



## **Social Impact**

LP's charitable commitments support organizations with a strong multiplier effect, ensuring our contributions have the greatest possible impact on the community.

Our commitment to social impact is unwavering. When we empower and uplift others, we unlock and see the best parts of ourselves.

# A FEW WORDS FROM LP MANAGING PARTNER JEFFERY HOFFENBERG

Dear Friends,



The past year has been one of change and transition at LP. We have navigated the "new normal" while also undergoing leadership changes "passing of the baton," so to speak, to the next generation firm leadership. These transitions have prompted LP to double down on our core values, and our commitment building strong to and collaborative relationships is as strong as ever.

Many years ago, LP adopted a policy of contributing to non-profit organizations that are doing good work in the community. We believe that not only is it good for business when businesses support the community, but it is the right thing to do. Therefore, we wanted to be steadfast in our commitment in both profitable and lean years. We are honored to have been unwavering in our pledge to do so.

This year's Social Impact Report showcases the generative impact of the organizations we support through stories of some of the individuals. families. and communities our grant programs have reached. Our grant partners - Cristo Rey Jesuit High School's Corporate Work Study Program, the Greater Chicago Food Depository's Job Training Programs, and the Catholic Charities' House of the Good Shepherd **Program** – were chosen not based on any beliefs they hold, but because they focus on empowering others to create their own success story.

In addition to the financial support we provide to our grant partners, we're incredibly proud of and happy to support LP team members who champion their causes independently through significant contributions time or leadership positions in charitable and civic organizations. We are also gratified to provide pro bono services legal to various individuals and organizations, including immigrants seeking asylum and Hope Chicago.

We do not share this information to pat ourselves on the back.

We consider corporate social responsibility to be a baseline expectation. Instead, we share this information and these stories so that you may have a deeper understanding of the exceptional organizations we support.

None of our corporate social responsibility endeavors would be possible without you, and we are grateful for you. By choosing LP, you have afforded us the opportunity to have an impact in our community that could not happen without our clients' loyalty and our staff's dedication.

On behalf of everyone at LP, thank you.

Sincerely, Jeffery D. Hoffenberg

## July

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## **Grant Partners**

The bulk of LP's charitable commitments are dedicated to three organizations with a strong multiplier effect. These are their stories.

## GREATER CHICAGO FOOD DEPOSITORY'S JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS

■ Job training programs are evolving to meet the changing needs of hospitality and supply chain industries and the program's participants.



Elizabeth Davis with her Certified Logistics Associate training program cohort.

# 44 SINCE I'VE BEEN IN REMISSION, I WANTED TO GET BACK IN THE JOB FORCE, BUT I DIDN'T HAVE SKILLS. I FOUND OUT ABOUT THE FOOD DEPOSITORY, AND IT WAS JUST A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR ME. 77

fter working various jobs in retail, health care, and childcare, Elizabeth Davis was diagnosed with cancer in 2012. She underwent surgery in 2015, and while dealing with her own health challenges, she was also caring for her mother who has dementia. In 2022, ready to rejoin the workforce, Davis turned to the Greater Chicago Food Depository's job training and placement programs.

"Since I've been in remission, I wanted to get back in the job force, but I didn't have skills," Davis

said. "I found out about the Food Depository, and it was just a great opportunity for me."

Earlier this year, she completed the Food Depository's Certified Logistics Associate training, part of the Supply Chain Career Path Program which prepares unemployed or underemployed Cook County residents for skilled industry jobs.

The Food Depository's mission is to end hunger. To achieve this mission, the Food Depository works with a network of community-

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## GREATER CHICAGO FOOD DEPOSITORY

(CONTINUED)

# **44** JUST KNOWING THAT SOMEONE IS WITH YOU AND ROOTING FOR YOU TO DO WELL AND THEN YOU PROVE THAT YOU CAN DO IT, IT'S BEAUTIFUL. **77**

based organizations and individuals to connect neighbors with healthy food, facilitate job training, and advance solutions that address the root causes of hunger — poverty, systemic inequity, and structural racism.

Since 2010, LP has supported the job training programs offered by the Food Depository to support students working towards breaking the cycle of poverty. Job training programs have included Chicago's Community Kitchens, a culinary training program. When the pandemic disrupted the restaurant industry, the Food Depository pivoted and expanded its job training to meet the evolving needs of the community.

