



REBUILDING TOGETHER. STRONGER.

There are many hurdles to reversing the economic impact of the pandemic. Together, we can move from pandemic response to recovery. Your investment in CEDA will help deliver critical resources directly to the community so our neighbors can easily access services – including food, housing and education.

Proven services like federal and state safety net programs can help buffer the effects of poverty. But if we really want to improve our community, we need to work together for all families to stabilize, grow, and thrive.

OUR VISION FOR A FUTURE WITHOUT POVERTY

STABILIZE THROUGH SAFETY NET PROGRAMS

Our programs are part of a wider group of safety net programs that cut poverty roughly in half.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT: DIRECT CLIENT SUPPORT OF \$86M

We're fueling our local economy and placing the buying power back into distressed communities. We offer individuals a range of services and support to stabilize clients with immediate financial assistance as well as provide sustainable solutions they need to change their lives:



Utility Bill Assistance

offsets monthly gas, electric and water bills allowing families to meet other basic needs like childcare, food, and medicine



Home Weatherization

makes homes more efficient, cost effective, and safe



Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

delivers a nutritional program focused on healthy eating for moms, babies, and kids under age 5



Housing Counseling

provides information and education to homebuyers, owners, renters, and homeless through comprehensive housing services



FsACE

gives individuals and families a range of support; dental and vision, transportation, scholarships, job readiness and counseling, funds

SAFETY NET PROGRAMS AND SERVICES BENEFIT THE BROADER COMMUNITY

Our delivery of direct benefits results in higher levels of consumer spending, thereby stimulating the local economy and easing concerns among neighbors hardest hit by the pandemic.

WOMEN, INFANTS, AND CHILDREN SPOTLIGHT

WIC saves lives and improves the health of nutritionally at-risk women, infants and children.

WIC provides healthy foods, nutritional education, breastfeeding support, and referrals to healthcare and social services for millions of low-income families. This program plays a crucial role in improving lifetime health for women, infants, and young children.

- Reduces fetal death and infant mortality, low birthweight rates and increases duration of pregnancy
- Improves growth of nutritionally at-risk infants and children
- WIC helps get children ready to start school: children who receive WIC benefits demonstrate improved intellectual development

This work is critically important

It has long been recognized that children living in poverty lag behind other children on a wide range of indicators.



Where you live matters

Disparities in early childhood development are associated with neighborhood income, race, and ethnicity by the time children reach kindergarten. **We operate 19 WIC clinics in high-poverty areas.**



Black women are most vulnerable

Black women are four to five times more likely to die from pregnancy-related causes. **26% of our WIC clients are African-American.**



Lifelong impact

Very young children living in food-insecure families are more likely to have low academic scores and to exhibit problem behaviors when they enter kindergarten. **We serve 43,000 participants a year.**

WIC aims to improve the health and nutritional well-being of low-income women and their young children by intervening at critical times of growth and development.

This program has the potential to improve the life chances of thousands of infants and children.

HOW WE CAN BETTER ENGAGE OUR CLIENTS

Roughly 50% of clients are not applying this year, for numerous reasons. One being 25% of Cook County residents lack high-speed internet, smartphones, or computers at home. Working with partners, we will build better systems to deepen our community engagement.



Improve Access



Remove Barriers



Support Languages

Nearly 18,000 of our LIHEAP clients have received social media and email communications with application instructions and reminders.

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

CEDA aims to revitalize communities, develop and rehabilitate affordable housing, promote sustainability, attract investments, build wealth, encourage entrepreneurship, and create jobs.

We will initiate and generate solutions to our neighbors' economic problems, thereby building long-term community capacity and fostering the integration of economic, social, and environmental objectives. Here are some projects we are developing and implementing to meet our goals:

ENGAGE HARVEY

Robin Hood Foundation Mobility LABs chose CEDA as one of its first projects outside of the New York City Tri-State area to create an initiative that will produce sustainable mobility from poverty.

Leveraging almost 55 years of work in the Chicagoland area, we identified Harvey, IL for our program because:

- 45.3% of Harvey adults ages 16-64 do not work
- 23% of adults in Harvey have less than a high school education
- 49% of Harvey's children live in poverty

We held 20 focus groups with 300 local participants about the community's biggest hurdles in stabilizing and thriving. Residents, leaders, and stakeholders gave insight on how to address gaps in the process for getting individuals out of poverty. **SEE OUR PROGRESS**





EDUCATION

The Challenge: Education Loss

This is not just an economic issue. Multiple studies have linked greater educational attainment to improved health, reduced crime and incarceration levels, and increased political participation.

- The average student could lose \$61,000 to \$82,000 in lifetime earnings - the equivalent of a year of full-time work - solely as a result of COVID-19-related learning losses
- \$51 billion estimated loss across the current K-12 students in Cook County
- Estimate less earnings for white students of \$1,348 a year (1.6% reduction) over a 40-year working life. Hispanic \$1,809 less and for black students \$2,186

Our Solution: Preparing Youth for an Equitable Future

Our Youth Skills Development program will focus on holistic integration of Life Skills, Technical Skills and Leadership Skills required to ensure young adults are provided with equitable education and opportunity to succeed in life. The program will take place over a period of four years with groups will be organized by grade level. Summer curriculum will include three key components: technical skills, leadership skills, and advocacy skills. The program will include a paid summer internship placement for program participants starting their second year.

Work in Partnership

Provide blended learning of classroom and hands-on educational delivery models that will spark all aspects of the seven learning styles.

Hands-On Experience

Develop real world work opportunities through internships, traveling outside their current environment to help them mentally and physically comprehend the reality of opportunity. Offer educational bridging activities during the academic year, including in-school electives, study hall replacements, and mentorship opportunities.

Future Leaders

Equip young adults to understand how to utilize resources and articulate their positions to become the future leaders and voice for advocacy around important issues.



AFFORDABLE HOUSING

The Challenge: Lack of Affordable Housing

We are facing an affordable housing crunch – and it was getting worse even before the pandemic struck and eviscerated jobs and income.

- Nearly 1 in 3 households spend more than 30% of their income on housing. Almost half of all renters are in that category spend 50% of income on housing costs.
- 68,000 affordable housing units needed to meet need in Suburban Cook County
- 42% of mortgage holders and 59% of renter experienced a loss in employment since pandemic

Our Solution: Rebuilding Distressed Communities

CEDA will bring affordable, safe, and stable housing to people in the Chicagoland area.

Community Led

Working with partners, we collectively lift community voices and build a sustainable and scalable investment strategy.

Data Driven

We focus on impoverished communities. We work to understand historical impact, crime, home values and poverty rates in comparison to neighboring communities. We evaluate data over time and aim for impact.

Strategic Partnerships

We develop community-driven partnerships with like-minded organizations and leverage resources through local government entities, investors and development corporations. Additionally, this allows us to leverage local relationships as we develop the holistic social services support.

OUR MODEL



Assess Area and Identify Target Group



Engage Local Community



Define Investment Strategy



Strengthen or Build Partnerships



Raise Funds



Measure Impact

REBUILDING TOGETHER. STRONGER.

Join us as we build back an equitable Chicagoland.

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