



Advocate Bethany Community Health Fund

Annual Report 2015

 Advocate Health Care



Celebrating Our Eighth Year of Making a Difference on Chicago's West Side

The Bethany Fund is proud to celebrate eight years of partnership with our grantee organizations, fellow funders and other stakeholders who are working to address health disparities on the West Side of Chicago. Since its inception, the Fund has provided support to nearly 100 local organizations. Our work would not be possible without our many partners. We are excited to highlight a few of them in this report.

In 2015, the Bethany Fund awarded nearly \$750,000 in grants and services to nonprofits in our Fund Communities. In addition to another successful year of grantmaking, the Bethany Fund continued its commitment to offer additional support outside of traditional grant awards. We offered one-on-one grant-writing assistance to new applicants, free legal consultation with a local firm that specializes in labor relations, peer learning circles for executive directors and workshops on fundraising and conflict resolution.

In addition to providing capacity-building support, the board also hosted a networking event for all

past and current grantees. The event provided an opportunity for organizations to network and share information about their efforts, while also serving as a catalyst for future collaboration.

Especially exciting in 2015 was the opportunity to co-sponsor an event led by the MacArthur Foundation. The event focused on the over-incarceration of people of color in America, an issue that disproportionately affects the West Side. We appreciate our funder partners and opportunities, such as this event, to leverage resources for our community.


Partnership is essential to move the needle and improve the quality of life for those we serve. Individually we can only do so much, but together we can create collective impact. We are thankful for our partnerships and look forward to continuing our work to promote health and wellness within our Fund Communities. Our journey continues.



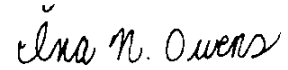
Dr. Joseph West
Board Chair



Cerathel Burnett
Board Vice Chair



The Rev. Bonnie Condon
Board Secretary



Ina N. Owens
Vice President

Austin Garfield Park Humboldt Park North Lawndale

The Bethany Fund

Mission

To address the unique health needs of targeted communities on Chicago's West Side by funding programs that promote health and wellness, and reduce health disparities and their determinants.

History

In 2006, Advocate Health Care established the Advocate Bethany Community Health Fund (Bethany Fund) as part of an ongoing commitment to help build, promote and sustain healthy communities on Chicago's West Side. The Fund supports not-for-profit organizations that share this commitment and are located in the West Side communities historically served by Advocate Bethany Hospital (now RML Chicago).

As part of the Fund's development process, the Bethany Fund Advisory Council conducted a needs assessment of the targeted communities to determine priority areas for funding. Led by an outside public health expert and comprising leaders from both the Bethany Fund Communities and Advocate Health Care, the council used research and their own knowledge to identify asset and resource gaps in each community.

The group then recommended focus areas for grantmaking to the Bethany Fund Board, which was installed in July 2007.

Through the work of the Bethany Fund Board, Advocate Health Care has pledged to grant approximately \$1 million per year through 2020 to local programs that seek to fulfill the mission of the Bethany Fund in four targeted West Side communities: Austin, Garfield Park, Humboldt Park and North Lawndale.