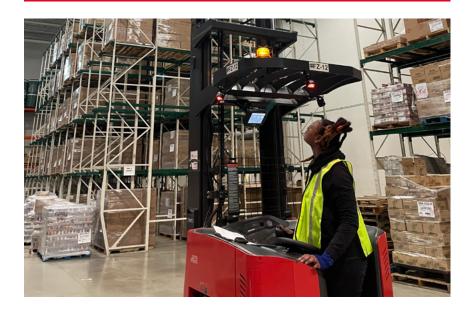
Over the past two years, the Food Depository has facilitated new programs focused on hospitality, supply chain, warehousing. and logistics - sectors that continue to have a high demand for semi-skilled and skilled workers. Students who complete training receive a completion certificate and letter of recommendation to assist with iob placement. Sustained support from LP has helped the Food Depository enroll 307 students through new adapted workforce programming, with 259 students completing programs and earning industry certifications.

Additionally, this year, the Food Depository incorporated virtual reality forklift simulators



Job training student using the virtual reality forklift simulator.

#### Student in the Supply Chain Development Program.



into the supply chain training curriculum. Until this year, students in the Supply Chain Career Path of the Workforce Development Program needed to train to operate forklifts using real equipment, which needed to be supervised by staff members and limited the number of forklifts that can be used for warehouse operations. The simulators provide a more cost-efficient alternative that allows operators to hone skills and enhance safety training.

Recognizing that students participating in workplace training programs may have specific needs outside the training program, the Food Depository provides additional resources and support. For example, the Food Depository's Benefits Outreach team offers information about public benefits and assists students with completing and submitting the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Medicaid applications, provides transportation assistance to enrolled students, provides wellness/hygiene stipends, and offers counseling and support through Metropolitan Family Services for holistic workshops and one-on-one sessions.

"Just knowing that someone is with you and rooting for you to do well and then you prove that you can do it, it's beautiful."

Photos and quotes for this story were provided by the Greater Chicago Food Depository.

**Listen to** Kate Maehr, Executive Director and CEO of the Greater Chicago Food Depository, discuss our relationship with the Food Depository and its training programs.

#### **JUST THE FACTS**

127

students enrolled in and benefitted from job training programs in FY2022 (July 2021-June 2022).

100

students graduated from job training programs in FY2022 with industry credentials – a graduation rate of 79%.

106

students enrolled in and benefited from job training programs in calendar year 2022 to date.

89

students graduated from job training programs in calendar year 2022 with industry credentials – a graduation rate of 84%.

#### **GET IN TOUCH**

If you would like to know more about the Food Depository's training programs, please call 773-843-5414 or go to: chicagosfoodbank.org/ job-training.

For more information, visit:

chicagosfoodbank.org

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#### **Grant recipient since 2006**

## CRISTO REY JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL'S CORPORATE WORK STUDY PROGRAM

■ Working with LP, Cristo Rey Jesuit students gain valuable job-readiness skills and work experience along with a tuition scholarship.



Graduates from Cristo Rey's Class of 2022.

orking at LP has helped me become more responsible and hardworking, not limited to the workplace, but also in school and other aspects of my life," said Betzy, a student at Cristo Rey who has been working at LP as part of its Corporate Work Study Program (CWSP). "My timidness no longer gets in the way of working at my best because I quickly felt comfortable with the people around me."

For the past 27 years, Cristo Rey has served low-income students by providing them with professional work experiences that enable them to take ownership of their education and career to become agents of change. After three school

years of pandemic-related disruptions, the past year has been one of invigoration and a renewed commitment to its mission.

LP's grant is used for the CWSP, a mainstay of Cristo Rey's innovative approach to schooling. By placing students in professional work environments, the CWSP prepares graduates to become employees and leaders of organizations that would benefit from their life experience and perspective. This year, four Cristo Rey students have worked at LP through the CWSP — two students in the spring semester, and two students who began this fall will work at LP one day a week for the school year.

After the pandemic disrupted CWSP, the program is well on its way to full employment this school year. An impressive 80% of the student population is fully employed, with 3% working remotely. In a massive win for the program, 39% of freshmen are deployed to work, with the remaining freshmen participating in a full day of workforce preparation and skills-building each week.

