

# UNIFYING VOICES FOR 30 YEARS



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Cheryl M. Francis, Chicago Area Project

Margie Gonwa, LEED Council, Inc.

Shervl Holman, Community Assistance Programs

Anita Jenke, Career Transitions Center of Chicago

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#### **FY 2011 Financial Support Provided By:**

Alphawood Foundation Bank of America The Boeing Company Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust Chicago Tribune Charities - Holiday Campaign, a fund of the McCormick Foundation The Richard H. Driehaus Foundation Field Foundation of Illinois Grand Victoria Foundation Jovce Foundation JPMorgan Chase Foundation Lloyd A. Fry Foundation The Partnership for New Communities Polk Bros. Foundation The UPS Foundation

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This past year the Chicago Jobs Council celebrated 30 years of advocating, researching, educating, and organizing for policies and programs that provide pathways for individuals and families to move out of poverty. Some of those activities are highlighted in this report. There has not been a lot to celebrate this year, but this past June we did pause one bright, sunny afternoon to celebrate CJC's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with many of our members, friends, supporters, and alumni. We thank all of you for making that a momentous and unforgettable afternoon.

The challenges, known and unknown, facing those of us committed to social and economic justice grow daily. In my thirty plus years of working in the human service arena, I have seen or experienced the insensitivity, bigotry, and apathy directed toward people who are unemployed, low-income, disabled, immigrant, gay, elderly, or are in any way reliant on the human service system for some kind of assistance.

Still, I remain hopeful because I have seen the remarkable resiliency and dedication of so many organizations and agencies committed to overcoming these challenges by working harder, longer, and smarter to continue providing the services their respective clients need in order to pursue their social and economic goals.

Through our working groups, technical assistance, Frontline Focus trainings, and organizing, CJC will continue to provide these organizations and agencies with tools, resources, and information to enhance their capacity. Our goal is to help the field withstand the policies and budget cuts aimed at eliminating the very services and support the 25 million unemployed citizens of this country need in order to become gainfully employed.

Through our combined work and commitment we can address the challenges facing us. We've done it before and we can, and have to, do it again. The saying, "the only way for evil to endure is for good men to do nothing," is what we face. We will do something and we will endure!

Finally, I want to again express my heartfelt thanks to all of you for your unwavering support of CJC. It is because of that support that CJC has been a leader in advocating on behalf of those living in poverty for thirty years.

Sincerely,

Allet E. Walen

Robert E. Wordlaw Executive Director

## **CAPACITY BUILDING**

Over the past year, CJC's Frontline Focus Training Institute (FFTI) continued to provide professional development and capacity building training for workforce development professionals in Chicago, Illinois and beyond. In all, we offered a total of 26 trainings, serving nearly 425 workforce development professionals from 185 diverse organizations across the region.

#### **Frontline Focus Training Institute**

FFTI developed several customized trainings this year for organizations including the Chicago Housing Authority, United Way, the West Suburban Jobs Council, and Easter Seals. Through a new partnership with St. Augustine College's Institute for Workforce Education, FFTI was able



Participants at the Springfield, IL Job Developer Orientation training in June 2011



The first-ever course catalog for the Frontline Focus Training Institute



Graduates of the Fall 2010 Working with Employers course

to revamp its entire training program. In FY2012, we will add 8 new courses to our schedule, and offer two different course tracks and certification options.

#### **Frontline Workforce Association**

In September 2010, FFTI launched the Frontline Workforce Association (FWA) as a way to help frontline providers stay in touch outside of formal Frontline Focus trainings. Through a series of free, bi-monthly meetings, providers have an opportunity to discuss timely topics of interest, and meet and network with other like-minded professionals. In its

first year, FWA provided information and resources to nearly 260 individuals with an average registration rate of 60 to 80 participants per meeting.

Participants at the November FWA meeting: Marketing 101



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## INITIATIVES

As an advocate for individuals living in poverty, CJC continued to manage several projects to help ensure the most disadvantaged job seekers have access to quality employment opportunities.



