



# Investing in the Promise of Chicago



FIELD FOUNDATION  
Fiscal Years 2023–2024 Biennial Report



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# Contents

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| <b>2</b>  | Letter from our Chair  |
| <b>3</b>  | Letter from our President  |
| <b>4</b>  | Vision. Mission. Values  |
| <b>6</b>  | Impact   |
| <b>10</b> | A Road Together (ART)  |
| <b>13</b> | Journalism & Storytelling  |
| <b>18</b> | Justice  |
| <b>20</b> | Leadership Investment  |
| <b>24</b> | Healing Illinois   |
| <b>26</b> | Fiscal Years 2023-2024 Art, Journalism & Storytelling,<br>and Justice Grantees |
| <b>28</b> | Fiscal Years 2023-2024 Special Considerations Fund Grantees                    |
| <b>30</b> | In Memorium: Judith Stofer Block, Gary Harris Kline                            |
| <b>32</b> | Spotlight on Art: “The Ripple Effect”  |
| <b>34</b> | Field Foundation Leadership & Staff  |

# Letter from our Chair



“The Field Foundation seeks to deliver transformational impact as a trusted, strategic partner, leveraging deep relationships in community and with other funders who share our belief in the promise of Chicago. — Joe Aguilar

Dedicated to the promise of Chicago. This simple, yet powerful, phrase has guided the operations of the Field Foundation of Illinois since it was established in 1960. The foundation’s unwavering commitment to our city is what truly drew me to join its board of directors in 2022. It has been a privilege to serve on the board and to see first-hand how the Field Foundation is not only dedicated to driving tangible impact in our city, but actively **investing in the promise of Chicago.**

In December 2023, I was elected by the Field board to serve as its chair, succeeding my predecessor, Gloria Castillo, who had chaired the board since 2018 and now serves as our vice chair. I am both humbled and grateful for this opportunity, which I view as a personal honor and a significant responsibility. I want to thank Gloria for her care in ensuring a seamless transition in our roles but, most importantly, the everlasting impact she has created.

## Observations

The last two years have afforded me a closer view of the Field Foundation’s impact—from its strong partnerships with the **John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation** in the **Leaders for a New Chicago** and **A Road Together (ART)** initiatives; to its work with local news outlets to create a more equitable and sustainable media ecosystem; to the organizing and civic infrastructure work it funds. These investments continue to make a positive difference, particularly in the Field Foundation’s priority communities on the South and West Sides.

This biennial report—which covers activities between May 2022 and April 2024—describes the most recent evolution of the Field Foundation. I am incredibly excited about this direction and its focus on community power building. Under the stellar leadership of **Field President Daniel O. Ash**, the foundation seeks to deliver transformational impact as a trusted, strategic partner—leveraging deep relationships in community and with other funders who share our belief in the promise of Chicago.

## Honoring Field Foundation Transitions

As a board, we pay tribute to two Field Foundation leaders we have sadly lost in recent months—**Judith Stofer Block**, who led the Field Foundation Board of Directors as chair from 2009-2014; and then served as Life Director; and **Gary Harris Kline**, the Field Foundation’s board secretary for more than 20 years. We honor their leadership and contributions.

We also congratulate **Sarah Linsley**, Field’s most recent board secretary, on her recent retirement.

## The Road Ahead

With pride in the collective accomplishments of the Field Foundation, I look forward to collaborating with my fellow directors and the Field staff to advance the mission of the foundation and its commitment to the promise of Chicago. Together, we will work to ensure that our efforts in the city and surrounding areas have a lasting impact, while strengthening our stature as a key influence of civic dialogue across all communities we serve.



Joe Aguilar, Chair, Field Foundation Board of Directors

# Letter from our President



“

Every day, we have an opportunity to invest in Chicago’s most powerful resource: Its beautiful people, its ambitious dreams, and its boundless potential. — Daniel O. Ash

As I reflect on the Field Foundation’s journey over the past two fiscal years, I am struck by the foundation’s fundamental commitment to **investing in the promise of Chicago**. Becoming Field’s president in June 2022 deepened my appreciation for the foundation’s unique position in the city’s philanthropic landscape—a place where trusted community relationships meet strategic partnerships and people who truly believe in the potential of Chicago.