LP's grant is used to pay for the tuition of students participating in the CWSP. The cost of education per student at Cristo Rey is approximately \$16,000, with families asked to contribute \$2,950 toward the cost of education. However, because of pandemic-related disruptions, rising inflation, and other challenges, the average family has paid \$1,121 annually.

Cristo Rey continues to make adjustments to CWSP as necessary to meet the needs of their students and evolving workplace. For example, they switched workdays so that each day corresponds to a single grade level, with freshmen

Cristo Rey students completing service hours.



Fridays working on since this is the day with the least demand for student workers. The school has also partnered with external organizations provide students in to training with expanded skillbuilding opportunities.

Cristo Rey has also continued and expanded its Summer Bridge Program, which was launched in 2021 to help students adjust to a return to inperson schooling. The program was expanded to a full-day, three-week program in July, with mornings dedicated to academic work and afternoons focused on technology and CWSP courses.

In addition to the robust CWSP, Cristo Rey students completed their required 15 service hours, adding value

44 WORKING AT LP HAS HELPED ME BECOME MORE RESPONSIBLE AND HARDWORKING, NOT LIMITED TO THE WORKPLACE, BUT ALSO IN SCHOOL AND OTHER ASPECTS OF MY LIFE. 77

## CRISTO REY PROGRAM

(CONTINUED)

to their communities with 10,000+ hours of service. Students also participate in extracurricular activities and sports at record levels, with 78% participating in 24 clubs and 13 sports. As students became interested in Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) topics, Cristo Rey created a working group to evaluate DEI within the school community.

The benefits of CWSP are a two-way street, with the students sharing their experiences, energy, and optimism with the LP team. "Working with students at Cristo Rey is an incredible opportunity," said LP Director of Human Resources Molly Garcia. "Each year, we partner with these impressive high school students, and they always have great energy and curiosity."

Photos and quotes for this story were provided by Cristo Rey Jesuit High School.

**Listen to** Cristo Rey President Antonio Ortiz discuss our relationship with the school.

#### Heidy, a student at Cristo Rey.



#### **JUST THE FACTS**

88%

of the Class of 2021 enrolled in a four-year institution—a school record.

93% of the Class of 2021 enrolled in a two- or fouryear institution.

**96%** of students will be first generation graduates.

#### **GET IN TOUCH**

If you are interested in hiring Cristo Rey students to work for your organization, you can learn more at cristorey.net/cwsp or contact Maureen McInerney, Director of Business Development & Strategy, at mmcinerney@cristorey.net or 773-890-6820.

For more information, visit:

cristorey.net

**Grant recipient since 2022** 

## CATHOLIC CHARITIES' HOUSE OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD PROGRAM

■ LP's grant to the House of the Good Shepherd program supports survivors of domestic violence and their children by providing holistic care, housing, and resources.



Teen outing to a Cubs game.

## HGS will always be my home."

These are the words of M.F., a mom of two and recent resident at Catholic Charities' House of the Good Shepherd. After immigrating to the US, M.F. was brutally assaulted by her husband and mother-in-

law daily. She eventually sought and found refuge at the House of the Good Shepherd.

Nearly one in three women reports experiencing domestic violence in their lifetime, usually at the hands of an intimate partner. Through programs like the House of the Good Shepherd, Catholic Charities provides comprehensive

programming for women and their children to help break the cycle of violence.

This year marks the first year of LP's grant to support the House of the Good Shepherd, a comprehensive transitional housing program for individuals with dependent children who are facing ongoing problems related to poverty,

# 44 WHILE AT THIS PROGRAM, I LEARNED HOW TO MANAGE MY MONEY, I LEARNED HOW THINGS WORK HERE IN THE USA. I AM SAVING TO BE MY OWN BOSS. 77

homelessness, isolation, debilitating trauma, and family abuse. With 14 family apartments and access to legal assistance, childcare, adult learning and financial literacy, and counseling, survivors are accompanied through their healing journey with a focus on economic security, housing permanency, and aftercare with other survivors.

The transitional housing and family violence recovery program helps clients step out of poverty, break the cycle of violence, and embrace a future filled with stable living and self-

determination. In addition to its safe environment, the House of the Good Shepherd gives families a designated case manager to develop individualized service plans for success and support services, such as employment assistance, education resources, housing advocacy, economic assistance, counseling, and children's services.

