellow Antonio Daniels





ANTONIO DAVIS

Washington Park

organization

Paving The Way Project Inc

position

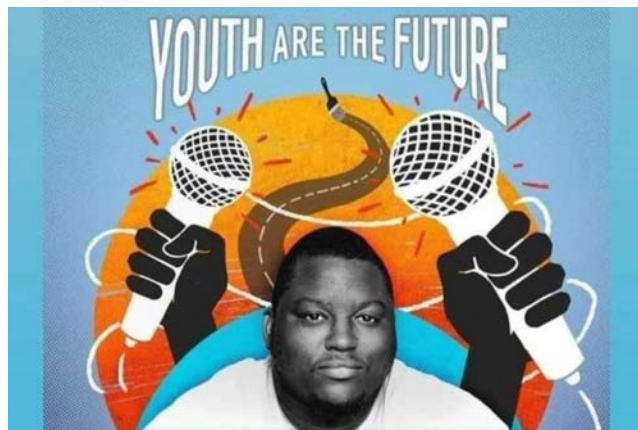
Founder & Executive Director

for more information:

<https://pavingthewayproject.org/>

Antonio Davis is the Founder and Executive Director of the Paving the Way Project, which he started years ago after giving up criminal activity. A life-long Chicagoan, Davis completed training and got a state license as a Security Officer and Crisis Responder, and has been a member and security guard at Greater Bethesda Missionary Baptist Church for over 16 years.

A devoted family man, Davis formerly served on the Chicago Police 2nd District Advisory Council and Domestic Violence Committee, and currently as Washington Park Neighborhood Captain for the Obama Foundation and on the Strategic Leadership Council of Strides for Peace.



Antonio poses in an artwork piece that represents his passion.



Antonio Davis attends an event with two Peace Fellow alumni.



Antonio takes a group of children on a field trip.



Antonio Davis speaks at a Paving the Way event.

“

I believe in collaboration and I recognize that no one organization can do community work alone.

~Fellow Antonio Davis





Ariel DeNey Rainey is CEO of Hustle Mommies, a nonprofit organization. An urban family advocate with over a decade of experience in integrated marketing, Rainey is dedicated to merging her passions in gun violence prevention, mental health care, entrepreneurship, education, entertainment and philanthropy to create game-changing experiences that will make an impact within underserved communities.

Her efforts are channeled through Hustle Mommies and the Urban Mom Collective National Coalition for Black Moms, groups she founded to uplift Black moms throughout the country.

ARIEL RAINY

City-Wide

organization

Hustle

position

CEO

for more information:

www.HustleMommies.org



Ariel Rainey speaks in front of the crowd.



Ariel and other community members hold banners.



Ariel and other community members let go of balloons at community event.



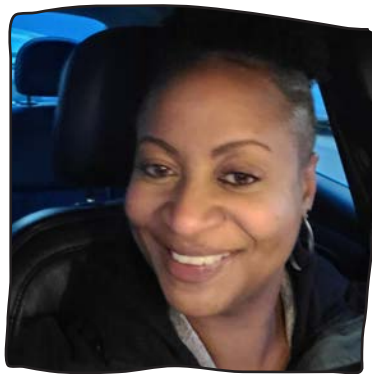
Ariel Rainey attends the DNC in Chicago, Illinois.

“

In order to save the culture of Chicago, it takes a collaborative effort of elevating the needs of vulnerable Chicagoans to make a change.

~Fellow Ariel Rainey





Ava Hawkins founded Blake's Place for Diverse Scholars, Athletes, and Cultural Artists, which provides a safe space for education and training to help those who work in Chicago's communities be allies and generally supportive for children and youth on the autistic spectrum and their families.

A proud wife, mother, caretaker, and autism advocate, Hawkins understands that Black and brown autistic youth are often overlooked as they grow, and are frequently undervalued as well as under-protected to the point they become victims of crime on one end as well as police brutality on the other.



Ava and her son smile bright in picture.



Ava and her husband smile in a picture.



Ava and others stand next to former mayor Rahm Emanuel at an event.



Ava Hawkins celebrating her birthday style.

“

I have a huge vision that is bigger than me, and it can't be done alone.