The Chicagoland Green Collar Jobs Initiative (CGCJI) allows CJC to further develop its connections with economic development and environmental stakeholders. This year, the initiative created career maps to help job seekers and service providers better understand career pathways in the green sector. Additionally, CGCJI hosted quarterly

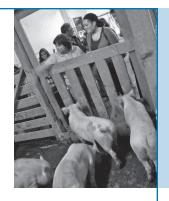


Participants at the Fall 2010 CGCJI Partner Meeting at the Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences



Judy Mayo and Booker Crayton catch up at a FWA social event

Partner Meetings, inviting interested members to discuss best practices within the Green Collar Jobs sector. In May 2011, CGCJI hosted its fourth annual Green Collar Jobs Summit at Chicago-Kent College of Law focusing on best practices for supporting and training disadvantaged workers in the Chicagoland area.



A tour of the Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences



This year's Summit included workshops on promoting regional green job growth



Jason Sloat presenting at the 2011 Green Collar Jobs Summit

#### **Illinois Works for the Future**

With state budget cuts and continued economic woes, CJC saw its statewide outreach and advocacy take on more importance than ever. Through the Illinois Works for the Future (IWF) campaign, CJC advocated for more subsidized employment opportunities for the unemployed. IWF promoted a statewide Transitional Jobs proposal with the Illinois Commission on the Elimination of Poverty, as well as advocated for amendments to the Illinois Emergency Employment Development Act to create partial wage subsidies to hire the long-term unemployed. IWF also co-hosted its





IWF revamped its online presence and marketing materials





Participants and CJC staff take part in an IWF Community Forum in Southwestern Illinois

final community forum in Southwestern Illinois to highlight local workforce and economic development challenges and goals. A final report from five forums held across the state was issued and sent to Illinois lawmakers to educate them about workforce development priorities across the state.

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#### **Opportunity Chicago**

Managed by CJC, Opportunity Chicago was a five year initiative designed to place 5,000 Chicago Housing Authority residents into jobs. 2010 marked the final year of this collaborative effort. During this time, the initiative exceeded its goal by helping more than 6,000 public-housing residents find employment. In celebration of the success of Opportunity Chicago, a report entitled "A Partnership for Change" tells the story of what it took to connect 6,000 public-housing



© Eileen Ryan photography, 2011

Providers participate in a live forum/webinar to coincide with Opportunity Chicago's "A Partnership for Change" report



© Eileen Ryan photography, 2011

Mary Ellen Caron, Maria Hibbs, Linda Kaiser, and Jen Keeling presenting at the Opportunity Chicago live forum/webinar





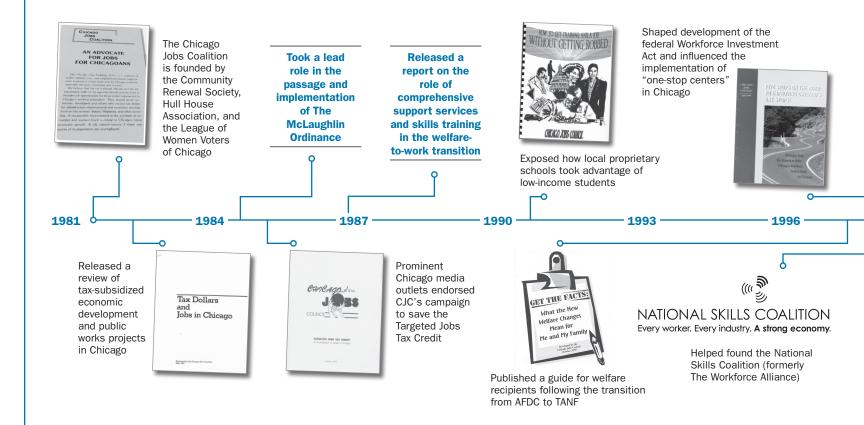


Opportunity Chicago's "A Partnership for Change" report followed by two briefs that advocate for changes to federal workforce funding and policy

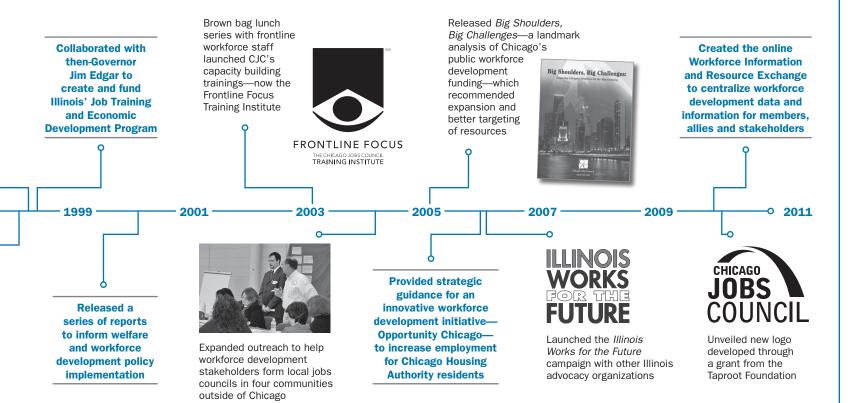
residents to jobs. To coincide with the report, Opportunity Chicago hosted a live forum/webinar where initiative leaders shared the compelling story of collaboration. Following this report, two briefs were published that advocate for specific changes to federal workforce funding and policy.

