



The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation



WEINBERG FOUNDATION GRANTMAKING SNAPSHOT

Summary of Foundation Grants &
Activities in Chicago 2020 – 2021

December 2021

Overview and Background

The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, one of the largest private charitable foundations in the United States, is dedicated to meeting the basic needs of people experiencing poverty. The Foundation provides approximately \$130 million each year in total grant activity to support nonprofits that provide direct services in the areas of Housing, Health, Jobs, Education, and Community Services. Grants support organizations that serve a range of populations, including older adults, women at risk and their children, people with disabilities, and veterans, as well as the Jewish community.

The Foundation administers the majority of its funding in its priority communities: Baltimore, Chicago, Hawai'i, Israel, New York City, Northeastern Pennsylvania, and San Francisco, as well as rural areas within proximity to priority communities. Foundation funding extends to the greater metropolitan areas of the specific cities listed. All of these locations represent personal ties to the life and legacy of Harry Weinberg, as well as communities where Weinberg Foundation Trustees reside and provide leadership. Since 1990, the Foundation has distributed grants totaling more than \$2.5 billion.

Regarding strategies and grants specifically serving Greater Chicago, the Weinberg Foundation focuses its program and operating grants on organizations working within the city limits of Chicago, whereas capital grantmaking is within the Chicagoland area—primarily within Cook County.

The Foundation is an active member of the following groups:

1. **Chicago Funders Together to End Homelessness**

Chicago Funders Together to End Homelessness (CFTEH) supports funders as they learn together, develop aligned grantmaking strategies to address homelessness, and coordinate resources with the public sector. Through this work, CFTEH seeks to strengthen the systems that support people experiencing homelessness. There are 30 funders participating in this collaborative.

2. **Chicagoland Workforce Funders Alliance**

The Chicagoland Workforce Funders Alliance (the Alliance) was launched in May 2012 by five founding workforce funders: the Chicago Community Trust, the Joyce Foundation, the Lloyd A. Fry Foundation, the Robert R. McCormick Foundation, and the Polk Bros. Foundation. Since its founding, the Alliance has engaged over 30 funders to advance its shared mission, making it the region's major convener of the philanthropic community interested in workforce development and employment. Through a combination of grantmaking and civic leadership, the Alliance has carved out a unique position at the complex intersection point of workforce development, social justice, education, and economic development.

3. **Partnership for Safe and Peaceful Communities**

The Partnership for Safe and Peaceful Communities (PSPC) is a coalition of more than 50 foundations and funders, working together to identify and support community-led, evidence-based solutions that the public sector can scale as part of a comprehensive approach to addressing gun violence. The Foundation has supported three components of this work: the READI program led by Heartland Alliance, Communities Partnering 4 Peace led by Metropolitan Family Services, and the Summer Fund at the Chicago Community Trust. There is currently a focus on scaling the programs in North Lawndale through the "Neighborhood Action Group," on which the Foundation is represented.

4. **Mobility LABS**

Led by Robin Hood, Mobility Learning and Action Bets—or Mobility LABs—is a pioneering, four-year initiative to spur the development of new solutions to sustainably lift families out of poverty, and to promote dynamic leaders who will aim to change the national conversation around social and economic mobility. Cook County is the suburban site for Mobility LABs. CEDA (Community and Economic Development Association of Cook County) is the local anchor partner and the name of the initiative is Uplift Harvey. The focus of the initiative is training and employment opportunities for youth and young adults, including paid summer internships, peer tutoring, job-readiness coaching, financial literacy, and leadership training. Uplift Harvey has begun recruiting youth and families for programming, which includes: (1) an entrepreneurship training program in partnership with the South Suburban Economic Growth Initiative; (2) mentoring and career exposure sessions with Chicago-based My Block My Hood My City; and (3) financial literacy courses via partnership with One Trust Bank, which offers no-fee youth bank accounts and education to encourage smart financial decisions.

5. The Foundation partners closely with the **Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago (JUF)**. JUF is the leading grantmaker and convener focused on anti-poverty work in Chicago's Jewish community. The organization provides dedicated support to core direct services agencies including Jewish Child and Family Services, The Ark, Project Ezra, and many more. Recently, it has worked to convene efforts across agencies to ensure collaboration and consistency on measurement and evaluation. In 2020, the organization kicked off a "Shared Outcomes" initiative to build a common measurement and evaluation framework and shared CRM system across JUF agencies, including a specific effort focused on poverty.