~Fellow
Ava Hawkins



AVA HAWKINS

South Shore

organization

Blakes Place For
Diverse Scholars
Athletes And Cultural
Artists

position

Founder

for more information:

blakesplacechicago@gmail.com



CHRISTOPHER PAYNE

South Shore

organization

Artology Studio Chicago

position

Executive Director

for more information:

Facebook:
artologystudiochi

Christopher Payne is the Executive Director of Artology Studio Chicago, a mobile art studio, mobile virtual reality lounge, and mobile SEL lounge.

A seasoned entrepreneur with a decade of experience in marketing and community development, Payne also is Chief Executive Officer at Eventology Marketing and Promotions. Payne is a visionary leader with a keen focus on youth entrepreneurship and community collaboration.

A marketing extraordinaire, he stands out as a triple threat in marketing, promotions, public relations, and artist management. His ability to adapt to his clients' needs sets him apart from his peers, making him a unique and valuable professional.



Christopher representing Artology Studio Chicago at the York High School community engagement event at Malcom X College.



Christopher backstage at a South Shore block party with Dru Hill.



Christopher dropping off a book donation at York High School.



Christopher promoting Artology Studio Chicago at a networking event.

“

By amplifying diverse voices and experiences, we can move beyond stereotypes and embrace the richness and complexity of our collective story.

~Fellow Christopher Payne





Elaine Marthel founded Project Impact 180, where she empowers youths to overcome adversity and realize their potential. A proud native of Chicago's vibrant West Side, Marthel graduated from Lane Tech High School and Roosevelt University, and now has over 25 years of experience in youth advocacy as well as 20 years of experience in financial services.

Her commitment to building a brighter future as a catalyst for positive change is also informed by her personal journey losing her father to gun violence at age five, and as a teen mother. Marthel defines her mission as fostering peace and opportunity.

ELAINE MARTHEL

North Lawndale

organization
PROJECT IMPACT 180

position
Executive Director

for more information:
www.projectimpact180.org



Elaine surprises the children as Mrs. Claus.



Elaine poses with Alderwoman Scott.



Elaine holds her certificate in community leadership.



Elaine attends a back-to-school event at Project Impact 180.

“

Growing up in Chicago, I've seen the impact of violence firsthand, and I believe in the power of grassroots efforts to bring about change.

~Fellow
Elaine
Marthel





IRYNN ASHAKI WILLIAMS MCCLAIN

Rogers Park

organization

A Just Harvest

position

Deputy Director of R3 Programs

for more information:

<https://ajustharvest.org/>

Irynn Ashaki Williams McClain is Deputy Director at A Just Harvest, a non-profit food pantry. McClain earned a B.A. in Business Administration from Florida A&M University and worked in Florida before moving to Chicago in 2001. As a teaching artist, McClain developed youth arts programs for several Chicago Public Schools and an after-school program in theater, music, and dance. Since that time, she has advocated for youth programs in arts activism and leadership development as well as increasing access to technology.

A professional dancer and doula, McClain also teaches about the healing properties of the arts, music, and movement.



Ashaki attends a TGP rally.



Ashaki attends a Family Matter Walk-a-thon.



Ashaki attends the Chicago for the Peace event.



Ashaki poses for a picture with former President Obama.

“

I hope to create a loving web of support for marginalized members of our communities who require additional time and support to fill the gaps in experience and opportunity.

~Fellow
Irynn Ashaki
Williams McClain





Jason Michael Maldonado is the ReEntry Program Coordinator for Enlace, a non-profit organization based in the South Lawndale neighborhood on Chicago's West Side. Maldonado, 56, was born in Little Village, and has about 19 years of prison experience. He earned an Associate's degree, Bachelor's degree and Master's degree, and is a Certified Associate Addiction Professional (CAAP).

Maldonado has worked in social services since 1998, and has completed multiple training courses on many relevant subjects.

JASON MICHAEL

South Lawndale

organization

Enlace Chicago

position

ReEntry Program Coordinator

for more information:

Enlace Chicago @ Facebook



Jason smiles in a photo.



Jason paints a mural in his community.



Jason stands near a sign for an Easter event.



Jason at an art gallery in Humboldt Park.

“

Our community is often defined by violence and crime. However, there is so much more to be inspired by if you really learn about Little Village.