I dedicated my first months to listening—to our Field board and staff, our grantee partners, my peers in philanthropy, and the communities we serve. What I heard was an affirmation of our work yet a challenge to do more. I saw an opportunity for the foundation to deliver greater impact—as a partner, catalyst, and committed ally in investing in Chicago’s most promising community-driven solutions.

## The Next Evolution

These revelations have propelled us toward a critical evolution. To us, **investing in the promise of Chicago** means moving beyond modest, short-term grants to providing more substantial, multi-year support—leveraging our relationships with trusted funding partners, including the **John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, The Chicago Community Trust, Democracy Fund**, and the **Ford Foundation**, among others. We will serve our grantees by acting as a strategic partner, bringing every asset we have—not just our financial capital, but our knowledge, relationships, and understanding of community needs.

Our commitment goes above and beyond the value of a grant. To that end, we will be intentional in investing and organizing capital—working alongside our grantees to help advance resident-set agendas with a focus on Chicago’s South and West Sides, where our analysis indicates the greatest areas of need.

In terms of how we operate, we are working toward **moving at the speed of need**. For example, after a comprehensive review, we have transitioned to a rolling grantmaking process so we can be more strategic in our thinking and faster with our funding.

Guided by our core values of **service** and **impact**, the Field Foundation’s mission is to support **community power building** in Chicago by investing in civic infrastructure, the creative sector, local news outlets, and organizing. We filter every decision we make, every grant we award, through a single question: How does this investment benefit the true architects of Chicago’s promise—the residents of our city.

## Momentum for the Future

I am inspired by our momentum and filled with optimism, despite our city’s many challenges. Because every day, we have an opportunity to invest in Chicago’s most powerful resources: Its beautiful people, its ambitious dreams, and its boundless potential.

This biennial report is a testament to that commitment—our ongoing investment in the promise of Chicago.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel O. Ash".

Daniel O. Ash, President, Field Foundation

# Vision. Mission. Values.

We have evolved the vision, mission and values of the Field Foundation to support our move from transactional grantmaking to transformational impact. We remain steadfast in our commitment to funding Chicago-based nonprofits in our geographic priority areas, with a focus on the South and West Sides.

## Vision

We seek to catalyze community transformation through strategic philanthropic investments.

## Mission

Investing in Chicago's civic infrastructure, creative sector, local news outlets, and organizers to support community power building.

## Values

- **Service:** We prioritize community wellbeing and serve with a commitment to trust, transparency, respect, equity, and kindness.
- **Impact:** We serve as a strategic partner, operating with mutual accountability for community-defined goals and driving positive, measurable results.