Snapshot of Selected Grants

The Foundation is scheduled to distribute more than \$18.7 million in 2020 and 2021. From 2005 – 2019, the Foundation provided more than \$32 million in grants in the greater Chicago area.

YEAR	HOUSING	HEALTH	JOBS	EDUCATION	COMMUNITY SERVICES/ DISCRETIONARY	TOTAL
2020	\$2,685,000	\$2,150,000	\$2,337,500	\$920,000	\$1,977,900	\$10,070,400
2021	\$860,000	\$1,300,000	\$2,362,500	\$1,225,000	\$2,963,200	\$8,710,700

Provided below are 65 selected, active grants equal to or greater than \$50,000, organized by program area:

HOUSING

1. All Chicago Making Homelessness History

Operating grant of \$120,000 over two years to an organization that coordinates services to address homelessness in Chicago and administers an emergency fund for homelessness prevention.

2. Artspace Projects, Inc.

Capital grant of \$500,000 to support the construction of six units of supportive and veteran housing as part of the 38 units of affordable housing in the Pullman Artspace Lofts project.

3. Covenant House Illinois

Capital grant of \$750,000 to develop a building in East Garfield Park that will triple its capacity in providing 24/7 emergency crisis care, case management, counseling, housing, and other wraparound services for homeless youth.

4. Facing Forward To End Homelessness

Operating grant of \$100,000 over two years to an organization that serves families with children in permanent supportive housing, and uses a two-generation approach to advance the stability of parents and their children.

5. IFF

a. Capital grant of \$800,000 to support construction of Access West Cook, a 42-unit, 16-building housing development for people with disabilities.

b. Capital grant of \$1.25 million to support the development of seven new buildings containing 20 units of housing for people with disabilities located in Maywood.

c. Capital grant of \$750,000 to develop 21 units of housing for people with disabilities in Homan Square.

6. Inspiration Corporation

Program grant of \$200,000 over two years to support the Housing program, which will provide individuals and families experiencing homelessness with access to housing, ongoing rental support, and supportive services.

7. LYTE Collective

Capital grant of \$450,000 to support renovation of the LYTE Lounge, a new community center in Chicago dedicated to supporting youth experiencing poverty and homelessness.

8. Mercy Housing Lakefront

Capital grant of \$350,000 to support the preservation of the Major Jenkins Apartments, a historic 156-unit supportive housing property serving formerly homeless adults located in the Uptown Community of Chicago.

9. New Moms, Inc.

Capital grant of \$500,000 to support construction of a new 21,700-square-foot facility containing 18 residential units for homeless adolescent mothers and their children, as well as staff offices and community space.

10. Night Ministry

a. Capital grant of \$350,000 to support the renovation of a new facility for this organization's Outreach and Health Ministry program, as well as an overnight emergency shelter for youth and administration offices.

b. Operating grant of \$150,000 over two years for this organization that provides housing, health care, and wraparound supports for people experiencing homelessness.



HOUSING (CONTINUED)

11. **Primo Center for Women and Children**

Operating grant of \$150,000 over two years to an organization that serves homeless families through housing, mental health, and early childhood services.

12. **YWCA Evanston North Shore**

Capital grant of \$1 million to support the construction of the Family Support Center, which provides housing and support services for women and children escaping violence.

HEALTH

1. **The Ark**

Jewish capital grant of \$1 million to support the renovation and expansion of The Ark's main facility, which will create a larger food distribution center, improved behavioral health day program, and enhanced safety and security.

2. **Chicago Children's Advocacy Center**

Operating grant of \$100,000 over two years for core programs and services, including Forensic Support and Case Coordination; Family Advocacy; Family Hope Center and PATHH; and Education, Prevention, and Policy.

3. **Esperanza Health Centers**

Capital grant of \$200,000 to support the construction of a state-of-the-art, 26,100-square-foot community health center in the Brighton Park neighborhood on Chicago's Southwest Side.

4. **Greater Auburn Gresham Development Corporation (GAGDC)**

Capital grant of \$500,000 to support construction of the community health center, which will be housed in the Auburn Gresham Healthy Lifestyle Hub in collaboration with GAGDC and Mile Square Health Center.