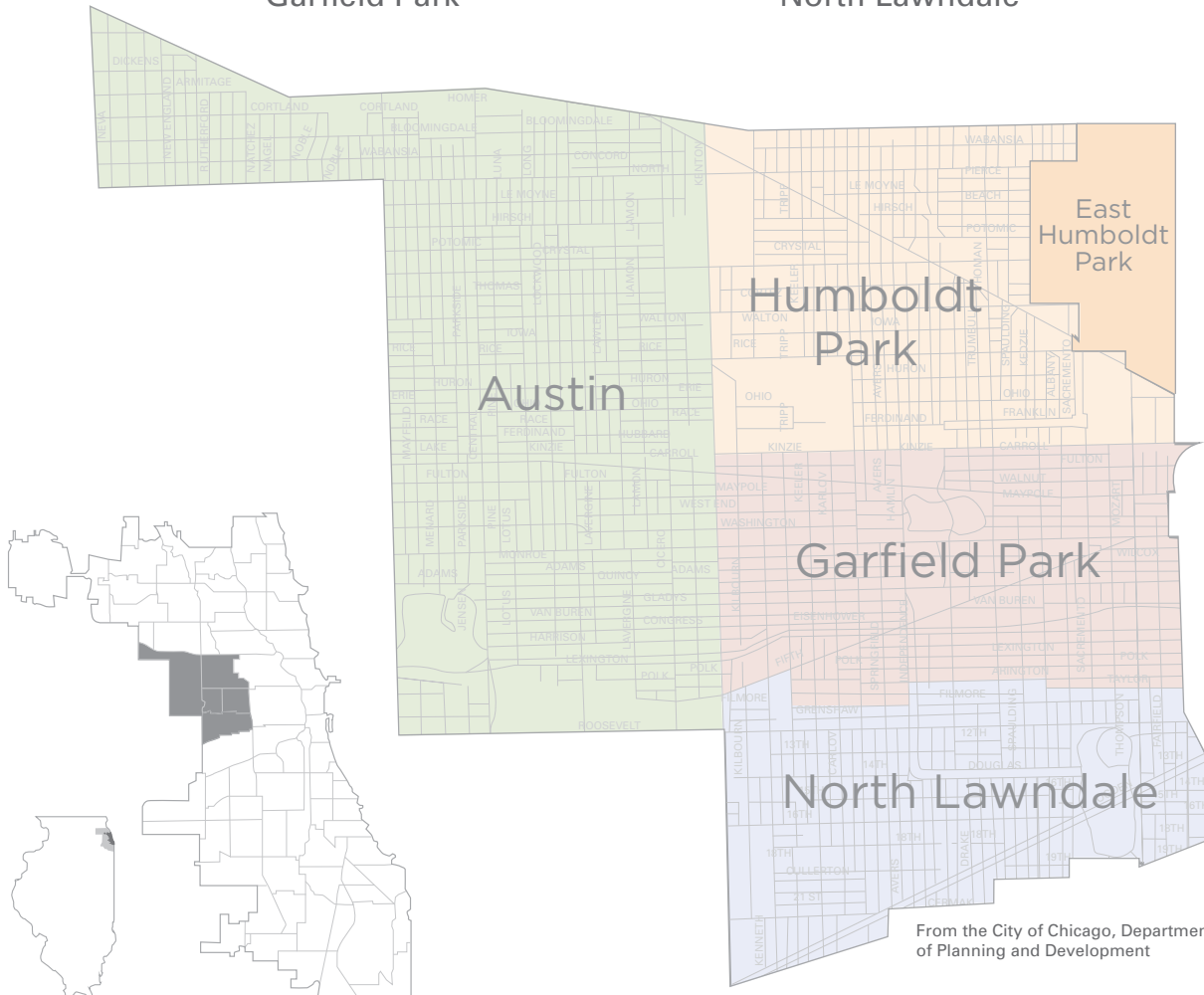
Leadership

The Bethany Fund Board is managed by Advocate Charitable Foundation and comprises eight members who represent the four targeted communities and seven Advocate Health Care representatives. This group of dynamic and dedicated leaders collaborates to guide the operations of the Bethany Fund and to select grant award recipients.



The Bethany Fund Communities

- Austin
- Garfield Park*
- Humboldt Park**
- North Lawndale



From the City of Chicago, Department of Planning and Development

* The Bethany Fund Board considers East and West Garfield Park as one entity, known as "Garfield Park."

** Grants are awarded to organizations and for activities located within the boundaries of the targeted Bethany Fund Communities as defined by the City of Chicago Department of Planning and Development, with one exception: To meet the unique needs of the Humboldt Park community, the neighborhood's eastern boundary has been extended by the Bethany Fund Board to Western Avenue, encompassing the area commonly known as "East Humboldt Park."