## Geographic Focus Areas

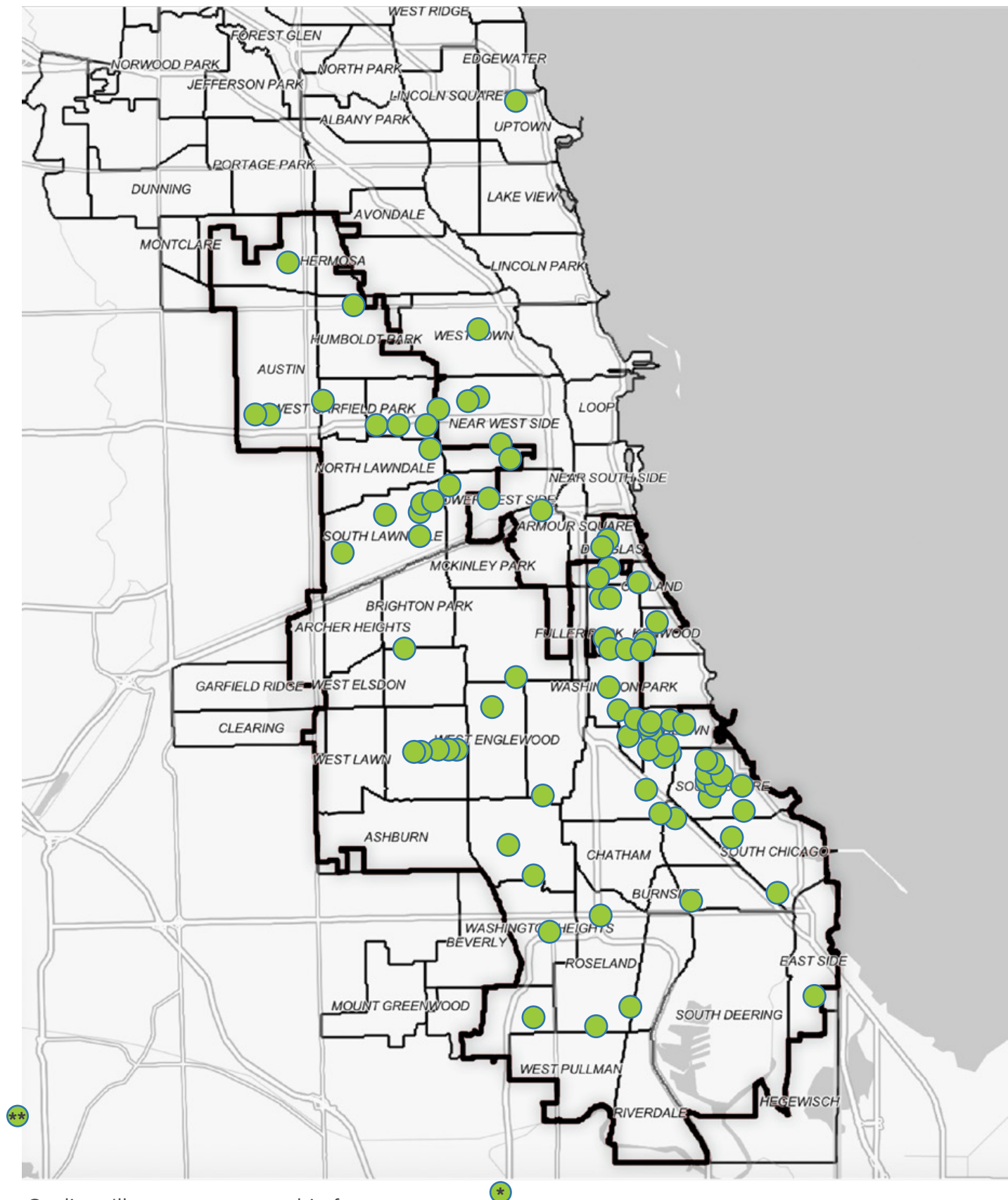
We prioritize our funding with a geographic focus on historically marginalized communities on Chicago's South and West Sides.

## Approach

We are committed to investing and organizing capital to advance resident-set agendas.



# Geographic Focus Areas



Outline: Illustrates geographic focus areas

# Impact by the numbers (FY 2023-2024)

**\$6M+**

**in funding for Art, Journalism & Storytelling, and Justice grantees**

**\$39.5K**

average grant size

**29%↑**

increase from  
FY21-FY22

**\$9.37K**

average grant size

**56%↑**

increase from  
FY21-FY22

**\$936K**

**in Special Considerations funding**



THE  
FIELD  
FOUNDATION  
OF ILLINOIS



**\$2.26M+**

**in funding inaugural  
ART Grantees (FY24)**

**80**

organizations  
funded

**78%**

in priority  
geographic  
areas

**100%**

general operating  
funding

**A  
Road  
Together**

**An initiative of the FIELD FOUNDATION supported by the MacArthur Foundation**

# Impact by the numbers (FY 2023-2024)

**\$1M**

in Leaders for a New Chicago funding

**\$25K**

awards to 20  
individual leaders

**\$25K**

grants to  
20 affiliated  
organizations

**\$3.25M**

committed to leaders and affiliated  
organizations since 2019

**65**

leaders recognized  
since 2019



# Impact by the numbers (FY 2023-2024)

**\$4.5M**

in Healing Illinois funding

**184**

organizations  
funded across 47  
counties

**26%**

are current or past  
Field grantees



# A Road Together (ART): Investing in Chicago's Creative Ecosystem

An example of what the Field Foundation's latest evolution looks like in practice is **"A Road Together" (ART)**, Field's grantmaking partnership with the **John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation**. Launched in 2023 as a **\$15 million, five-year initiative**, ART is reimagining how philanthropy can help create opportunities for more Chicagoans to dream and flourish through a vibrant, equitable, and sustainable creative ecosystem. The initiative represents **an impactful, transformative approach** to supporting Chicago's arts and culture sector with a focus on historically underserved communities.