The House of the Good Shepherd offers a nine-to twelve-month healing and recovery program that provides emotional support while empowering clients to work toward self-sufficiency. During



Teens before an outing to a Cubs game.

the program's first four months, residents focus on their emotional well-being. A service coordinator, case manager, and family activity coordinator work closely with the women and children to help them establish a routine, meet medical needs, enroll children in a nearby school, secure legal assistance, apply for state benefits, and access counseling.

"To me and my family, what was most impactful was the opportunity to learn to be a family," said M.F. "My children got the opportunity to visit new places, I learned how to play with them, and I learned how to be a mom for them. I also learned that it is okay to ask for help. I also learned to speak English while in this program. I came here not knowing anything."

Recognizing that financial abuse is present in 99% of domestic violence survivors, the House of the Good Shepherd also provides a financial literacy program that offers women the opportunity to become financially-literate adults who can manage their newfound financial freedom.

Through a partnership with Truman College, one of the Chicago City Colleges, individuals who meet certain qualifications can enroll in GED courses, cosmetology training, or a CNA program. The House of the Good Shepherd also offers an aftercare program that provides continued support through a monthly support group and tangible resources, like food and clothing. Among the 44 families registered in the program in FY2022, 90% are employed full-time.

M.F. recently moved out of the transitional housing provided by the House of the Good Shepherd, a milestone she called "bittersweet." She is excited to settle into her new home, drive her own car, and start a new job at a hair salon. Her goal is to own a salon in a few years. After owning three salons before she immigrated to the US, she is confident she can do it again.

"While at this program, I learned how to manage my money, I learned how things work here in the USA," M.F. said. "I am saving to be my own boss."

Photos and quotes for this story were provided by Catholic Charities' House of the Good Shepherd.

#### JUST THE FACTS

15 women 29 children

received transitional housing and holistic care in 2022.

Over **6,500**women and children have participated in the House of the Good Shepherd since it launched one of the first domestic violence programs in Chicago in 1980.

#### **GET IN TOUCH**

If you are interested in supporting the House of the Good Shepherd or learning more, you can visit their website at hgschicago.org/get-involved

For more information, visit:

hgschicago.org

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## **Service**

LP's team members support various causes through pro bono work, volunteering their time, and serving in leadership positions with charitable and civic organizations. Many LP team members are actively involved with community, civic, and charitable organizations. We proudly support them in their efforts.

## LEVENFELD PEARLSTEIN'S DAY OF SERVICE AND PRO BONO PROGRAM

■ LP hosted a comprehensive Day of Service in August and continued our robust pro bono programs.

o facilitate connection with each other and with our community partners, LP hosted a Day of Service in August 2022. The day began with representatives from Cristo Rey, Hope Chicago, and the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center sharing information on their missions. In the afternoon, 83 LP volunteers packed 4,545 pounds of potatoes, 18,144 pounds of dried goods, and 4,976 pounds of bread for the Greater Chicago Food Depository. The Food Depository was able to provide 23,054 meals as a result of these efforts.

Volunteer repack sessions at the GCFD warehouse are essential to their daily impact in the community. Typical activities of a repack session include repacking fresh produce and bulk food for distribution, sorting and labeling products, and assembling boxes of assorted food.

In addition to the Day of Service, many LP lawyers and professionals provide pro bono services to clients. Over the past two years, several members have provided pro bono legal services to Hope Chicago, a first-of-its-kind scholarship model serving Chicago students and their parents. Led by former Chicago Public Schools CEO Dr. Janice Jackson, Hope Chicago is committed to raise, invest and deploy \$1 billion in college scholarships and support funding over the next decade, effectively creating pathways to economic success for multiple generations of Chicagoans.



LP team members at the Day of Service in August 2022.







LP team members at the Day of Service in August 2022.

Additionally, since 2019, LP attorneys and paralegals have been working with National Immigrant Justice Center (NIJC) — a non-profit organization dedicated to ensuring human rights protections and access to justice for all immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers — to provide pro bono legal representation to immigrants in various stages of the asylum process.

Many of our attorneys also provide pro bono services to non-profit organizations in the community. Our commitment to pro bono legal representation is centered on a desire to use our legal skills and experience in the legal system to help others.

83 LP VOLUNTEERS PACKED 4,545 POUNDS OF POTATOES, 18,144 POUNDS OF DRIED GOODS, AND 4,976 POUNDS OF BREAD FOR THE GREATER CHICAGO FOOD DEPOSITORY.