# **UNIFYING VOICES FOR 30 YEARS**

1981 - 2011

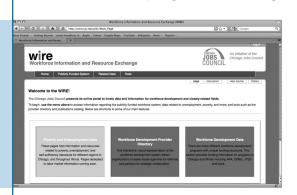


Through 30 years of advocacy, research, public education, and capacity-building initiatives, the Chicago Jobs Council has worked with its members to help strengthen public policies and programs designed to move disadvantaged individuals into the workforce and out of poverty.



#### **Workforce Information and Resource Exchange**

Launched in 2009, CJC's online Workforce and Information Resource Exchange (WIRE) continued to improve its interface and add new pages, including new poverty and unemployment statistics that highlight information from the Metro Chicago Information Center and Social IMPACT Research Center. A new "Community Profiles" page was launched in January 2011 to show the characteristics of the communities in which CJC advocates, labor market and LWIA information, and descriptions and contact information for key organizations, programs, and leaders



Housed at CJC, the online, interactive WIRE provides updated and relevant information, data and statistics for Chicago's workforce development community

in the community. The Provider Directory, which was launched in FY 2010, saw an increase in the number of providers listed—more than 270 across the Chicagoland region.

## MEMBER OUTREACH

As always, engaging our members and stakeholders in our advocacy work is a priority for CJC. We continued to do that this year by hosting monthly meetings and bi-annual forums where we could exchange information, provide timely policy updates.

and solicit feedback from providers on the ground.

#### **Member Meetings**

CJC hosted two Member
Meetings which allowed for
in-depth discussions of timely
issues and promising practices
in the service delivery system.
The Fall 2010 meeting included
a moderated panel discussion
about the implications for
workforce and related policy
development in Illinois
after the 2010 Elections.



Ralph Martire and Representative Art Turner, Sr. speak at CJC's Fall 2010 Member Meeting

Panelists commented on the election's impact on statelevel workforce development priorities, possible budget predictions, and whether CJC members should reach out to newly elected officials based on previous workforce and

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CJC Executive Director, Bob Wordlaw, speaks with a participant at CJC's Spring Member Meeting

economic development experience. The Spring 2011 meeting included a panel discussion around Bridge Programs for low-skilled and low-educated adults. Participants discussed everything from successful strategies agencies use to address the needs of low-skilled students in adult education to challenges with implementation.



CJC uses its monthly working group meetings to discuss issues related to creating enhanced employment and training



Working Group participants listen as Jeff Kelly Lowenstein of The Chicago Reporter shares information about teen and young adult unemployment

opportunities for disadvantaged job seekers and working poor families. Participants gathered this year to discuss various topics, including: addressing the workforce needs of low-skilled students in adult education, challenges individuals face in obtaining employment, and serving job seekers with specific barriers. These meetings encourage engagement among participants and regularly spotlight a specific member organization. This year a total of 267 individuals representing 95 diverse organizations attended the working group meetings.



Working Group participants learn about the City Colleges of Chicago's Reinvention Plan at the June Working Group meeting

## FISCAL YEAR 2011 FINANCIALS

### **Chicago Jobs Council Statement of Financial Position**

Period ending June 30, 2011 (Unaudited)

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TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,445,117
Fixed Assets, Net	\$11,232
Noncurrent Assets:	
Total Current Assets	\$1,433,885
Prepaid Expenses	48,195
Grants & Accounts Receivable	229,843
Checking/Savings	\$1,155,847
Current Assets:	

#### **LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$1,445,117
Total Net Assets	\$1,298,510
Change in Net Asset	(326,806)
Beginning Net Asset	\$1,625,316
Net Assets:	
Total Liabilities	\$146,606
Due to Sub-Contractor Agencies	89,028
Government Contract Advance	_
Other Current Liabilities	29,715
Custodial Funds Payable	6,831
Accounts Payable	\$21,032
Liabilities:	

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# FISCAL YEAR 2011 CJC MEMBERS

#### **Organizational Members**

A Safe Haven Foundation

Academy of Communications and Technology

Albany Park Community Center, Inc.

