



Chicago Tribune Charities

A McCORMICK FOUNDATION FUND

2016 IMPACT REPORT



Success in kindergarten prepares children to do well in future years. By empowering teachers and parents, we can lay the groundwork for long-term school success.

**— Dr. Stephen Budde,
Associate Executive Director,
Juvenile Protective Association**



— building —
STRONGER
— communities —

building
STRONGER
communities

50%

50% Matched by the McCormick Foundation

All gifts are matched by 50%, increasing the impact of your gift

100%

All Administrative Expenses are Paid

This means 100% of your gift helps those in need

\$0

\$0 Taken for Expenses

Chicago Tribune and the McCormick Foundation pay all administrative expenses



Local Impact

Your gift will assist struggling neighbors right here in Chicago and the suburbs

Chicago Tribune Charities

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Dear Friend,

Building stronger communities in Chicago and the suburbs is the core of Chicago Tribune Charities' heritage. We believe that by helping underserved children, adults and families thrive, we create a stronger Chicagoland for everyone. Chicago Tribune Charities, a McCormick Foundation Fund, assists nonprofit agencies that address the critical issues of child abuse, youth education, adult literacy and workforce development.

Thanks to the generosity of nearly 10,000 donors and readers, more than \$3.1 million was raised in 2015. The McCormick Foundation matched every dollar at 50%, adding over \$1.5 million available to grant.

In 2015, grants totaling over \$3.5 million were distributed to 68 carefully chosen nonprofit organizations across Chicago and the suburbs. Their focused programs are helping thousands of those less fortunate break through the cycle of poverty and need.

Together, we are providing:

- Reading and educational programs that keep kids moving forward in school
- Resources empowering high school students to graduate and enter college
- Opportunities for adults in need of literacy programs or job training to develop their workplace skills
- Nurturing services for parents and kids to heal the effects of abuse

The true impact of our efforts shines through in the success stories you'll find inside. We hope you find them as inspiring as we do. But remember – none of these life-changing results could possibly happen without your support. We rely on you to help fund innovative, effective solutions that strengthen families and the entire community.

On behalf of all those you've helped and the thousands more your generosity will continue to reach here in Chicago and the suburbs... thank you.

R. Bruce Dold
Publisher & Editor-in-Chief
Chicago Tribune

David D. Hiller
President and CEO
Robert R. McCormick Foundation



Featured Grantees

Thanks to your generous support,
our community is growing stronger

YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago

Disadvantaged youth are moving toward college

No one in Isaiah's family had ever attended college. Maybe that's why no one asked about his plans or encouraged him to apply. "For families in disadvantaged areas, everyday life is the greater challenge," explains LaDawn Norwood, Association Director of Teen Programs at the YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago.

For 40+ years, the Y's Achievers Program has helped students like Isaiah change the trajectory of their lives. With support from a Chicago Tribune Charities grant, the program was

Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership

Young adults are sharing great news: "I got the job!"

In Chicago and suburbs, thousands of youths aged 18 to 24 have no connection to school or work. Most lack confidence, believing they have no marketable skills. Virtually all need practice presenting themselves and building life habits that will shape them into valued employees.

"We're helping young people overcome these gaps to create sustainable career pathways," says Karin Norington-Reaves, Chief Executive Officer of Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership.



Juvenile Protective Association

At-risk kindergarteners are making a bright start

Studies show that when kids do well in kindergarten, they're more likely to succeed in future years. But the transition to school is especially hard for those who come from turbulent or abusive homes.

The key to helping at-risk kindergarteners is direct, ongoing support for teachers and parents, says David Wiercinski, Chief Development Officer of the Juvenile Protective Association (JPA).

Drawing on its 115-year history of advocating for kids, JPA has developed the Connect2Kindergarten (C2K) program. C2K equips teachers with new strategies for building strong parent-teacher relationships, managing power struggles in the classroom and dealing with acute emotional and behavioral issues. Family workshops help parents gain skills needed to nurture young ones through kindergarten and beyond. The program currently serves three schools with plans to expand to 11 schools within two years.