Bethany Fund Support

Our Funding Priority Areas

The Bethany Fund Board has identified four priority areas to guide funding efforts. In all of these areas, health disparities exist between the Bethany Fund Communities and the city of Chicago as a whole. To receive funding, all proposed programs must address one or more of these priority areas:

- Diabetes
- School Dropout Prevention
- Violence Prevention
- Workforce Development

Grantee Networking Event

In September 2015, the Bethany Fund was proud to host its fourth networking event in the community. This event brought together a variety of stakeholders including past and current grantees, as well as Bethany Fund board members and staff.

Support Beyond Grant Dollars

The Bethany Fund Board and staff believe that effective grantmaking involves more than awarding

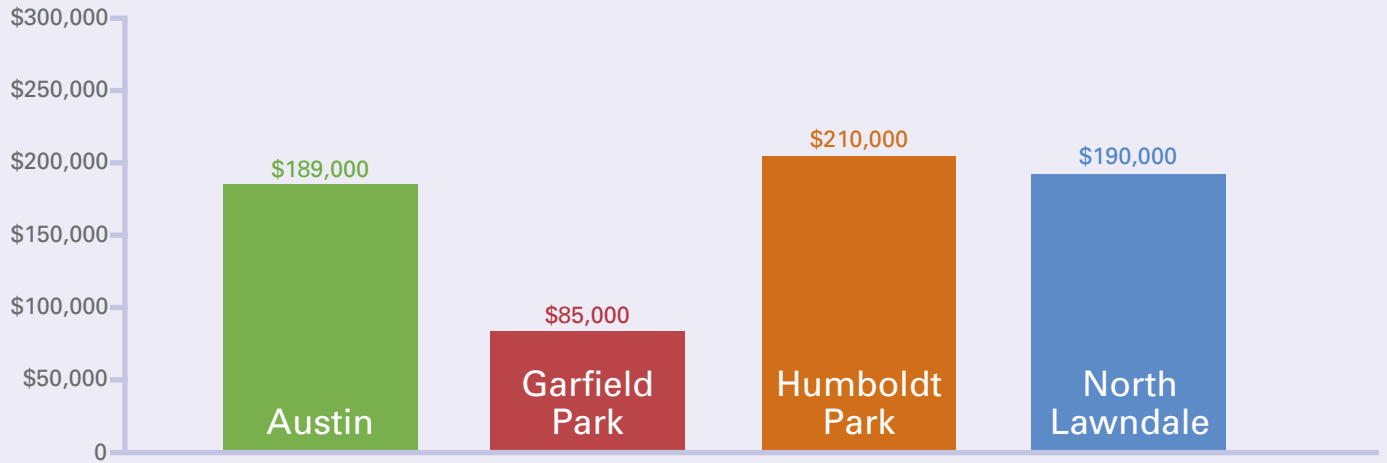
program dollars to grantees. The Fund is strongly committed to providing capacity-building support for both new and established organizations that addresses broader organizational needs—and helps improve the effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability of their work.

The Bethany Fund offered the following types of technical assistance and capacity-building support in 2015:

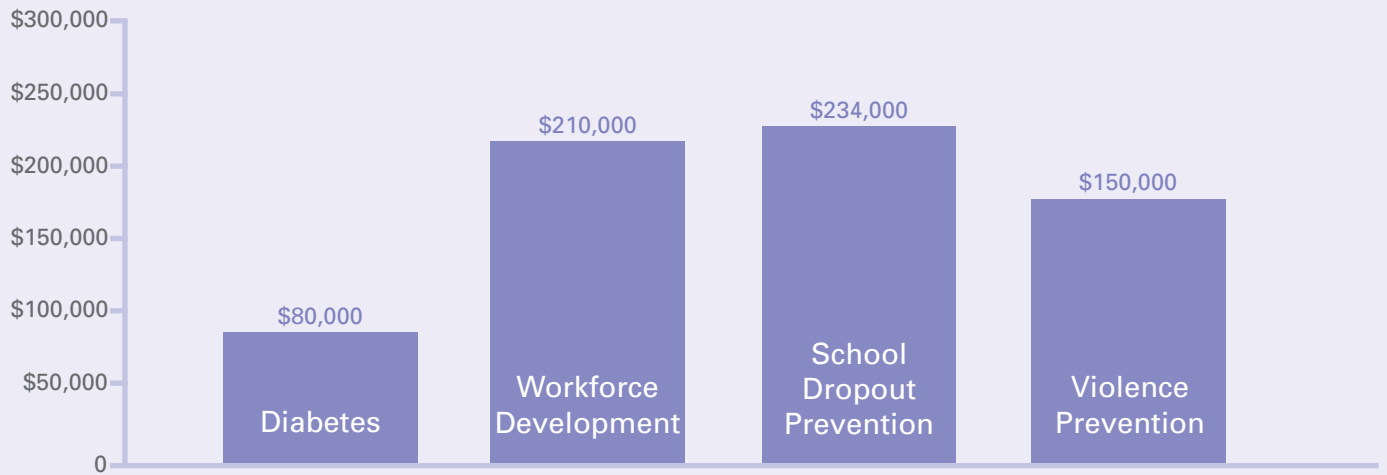
- Letter of Intent Informational Meeting
- Request for Proposals Informational Meeting
- One-on-One Grant Writing Consultation Services
- Workshops on Grant Writing, Fundraising and Conflict Resolution
- One Year of Free HR Consultation Services
- Peer Learning Sessions through Peer Skill Share (hosted by Pierce Family Foundation)
- Learning Circle for Executive Directors
- Website and Brochure Design Services and more...



Grant Awards by Community



Grant Awards by Priority Area



New Moms

Austin/Workforce Development

The work here is painstaking, requiring patience, close attention and a steady hand. This is Bright Endeavors, and the young women doing this work are creating something beautiful...candles for the public and a promising future for themselves.

Bright Endeavors is the social enterprise of New Moms, Inc., an organization that aims to equip struggling, impoverished parents and their children with tools to achieve economic independence and family stability. New Moms' workforce development program serves homeless and high-risk teen and young adult parents.

"Most of the young women who participate in this program have dropped out of high school," says Laura Zumdahl, New Moms President and CEO. "All of our participants are living in extreme poverty, and many have been victims of domestic violence or sexual abuse. Despite these barriers, they are hopeful. They come to us because they want to learn how to be employees and because they want a better life for their children."

The New Moms' program includes career planning, education services and intensive classroom-based

job skills training. It culminates at Bright Endeavors, a paid, hands-on transitional job where participants practice the skills learned in the classroom. "They get the satisfaction that comes with seeing the result of their efforts—candles and bath products that will be sold online and in retail outlets all over the country," Zumdahl says. "From there, they are ready to seek permanent employment. We provide job placement services and are fortunate to have cultivated partnerships with many local employers." Throughout this process, New Moms also provides supportive counseling focused on eliminating employment barriers and helping participants parent effectively while working.

New Moms is making an impact. For example, almost 90 percent of 2015 participants are employed at jobs paying more than minimum wage. "There is a great need for our program and each year we try to serve more young parents," Zumdahl says. "We couldn't do this without support from partners like the Bethany Fund."



...young women doing this work
are creating something **beautiful...**



Marillac Social Center

Garfield Park/Violence Prevention

This is not your usual classroom. While there are some of the expected, traditional items—desks, chairs, whiteboards and erasers—you will also see strollers, bottles, diaper bags...and babies. The students today are their mothers, young women who are participants in Project Hope, Marillac Social Center's program for parenting and pregnant teens and young adults.