THE FOOD DEPOSITORY WAS ABLE TO PROVIDE 23,054 MEALS AS A RESULT OF THESE EFFORTS.

## CIVIC AND CHARITABLE SUPPORT

**4 CHRIST MISSION** 

Sun Pae - Board Member

A GIVING HEART FOUNDATION

Robert Connolly - Board Member

**ACLU OF ILLINOIS** 

Laura Friedel - Board Member

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION ILLINOIS CHAPTER

Mary Wasik - Board Member David Solomon - Board Member

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF TRUST AND ESTATE COUNSEL

Lauren Wolven - State Chair

AMERICAN-ISRAEL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (CHICAGO)

Tal Izraeli - Board Member

**ARTHRITIS FOUNDATION** 

Lauren Wolven - Active Volunteer

BULLETIN OF THE ATOMIC SCIENTISTS

Robert LoPrete - Governing Board Member and Governance Committee

**CHICAGO RUN** 

Lisa Vandesteeg - Board Member

**CHICAGO SCHOLARS FOUNDATION** 

Suzanne Shier - Board Member and Executive Committee

CONWAY FARMS GOLF CLUB FOUNDATION

Marc Zaslavsky - Board Member

CREDIT RESISTANCE ABUSE EDUCATION (CARE), CHICAGO CHAPTER

Harold Israel - Board Member

DISTRICT 113 EDUCATION FOUNDATION

George Spathis – Executive Committee and Co-Chair of Vision & Strategic Planning

ELI AND BESSIE COHEN CAMPS OF MASSACHUSETTS, INC. AND ELI AND BESSIE COHEN CAMPS

Etahn Cohen - Chair of Board of Directors, Various Committees

Many organizations in the Chicagoland area are doing an immense amount of good. In addition to our grant partners, LP's team members personally support several charities, non-profits, and civic organizations. These are the people who have gone above and beyond by holding leadership positions in or giving a substantial amount of their time to those organizations.

**EVANSTON CHILDREN'S CHOIR** 

Susan Thomas - Board Member

FRIENDS OF THE CHICAGO RIVER

Elizabeth O'Brien - Board Member

FRIENDS OF LINCOLN PARK HIGH SCHOOL

Suzanne Karbarz Rovner - Board of Directors

GREATER CHICAGO FOOD DEPOSITORY

Thomas Jaros - Chair Real Estate Awards Dinner 2021-2022

Michael St. Peter - Associate Board Member

**GREEN CITY MARKET** 

Mitchell Weinstein -Vice Chair of Board of Directors, Chair of Governance Committee

HAROLD EISENBERG FOUNDATION

Marc Joseph - Executive Board Member Elizabeth O'Brien - Board of Directors

ILLINOIS HOLOCAUST MUSEUM AND EDUCATION CENTER

Robert Romanoff – Board of Directors, Executive Committee, and CEO Search

**JEWISH UNITED FUND** 

Marc Joseph - Facilities Board Member Robert Romanoff - Professional Advisory Committee

**KIDS HOPE USA** 

Suzanne Shier - Board Member and Board Officer

LEADERSHIP ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR CRISTO REY

Katie Haas - Board Member

**MISERICORDIA HEART OF MERCY** 

Eileen Sethna – Women's Board Member, Advisory Board Member

NATIONAL CENTER FOR EMPLOYEE OWNERSHIP

David Solomon - Board Member

**NEW TRIER SCHOOL BOARD CAUCUS** 

Laura Friedel - Chair of Board

NEXT GENERATION - UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

Jason Hirsh - Board Member

**NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY** 

Jeremy Gresham - Member of MBA Board of Executive Advisors

OAK PARK TEMPLE B'NAI ABRAHAM ZION

Lauren Wolven - Development Committee

**ONEGOAL** 

Kevin Slaughter - Member of Chicago Board of Directors

**REFLECTORS DISABILITY MINISTRY** 

Becky Jo Morgan - Active Volunteer

ROCHELLE ZELL JEWISH HIGH SCHOOL

Robert Romanoff – Board of Directors, Executive Committee

SPECIAL OLYMPICS OF ILLINOIS

Eileen Sethna – Board Member and Gala Committee Chair

SPERTUS INSTITUTE FOR JEWISH LEARNING AND LEADERSHIP

Harold Israel - Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees

ST. RAPHAEL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Heidi Kight – Room Mom and School Volunteer