## A Strategic Vision

Rooted in data-driven analysis, the ART program emerged from the Field Foundation's deep understanding of critical gaps in resources for arts and cultural organizations within its defined geographic focus areas on Chicago's South and West Sides. In conversations with colleagues at the MacArthur Foundation, we began to discuss how a new collaboration with Field could support MacArthur's Chicago Commitment strategy and its overarching goal to invest in people, places, and partnerships to advance equity and build a more inclusive Chicago.

In September of 2022, the MacArthur Foundation announced a planning grant for Field to develop an entirely new, separate, and distinct program—regranting MacArthur funds to offer general operating support to small and mid-sized organizations that serve historically marginalized communities. That planning grant work led to the creation of "A Road Together" and an expansion the Field and MacArthur relationship.

At the core of the ART initiative is a shared belief among Field and MacArthur that arts and culture organizations are vital to a Chicago's identity, economy, and social fabric. This includes both traditional arts groups as well as organizations focused on social change and community service that use artistic expression as a tool for community power building.

## An Innovative Grantmaking Approach

The ART initiative distinguishes itself through its design, including:

- **Prioritization of traditionally underserved communities.**
- **A participatory grantmaking process** that engages Chicago artists and cultural leaders in recommending funding decisions.
- **Unrestricted, general operating support** that gives organizations flexibility to address their most pressing needs.
- **A commitment to multi-year funding** to provide stability and support long-term organizational growth
- **A cohort model** to support 75 unique organizations annually

**\$1.15M**

**\$1.15M invested in Arts portfolio grantees (FY 2023-2024), in addition to the \$2.26M funded through the A Road Together initiative**



[alt\_] "alt\_Bin" project, from altspacechicago.com

## 2023 Program Launch and Inaugural Cohort

The program launched in April 2023 with two funding lanes: a three-year grant with funding ranging from \$25,000 to \$100,000 annually; and a one-year grant, with funding ranging from \$10,000 to \$50,000.

In October 2023, the Field and MacArthur foundations announced the inaugural group of ART grantees—**80 Chicago-based organizations who will receive a total of \$2.26 million in funding** with 25 organizations receiving three-year grants and 55 organizations receiving one-year grants. All grantees have annual budgets of less than \$1 million.



An initiative of the FIELD FOUNDATION supported by the MacArthur Foundation

## A Collaborative Journey

Field Foundation President Daniel O. Ash captured the program's spirit and its deeper mission of not just funding but **serving as a strategic partner** to Chicago's creative community.

"The ART grantees are doing brilliant work in some of the most vulnerable and impacted areas of our city," Ash said. "Through the ART initiative and our partnership with the MacArthur Foundation, we have an opportunity to help these organizations achieve their goals and be more impactful in using art and creativity to serve communities and residents."

The participatory approach and commitment to continuously be on a learning-to-action journey is particularly notable, added **Field's Arts Program Officer Richard Tran**. "Panelists are oriented to think critically about supporting a robust arts ecosystem, considering factors like geographic representation, creative disciplines, and how each organization complements the broader cultural landscape," Tran said.

## ART's impact to date

In terms of impact, Tran said early findings suggest the program's commitment to general operating funding allows organizations to pivot quickly in times of duress—with the ability to fund critical infrastructure, salaries, and benefits beyond traditional arts programming. Additionally, Tran said organizations have noted that being recognized as an ART grant recipient has helped them attract new funding sources to support their sustainability, creating a multiplier effect for community resources.