"Project Hope is a comprehensive program for pregnant and parenting teens and young adults in Garfield Park and nearby communities," says Kirbi Range, Director. "It includes prenatal and parenting groups, home visits and referral services for schooling, housing, health care and job training." For those who are pregnant, Project Hope also includes the services of a doula—a person trained in helping an expectant mother enjoy a safe and positive pregnancy and birth. The program also addresses the needs of newborns through developmental assessments and infant mental health services.

One of Project Hope's goals is to reduce child abuse and domestic violence. "That is why cultivating responsibility and self-esteem is a key objective,"

Range says. "This is a daunting challenge in a community plagued by poverty, violent crime and high rates of school dropouts. There is also increased incidence of negative health outcomes, including high rates of teen births, pre-term births and low-birthweight babies. It's so important to reach young parents early so that we can help them prevent these negative outcomes."

Many of these issues are addressed in the classroom work that is part of Heart-to-Heart, Project Hope's 12-week group sessions, which focus on topics such as Child Abuse 101, Protecting Your Child, and Nurturing Self Esteem. "Our goal is to provide information and support that will help participants make good decisions," Range explains. She says this approach is working. "Last year, every participant who completed these sessions reported an increased awareness of the signs of child abuse and strategies for avoiding abusive situations. That's a win for us. And with the support of the Bethany Fund, Project Hope will continue to have a positive effect on the lives and futures of our community's young parents and their children."



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CommunityHealth

Humboldt Park/Diabetes

It's Graduation Day at CommunityHealth. There are no caps and gowns, no formal processions and no speeches. Yet pride and satisfaction are evident as these graduates receive a certificate marking their completion of Take Action! diabetes education classes.

The Take Action! diabetes management program reflects CommunityHealth's longstanding commitment to people in Humboldt Park and neighboring areas. The organization was founded in 1993 with the goal of providing free health care to low-income, uninsured adults.

"Diabetes is a serious disease and is the third most common diagnosis at CommunityHealth, affecting 10% of all our patients," says Judith Haasis, Executive Director. "Our Take Action! program does what its names suggests. It is designed to provide medical care, education and ongoing support that help patients manage their disease, prevent complications and enjoy healthy and productive lives."

The education component of Take Action! includes 5 weeks of classes, where participants learn about the causes and risk factors of diabetes; how to manage their disease through medication and lifestyle; and the importance of nutrition, physical

activity and positive habits. They will also learn how to gauge success by monitoring their A1C levels—a measurement of blood glucose levels that shows how well their diabetes treatment plan is working.

"Take Action! classes are scheduled at times convenient for working people and are provided in several languages," Haasis explains. "CommunityHealth serves a large Hispanic population—a group at increased risk for diabetes—and so Take Action! is also designed with sensitivity to cultural and dietary customs."

On the last day of class, graduates will leave Take Action! sessions knowing more about their disease and how to manage it. They also leave with a few gifts, including a "portion plate" designed to show the portion sizes for a typical healthy meal, and a glucometer, a simple tool for measuring A1C levels.

"We are so encouraged by the response to Take Action!" says Haasis. "In 2015, all of our Take Action! graduates reported increased knowledge about diabetes, and many have already made dietary and lifestyle changes that will help them manage their disease. This is real progress, and it would not be possible without partners like the Bethany Fund."





“...graduates reported increased **knowledge** about diabetes...”

Chicago LAMP

North Lawndale/School Dropout Prevention

For most of the day, the storefront offices of the Chicago Lawndale Amachi Mentoring Program (LAMP) are pretty quiet. That all changes around 4 pm, when backpack-laden children burst in, fresh from a day at school and energized about what's ahead. They're here to learn, to improve their grades and to cultivate the strength and skills that will help them succeed in a challenging environment.

"People are often surprised to learn that children as young as middle school are at risk for dropping out," says Dr. Betty J. Allen-Green, Executive Director. A retired Chicago Public Schools principal, Dr. Green founded LAMP to provide mentoring and academic assistance for middle school-aged youth. "There is a great need in North Lawndale," she says, "Children in our community face so much. Poverty, joblessness, broken families, the lure of drugs and gangs. You name it."