THE MARY CRANE CENTER

Suzanne Karbarz Rovner - Board of Directors

TRILLIUM FOUNDATION

James Brusslan - Board member

**UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS HILLEL** 

Harold Israel - Board of Governors, Chair of Governance Committee

UNITED STATES TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Mary Ellen Hanrahan - Active Volunteer

VILLAGE OF DEERFIELD - PLANNING COMMISSION

Blake Schulman - Commissioner

VILLAGE OF LA GRANGE PLANNING COMMISSION

Jeffery Hoffenberg - Commissioner

## A CLOSER LOOK AT HOPE CHICAGO WITH KEVIN SLAUGHTER

Kevin Slaughter, a partner in LP's Corporate Group, has served as outside general counsel for Hope Chicago since 2021. Hope Chicago is a firstof-its-kind scholarship model serving Chicago students and their parents.

### Q: What are Hope Chicago's primary goals or mission?

Led by former Chicago Public Schools CEO Dr. Janice Jackson, Hope Chicago is committed to raising, investing, and deploying \$1 billion in college scholarships and support funding over the next decade, effectively creating pathways to economic success for multiple generations of Chicagoans. Hope Chicago supports economic mobility for thousands of south, southwest, and west side Chicago families by providing access to a debt-free post-secondary education.

## Q: What is one thing someone might not know about Hope Chicago or what it does?

Hope Chicago is a two-generation scholarship program. Through this program, Hope Chicago provides support for the parents of Hope Scholars to attend college.

## Q: Why do you support/work with Hope Chicago?

I, together with the entire LP-Hope Chicago team, serve as outside General Counsel to Hope Chicago. Generally, we provide advice concerning governance matters, intellectual property matters, and data security/privacy matters. We also draft and negotiate agreements between Hope Chicago and its partners, which include Chicago Public Schools (CPS), financial institutions, various service providers and other not-for-profit entities.

As the first member of my family to graduate from college and law school, I understand firsthand the importance of having a support system to achieve educational and professional goals. I have been where the Hope Scholars are now, and I know that education has the power to change the trajectory of a person's life. But it takes more than education alone; it takes a support network, people who can help you understand the "unwritten rules" of career and professional development, and mentors who can guide you along the way. Hope Chicago provides all these things and more.

For more information, visit:

hopechicago.org

Q: When did you first begin working with Hope Chicago?

Fall 2021

## Q: What direct impact have you seen Hope Chicago have on the community?

For every 100 students who enter a CPS high school, only 27 will earn a degree. Hope Chicago provides hope for students who, without organizations like Hope Chicago, would have no way to pay for college. As an early proof point of this idea, 74% of Hope Chicago's first cohort, who graduated high school in 2022, enrolled in postsecondary education, compared with an average historical rate of 57%. The increased enrollment was even larger among students with GPAs of 2.0-3.0, who frequently lack access to the limited other scholarships available. Hope Chicago has highlighted the challenges facing CPS students and has generated a tremendous amount of public support to address these challenges.

## Q: What advice would you have for someone who wants to support Hope Chicago?

Do it! There are numerous opportunities for direct service providers to provide Hope Scholars the non-financial support they need to pursue their post-secondary ambitions.

## Q: What are Hope Chicago's goals for 2023?

In 2022, Hope Chicago supported 670 students in enrolling in college or vocational programs debt-free. In 2023, Hope Chicago will support its inaugural class through their post-secondary transition and ensure they return for their second year, as well. Meanwhile, Hope Chicago will support the second class of Hope Scholars — approximately 950 current 12th graders — as they make decisions about their educational futures. As part of the Hope Chicago program, a parent or guardian of each Hope Scholar is also eligible for a debt-free postsecondary education, including degree or certificate programs or shorter-duration job preparation programs. This Parent Scholars program will officially launch in early 2023, as well.



# A CLOSER LOOK AT ACLU OF ILLINOIS WITH LAURA FRIEDEL

Laura Friedel, a partner in LP's Employment & Executive Compensation Group, has served on the Board of Trustees for ACLU of Illinois since January 2022. The ACLU of Illinois is a non-partisan, non-profit organization dedicated to protecting the liberties guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution, the state Constitution, and state/federal human rights laws.