## Looking Forward

Beginning in 2025, ART will transition to exclusively offering three-year general operating grants, solidifying its commitment to long-term organizational sustainability. The program remains committed to its core principle: continuous learning and adaptation based on community feedback.

The Field Foundation team pays tribute to their partner and friend, Geoffrey Banks, the former Senior Program Officer for MacArthur's Chicago Commitment team, as a critical co-architect of "A Road Together,"—an initiative that stretches the definition of traditional grantmaking, charting a collaborative journey toward a more creative, just, and equitable Chicago.



“Panelists are oriented to think critically about supporting a robust arts ecosystem, considering factors like geographic representation, creative disciplines, and how each organization complements the broader cultural landscape.”

— Richard Tran



## Three-Year ART Grantees

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <a href="#"><u>Alt Space Chicago</u></a>                      | <a href="#"><u>Muntu Dance Theatre</u></a>                          |
| <a href="#"><u>BandWith Chicago</u></a>                       | <a href="#"><u>Musical Arts Institute</u></a>                       |
| <a href="#"><u>Black Alphabet</u></a>                         | <a href="#"><u>Playmakers Laboratory Theatre</u></a>                |
| <a href="#"><u>Chicago Art Department</u></a>                 | <a href="#"><u>Praize Productions, Inc.</u></a>                     |
| <a href="#"><u>eta Creative Arts Foundation</u></a>           | <a href="#"><u>Prison + Neighborhood Arts Education Project</u></a> |
| <a href="#"><u>Floating Museum</u></a>                        | <a href="#"><u>Silk Road Rising</u></a>                             |
| <a href="#"><u>Jazz Institute of Chicago</u></a>              | <a href="#"><u>South Side Community Art Center</u></a>              |
| <a href="#"><u>Joel Hall Dancers &amp; Center</u></a>         | <a href="#"><u>Teatro Vista Theater with a View</u></a>             |
| <a href="#"><u>Kehrein Center for the Arts Foundation</u></a> | <a href="#"><u>TGi Movement</u></a>                                 |
| <a href="#"><u>Kuumba Lynx</u></a>                            | <a href="#"><u>True Star Foundation</u></a>                         |
| <a href="#"><u>Live the Spirit Residency</u></a>              | <a href="#"><u>Water People Theater Group</u></a>                   |
| <a href="#"><u>Mandala South Asian Performing Arts</u></a>    | <a href="#"><u>Young Chicago Authors</u></a>                        |
| <a href="#"><u>Mitchell Museum of the American Indian</u></a> |   |