~Fellow Jason Michael





KEVIN AMARO

City-Wide

organization

Chinese American Service League Anti-Hate Action Center

position

Community Engagement Specialist

for more information:

LinkedIn: kevingamaro

Kevin Amaro is a Community Engagement Specialist for Chinese American Service League Anti-Hate Action Center, where he facilitates education and programmatic strategy to build relationships with diverse, values-aligned community partners and service providers. A Chicago native, natural-born educator, and sometime professional drummer, Amaro graduated from DePaul University with both a BA in Public Relations and Advertising and a MA in Applied Diplomacy.

He is the co-chair for the University Roundtable at Pilsen Neighbors, providing underrepresented students with resources to help with college recruitment and completion. Amaro is the founder of VowChats, a free AI translation service for nonprofits.



Kevin poses with a group of people in Washington DC.



Kevin performs a traditional dance.



Kevin stands on a box to speak to young listeners.

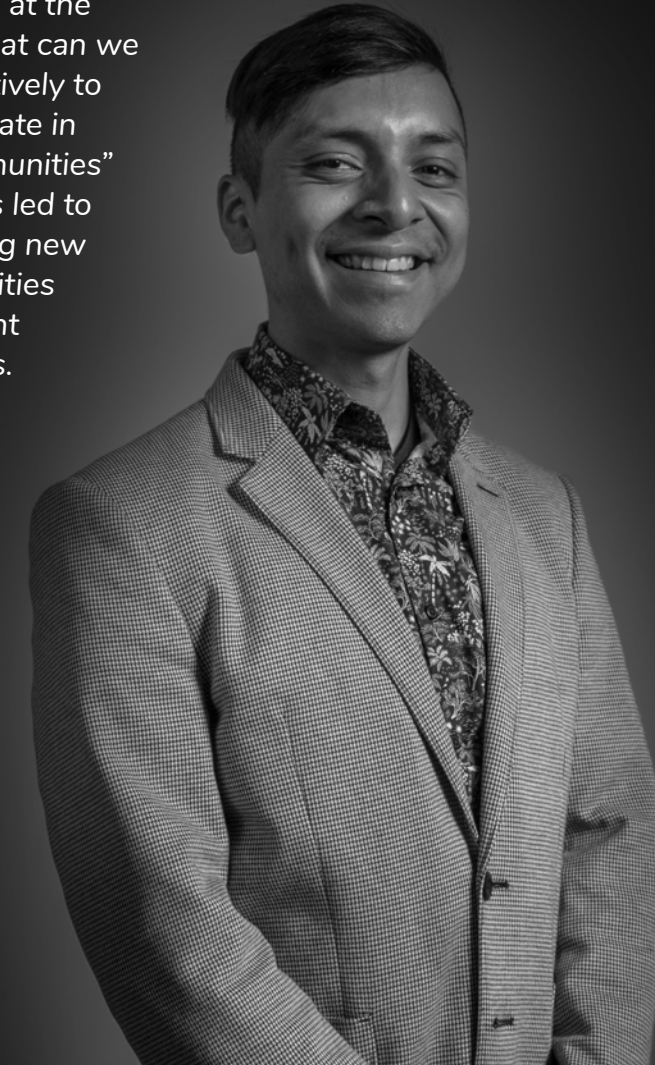


Kevin leading a discussion at UNAM.



I now ask at the end, “What can we do collectively to combat hate in our communities” and it has led to interesting new opportunities in different capacities.

~Fellow Kevin Amaro





Parrish Brown is a Peace Consultant in the City of Chicago. Born on Chicago's West Side and raised on the South Side, Brown has a Bachelor's degree in Urban Studies from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

He spent four years advocating to keep his high school, Walter H. Dyett, open and 2 years to get a Level 1 Trauma Center built at the University of Chicago Hospital. He also spent 1 year to stop Mercy Hospital from closing, and 5 years to win a community benefits agreement ordinance to stop displacement around the Obama Presidential Center.

PARRISH BROWN

City-Wide

organization

City of Chicago

position

Peace Consultant

for more information:

Instagram:
@goodlookinoutchi



Parrish presenting at the Institute for Educational Leadership



Parrish with students from Dyett High School.



Parrish with new restorative justice coordinators he trained from CPS.



Parrish presented Restorative Culture to the Black Boy Conference at Kennedy King College (KKC).