5. **Greater Chicago Food Depository**

Capital grant of \$500,000 to renovate its space to ensure it is equipped and efficient for current operational needs.

6. **Jewish Child and Family Services, Chicago**

Jewish capital grant of \$750,000 to support the development of the JCFS Seigle Campus, which will house several agencies serving at-risk, low-income individuals and families.

7. **Lakeview Pantry**

Capital grant of \$300,000 to support the construction of this organization's new warehouse (the hub), which will implement a "hub and spoke" model for addressing food insecurity.

8. **The Latino Alzheimer's and Memory Disorders Alliance**

Program grant of \$100,000 over two years to support outreach to low-income Latino families dealing with an Alzheimer's diagnosis or other dementia-related illness.

9. **RefugeeOne**

Capital grant of \$400,000 to support the new construction of a three-story building for RefugeeOne, Chicago's largest resettlement agency, which will include a dental clinic.

10. **Top Box Foods**

Operating grant of \$100,000 over two years for an organization that provides healthy and affordable food to under-resourced Chicago communities.

JOBS

1. **Aspiritech**

Capital grant of \$250,000 to purchase and renovate a centrally located and accessible headquarters building for Aspiritech in Evanston, Illinois, which trains and employs individuals on the autism spectrum in the field of software testing.

2. **The Cara Program**

Operating grant of \$500,000 over two years to support this organization that helps individuals overcome challenges to secure and sustain employment.

3. **Career Learning & Employment Center for Vets With Disabilities, Inc.**

Program grant of \$75,000 in one year to support the Operation: Job Ready Veterans program to help Chicagoland veterans successfully obtain meaningful employment.



JOBS (CONTINUED)

4. Center for Changing Lives

Operating grant for \$80,000 over two years for this organization that empowers low-income adults to increase income, net assets, and credit scores through employment, financial coaching, and wraparound supports.

5. Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership

Capital grant of \$150,000 to support a project that will launch The Chatham Education and Workforce Center to provide manufacturing training with high-quality industry-recognized equipment for trainees.

6. Chicago Horticultural Society

Program grant of \$300,000 over two years to support Windy City Harvest, which will help approximately 540 individuals to obtain paid jobs and agriculture-based training, and provide 20,000 individuals with access to healthy produce.

7. Code Platoon

Operating grant of \$100,000 over two years to support Code Platoon's curriculum, which aims to graduate eight to 15 post-9/11 veterans with coding skills.

8. Curt's Café

Operating grant of \$40,000 for one year for this organization that provides life skills and food-service training for young adults, many of whom are experiencing homelessness.

9. Evanston Rebuilding Warehouse

a. Program grant of \$50,000 for one year to support this organization's job-training program, which uses deconstruction (the careful dismantling of building materials for reuse, recycling, and waste reduction) to provide job training for people with barriers to employment.

b. Capital grant of \$90,000 to support the move to a larger location to enable expansion of its deconstruction workforce training program and create more space for its social enterprise

10. Growing Home, Inc.

Operating grant of \$80,000 over two years for this organization that uses organic agriculture as a vehicle for job training, employment, and community development in the Englewood neighborhood.

11. Inner-City Computer Stars Foundation

Operating grant of \$112,500 for one year for this organization that provides job-training and placement services within the information technology field, as well as mentoring, counseling, and social support services for young adults.

12. Inspiration Corporation

Capital grant of \$40,000 for renovations to the organization's social enterprise restaurant, Inspiration Kitchens, located in East Garfield Park.

13. Jane Addams Resource Corporation

Capital grant of \$90,000 to support renovations of a new training center, which will expand manufacturing training programs to the West Side of Chicago.

14. Jewish Child and Family Services, Chicago

Program grant of \$200,000 over two years to support the career services programs of JCFS Chicago, which serves low-income and unemployed members of the Jewish community as well as people with disabilities.

15. National Able Network, Inc.

Program grant of \$100,000 over two years to support the IT Career Lab program in which students will receive personalized career coaching; blended in-classroom and hands-on instruction; and job-search assistance including resume development, employment opportunities, and placement.

16. New Moms, Inc.

Operating grant of \$125,000 for one year to support programs that help young mothers experiencing homelessness obtain and maintain permanent housing and employment.

17. North Lawndale Employment Network

Capital grant of \$1 million to support the construction of a new workforce development campus and manufacturing center, which will include training, meeting, and recreational spaces.