## One-Year ART Grantees

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <a href="#"><u>About Face Theatre Collective</u></a>                         | <a href="#"><u>Definition Theatre</u></a>                              | <a href="#"><u>National Museum of Gospel Music</u></a>          |
| <a href="#"><u>Africa International House USA, Inc.</u></a>                  | <a href="#"><u>Diasporal Rhythms</u></a>                               | <a href="#"><u>Natya Dance Theatre</u></a>                      |
| <a href="#"><u>African American Arts Alliance</u></a>                        | <a href="#"><u>Elastic Arts</u></a>                                    | <a href="#"><u>OH Art Foundation</u></a>                        |
| <a href="#"><u>Aguijon Theater Company</u></a>                               | <a href="#"><u>Esprit des Concerts</u></a>                             | <a href="#"><u>OPEN CENTER FOR THE ARTS</u></a>                 |
| <a href="#"><u>American Indian Association of Illinois</u></a>               | <a href="#"><u>Firebird Community Arts</u></a>                         | <a href="#"><u>Rivendell Theatre Ensemble</u></a>               |
| <a href="#"><u>Archi-Treasures</u></a>                                       | <a href="#"><u>Free Street Theater</u></a>                             | <a href="#"><u>2nd Story</u></a>                                |
| <a href="#"><u>Arts &amp; Business Council</u></a>                           | <a href="#"><u>Haitian American Museum of Chicago</u></a>              | <a href="#"><u>Segundo Ruiz Belvis Cultural Center</u></a>      |
| <a href="#"><u>Asian Improv aRts Midwest</u></a>                             | <a href="#"><u>Honey Pot Performance</u></a>                           | <a href="#"><u>Snow City Arts</u></a>                           |
| <a href="#"><u>Association for the Advancement of Creative Musicians</u></a> | <a href="#"><u>Hyde Park Jazz Festival</u></a>                         | <a href="#"><u>Sones de Mexico Ensemble</u></a>                 |
| <a href="#"><u>Ballet Folklorico de Chicago</u></a>                          | <a href="#"><u>ILA Creative Studio, NFP</u></a>                        | <a href="#"><u>South Chicago Dance Theatre</u></a>              |
| <a href="#"><u>Cerqua Rivera Dance Theatre</u></a>                           | <a href="#"><u>International Latino Cultural Center of Chicago</u></a> | <a href="#"><u>Teatro Tariakuri</u></a>                         |
| <a href="#"><u>Chicago Artists Coalition</u></a>                             | <a href="#"><u>Korean Performing Arts Institute of Chicago</u></a>     | <a href="#"><u>The First Presbyterian Church of Chicago</u></a> |
| <a href="#"><u>Chicago Dancemakers Forum</u></a>                             | <a href="#"><u>Lawndale Pop-Up Spot</u></a>                            | <a href="#"><u>The Simple Good</u></a>                          |
| <a href="#"><u>Chicago Multi-Cultural Dance Center</u></a>                   | <a href="#"><u>Lawyers for the Creative Arts</u></a>                   | <a href="#"><u>Theatre Y</u></a>                                |
| <a href="#"><u>Chicago Torture Justice Memorials Foundation</u></a>          | <a href="#"><u>Lighthouse Foundation</u></a>                           | <a href="#"><u>Threewalls</u></a>                               |
| <a href="#"><u>Chicago West Community Music Center</u></a>                   | <a href="#"><u>Links Hall</u></a>                                      | <a href="#"><u>UrbanTheater Company</u></a>                     |
| <a href="#"><u>Collaboraction Theatre Company</u></a>                        | <a href="#"><u>LOVE UNITY &amp; VALUES INSTITUTE</u></a>               | <a href="#"><u>West Point School of Music</u></a>               |
| <a href="#"><u>Congo Square Theatre Company</u></a>                          | <a href="#"><u>Muddy Waters MOJO Museum, Inc.</u></a>                  |   |
| <a href="#"><u>D-Composed Gives</u></a>                                      | <a href="#"><u>NAJWA Dance Corps</u></a>                               |   |

# Journalism & Storytelling: Investing in Community Voices and Building Media Equity

As the Field Foundation has evolved over the past two fiscal years, so too has its Journalism & Storytelling portfolio. What began as a partnership with the **John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation** following conversations with journalists, media makers, and storytellers, the portfolio—originally named Media & Storytelling—has been active in responding to the evolving local news landscape during a time of continued uncertainty.

In January 2023, Field welcomed **Maudlyne Ihejirika**, an award-winning journalist with 29 years of experience at the *Chicago Sun-Times*, to take this work forward and further strengthen Field's commitment to creating a more equitable, sustainable, and inclusive local media ecosystem.

## Aligning Brand with Focus

Equipped with extensive internal reflection, external consultations, and an understanding of the challenges facing local journalism—from business model disruption, to shuttering news outlets and a growing number of news deserts coinciding with social division and misinformation—Field embarked on a journey to make a deliberate shift from funding isolated storytelling projects to a **more strategic and comprehensive approach**.

*Journalism & Storytelling cohort launch*



**Rebranded as “Journalism & Storytelling,”** the portfolio remains dedicated to ensuring a broad range of views are represented in the public square. What this looks like in practice is supporting promising news outlets that reflect Chicago’s historically marginalized communities and provide essential information through diverse narratives and quality investigative reporting. This enhanced focus on building and sustaining equity aligns with broader trends in the journalism and media philanthropy sector.