“

Chicago Peace Fellows gave me a new outlook on how I can conduct heart work in my community and other communities. I am looking forward to connecting with past, present, and future Chicago Peace Fellows throughout my life journey.

~Fellow Parrish Brown





Pat Day-McCray is CEO and Founder of Pathway from Grief, a non-profit coaching organization. After losing her child Alicia, Day-McCray was inspired to create A Pathway From Grief as well as PDM Journey Coaching, and the MIRACLE Online Bookstore. Day-McCray also holds a patent for Therapeutic Dolls.

An accomplished public speaker, Day-McCray focuses on supporting mothers from grief to gratitude for the lives and losses of their loved ones or children and address the challenges associated with limited parenting skills, which can contribute to emotional, mental, and physical struggles and, sadly, even abuse and premature deaths among children.



Pat visits the set of CBS 58.



Pat poses with family members.



Pat pictured outside stores in Munich, Germany.



Pat wins an award with family members supporting her.

PAT DAY-MCCRAY

Austin

organization

A Pathway From Grief

position

CEO and Founder

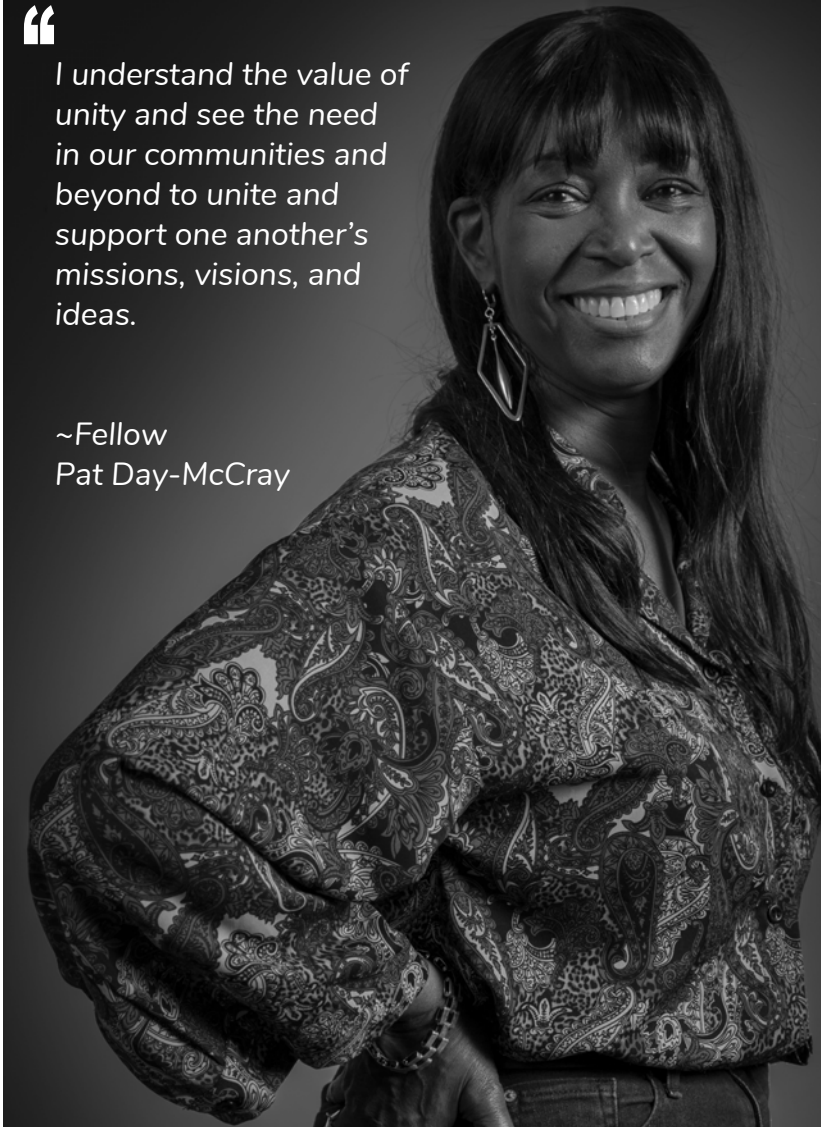
for more information:

www.apathwayfromgrief.com

“

I understand the value of unity and see the need in our communities and beyond to unite and support one another's missions, visions, and ideas.

