OUR VISION

Economic and racial equity for Black Chicago

OUR MISSION

The Chicago Urban League works to achieve equity for Black families and communities through social and economic empowerment.
Dear Partners, Supporters, and Friends,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Chicago Urban League, I am pleased to share with you the annual report for our 2022 fiscal year. I must start by thanking our immediate past chairman, Eric S. Smith, who led our board through this period in which we experienced both the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and opportunities for growth and renovation.

I also commend President & CEO Karen Freeman-Wilson, the Chicago Urban League staff, and our auxiliaries for their work to advance our mission. Over the course of the year, the team made progress toward our five-year strategic plan, spending many hours examining and evaluating program offerings to ensure alignment with current community needs and the organization's capacity. Each program department – the Center for Entrepreneurship & Innovation, Housing & Financial Empowerment Center, IMPACT Leadership Development Program, Workforce Development Center, and Youth Services Center – continued to deliver high-impact programming that, combined, served well over 10,000 residents in the Chicagoland area.

The organization upgraded and centralized key technology, completed the first phase of a building renovation, and unveiled a rooftop solar panel and carport installation that was recognized as the largest solar array in the city. Importantly, we ended the fiscal year in a strong financial position, thanks to support from many of you.

I am honored to serve alongside a group of business and civic leaders who are committed to the Urban League movement in Chicago and work together to advance its mission. While there is undoubtedly work to do to reach true economic and racial equity, your continued support makes me hopeful for the future. As you read the pages that follow, I hope the impact of our work over the past year gives you hope, too.

Sincerely,

Suzet McKinney, DrPH, MPH
Chairman, Board of Directors
EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

Karen Freeman-Wilson
President & CEO

Calmetta Coleman
Chief Operating Officer

Jessica Harris
Chief Development Officer

Curtis Whittaker, Sr.
Chief Financial Officer
Dear Friends,

We are excited to share our annual report for Fiscal Year 2022. Like many of you, we continued to navigate many transitions. We returned to safe in-person programming while providing clients with the training and engagement to assist them in adjusting to a new normal. We also expanded our partnerships as we continued work to address the racial wealth gap and institutional racism.

These milestones included welcoming nearly 2,000 people to our 2022 Annual Citywide Job Fair; welcoming over 1,100 to our 61st Golden Fellowship Dinner (with COVID protocols), where we honored attorney Benjamin Crump and Chicago business leaders Connie Lindsey and Brett J. Hart; growing our vaccine advocacy work with national (National Urban League, Pfizer and Walgreens) and local partners (City of Chicago Department of Health, Bright Star Community Outreach, Premier Health and TCA Health); and working with the Predatory Loan Prevention Act Coalition to cap Illinois loan interest rates at 36% per annum.

As we continued this time of reimagining, renovating, and returning, we were laser-focused on our physical environment. The time provided during the pandemic gave us an opportunity to begin a sorely needed facelift. This allowed us to confidently host our own events and open our doors to the community. This also laid the groundwork for our full return to the office once all of our renovations are complete.

After reading the pages that follow, we hope you will agree that our commitment to our mission and the community has not wavered. None of this would be possible without a committed Board of Directors, a dedicated staff, and the support that you so generously provide. We are grateful for your support, and we hope that you will continue to “Get in League with Us” as we work toward a better Chicago.

Sincerely,

Karen Freeman-Wilson

CHICAGO URBAN LEAGUE | FY22
VICE PRESIDENTS

Kelly Evans
Vice President, Entrepreneurship & Economic Development

Angela Hamilton
Vice President, Youth & Family Services

Mavis Laing
Vice President & Executive Director, IMPACT Leadership Development Program

Andrew Wells
Vice President, Workforce Development Center

Margaret Wooten
Vice President, Housing & Financial Empowerment Center
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WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Our Workforce Development Center programs work to raise Black employment and income levels through job training and placement services, career exposure, career advancement support services, seminars, coaching and long-term retention strategies.

Served 812 adult clients
476 secured gainful employment
3,382 job seekers attended 18 hiring events with employer partners

Top Photo: Participants in our Solar Energy Jobs Training Program learning to install solar panels
Bottom Photo: Renewable Energy consultant Karen Youngblood providing instruction to Workforce trainees
The Center for Entrepreneurship & Innovation helps Black entrepreneurs launch, grow, and sustain businesses. The Center provides entrepreneurs with the tools necessary to maximize revenues, reduce costs, increase profitability, and drive job creation while encouraging innovation.

Served 485 participants through business coaching

Provided 865 coaching sessions

1,395 coaching hours

10 clients received new contracts

17 businesses created 50+ jobs

Top Photo: Consultant Hadassah Townsend and President & CEO Karen Freeman-Wilson present a check to Brenda Nelson, owner of Stitch Me Apparel, for winning the pitch competition during the April 2022 graduation for our nextONE business accelerator program.