**\$3.09M**

**Invested in Journalism  
& Storytelling portfolio  
grantees from May 1,  
2022-April 30, 2024**

## **Press Forward: From Local Vision to National Movement**

A pivotal moment for local journalism emerged in September 2023 when a coalition of 22 funders announced [Press Forward](#), a groundbreaking national initiative led by the MacArthur Foundation to strengthen communities and democracy through local news support. With a pooled fund of more than \$500 million over five years, this initiative represents a transformative approach to addressing the information needs of communities across the United States.

What many don’t realize is that this national movement has roots in the Field Foundation’s pioneering journalism work. The Press Forward concept originated in Chicago, born from discussions among local funders—including Field Foundation President Daniel O. Ash, then at The Chicago Community Trust—about the urgent need to support hyperlocal platforms serving marginalized communities. The initiative was directly informed by Field’s deep media expertise, which identified a critical gap in local information ecosystems. MacArthur Foundation President John Palfrey would later contextualize this local insight with the launch of Press Forward as a national imperative.

Around the same time, Ihejirika joined journalism program leaders from MacArthur and The Chicago Community Trust in a series of architectural meetings to develop a local version of Press Forward. In November 2023, the Field Foundation was among 10 funders to launch [Press Forward Chicago](#), committing nearly \$10 million to strengthen local news organizations and ensure diverse communities have access to reliable and varied information sources.

*Press Forward Chicago launch*



Field's involvement with Press Forward goes beyond financial support. Ash serves on the Press Forward Chicago Steering Committee, while Ihejirika sits on the RFP Committee for both the Press Forward national and Chicago initiatives.

The impact has been almost immediate. When Press Forward Chicago made its inaugural grants of **\$1.6 million to 13 local news organizations**, Field was proud to note that all 13 were existing or previous Field Foundation Journalism & Storytelling grantees.

## Introducing Multi-Year Capacity Building

In January 2024, the Journalism & Storytelling portfolio introduced a new grant category focused on **capacity building**. Drawing inspiration from Field's A Road Together (ART) partnership with MacArthur—which emphasizes multi-year funding and a cohort model—Field awarded four Chicago news outlets with \$75,000 grants, renewable over two years. This approach recognizes the importance of sustainable funding for organizational growth.

The **Journalism & Storytelling portfolio's inaugural Capacity Building Cohort** represents the vibrance and innovation of Chicago's media landscape:

- **Borderless Magazine** reimagines coverage of Chicago's immigrant communities through a multilingual, equity-focused newsroom. With content published in English and Spanish, the outlet has won national recognition for community engagement and innovative reporting.
- **Chicago News Weekly**, founded by the former leaders of the Chicago Defender, addresses information gaps in Black communities. With readership of 100,000+, the outlet provides on-the-job training for early-career journalists and focuses on spurring civic participation.
- **Investigative Project on Race & Equity (IPRE)** is Illinois' only news organization dedicated solely to investigative reporting on race and equity. Their data-driven approach, including an in-depth investigation on traffic stops and racial profiling, has drawn national acclaim.
- **South Side Weekly** has transformed local news through collaborative journalism. With a network of 1,500 contributors from 37 communities, the outlet empowers residents to tell their own stories and has ranked third in reader satisfaction among Chicago news outlets.



“

The Field Foundation seeks to change how news production and storytelling reflect Chicago and create a more equitable, connected, and inclusive local media ecosystem—in which the stories of all Chicagoans are told accurately, fairly, and contextually”

— Maudlyne Ihejirika



## A Critical Moment for Journalism

As Ihejirika notes, “**Journalism has never been more critical to understanding our communities and our world. The financial challenges facing media demand innovative philanthropic approaches.**”

The vision for Field’s Journalism & Storytelling portfolio is clear: **support community power building by funding the effective dissemination of fact-based, impactful storytelling.** An investment in these outlets is an investment in the ability of communities to see themselves represented, to access reliable news and information, and to advocate for meaningful change.

The Field Foundation remains committed to advancing this vision, one story at a time, through its work, and through the generous support of its Journalism & Storytelling funding partners, including MacArthur, The Chicago Community Trust, Democracy Fund, and the Ford Foundation.