~Fellow Pat Day-McCray





Riccadonna Chaidez is Manager at Chicago's Community Safety Coordination Center, which is in process to become a facility operated by the City of Chicago. Chaidez has been integral to the development of community networks and service integration/coordination strategies for youth and adults in communities experiencing violence.

RICCADONNA CHAIDEZ

Chaidez's educational background in public health, epidemiology and business administration is a combination that empowers her to apply evidence-based and sustainable strategic approaches to address complex social issues and improve outcomes for health as well as education. She is passionate about empowering and advocating for vulnerable and marginalized populations, and promoting equity and education.

Austin

organization

Chicago Community Safety Coordination Center

position

Manager



Riccadonna and her colleague at a symposium on gun violence organized by Alees Edwards, another prominent block club leader.



Riccadonna at a block club party on North Monticello.



An image of Riccadonna in short article about her and her work with the Rush Oak Park Community Engagement Council.



Riccadonna participating in the Race Against gun violence.



Coordination and collaboration are the intersection of impactful community work.

~Fellow Riccadonna Chaidez





STEVE ARCHER II

Englewood

organization

Archer Farms

position

Founder

for more information:

linktr.ee/archerurbanfarmsinitiative

Steve Archer II is the Founder of Archer Farms in Englewood on Chicago's South Side. A Chicago native, Archer received a BA in English from Rosary College at Dominican University, served in the U.S. Marines, and holds certificates as an Urban Farmer from the University of Illinois Extension, and in local Permaculture.

He started Archer Urban Farms in 2023 to build community through urban farming and permaculture education.

A board member of the Cook DuPage Beekeepers Association, he is a member of Cook County Farm Bureau and the Veteran Farmer Coalition, and was named the 2024 Illinois Veteran Farmer of the Year.



Steve and community member in front of the bee hives at Archer Urban Farms.



Steve and his family pose in the community garden.



Steve and others at Archer Urban Farms Initiative.

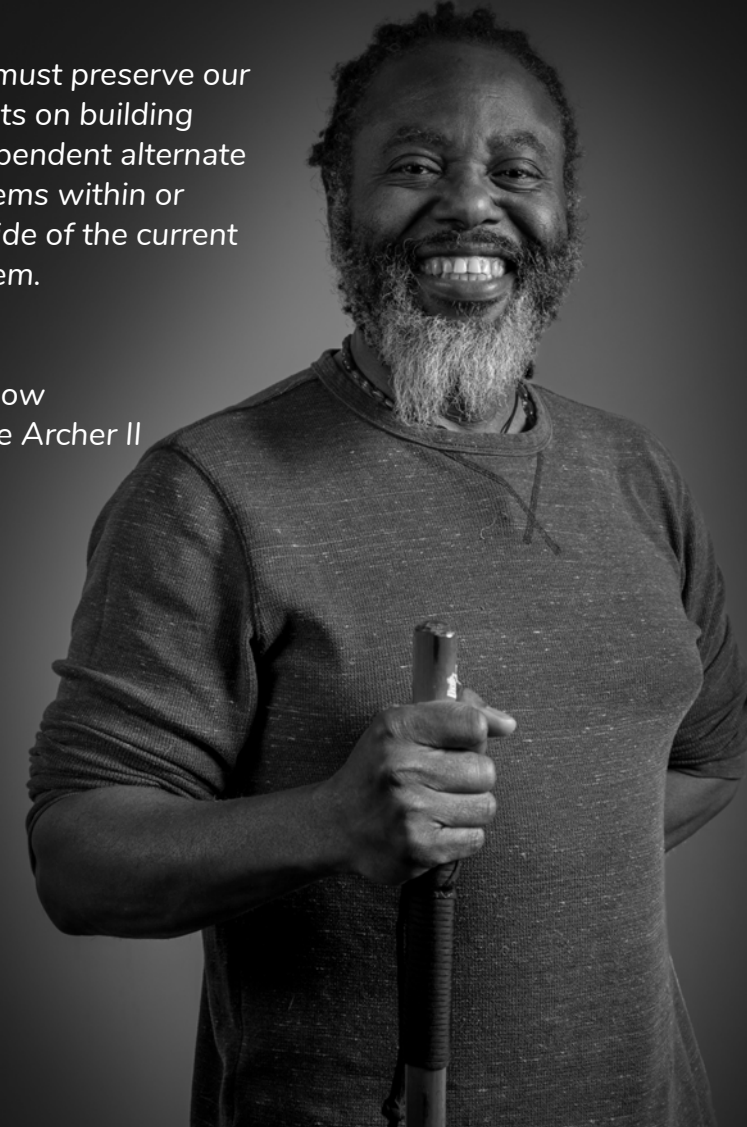


Steve and cohort member Jason Michael at the Free Little Libraries summer project event they organized and led.