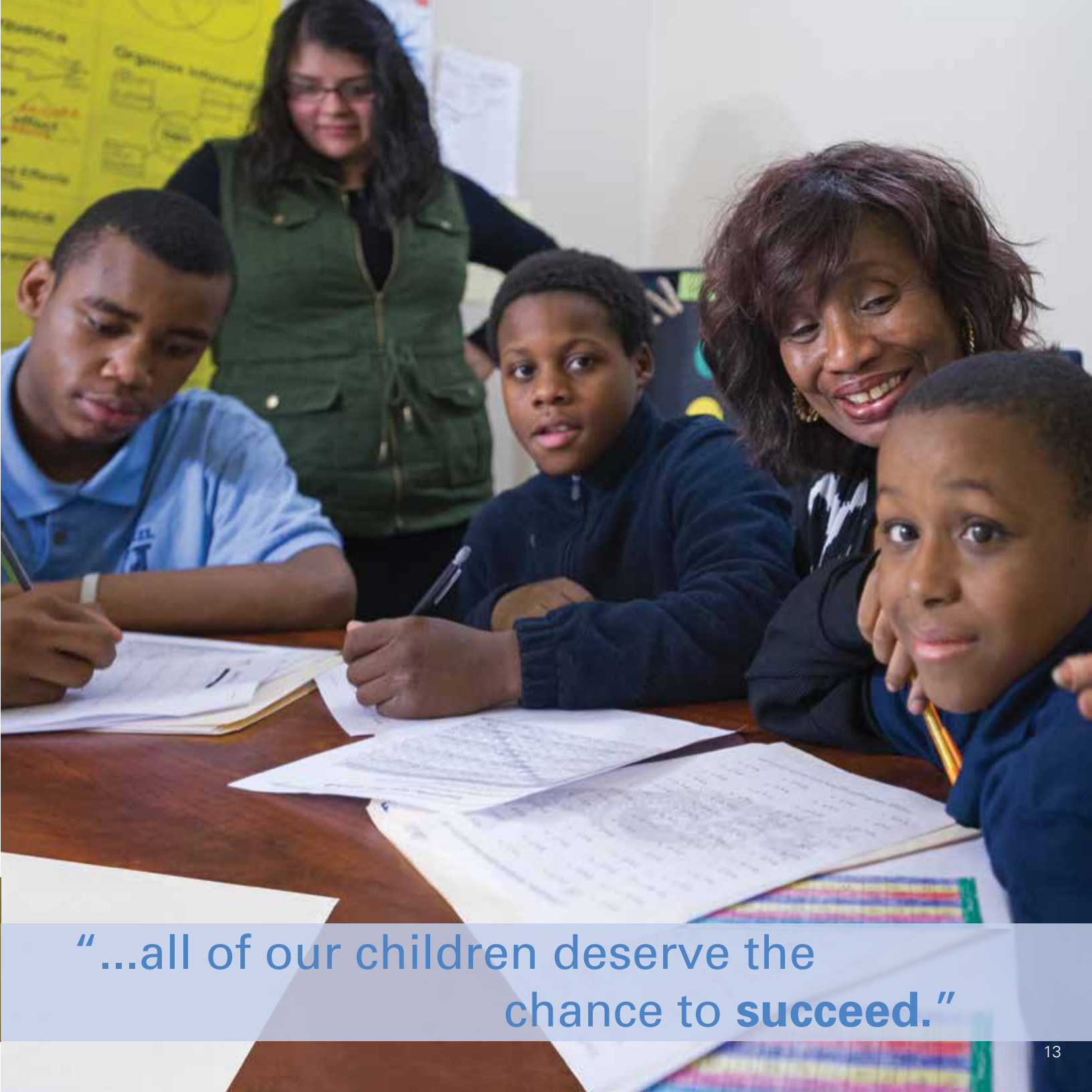
The program name, "Amachi," is a Nigerian expression meaning "Who knows what God has brought us through this child?" Dr. Green says, "It reflects our belief that all of our children, regardless of their obstacles, deserve the chance to succeed."