Dr. Stephen Budde of JPA relates the progress of a teacher coping with a disruptive student. "Ongoing coaching helped her see the child's behavior as stemming from underlying trauma and immediate stressors rather than his simply being bad. She found more positive ways to engage this boy and made a good connection with his parents, leading to improved behavior in class. We're excited to see more of this as C2K reaches more teachers and families." ❄



From all the high school students who will succeed in college and beyond, because of the new, improved Achievers program – thank you!

– LaDawn Norwood, Association Director of Teen Programs,
YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago



revamped in 2015 to focus on schools and communities where enrichment needs are greatest. The goal is to offer a deeper dose of mentoring, career exploration and postsecondary planning for some 300 students in grades 7-12.

The new approach will further strengthen an already enviable track record: Achievers students are 2.5 times more likely to graduate from college as compared with their minority youth peers.

Isaiah admits he didn't expect much when he participated in the Achievers college tour. The campus visits introduced him to undergraduates of similar backgrounds who were thriving. "It changed his view of what life had to offer," says Norwood. Now a senior at Miles College, he will graduate with his bachelor's degree this spring. ❄

"Finding that first job is key, but long-term success is the greater goal."

In 2015 the Partnership launched large-scale programs linking youth with 300+ employers throughout Cook County. "As part of the Starbucks 100,000 Opportunities event in Chicago, we screened some 1,100 young people on two consecutive Saturdays," says Norington-Reaves. "Before meeting with recruiters, candidates did mock interviews, worked on resumes in computer labs and talked with mentors. They received 600 on-the-spot offers, with 300 more offers made after the event."

One young man didn't realize his volunteer work and basketball team leadership could help him stand out. Opportunity Fair coaches helped him prepare for an interview with Starbucks, which netted him a job offer and the chance to benefit from the company's College Achievement Plan. ❄

Pui Tak Center

Adults are strengthening language skills for workplace advancement

Moving to the U.S. from China is a tough transition. But by far, the greatest barrier newly arrived adults face is learning English, says David Wu, Executive Director of the Pui Tak Center in Chicago's Chinatown.

"Poor English skills make it hard to communicate with your child's school or apply for a driver's license," Wu says, "but the real issue is employment. Career growth means having solid literacy skills."

Responding to the needs of Chicago's Chinese community — which grows about 40% every 10 years through steady immigration — Pui Tak offers instruction for 1,300 adults annually. Half of all students advance one ESL level per year, some 10 points above the state benchmark. Early-morning classes serve those in restaurant and hospitality jobs and early-evening classes accommodate parents who need to be home at dinnertime.

Pui Tak instructors help students make vital career connections, too. Last fall, 28-year-old Jimmy Luo asked for help finding a job in manufacturing. As his English skills improved, staffers coached him in mock interviews and linked him with the career programs at the Jane Addams Resource Center (JARC). Jimmy is now studying at JARC to become a machinist. ✪



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Chicago Tribune Charities addresses critical issues to alleviate poverty in Chicago and the suburbs



Child Abuse Prevention
& Treatment



Child & Youth
Education



Literacy



Workforce
Development

WHAT IT TAKES



solicitation letters



fundraising
campaigns



grant
applications



agency site
visits



fundraising emails



neighborhood
tours

2015 RESULTS



9,941 donors

\$3.1 million raised



68 grants

\$3.5 million granted

The Foundation Match

\$1.5 million

TOGETHER
IMPACTING LIVES...



...ULTIMATELY

— building —
STRONGER
— communities —

Thank you!

Your gift supports the good work of 68 organizations

We are honored to present the nonprofit organizations that received grants totaling more than \$3.5 million in 2015 through Chicago Tribune Charities, a McCormick Foundation Fund.

Your donations plus the McCormick Foundation match enable these carefully chosen agencies to reach thousands in need throughout Chicago and the suburbs. The programs they deliver are helping children succeed in school ... empowering adults to find better jobs ... enabling young adults to pursue college and career dreams ... and helping those facing domestic abuse to heal and rebuild their lives.

We applaud the many ways our grant recipients are building a stronger, healthier community for all to share. And we thank YOU for making their life-changing work possible.