“

We must preserve our efforts on building independent alternate systems within or outside of the current system.

~Fellow Steve Archer II





TAI DONOVAN

City-Wide

organization

Medical Careers Exposure and Emergency Preparedness Initiative

position

Director of Operations

for more information:

Instagram & Twitter:
@medceep

Tai Donovan is Director of Operations at the Medical Careers Exposure and Emergency Preparedness Initiative, providing training to youths on Chicago's South and West sides and encouraging them to choose a medical profession. Donovan is a medical student deeply committed to leveraging her career to bridge the gap with community health.

Throughout her medical journey, Donovan has advocated for marginalized communities by illuminating the various determinants of health, acknowledging the interconnectedness of gun violence and health outcomes and understanding the profound impact of violence. Donovan is dedicated to addressing violence as a pressing public health issue disproportionately affecting communities of color.



Tai providing free clinical training at Minority Med Connect.



Tai providing medical care at the Austin Community Health Fair.



Tai teaching first aid at Crane High School.



Tai teaching Stop The Bleed Training with 2023 CPF Alumni Dr. Abdullah Pratt at the Getting Green Collective event.



A community asset is all about capturing what makes a place special, the things that show the bonds between its people and celebrating its unique history and culture.

~Fellow
Tai
Donovan



A Global Network

After graduation, the Chicago Peace Fellows will join a growing alumni network in Chicago and around the world.


In Chicago, Fellows will be invited to join the **Mutual Aid Collaborative** founded by Peace Fellow Alumni as a sustainable base for peace building action and collective liberation.

Globally, Peace Fellows will join the **Global Alumni Network** with grassroots leaders from 50 countries in Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and North and South America.

The Global Fellows meet monthly for mutual support, ongoing learning and global collaboration.

*If you can't fly
then run, if you
can't run then
walk, if you can't
walk then crawl,
but whatever
you do you have
to keep moving
forward.*

~ Martin Luther King, Jr.



The global challenges facing our communities will require new approaches that allow us to build on **our assets and lean into our diversity as a strength** that helps us to see and change the system. The Global Alumni Network offers an opportunity for emerging leaders to learn from each other's experiences and to support one another in this work.

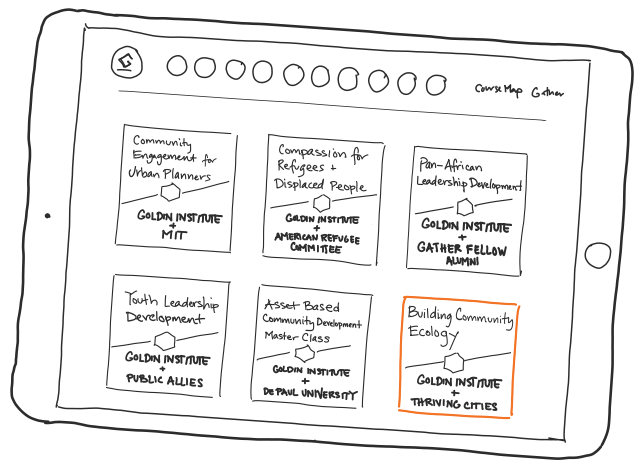
The Global Alumni Network meets online each month for workshops and discussions on themes selected by the alumni themselves. Workshops blend theory and practice, helping us to learn new approaches and develop concrete skills to strengthen collaborations and become more effective leaders.

 Goldin Institute's

Global Network

Global Alumni Network





THE FUTURE OF GATHER

The Goldin Institute is seeking partners who are committed to a new vision of shared learning and collaboration that upends the current models of distance learning, philanthropy and leadership development.

