



**Latino**  
POLICY FORUM

# MULTICULTURAL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

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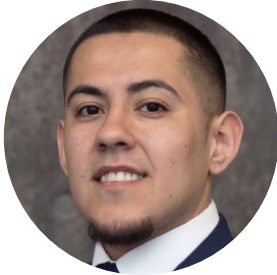
**YEAR 8 2017-2018**





**JOSE ABONCE**  
**Austin Coming Together**  
*Community Organizer*

Austin Coming Together's mission is to increase the collective impact of their member organizations on improving education and economic development outcomes for the Austin community.



**BERTO AGUAYO**  
**The Resurrection Project**  
*Community Organizer (Safety and Nonviolence)*

The Resurrection Project's mission is to build relationships and challenge individuals to act on their faith and values by creating community ownership, building community wealth, and serving as stewards of community assets.



**RECO BATES**  
**Chicago Tech Academy**  
*School Counselor*

Chicago Tech Academy is an educational community whose mission is to educate, empower and connect a diverse next generation of entrepreneurial thinkers to discover their passions, succeed in college and thrive in a digital world.



**EVELYN BENITEZ**  
**Chicago Department of Family and Support Services**  
*Youth Services Coordinator*

The Chicago Department of Family & Support Services works to provide assistance to Chicago's residents, particularly those most in need, beginning at birth through the senior years.



**JESSICA CAÑAS**  
**Enlace Chicago**  
*College Pipeline Specialist*

Enlace Chicago convenes, organizes, and builds the capacity of Little Village stakeholders to confront systemic inequities and barriers to economic and social access.



**TEISHETTA DANIEL**  
**Chicago Park District**  
*Center Director*

The mission of the Chicago Park District is to enhance the quality of life in Chicago by becoming the leading provider of recreation and leisure opportunities, provide safe, inviting and beautifully maintained parks and facilities, and create a customer-focused and responsive park system that prioritizes the needs of children and families.



### **TEVONNE ELLIS**

**Claretian Associates**  
*Collective Impact Manager*

Claretian Associates carries on a rich and collaborative tradition of responding to the needs of South Chicago and its surrounding communities by providing affordable housing and vital services that benefit the safety and wellbeing of our residents and families.



### **JUDY IDROVO**

**Planned Parenthood of Illinois**  
*CHAT Program Assistant Manager*

Planned Parenthood works to educate and empower communities, provide quality health care, lead the reproductive rights movement, and advance global health. Planned Parenthood believes sexual and reproductive health rights are basic rights.



### **DARIS JASPER**

**Children's Museum of Art and Social Justice**  
*Museum Director*

The Children's Museum of Art and Social Justice is dedicated to exhibiting the artwork of youth alongside working artists in order to promote social change. The mission of the museum is to act as a voice for individuals whose perspectives are often omitted from the mainstream dialogue. We seek to showcase their artistic explorations of social injustices and to inspire action toward political and social change.



### **ITZEL LOPEZ-HINOJOSA**

**Illinois Math and Science Academy**  
*Residential Counselor*

IMSA's mission is to ignite and nurture creative, ethical, scientific minds that advance the human condition.



### **CYNTHIA NAMBO**

**Network for College Success at the University of Chicago**  
*Leadership Coach*

The Network for College Success (NCS) envisions Chicago neighborhood high schools that continuously cultivate collaboration, powerful learning, and a culture of high achievement to prepare all students for college and career success.



### **LUIS NARVAEZ**

**Chicago Public Schools**  
*Director of Strategic Projects*

At Chicago Public Schools, our mission is to provide a high quality public education for every child, in every neighborhood, that prepares each for success in college, career and civic life. To fulfill our mission, we make these three commitments to our students, their families and to all Chicagoans: academic progress, financial stability, and integrity.



## **DEEDEE PACHECO**

### **Urban Gateways**

*Program Manager, Residency & Special Projects*

Urban Gateways engages young people in arts experiences to inspire creativity and impact social change. Urban Gateways works to overcome social and economic barriers for youth to access Chicago's artistic and cultural vitality. Our vision is a creative and artistically responsive society.



## **LEILA RAHRVAN**

### **Center for Changing Lives**

*Employment Coach*

The mission of the Chicago Center for Changing Lives partners with those held back by lack of resource and economic opportunity in order to uncover possibilities, overcome barriers, and realize their potential.



## **SAEED RICHARDSON**

### **Community Renewal Society**

*Director of Policy*

Community Renewal Society informs and brings people of faith and congregations together, in partnership with communities, coalitions, interfaith organizations, and civic leaders, to intentionally and decisively transform society toward greater social justice at the intersection of racism and poverty. CRS' vision is a just community where race and class no longer limit each person's full participation in all aspects of society.



## **CLAUDE ROBINSON**

### **UCAN**

*Executive Vice President of External Affairs and Diversity*

UCAN's programs are guided by a Clinical Philosophy and united under a cohesive approach for treating clients who are challenged by their histories of trauma. UCAN's objective is to provide a consistent approach for serving youth and families. Clients are empowered by building upon their strengths, encouraging their sense of independence, and instilling hope for their futures.



## **SONICA RUIZ**

### **Chicago Park District**

*Program Specialist*

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## **SIEMONE SMITH**

### **Family Focus Englewood**

*Infant Mental Health Specialist*

The mission of Family Focus is to promote the well-being of children from birth by supporting and strengthening families in and with their communities. They help parents gain confidence and competence as the primary caregivers and educators of their children. They also provide parents and their children with critical resources and learning opportunities to encourage healthy development in their communities.



## **SHANAVIA STEVENS**

**La Casa Norte**

*Casa Corazon Program Coordinator*

The mission of La Casa Norte is to serve youth and families confronting homelessness. LCN provides access to stable housing and deliver comprehensive services that act as a catalyst to transform lives and communities.



## **CORY STEVENSON**

**Open Arch Chicago**

*Teacher, Open Arch Chicago (Board Member)*

Open Arch Chicago's mission is to work with communities to create sustainable, innovative, and socially responsive design. They mobilize architects, designers, and neighborhood leaders to end injustice in our communities.



## **JORGE VALDIVIA**

**National Museum of Mexican Art**

*Volunteer*

The mission of the National Museum of Mexican Art is to showcase the beauty and richness of Mexican culture by sponsoring events and presenting exhibitions that exemplify the majestic variety of visual and performing arts in the Mexican culture; to develop, conserve and preserve a significant permanent collection of Mexican art; to encourage the professional development of Mexican artists; and, to offer arts-education programs.



## **NICOLE WARD**

**Metropolitan Family Services**

*Youth and Family Specialist/Therapeutic Respite Worker*

Metropolitan Family Services empowers families to learn, to earn, to heal, to thrive. Metropolitan Family Services has been the engine of change that empowers Chicago-area families to reach their greatest potential and positively impact their communities.



## **LILLIANE WEBB**

**Big Shoulders Fund**

*Auxiliary Board Member, Schools Committee*

The Big Shoulders Fund helps Chicago's children in need achieve their dreams through access to a quality, values-based education. They accomplish this by scholarship support and academic enrichment for students, operational improvements for schools, leadership development programs for the next generation of school leaders, and academic programs and professional development for teachers.



## **RAFAEL YANEZ**

**U.N.I.O.N. IMPACT CENTER**

*President/CEO*

The mission of U.N.I.O.N. Impact Center is to provide distressed communities the tools necessary for financial, physical, intellectual, emotional and spiritual growth.