Asian Human Services

Association House of Chicago

Banner Schools, LLC

CJG Communications, Inc.

California Indian ManPower Consortium, Inc. (CIMC)

Career Transitions Center of Chicago

Cathedral Shelter

Central States SER

Chicago Area Project

Chicago Federation of Labor Workers Assistance Committee

Chicago House and Social Service Agency Chicago Lawvers' Committee for Civil Rights

Chicago Urban League

Chicago Workforce Investment Council

Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce

Chinese American Service League

Community Assistance Programs

Cook County Works

Corporation for Supportive Housing DePaul University/Egan Urban Center

**DuPage Workforce Board** 

Dynamic Educational Systems, Inc.

Easter Seals Metropolitan Chicago

El Valor Corporation

**Employment and Employer Services** 

Erie Neighborhood House

Goldie's Place

Goodwill Industries of Metropolitan Chicago, Inc.

Greater Chicago Food Depository

**Greater Southwest Development Corporation** 

Greater West Town Community Development Project

Growing Home, Inc.

Harborquest, Inc. Haymarket Center

Health and Disability Advocates Healthcare Consortium of Illinois

Heartland Alliance

Housing Opportunities for Women

Humboldt Park Social Services, Inc.

i.c. stars

Illinois Department of Employment Security

Illinois Manufacturing Foundation Industrial Council of Nearwest Chicago

Inner-City Muslim Action Network

Inspiration Corporation Instituto del Progreso Latino

Jane Addams Resource Corporation

Jewish Vocational Service

Jobs For Youth

LEED Council, Inc. La Casa Norte

LePenseur Youth & Family Services, Inc.

**Local Initiatives Support Corporation** 

Maximus

Mercy Housing Lakefront National Able Network, Inc. National Council of La Raza

New Horizons Computer Learning Centers of Chicago

New Moms, Inc.

North Lawndale Employment Network

OAI, Inc.

Phalanx Family Services

Poder Learning Center

Polish American Association

Pyramid Partnership, Inc.

Safe Cities, Inc. Safer Foundation

Sankofa Safe Child Initiative

Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law Southeast Chicago Development Commission

St. Augustine College Institute for Workforce Education

St. Leonard's Ministries

St. Sabina Employment Resource Center

The CABET Group The Cara Program

The Inner Voice Incorporated

The Renaissance Collaborative, Inc.

The Sanctuary

Trilogy, Inc.

**UCAN Chicago** 

**US** Probation

Upwardly Global Chicago West Suburban Jobs Council

West Suburban PADS

Women Employed

Woodlawn Preservation and Investment Corporation

Workforce Board of Northern Cook County Workforce Investment Board of Will County

YMCA Alliance of Metropolitan Chicago

YWCA of Metropolitan Chicago

Youth Build Lake County

Youth Connection Charter School Youth Job Center of Evanston, Inc.

# FISCAL YEAR 2011 CJC MEMBERS (CONTINUED)

#### **Individual Members**

Nathan Bedell Regina Boyd Shelly Efrosinis Ron Hearns Vicki Ancell Hensley Jeff Janulis Noah Temaner Jenkins Jan Kav Richard Kaye Judith Kossy G. Sequane Lawrence Shari Lewis Evelina Tainer Loescher Marcia Medema Sandy O'Donnell Ray Prendergast Fric Puckett Richard Reeder Lois Snyder Marisol Velazquez

# Working Group Participants

Sandra Watson-Smith

Betty Willhoite

Larry Alexander Mamie Andry Ben Angel Jeff Arner Faby Balcazar

Rita Balzotti Brian Banks Ashlev Barnes Ana Bedard Leslie Beller Leticia Boughton Scott Brown Sandy Bykowski Dena Byrd Annie Byrne Amanda Cage **Brian Caminer** Leatrice Campbell Joe Chiappetta Neha Chitnavis Lisa Cockerham Tonya Cody-Robinson Jerome Collins Myron Colvin Debbie Constabile Jovce Cooper Deborah Cronberg Yolanda Crouch George Crouse Tiya Cunningham-Sumter LaVerne Davis Jenny Delumo Christian Denes Evelyn Diaz