We know that systemic and adaptive challenges facing our communities will require new approaches that help us see and change the system by building on our local assets and unlocking the potential of emerging leaders.

By linking grassroots efforts from around the world in our global network, we provide opportunities to build innovative multi-sector relationships and solutions that both adapt to particular local contexts and draw from creative solutions and approaches from around the globe.

We invite new partners from the fields of technology, academia, philanthropy and the media to join us and our global network of allied organizations so we can make bottom up strategies add up to real change across the globe.

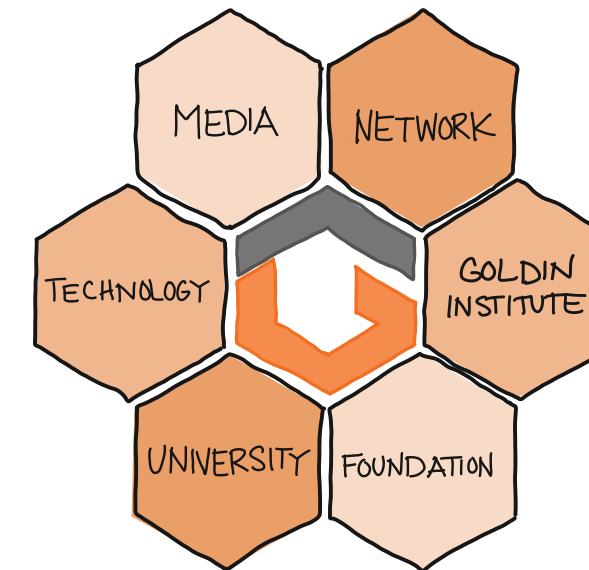
PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

We are committed to expanding the GATHER curriculum in partnership with leading organizations in a variety of fields that can bring unique assets and insights to the shared vision of helping people learn and work together to solve tough issues.

Please reach out to us to learn how the GATHER platform can serve your community or organization. We are eager expand the curriculum available to our global network and connect new communities to the GATHER Alumni Network.

We look forward to continuing to build on the growing network of Chicago area peacebuilders — now 100 strong — who are working on the front lines.

Learn more at goldininstitute.org/gather.



Thank You

Now in its sixth year, the **Chicago Peace Fellows** has grown into an inspiring and powerful network of **120 community leaders** who live and work in the neighborhoods most impacted by violence. These courageous and creative leaders address the challenges facing our communities by practicing a liberatory model of shared leadership, collaborative decision-making, and collective action.

The Goldin Institute is proud to bring back home to Chicago the learnings from the last **22 years** of experience gained by partnering with grassroots leaders and their communities across the globe. Literally thousands of conversations with community leaders from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe, the streets of Port au Prince to the boardrooms of international agencies, have informed the curriculum and improved the GATHER platform.

We wish to acknowledge the extraordinary efforts of our global team.

We want to begin by thanking the **2024 class of Chicago Peace Fellows**, whose hard work, dedication, and insightful conversations have made hosting the course deeply meaningful and have expanded the network of leaders who together make Chicago a more peaceful, just, and equitable city.

It was an honor to learn and work alongside you during this course and we look forward to our continued relationship as you join the **Mutual Aid Collaborative** and the **Global Alumni Network**.

The Chicago Peace Fellows was made possible by an incredible, dedicated, and talented team to whom we express our deepest appreciation:

Goldin Institute Board

Aziz Asphahani
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Michael Henderson, Director, Chicago Peace Fellows
Oz Ozburn, Senior Director of Operations
Tony Raggs, Chicago Peace Fellows Facilitator
Travis Rejman, Executive Director
Tyler Stober, GATHER UI
Yusuph Masanja, Global Alumni Co-Facilitator
Zeki Salah, Mutual Aid Collaborative Facilitator

A special Thank You to the Alumni of the Chicago Peace Fellows who have played an ongoing and critical role in helping to inform and host the program each year.

