

CHICAGO COMMITMENT

For 40 years, MacArthur has been committed to Chicago, its people, its diverse neighborhoods, its strength and vitality. We have invested more in the Chicago region than in any other place around the world: \$1.3 billion in more than 1,500 organizations and individuals. Our goal is a city that is connected and integrated, where prosperity is shared, opportunity is equitable, and civic and cultural assets are available to everyone. Our local grantmaking was designed with the priorities of Chicagoans in mind—taking heed of what residents and leaders believe are the most urgent concerns and promising solutions.



STRONG ORGANIZATIONS

Providing institutional support to organizations to help them gain strength, innovate, and grow

We support diverse local organizations working in neighborhoods across the city to help them sustain their work over time. These critical organizations advance access, equity, and inclusion and are valued by the communities they serve. They are compassionate partners that help educate and connect others, with a goal of tackling systemic barriers and increasing the stability, power, and effectiveness of the community as a whole.

We recognize an organization's track record or promise, connection to communities, and commitment to peers with our Community Capital grants, which organizations can use to support:

- Innovation, which may include testing a concept, launching a pilot project, or facilitating a new collaboration;
- Strength, which may support professional development or

strategic, financial, and operational planning and investment; or

- Growth, which may incorporate acquisitions, new investments, entry into new markets, or outreach to new audiences.

REPRESENTATIVE GRANTS

Broader Urban Involvement & Leadership Development (BUILD) - \$1 million over four years

BUILD provides leadership opportunities, positive out-of-school activities, and mentoring to youth and young adults in Austin, Humboldt Park, East Garfield Park, Hermosa, and Fuller Park.

The Resurrection Project - \$1 million over four years

The Resurrection Project creates healthier immigrant communities by offering residents financial wellness programs, immigration services, leadership development, affordable housing, and economic development opportunities in neighborhoods including Pilsen, Little Village, and Back of the Yards.

CIVIC PARTNERSHIPS

Participating in local partnerships with civic leaders and organizations to work on critical or timely challenges facing the city

Chicago has a rich tradition of civic engagement and civically-minded people coming together to work on critical or timely needs facing the city. Civic partnerships leverage the collective assets of these leaders and organizations for greater impact. MacArthur has been an active participant in important civic partnerships, such as the development of Millennium Park, establishment of a visitor center at the Pullman National Monument, and building a living monument to the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in Marquette Park.

MacArthur is a founding member of the Partnership for Safe and Peaceful Communities, a coalition of more than 35 philanthropic organizations supporting proven and promising approaches to reduce gun violence in Chicago. Members of the Partnership have committed more than \$40 million in funding to support strategies that provide direct services for those most affected by violence; increase the effectiveness and legitimacy of police; strengthen gun policy; and support grassroots organizations working to build community cohesion. Over the next two to three years, we hope to see a reduction in gun violence; greater access by affected individuals to supportive services, including transitional jobs and therapy; and increased trust and respect between police officers and Chicago residents.



VITAL COMMUNITIES

Investing targeted resources in a small number of place-based initiatives and regional organizations that provide field support to neighborhoods

MacArthur has supported neighborhood revitalization in the Chicago metropolitan area since our founding. We have learned important lessons from four decades of investing in constructive community change—for example, the importance of investments in both individual programs and the collective strength of neighborhoods. We find that when local partners work together across areas of interest, organizations significantly increase positive outcomes in areas such as youth programming and

violence prevention, affordable housing and commercial development, and foreclosure prevention and mitigation.

Building on this past support, our approach is to invest in place-based initiatives. These are established and emerging collaborative efforts



that engage a cross section of individuals, organizations, and institutions to effect positive change in neighborhoods. We also invest in field support organizations that conduct planning, management, and technical assistance; policy research and evaluation; data analysis; and that offer assistance to groups working at the community or regional level. We expect Vital Communities programming to result in the improved physical, social, and economic health of the city; improved circumstances for residents; and increased partnerships among funders and other investors in community revitalization.

REPRESENTATIVE GRANTS

Chicago Community Trust - \$2.6 million

A dedicated fund at the Chicago Community Trust supports two programs: one operated by Metropolitan Family Services to diffuse violent situations and prevent retaliatory acts by professionalizing street outreach and a second by Heartland Alliance to connect young people to transitional jobs, cognitive behavioral therapy, coaching, and other services.