Leigh Diffay

Harry Dispensa

Kimberly Drew Margarite Faulkner Sameer Gadkaree Jaime Garcia Sheri Gibson Margie Gonwa Kelly Goodall Hannah Green Lorne Green Joe Haag Lisa Hampton Linda Hannah Nicole Harris Stephanie Havnes Ron Hearns Paul Hickey Rosie Hicks-Patton Cheiko High Roderick Hill Cornell Hudson Mark Hulse Brent In Surabhi Jain Nancy Jeffries Tawakalitu Jogunosimi Fllen Johnson Patrick Iones Earl Jordan Liliana Kaminski Bradford Jan Kay Anita Kellev

Kathleen Kelly Sarah Klerk Robert Kos Sarah Labadie Jill Laney Jiffy Lansing Marisa Lewis David Limon Rena Livingston Marsha Love Jeff Lowenstein Tara Pink Anthony Lowery Rhonda Mahone Mary Beth Marshall Angela Mason Judy Mayo Barbara McCain Barb McCain Dennis McCann Colleen McGaughev Jade McInroe Bill McVev Angela Mecagni Marcia Medema Isa Melon-White Alan Micou Cindy Moron Sheryl Morris Angela Morrison Meghann Moses Matt Muench

Jeffrey Mullins Carrie Newton Areli Nunez Abu Nurruddin Alberto Ortega Jessica Palek Christopher Pandolfo Patricia Pavne Roger Peden Diana Peters Laura Pleasants Wendy Pollack Alex Prentzas Logan Ouan Nadim Rana Alicia Rankin Becky Raymond Jav Readev Richard Reeder Jennifer Reid Siiri Rimpila Heidy Robertson Rita Robinson Tarvn Roch Lilv Rocha Jesus Rodriguez Osiris Rojas Kathleen Rubenstein Bernie Ryan Gerardo Salazar

Theresa Salus Doug Schenkelberg Danny Shields Lois Snyder Ivette Sosias Paul Strauss Kimberly Swise Raquel Taylor Javne Vellinga Elizabeth Weigensberg Matthew Weis Andrew Wells Trina Whatley Jonathan Wheat Linda Williams Kelly Wise Melissa Young James Zangs Rob Ziebell

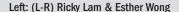
Copy and edits: Ellen Johnson Andrés Moreno Design: Starbelly Inc Photography: Andrés Moreno Kyle Weaver

#### CJC's 30th Anniversary Celebration

Left: Lynn Cunningham accepting the 2011 Partner of the Year Award for St. Leonard's Ministries

Middle: 30th Anniversary guests at Venue Six10

Right: (L-R) Rhonda Present, Bob Wordlaw, Luke Weisberg, & Sequane Lawrence



Middle: CJC Staff (Top row, L-R) Alberto Ortega, Andrés Moreno, Angela Bailey, Bob Wordlaw, Carrie Thomas, Steve Simmons, Jen Keeling, & Ellen Johnson. (Bottom row, L-R) Etta Davis, John Colin Bradley, Cheryl Hester, Crispina Ojeda, Greg Shirbroun, America Lewis, Megan Winzeler. (Not pictured: Liz Czarnecki)

Right: Bill Lowry of the Chicago Community Trust

– 30th Anniversary Host

Left: (L-R) Sanobeia Brima, Mollie Dowling, & Cheryl Barsanti

Middle: (L-R) Juanita Walker, America Lewis, & Jennifer Becker Mouhcine

Right: (L-R) Jacob Morrison & Greg Shirbroun























## **Chicago Jobs Council**

29 E. Madison St., Suite 1700 Chicago, IL 60602-4415

**p**: 312.252.0460 **f**: 312.252.0099

www.cjc.net

#### **About CJC**

The Chicago Jobs Council works with its members to ensure access to employment and career advancement opportunities for people in poverty.

Founded in 1981 with 18 original members, CJC has grown to include over 100 community-based organizations, civic groups, businesses, and individuals committed to helping disadvantaged Chicagoans gain access to the education and training they need to enter the labor market, secure stable employment at a living wage, and pursue sustainable careers.

CJC advances its mission through advocacy, applied research, public education, and capacity-building initiatives focused on influencing the development or reform of public policies and programs.