Through LAMP, children deemed at risk of dropping out are referred—usually by teachers or principals at neighboring elementary schools—and begin a program that includes mentoring, homework help and enrichment activities. Adult mentors are recruited from local churches, schools, universities and community agencies. After a rigorous application process, they receive training and are matched with a LAMP participant.

LAMP is succeeding. Over the past year, 25 children were matched with mentors, received weekly one-on-one mentoring, and met in a group session for two hours each week. Children also attended weekly math and reading tutoring sessions and received help completing assignments in other subjects. Among measures of success, 90 percent of the children improved math and reading scores by at least one letter grade.

"We can't underestimate the value of this model," Dr. Green emphasizes. "Adults who care, working one-on-one with at-risk children, in an environment that's completely focused on helping them thrive—it works," she says. "With support from the Bethany Fund, we will be able to continue this work and help even more of our children."





“...all of our children deserve the chance to **succeed.**”

Grantees

Austin

Academy of Scholastic Achievement

School Dropout Prevention

To support Voices for Peace, a school-based violence prevention initiative that incorporates restorative justice practices into the school culture through peace circles.

Austin Career Education Center

School Dropout Prevention

To support the alternative high school's partnership with Umoja Student Development Corporation to provide social-emotional learning opportunities to decrease dropout rates and improve academic success.

Bethel New Life

Workforce Development

To support Bethel's Advanced Manufacturing program which provides 19 weeks of specialized training, soft-skills education and certification opportunities.

BUILD, Inc.

School Dropout Prevention

To support BUILD's program for at-risk high school youth that offers in-school programming, after-school activities and additional programming during school breaks.

Chicago Jesuit Academy

School Dropout Prevention

To support the middle school that provides fifth through eighth grade students from modest economic backgrounds with a high-quality, college-prep education.

Cluster Tutoring Program

School Dropout Prevention

To support free tutoring services for participants from kindergarten to twelfth grade in the Austin community.

KIPP Chicago

School Dropout Prevention

To support the KIPP through College program that focuses on students beginning in seventh grade and works with them and their families to encourage college attendance and completion.

New Moms, Inc.

Workforce Development

To support their Workforce Development Program, which engages parents aged 16 to 24 in a 12-week experience that includes intensive job-readiness training and paid transitional employment.

The Peace Corner Youth Center

Violence Prevention

To support Peace Corner University, which provides an array of activities that address the academic, social-emotional and recreational needs of students.

Garfield Park

Al Raby School for Community and Environment

School Dropout Prevention

To provide comprehensive health education workshops to ninth graders through a partnership with Peer Health Exchange.

Deborah's Place

Workforce Development

To support employment services to help homeless women overcome barriers to employment through intensive soft-skills training and placement services.

Interfaith House

Diabetes

To support the Diabetes Project, which provides treatment and education about self-care for diabetic clients.

Marillac Social Center

Violence Prevention

To support Project Hope, which offers pregnant and parenting teens a wholistic health program that includes home visits, health screenings and mental health services.

Westside Youth Technical Entrepreneur Center

School Dropout Prevention

To support the Intel Start -> Making program that combines technology with hands-on educational activities and after-school enrichment activities for youths aged 11 to 16.

Humboldt Park

Association House of Chicago

School Dropout Prevention

To support after-school arts programming at the organization's alternative high school.

CommunityHealth

Diabetes

To support the clinic's Take Action! Diabetes Management Program that features an education course, support groups and workshops.

Connections for Abused Women and their Children

Violence Prevention

To support counseling for victims of abuse and to provide a Department of Children and Family Services domestic violence educational group.

Erie Elementary Charter School

School Dropout Prevention

To support its High School Preparation and Support program, which educates seventh and eighth grade students and their parents about high school options, offers high school prep activities and provides individualized support for high school graduates.