HOUSING & FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT CENTER

Our Housing and Financial Empowerment Center is a HUD-certified housing counseling agency that supports community-based investment and growth by facilitating homeownership and wealth building. We provide low- to moderate-income residents with homebuyer education, pre-purchase counseling, mortgage delinquency and default resolution counseling, pre-purchase counseling, financial capability coaching, and rental counseling.

Served 1,992 clients through homeownership and rental counseling

- 169 clients increased savings
- 167 clients lowered their debt
- 75 clients raised their credit score
- 37 clients purchased a home
- 24 clients in foreclosure retained their home

Top Photo: Realtor Lutalo McGee, Cook County Board of Review Commissioner Michael Cabonargi, CUL President & CEO Karen Freeman-Wilson, Housing & Urban Development Region 5 Administrator Diane Shelley, and realtor Courtney Jones discuss racial bias in home appraisals during a virtual community forum in February 2022.

Bottom Photo: First-time homebuyers received $500 toward down payment or closing costs as part of an Urban League partnership with the National Football League in July 2021.
IMPACT is an intensive, nine-month program that seeks to move the needle toward racial parity in leadership positions across Chicago by providing up-and-coming Black professionals with the tools and skills needed to thrive in increasingly responsible leadership roles. The University of Chicago Booth School of Business is the program's academic partner.

Served 41 IMPACT Fellows in the Class of 2022

100% increased their knowledge of essential leadership skills

97% increased understanding of their leadership characteristics and styles

100% increased their awareness of key issues impacting Black Americans

97% increased confidence in their leadership abilities

*Top Photo:* IMPACT’s Class of 2022 pose for a group photo during the graduation in May 2022.

*Bottom Photo:* Chicago Booth Professor George Wu and IMPACT Executive Director Mavis Laing present a graduation certificate to a 2022 Fellow.
YOUTH SERVICES CENTER

The Youth Services Center serves young people ages 12 to 24 through programming that includes socioemotional learning and competencies, academic enrichment and support, job readiness training, college readiness and success, and trades exploration and entrepreneurship.

- **651 youth** served during academic year programming
- **300 youth** attended Summer Immersion
- **100% of our seniors graduated** from high school
- **$4.7 million in scholarships** earned by our graduating seniors
- **100% of youth** maintained or increased their grades during the academic year

**Top Photo:** Youth participants in our Summer Immersion program pose for a photo after listening to successful entrepreneurs talk about their journey.

**Bottom Photo:** A student asks a question during a forum on youth and police relations during our Youth Summit at Chicago State University in April 2022.
RESEARCH & POLICY CENTER

The Chicago Urban League’s Research and Policy Center provides research, landscape analyses and pragmatic, evidence-based recommendations for issues that disproportionately affect Chicago’s Black residents. We also partner with policymakers and other organizations to support educational and legislative efforts designed to lessen the impact of policies and practices that disadvantage Black families and communities.

Partnered with Illinois DCEO and Chicago State University to design and disseminate the first statewide survey of Black business owners

Launched South Side Community Reparations Coalition to assess community strengths and needs

Helped inform the Illinois Commission on Poverty Elimination and Economic Security's 5-year strategic plan by hosting an in-person and virtual listening session for 130+ South Side residents to share their stories
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

The External Affairs department helps to advance our mission by positioning the Chicago Urban League as a thought leader on issues of importance to Black communities, conveying the impact our programs, and engaging constituents through various media platforms and special events. In FY22, External Affairs also led our health equity work, which was focused on vaccine education and access.

1.6 million+ social media impressions to raise awareness and share information about COVID vaccines

4,500+ attendees at virtual and live events

165 vaccinated at 8 pop-up COVID-19 vaccine clinics

Held 1st Annual Black Wellness Fair to provide mental and physical health resources

Top Photo: Our 2022 SUMMIT featuring a conversation with political commentator Melissa Harris Perry on “Partnering to Close the Racial Wealth Gap” drew 300 attendees in June.

Bottom Photo: A health worker for TCA Health vaccinates a community resident at our offices in July 2021.
REVENUE BY SOURCE

Contributions 44.3%
Government & Specially Funded Program Fees & Grants 36.8%
Special Events 13.1%
Miscellaneous Income 5.1%
Contributed Goods & Services 0.7%

TOTAL REVENUE: $13,406,807

Contributions $5,945,774
Special Events $1,760,042
Government & Specially Funded Program Fees & Grants $4,933,818
Miscellaneous Income $682,128
Contributed Goods & Services $85,045

for the July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022 fiscal year
EXPENSES

Program Services & Advocacy 72.6%

Fundraising & Special Events 13.6%

Administrative/Management & General 13.8%

TOTAL EXPENSES: $10,758,231

Program Services & Advocacy $7,813,782
Fundraising & Special Events $1,461,906
Administrative/Management & General $1,461,906

for the July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022 fiscal year
Statement of Financial Position

Total Assets: $7,742,228

- Cash & Cash Equivalents: $1,776,890
- Land, Building & Equipment: $2,201,874
- Contributions & Accounts Receivable: $1,813,689
- Investments: $1,290,766
- Other Assets: $659,009

Total Liabilities & Net Assets: $7,742,228

- Total Liabilities: $1,720,902
- Unrestricted: $3,153,604
- Time Restricted: $71,750
- Program Restricted: $2,614,153
- Permanently Restricted: $181,819

For the July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022 fiscal year

Chicago Urban League | FY22
OUR AUXILIARIES

The Chicago Urban League is supported by three auxiliaries that help to expand our impact. Our auxiliaries are intergenerational and promote activities aligned with our mission. They work to develop civic leaders within our network of supporter and provide hundreds of volunteer hours to support our work in the community.

