



IT'S HAPPENING

2022-2023 IMPACT REPORT





EDUCATION INITIATIVES

We help churches and other organizations adopt schools to remove the barriers that disrupt a quality education for Chicago students.

Love Your School 22-23 Initiative:

- 76 Schools Adopted
- 100+ Parents Trained
- 3,000+ Students Impacted
- 30+ Churches Adopted Schools
- 11 Chicago School Managers Trained (who serve 600+ schools)
- \$102,500 Donated From Foundations and Families

We strategically partnered with **over 20 organizations** to enhance the culture of Chicago schools - especially on the Southside and Westside.

"Participating in the Together Chicago panel energized me. The collaboration I saw between school leaders, faith-based organizations, and other community partners made me feel confident that our students will be able to reach their full potential through support both from CPS and their broader communities. I am excited to see the Together Chicago pilot sites expand to ensure that more students, especially on the South and West Sides, receive the mentorship and guidance they need to excel academically and develop into the future leaders of our city."

*— Pedro Martinez
CEO of Chicago Public Schools*





ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Supporting job creation, business recovery and growth in disinvested communities in Chicago.

Economic Development Initiatives:

- TC is partnering with several family offices and P/E firms to locate businesses to start or acquire that are profitable and can provide employment for at risk individuals
- 30 West Side Catering Businesses into the Rush ecosystem
- \$150,000+ revenue to West Side businesses
- Dr Ansel (Rush University Medical Center) and Shelby Parchman participated in Global Supply Chain Summit.
- TC advises several financial, academic, and manufacturing organizations in the areas of:
 - Homeownership initiatives
 - Rental housing investments
 - Workforce development opportunities
 - Financial literacy

"A genuine love of food and quality customer service runs in our family and it continues to be a special treat to feed the wonderful people at Rush and we look forward to many more years of service to our neighborhood healthcare provider! We've seen about a 5% increase in our sales. I cannot adequately express how grateful I am for all your consideration and effort for our benefit."

— Baba Pita

a family owned and operated nearby restaurant





GOSPEL JUSTICE

Catalyzing the development of local, community-based justice centers in partnership with local churches.

Gospel Justice Centers 2022-2023 Impact

- **231** Clients Served
 - 154 Virtual clients leveraging technology
 - 77 In-Person clients at 17 Gospel Justice Center
- **41** Attorneys serving at TC Gospel Justice Host sites
- **510** hours served by TC Gospel Justice Center Attorneys
- **164** Volunteers Serving at TC Gospel Justice Host Sites

There are **4** Gospel Justice Centers preparing to launch over the next year.

"Every staff person showed passion and concern regarding my situation."

— Gospel Justice Center Client

"Everyone was very welcoming and friendly—I felt very comfortable"

— Gospel Justice Center Client





VIOLENCE REDUCTION

Equipping churches to be at the forefront of violence reduction in their community

Violence Reduction Efforts 2022-2023 Impact

- We now have Violence Reduction teams operating in the communities of Austin, East Garfield Park, Greater Grand Crossing, West Haven Park and the Near West Side.
- The teams are growing in their capabilities to impact the violence in these communities
- As of Oct. 27 there has been an **80% reduction** in homicides and a **60% reduction** in shootings in the part of East Garfield Park we cover. This has been our most successful area so far.
- There is a **31% reduction** in shootings on the Near West Side as well.
- In other areas we have some reductions and some increases.

I would like to thank together Chicago for helping me find a job. I've been at my job for a year I like it it changed my life gave me another opportunity to do better. Thank you Together Chicago for believing in me when I didn't believe in myself God bless

— Oddies S.

- Through our many Light in the Night events over the summer we have reached over **250 youth** and **400 community residents** with wholesome activities such as high school and youth football games and a reading circle
- We now have a partnership w/ Fellowship of Christian Athletes





FAITH-COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION

Fostering seasonal rhythms of united prayer and collective action among churches and faith-based organizations.

Chicagoland United in Prayer Winter Gathering

- 140+ Churches Participated
- 85 Communities (Chicago & Suburbs)
- 25 Nationalities

Building Blocks of Peace Spring Training Series

- 255 Individuals Participated
- 90+ Churches Represented
- 22 Police Districts Represented

Hands Across Chicago (Memorial Day Weekend faith-in-action mobilization)

- 55+ Locations of Prayer & Action
- 17 Love Your School Prayer Sites

"God is using Together Chicago and Chicagoland United in Prayer to unite an otherwise divided city and overcome Race, Gender, Class, and Neighborhood.

My prayer is that relationships formed become transformative by the love we develop for each other—'Oh, how they loved one another!'

— Felecia Thompson

Thy will be done,
in _____,
as it is in heaven.



LETTER FROM OUR FOUNDERS

Together Chicago exists to be a catalyst for lasting change by reducing gun violence and increasing thriving communities in our city.

It's hard to imagine all God has done in and thru our Together Chicago (TC) team in just 6 ½ years. TC was birthed at the Brixen Ivy Ranch just a 2 ½ hour drive outside of Chicago. Key Christian leaders convened for a day and a half to seek God in worship and prayer about the gun violence plaguing our city.

We are amazed and grateful for the goodness of God as He continues to guide, teach and bless our organization. We have grown from just the three of us in 2017 to a team of 60 friends and colleagues working across the 5-focus areas you've read about in this report. We are most grateful to God as we continue to see the Body of Christ coming together across Chicagoland in unprecedented ways. What Jesus earnestly prays in John 17 (our oneness and unity) has been our constant prayer since TC's founding. We now have about 170 churches across many racial, demographic and denominational boundaries praying and serving together in many different ways for the peace and thriving of our great city.

We are also grateful for the mutually beneficial partnerships we have with many other non-profits, city government, our police department, business leaders, attorneys and educators. We thank God for those who financially invest in our work with the hope of lasting change.

Thank you for joining with us in prayer and participating with us in redemptive actions as God leads you and your church to do for the peace and prosperity of Chicago and for the glory of God.



David Dillon & Michael Allen

TOGETHER ★CHICAGO

ONE CITY. ONE MISSION.



ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT



EDUCATION



GOSPEL
JUSTICE



VIOLENCE
REDUCTION



FAITH-COMMUNITY
MOBILIZATION

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