2015 CTC Grantees

Adult Literacy

Association House of Chicago
Cara Program
Chicago Citywide Literacy Coalition
Christopher House
De La Salle Institute
Erie Neighborhood House
Greater Auburn Gresham Development Corporation
Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights
Institute for Latino Progress
Jane Addams Resource Corporation
Korean American Community Services
Latin Center - Universidad Popular Literacy Works
National Latino Education Institute
North Lawndale Employment Network
Poder Learning Center
Pui Tak Center
World Relief Corporation of National Association of Evangelicals

Child & Youth Education

Center for Companies That Care
Centro Romero
Chicago Youth Programs
Children's Literacy Initiative
El Valor Corporation
Enlace Chicago
Erie Neighborhood House
Glen Ellyn Community Resource Center
Howard Area Community Center
Kenwood - Oakland Community Organization
Literacy Volunteers of Illinois
Oak Park - River Forest Community Foundation
One Million Degrees
OneGoal
Tutoring Chicago
University of Chicago
YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago
Youth Guidance

Child Abuse Prevention & Treatment

Advocate Charitable Foundation
Apna Ghar (Our Home)
Beacon Therapeutic School
Between Friends
Bridge Youth & Family Services
Chapin Hall Center for Children
Chicago Children's Advocacy Center
Christopher House
Connections for Abused Women and their Children
Family Rescue
Family Shelter Services
Hektoen Institute for Medical Research
Juvenile Protective Association
One Hope United - Northern Region
Parenthesis Inc.
Sarah's Inn
South Suburban Family Shelter
Teen Parent Connection

Workforce Development

Breaking Ground
Cara Program
Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership
Chicago House and Social Service Agency
Chicago Jobs Council
City Colleges of Chicago Foundation
Inner-City Computer Stars Foundation
Inspiration Corporation
Institute for Latino Progress
National Able Network
National Latino Education Institute
North Lawndale Employment Network
Safer Foundation
Year Up



Keep up the great work!

Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Daytime Telephone

Email Address

Payment Options:

Yes, I would like to donate \$ _____

One time Monthly (credit card only)

Enclosed is my check payable to Chicago Tribune Charities.

Please charge my:

Visa MasterCard AmEx Discover

Card Number

Expiration Date

Signature

May we publish your name as a donor? Yes No

To donate online visit:

ChicagoTribune.com/Donate

Chicago Tribune Charities is a fund of the Robert R. McCormick Foundation. The Foundation is a registered 501(c)(3) organization, IRS registration #36-3689171. Your gift is tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. Future monthly gifts will be charged the first week of the month. A written acknowledgment will be sent for your files. The Foundation and the *Chicago Tribune* respect your right to privacy and do not trade or sell donor names.

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Want to know how we're
improving Chicago and
the suburbs? See inside.

Chicago Tribune Charities

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The *Chicago Tribune* is proud of its long-standing tradition of helping those in need across Chicago and the suburbs. Deepening the commitment, the *Tribune* partnered

with the Robert R. McCormick Foundation in 1990 and established Chicago Tribune Charities, a McCormick Foundation Fund.

Through Chicago Tribune Charities, grants are made to local nonprofit organizations making a difference for low-income children, adults and families. These qualified nonprofits provide life-changing programs that offer year-round education and mentoring; a supportive place to turn when coping with the effects of abuse; help for the unemployed to find jobs with renewed skills and confidence and the opportunity for adults and children to learn to read, furthering progress and career advancement.

Thanks to the generosity of donors and readers, and the 50% match from the McCormick Foundation, those less fortunate in our communities have a chance to improve their lives. With all expenses paid, 100% of donations, plus the match, is granted across Chicago and the suburbs. Since inception, over 5,000 grants totaling more than \$117,000,000 have been invested.

Chicago Tribune Charities believes in creating communities that thrive. Together, we are building a stronger Chicagoland for tomorrow by investing in our children, adults and families today.

ROBERT R. McCORMICK FOUNDATION

The Robert R. McCormick Foundation's mission is to foster communities of educated, informed and engaged citizens. The McCormick Foundation, among the nation's largest foundations, was established in 1955 upon the death of Col. Robert R. McCormick, the longtime editor and publisher of the *Chicago Tribune*.

The McCormick Foundation's Communities Program partners with media companies, such as the *Chicago Tribune*, sports teams and philanthropic organizations across the country to help low-income children, adults and families become increasingly self-sufficient.

To learn more, visit: McCormickFoundation.org

The Robert R. McCormick Foundation is a recognized 501(c)(3) public charity, IRS registration #36-3689171.