METROPOLITAN BOARD OF THE CHICAGO URBAN LEAGUE

Our MetroBoard is a group of young professionals committed to supporting the Urban League movement through community outreach, fundraising and membership development. Founded in 1983 by former CUL CEO James Compton and John W. Rogers, Jr., it is the oldest National Urban League Young Professional Chapter in the country. MetroBoard had 148 members in FY22. Shauntee Randell serves as president.

WOMEN’S BOARD OF THE CHICAGO URBAN LEAGUE

Founded in 1966 by Dr. Arnita Young Boswell, the Women's Board's primary focus is to raise funds for scholarships in the name of Boswell’s brother, civil rights leader Whitney M. Young, Jr., who was executive director of the National Urban League. The auxiliary had 25 members in FY22. Deborah Love serves as president.

THE LEAGUERS

Established in 1955 by Muriel Ibom, the Leaguers assist with fundraising efforts and help raise awareness and community interest in our programs and policies. The Leaguers had 8 members in FY22. Cheryl Neal serves as president.

Top Photo: Women's Board members with CUL President & CEO Karen Freeman-Wilson at our 2022 Scholarship Luncheon.
Bottom Photo: MetroBoard members pose during a 2021 auxiliary gathering.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS as of June 30, 2022

Chairman
Eric S. Smith
Vice Chair, BMO Harris Bank

Vice Chairs
Maria C. Green
Retired Executive

Charles Matthews
President & CEO, Peoples Gas and Northshore Gas

James Reynolds
Chairman & CEO, Loop Capital Markets, LLC

Secretary
Esther Franklin
EVP, Managing Director
Global Strategy & Cultural Fluency, Spark Foundry

Treasurer
Andre P. Hughes
Founder & Servant, Powered by Action

Life Directors
Andrew C. Barrett
Managing Director, The Barrett Group, Inc.

Barbara Bowles
President, Landers Bowles Family Foundation

Melvin C. Hopson
President, M.C. Hopson & Associates

George E. Johnson
Retired Executive

Lester H. McKeever, Jr.
Managing Principal, Washington, Pittman & McKeever, LLC

James J. O’Connor, Sr.
Retired Chairman and CEO, Commonwealth Edison Co.

William A. Osborn
Retired Chairman and CEO, Northern Trust

Thomas M. Patrick
Retired Executive

John W. Rogers, Jr.
Chairman, Co-CEO & Chief Investment Officer, Ariel Investments, LLC

Sam Scott
Retired Executive

Frederick H. Waddell
Retired Executive
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Directors

Daniel Anello  
CEO, New Schools Chicago

Hope Bentley  
Sr. Director, Strategic Sourcing, U.S. Supply Chain Mgmt. McDonalds, Corp.

Jill Billhorn  
SVP, Commercial Sales, CDW

Dwight Blackman  
Deals Partner, PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP

Brian Duwe  
Partner  
Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP and Affiliates

Kimberly Evans  
Executive VP/Head of Corporate Sustainability, Inclusion and Social Impact, Northern Trust

Bryce A. Fisher  
Principal and Managing Director, KPS Capital Partners

Joseph A. Gregoire  
Senior Vice President, Wintrust Financial

Lori Healey  
Sr. VP, Obama Presidential Center Operations & Implementation Lead, Obama Foundation

Ajay Joshi  
Regional VP, Aviation Americas, BP

Connie Lindsey  
Retired Executive

Todd Lohr  
Principal, KPMG

Craig Martin  
Midwest Chairman, Willkie Farr & Gallagher, LLP

Anthony McCain  
Executive Vice President, Mears

Dr. Suzet McKinney (Board Chair-Elect)  
Principal, Director of Life Sciences, Sterling Bay

Eileen Mitchell  
President, AT&T Illinois

David Nichols  
Principal, Advisory Services, Ernst & Young, LLP

Michael Sacks  
CEO, GCM Grosvenor

Steve Sherman  
Managing Director, Loop Capital Financial Consulting Services

James P. Sledge  
VP, State Government Affairs, Comcast

Tyronne Stoudemire  
Vice President of Global Diversity & Inclusion  
Hyatt Hotels Corporation
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sheila Talton  
CEO and President, Gray Matter Analytics

Donald E. Wilbon  
Managing Director, J.P. Morgan

Karen Freeman-Wilson  
President & CEO, Chicago Urban League
Founded in 1916, the Chicago Urban League is one of the oldest and largest affiliates of the National Urban League. To get the latest information on our direct service programs and advocacy work, visit us online at www.chiul.org and follow us on social media.