## Q: What are ACLU of Illinois's primary goals or mission?

As a non-partisan organization, the primary mission of ACLU of Illinois (ACLU) is to protect the liberties guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution, the Illinois Constitution, and state and federal human rights laws. The ACLU accomplishes this through litigation, lobbying, and educating the public on a broad array of civil liberties issues. The ACLU's current priorities include, among other things, voting rights, criminal justice reform, and reproductive health rights.

## Q: What is one thing someone might not know about ACLU of Illinois or what it does?

While some may associate the ACLU with "liberal" causes, the fact is that the ACLU has long supported constitutional rights across the political spectrum. There have been times when I haven't agreed with the particular speech the ACLU is protecting, but I always agree with the fact that it needs to be protected.

### Q: Why do you support/work with ACLU of Illinois?

When I look at the issues I'm most passionate about – voters' rights, reproductive choice, and separation of church and state – they all come back to our constitutional rights, and the ACLU is at the forefront of ensuring that these rights are protected.

### Q: When did you first begin working with ACLU of Illinois?

I joined the Board of Directors in January 2022, but have been a member and active supporter far longer than that.

### Q: What direct impact have you seen ACLU of Illinois have on the community?

In addition to engaging in the legislative process to protect our constitutional rights, the ACLU hosts many information sessions to educate the public on issues that are important to them. For instance, ACLU recently hosted "We the People," an engagement series to explore the state of democracy, aimed at making our community better informed and more engaged in the democratic process.

## Q: What advice would you have for someone who wants to support ACLU of Illinois?

The ACLU has many ways to get involved. Visit the ACLU's website for links to articles, educational podcasts, and information on educational sessions. The ACLU also posts several specific ways to engage in the legislative process by emailing or calling legislators. For those who are able to financially support the ACLU, donations can also be made online.

### Q: What are ACLU of Illinois's goals for 2023?

Among ACLU's goals for 2023 are advocating for reproductive health rights and protecting vulnerable youth. The ACLU continues to persist in enforcing a consent decree stemming from a 1988 federal class action on behalf of youth removed from their families and deprived of basic services and safe living conditions while in government custody. The ACLU has also broadened its policy advocacy efforts to protect vulnerable youth.

For more information, visit:

aclu-il.org

# A CLOSER LOOK AT GREEN CITY MARKET WITH MITCH WEINSTEIN

■ Mitch Weinstein, a partner in LP's Intellectual Property Group, has served in various roles — including Board member (2016-present), Chair of Governance Committee (2017-present), and Executive Committee member and Vice Chair of the Board of Directors (2020-present).

## Q: What are Green City Market's primary goals or mission?

The Market's mission is to secure the future of food by deepening support for sustainable farmers, educating our community, and expanding access to locally-grown food.

## Q: What is one thing someone might not know about Green City Market or what it does?

We are so much more than a farmer's market.

## Q: Why do you support/work with Green City Market?

There are two main reasons: (1) know your food, know your farmer – I want to know where my food comes from; and (2) the Market provides financial support for those who otherwise would not have access to healthy, sustainably-raised foods.

## Q: When did you first begin working with Green City Market?

I started working with the Market in 2014. I was initially involved in fundraising and community awareness – my love for the Market and its mission grew from there.

## Q: What direct impact have you seen Green City Market have on the community?

The most visible impact is the Market's financial support for those who otherwise would not have access to healthy, sustainably-raised foods.

## Q: What advice would you have for someone who wants to support Green City Market?

First and foremost, shop the Market! And, if you are passionate about supporting sustainable farmers, community education, or expanding access to locally-grown food, you can volunteer at any of our Markets or join the Associate Board or Board of Directors.

## Q: What are Green City Market's goals for 2023?

We are always looking to help start-up farmers and expand the number of vendors that sell product at the Market. We are also looking for a permanent (or semi-permanent) home for the Market – stay tuned!

## Q: Is there anything else noteworthy or important you'd like to mention?

Our impact on the community is growing. In 2022, we supported 58 sustainable farms and food producers, our farmers sustainably farmed 2,600+ acres of land, we donated 7,280 pounds of food to local pantries and mutual aid groups, and over \$59,000 of LINK funds were spent and matched with the Market. We are so much more than just a farmer's market.

For more information, visit:

greencitymarket.org