The following organizations and groups **extended critical assistance, hosted workshops, collaborated on peace building projects and shared insights** to make the Chicago Peace Fellows an inspiring and productive experience:

300 North Pine Block Club, Agape Werks, Advocate Health Care Alliance, Alliance for the South East, Annie B. Jones Community Services, Asset Based Community Development Institute, Austin Green Team, Black Star Project, Bold Ventures, Breakthrough Urban Ministries, Bright Star Community Outreach, Brothers Standing Together, Center for New Horizons, Centro Sanar, Chicago Community Trust, Chicago Beyond, Chicago Cultural Performing Arts Media Alliance, Chicago Department of Transportation, Chicago Eco House, Chicago Freedom School, Chicago History Museum, Chicago Mobile Makers, Chicago Park District, Chicago Peace Fellows Mutual Aid Collaborative, Chicago Police Department, Chicago Public Libraries, Chicago Survivors Network, Chicago Youth Boxing Club, Chopin Theater, CSCC Community Safety Coordination Center, City of Chicago Office of Equity and Racial Justice, CompassionIt, Conant Family Foundation, Crossroads Fund,

Crown Family Foundation, Deon J. Williams Foundation, DePaul University, DePaul University Egan Office of Urban Education, Enlace Chicago, Firehouse Community Arts Center, Free Street Theatre, Future Ties, GAP Community Center, Garfield Park Rite to Wellness Collaborative, Girls Like Me Project, Global Girls, Greater Auburn Gresham Development Corporation, Greencorps, Grow Greater Englewood, Healing Hurt People, Homan Grown, ICIIA, Illinois HEALS, Imani Community Development Corporation, Impact House, Institute for Nonviolence Chicago, Joyce Foundation, Ladies of Virtue, Leader Champions, LevelUp, LiftUp Enterprises, MacArthur Foundation, McCormick Foundation, Metopio, Metropolitan Family Services, Metropolitan Peace Academy, Mindfulness Leader, M.I.T. Center for Constructive Conversation, Mr. Dads Fathers Club, NeighborSpace, New Eclipse Community Alliance, Northwestern University, OperaMatic, Partnership for Safe and Peaceful Communities, Phoenix Holistic, Polk Bros. Foundation, Port Ministries, Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliation, Resurrection Project, Seabury Foundation, Segundo Ruiz Belvis Cultural Center, Southside Jazz Coalition, Studio Gang, Technology for Social Good Lab, Teena's Legacy, Telpochcalli Community Education Project, Territory NFP, Think Outside Da Block, United Way, University of Chicago Crime Lab, University of Chicago Medical Center, University of Chicago Trauma Center, University of Chicago Urban Labs, Westside Media Project, Woodlawn Restorative Justice Hub, Woods Fund, The Medical Careers Exposure and Emergency Preparedness Initiative, and Community Leadership Fellows.

Thank you to partners and colleagues whose **ideas and expertise** made the Chicago Peace Fellows possible:

Daniel Ash, Geoffrey Banks, Deborah Bennett, Eddie Bocanegra, Robert Boone, Alderman Walter Burnett, Dr. Franklin Cosey-Gray, Theodore Crawford, Liz Dozier, Jessyca Dudley, Lisa Daniels, David Gonzalez, Lisa Dush, Leif Elsmo, Dr. Sheena Erete, April Doner, Troy Harden, Kim Hopes, Pastor Philip Jackson, Shruti Jayaraman, Jai Jones, Emily Lansana, Cecil McDonald, Ceasar McDowell, Tawa Mitchell, Candace Moore, Damien Morris, Dr. Andrew Papachristos, Shannon Poe, Leslie Ramyk, Art Richardson, Jose Rico, Anton Seals, Gloria Smith, Kimberly Smith, Maria Valasquez

We are proud to collaborate with each of you in our shared mission to build a more safe and peaceful future for Chicago as a model for communities around the world.

Sincerely,

Diane Goldin
Founder & Board Chair

Travis Rejman
Executive Director

The Goldin Institute extends its deepest appreciation to the Partnership for Safe and Peaceful Communities and the following philanthropic partners for their generous support of the Chicago Peace Fellows:

Chicago Community Trust
Conant Family Foundation
Crossroads Fund
Frankel Family Foundation
Live Healthy Chicago
MacArthur Foundation
Polk Bros. Foundation
Racial Justice Pooled Fund
Seabury Foundation
Walder Foundation

Thank you to our generous network of champions for community driven social change for supporting the **Chicago Peace Fellows.**

*If there's a book that you want to read,
but it hasn't been written yet,
then you must write it.*

~ Toni Morrison

GATHER Chapter 9 Opening Reflection

2024

www.goldininstitute.org