Chicago Fund for Safe and Peaceful Communities - \$155,000

A contribution to the \$850,000 provided by members of the Partnership supports 132 neighborhood organizations working to reclaim parks, streets, and public areas and crowd out violence.

REPRESENTATIVE GRANTS

Austin Coming Together - \$1 million over four years

Supporting a network of more than 50 community organizations on Chicago's West Side to implement a quality of life plan to promote economic development, improve public safety, and develop a vibrant real estate market.

Brighton Park Neighborhood Council - \$1 million over four years

Supporting a coalition that includes 42 Southwest Side organizations to develop and implement a community-based public safety and economic development strategy that addresses barriers to employment, enhances job training and placement, and supports emerging community entrepreneurs.

INFLUENTIAL LEADERS

Promoting and advancing diverse leaders whose influence will inform and improve decision making across the city

In the private, public, or philanthropic sectors, many individuals who are leaders in their communities, professional fields, or interest areas are not heard in public discourse. Although over 60 percent of the residents of the city of Chicago are from African, Latinx, Asian, Arab, and Native American communities, existing civic leadership does not reflect these demographics.

Our goal is to promote and advance diverse leadership whose influence will inform and improve decision making across the city, with a strong representation from communities of color. Leaders will also represent a broad array of Chicago residents with diversity of religion, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, and expertise; people with disabilities; and those from different geographies and income levels. Through grants and other support, we specifically seek to advance racial equity and access to opportunity, and to foster conditions that recognize and provide opportunities for people who bring a range of experience and perspective to leadership positions.

REPRESENTATIVE GRANTS

Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Chicago - \$125,000

Supporting leadership advancement programs for immigrant and refugee youth and adults in the Chicago metropolitan area.

Chicago Community Trust - \$125,000

Supporting ADA25 Advancing Leadership, a project designed to activate and connect people with disabilities to civic leadership opportunities and professional advancement in metropolitan Chicago.



ARTS AND CULTURE

Sustaining the creative life of the city

We support more than 300 local arts and culture groups in the Chicago region with multi-year, unrestricted, general operating grants to promote their organizational effectiveness, strength, and stability. These organizations include theaters, dance companies, music organizations, visual art programs, film centers, museums, and libraries in neighborhoods across the city and suburbs. Support for arts and culture can generate economic, cultural, educational, and community activity and contribute to the city's reputation as a vibrant place to live, visit, and conduct business.

Our grants allow for creative risk-taking and help organizations create meaningful performances, exhibits, and experiences, while also providing the flexibility to innovate and experiment. A vital creative sector also helps individuals explore their passions, develop their identity and potential, confront challenging topics, and connect with one another. We expect our arts and culture programming to result in a more dynamic cultural life in the city, stronger institutions, greater flexibility for innovation, and amplified voices of those who are often unheard.

We support some of Chicago's largest arts and culture organizations, with budgets over \$2 million, directly. We also support the operating budgets of small and mid-sized arts organizations through two intermediary partners, the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation and the Prince Charitable Trusts.

REPRESENTATIVE GRANTS

Kartemquin Films - \$300,000

For general operations to support the organization, which produces critically acclaimed documentaries.

Muntu Dance Theatre - \$20,000 (through the Driehaus Foundation)

Performing contemporary and ancient African and African-American dance, music, and folklore, and engaging the public in community arts education.

National Museum of Mexican Art - \$300,000

For general operations to support the Museum's goals to preserve knowledge and appreciation of Mexican culture, encourage development of Mexican artists, and provide arts education in the community.

Young Chicago Authors - \$40,000 (through the Prince Charitable Trusts)

Providing opportunities and mentorship to teens interested in creative writing.



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ABOUT THE JOHN D. AND CATHERINE T. MACARTHUR FOUNDATION

The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation supports creative people, effective institutions, and influential networks building a more just, verdant, and peaceful world. MacArthur is placing a few big bets that truly significant progress is possible on some of the world's most pressing social challenges, including over-incarceration, global climate change, nuclear risk, and significantly increasing capital for the social sector. In addition to the MacArthur Fellows Program, the Foundation continues its historic commitments to the role of journalism in a responsible and responsive democracy; the strength and vitality of our headquarters city, Chicago; and generating new knowledge about critical issues.

MacArthur is one of the nation's largest independent foundations. Organizations supported by the Foundation work in about 40 countries. In addition to Chicago, MacArthur has offices in India, Mexico, and Nigeria.

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