Geneva Foundation

Workforce Development

To support the employment-readiness component of its Self-Leadership Training and Life Skills curriculum, which helps stabilize and educate teenage boys aging out of the Illinois foster care system.

Greater West Town Community Development Project

Workforce Development

To support its vocational training program, which provides disadvantaged community residents with intensive training in either woodworking and solid-surface manufacturing or shipping and receiving, as well as placement services.

Neopolitan Lighthouse

Violence Prevention

To support the Economic Development and Employment Project that helps women obtain and retain employment by providing job readiness training and support services.

Rincon Family Services

Diabetes

To provide diabetes education to clients at the organization's substance abuse treatment center.

West Town Bikes

Workforce Development

To support YouthCycle for Better Health and Wealth, an employment and training program that provides education and work experience in bicycling and bike mechanics to youth.

North Lawndale

Better Boys Foundation

School Dropout Prevention

To support its YouthLab@1512 project which provides after-school programming to youths aged 13 to 18.

Chicago Lawndale AMACHI Mentoring Program

School Dropout Prevention

To support the mentoring program that also provides academic tutoring, parent programs and social-emotional support to youth in the Fund Communities.

Holy Family Ministries

Violence Prevention

To support the Peace Exchange project, which provides youth programming around leadership development and violence prevention, and the Adventures In Learning Program, which provides after-school programming and a summer camp.

Lawndale Christian Health Center

Diabetes

To support diabetes education programs, support groups and a clinic for those newly diagnosed with the disease.

North Lawndale College Prep Charter High School

School Dropout Prevention

To support Launch, an alternative learning program that begins during sophomore year of high school and aims to have students reintegrated into traditional classrooms by senior year so they can graduate with their classmates.

North Lawndale Employment Network

Workforce Development

For their U-Turn Permitted employment program that provides re-entry and job training programs to formerly incarcerated individuals.

A Safe Haven Foundation

Violence Prevention

To support the Youth Anti-Violence and Mentoring Program, which includes after-school enrichment activities and a summer program for students.

Westlawn Youth Network

Violence Prevention

To support Plan 2b A Man, which provides mentorship, tutoring, community service and enrichment activities to boys in North Lawndale.



Advocate Bethany Fund Leadership

Advocate Bethany Community Health Fund Executive Board

Joseph West, ScD
Community Expert
Board Chair

Cerathel Burnett
Community Expert
Board Vice Chair

The Rev. Bonnie Condon
Advocate Representative
Board Secretary

Advocate Bethany Community Health Fund Board

Juan Calderon
Community Representative

Janine Katonah
Advocate Representative

Loris Rayner, MD
Advocate Representative

Yolanda Fields
Community Representative

Cody McSellers-McCray
Community Expert

Christine Ricker
Advocate Representative

Michelle Gaskill
Advocate Representative

Kerry Nelson
Advocate Representative

Jose Rodriguez
Community Expert

Rebecca Gonzalez
Community Expert

Dayla Randolph
Advocate Representative

Gladys Simpson
Community Representative

The Rev. Sherman Hicks, DD
Advocate Representative

Advocate Bethany Community Health Fund Staff

Ina N. Owens, LCSW
Vice President, Office
of Grants and Program
Development
Advocate Bethany
Community Health Fund
Advocate Charitable
Foundation

Jalisa Hinkle
Coordinator, Advocate
Bethany Community
Health Fund
Advocate Charitable
Foundation

Pat Smith-Calascibetta
Vice President, Finance
Advocate Charitable
Foundation

Community Expert – Individual must have expertise or experience in community health, public health, epidemiology, community philanthropy, housing, public education, community or economic development, or similar area.

Community Representative – Individual must live, work or volunteer in the Fund Communities and must be highly knowledgeable of one or more Fund Communities. Individual must have the ability to leverage significant resources on behalf of community initiatives.

Advocate Bethany Community Health Fund



Advocate Charitable Foundation
advocatehealth.com/bethanyfund