18. OAI, Inc.

Program grant of \$100,000 over two years to support the Pre-Employment Education and Training program (PEET), which helps individuals obtain careers within the environmental field in Chicago.



JOBS (CONTINUED)

19. Skills for Chicagoland's Future

Program grant of \$150,000 over two years to support the Pivot to Success program, which provides training and places young adults (ages 18-24) into meaningful careers with local industry partnerships.

20. United Way of Metropolitan Chicago, Inc.

Program grant of \$350,000 over two years to support HIRE360, a program that expands employment opportunities for minority residents in the construction, manufacturing, and service industries through pre-apprenticeship job-training and placement services.

21. Youth Job Center, Inc.

Program grant of \$100,000 over two years to engage out-of-school and at-risk youth in employment services to help them increase skills and obtain employment in a career pathway.

22. YWCA Metropolitan Chicago

Program grant of \$150,000 over two years to support the FiftyPlus program, which provides job training, placement, and post-placement support that empowers older women to secure and retain employment.

EDUCATION

1. After School Matters, Inc.

Capital grant of \$170,000 to support the build-out and development of a state-of-the-art STEM lab within ASM's new OST youth programming facility at Gately Park on Chicago's far-South Side.

2. BUILD Incorporated

a. Program grant of \$50,000 for one year to support this organization's out-of-school time program, which provides a range of services, including academic tutoring, life-skills workshops, health and wellness groups, and more.

b. Capital grant of \$1 million to support BUILD's campus transformation project on Chicago's West Side to increase on-site capacity and add specialized facilities for several new programs.

3. Gads Hill Center

Program grant of \$150,000 over two years to support this organization's Building Leaders program, which provides a holistic range of academic and social-emotional interventions for students, parents, and school administrators.

4. Project Syncere

Operating grant of \$100,000 over two years to this organization that provides in- and out-of-school project-based STEM programs to middle and high school students in Chicago.

5. Saga Innovations

Program grant of \$300,000 over two years to support Saga's Math Lab in Chicago Public Schools, which enhances math and algebra instruction for struggling students in low-income high schools.

6. Wood Family Foundation

Operating grant of \$100,000 over two years to support Pitch In's work in FY21 to recruit, select, launch, and program four new fourth-grade classes of students (up to 100), all hailing from low-income populations of Chicago's Humboldt Park and North Lawndale neighborhoods.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. The Ark

Operating grant of \$125,000 for one year to support this organization that provides a range of comprehensive services, including housing and health care, with the goal of helping people achieve self-sufficiency.

2. Chicago Cares, Inc. (AMPT: Advancing Nonprofits)

Program grant of \$100,000 over two years to support organizational development services over two years for small to mid-size organizations led by people of color and serving communities of color in Chicago.

3. Chicago Community Trust

Program grant of \$50,000 for one year to support The Chicago Fund for Safe and Peaceful Communities, which provides rapid response grants for community-based activities that make Chicago neighborhoods safer, reduce violence, and promote peace throughout the summer and early fall.



COMMUNITY SERVICES (CONTINUED)

4. Heartland Alliance

Program grant of \$500,000 over two years to support READI Chicago in its fourth year of implementation as it attempts to reduce gun violence by targeting those most at risk, providing participants with cognitive behavioral therapy, transitional jobs, and other supports.

5. IFF

Capital grant of \$2 million to support this CDFI that will build capacity for nonprofits in Chicago and help organizations be resilient to the impacts of COVID-19 through loan capital, technical assistance, outreach to communities of color, and research and development.

6. Jewish United Fund Of Metropolitan Chicago

a. Operating grant of \$200,000 to support general operations and COVID-19 relief efforts.

b. Program grant of \$100,000 to support local community partnership building and interfaith work.

c. Program grant of \$100,000 to support local security needs.

7. Metropolitan Family Services

Program grant for \$500,000 over two years to support Communities Partnering 4 Peace, a 16-agency pact to reduce violence in Chicago that identifies individuals most likely to commit violence and links them to jobs, mental health and substance abuse care, legal assistance, and other programs.

8. YWCA Metropolitan Chicago

Capital grant of \$250,000 to support renovations of two service sites in the Illinois Medical District and the Roseland neighborhood, in order to increase program reach and clients served.