*La Voz Chicago Editor Jackie Serrato (left) sits with residents during a community listening session.  
photo credit: Kamil Krzaczynski/For the Sun-Times*

# Justice: Investing in Community Power and Transformative Change

For the Field Foundation’s Justice portfolio, community power building manifests through strategic investments in social justice organizations working to address resident-defined agendas through community engagement and advocacy. Additionally, over the past two fiscal years, the foundation has deepened its approach to this portfolio, recognizing that robust civic infrastructure is fundamental to developing solutions for complex issues.

By supporting efforts that **amplify community voices and strengthen collective action**, Field aims to help shape a more responsive, inclusive, and participatory democracy. In addition to grantmaking, this commitment focuses on building the connective tissue that enables communities to drive transformative change.



*Chicago Housing Justice League (from Facebook)*

## Prioritizing Residents’ Needs

At the core of the Field Foundation’s Justice work is supporting community-based organizations in addressing the immediate needs of its residents. With community wellbeing as its North Star, Field staff have continued to spend significant time in community: listening to and learning from residents to understand challenges and discover opportunities for most impactful investment.

Housing, immigration, and criminal justice reform have been key areas of focus. An excellent example of this work is Field’s funding for the **Chicago Housing Justice Coalition**, whose members advocate for just housing policies to stem the tide of evictions that primarily impact Chicago’s most vulnerable populations. With the core belief that housing is a human right, the coalition is working to end no-fault convictions in Chicago—allowing residents the ability to live in their own homes and communities safely, independently, and comfortably, regardless of age, income, or ability level.



In supporting the **Just Cause for Eviction** ordinance, the Chicago Housing Justice Coalition seeks to end no-fault evictions. The ordinance would represent the first significant expansion of tenant protections since 2013 and would prevent the displacement of at least 10,000 Chicago families each year.

### Driving longer-term system change

In addition to supporting organizing to meet basic needs, the Field Foundation invests in organizations and coalitions working toward broader social justice movements.

A powerful illustration from Field's Justice portfolio is its partnership with **Asian Americans Advancing Justice | Chicago (AAAJC)**. With recognition that building community power is a long-term, nuanced process, Field has long supported the organization's mission: to advance the civil and human rights of Asian Americans and to build and promote a fair and equitable society for all. Field's most recent investments have provided general operating support to help the group build a strong and sustainable infrastructure.

The impact of Asian Americans Advancing Justice | Chicago has been impressive. Led by Executive Director **Grace Pai**, a **2021 Leaders for a New Chicago Awardee**, the group has achieved several legislative victories in recent years. It was a leader in mobilizing around the **Teaching Equitable Asian American Community History (TEAACH) Act**, which became law in July 2021, requiring the teaching of Asian American history in all public schools in Illinois. The group also successfully advocated for the **Language Equity and Access Act**. Signed by Gov. J.B. Pritzker in August 2024, the act ensures that all individuals in Illinois who rely on a language other than English can access vital state services.

### Creating More Space for Civic Engagement

An important part of Field's continued evolution is its role in creating space for a robust exchange of opinions. Over the last two fiscal years, Field has made strides in both hosting and participating in convenings where civic discourse and a healthy flow of ideas happen freely. An example is when Field hosted the national and youth collaboratories of **Citizen University** in March 2023, supporting its mission to build a culture of powerful, responsible citizenship across the country. Look for the Field Foundation to continue these efforts in the years to come.

**\$1.8M**

invested in Justice portfolio  
grantees from  
May 1, 2022-April 30, 2024

# Leadership Investment Honoring and Supporting Chicago's Visionary Leaders

The Field Foundation's Leadership Investment Portfolio aims to recognize, honor, and support Chicago's visionary leaders. Through this work, Field invests in and connects individuals who have the potential to drive transformative change across the city.

The two key components of the portfolio are the annual **Leaders for a New Chicago Award** and the **Field Foundation Graduate Fellowship Program**.

## Leaders for a New Chicago Award

The Leaders for a New Chicago Award was created in partnership with the **John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation** in 2018.

The initiative uplifts leaders outside of the city's power structure and celebrates the impactful change they are bringing to their communities through new approaches to civic discourse and action.

The initiative provides \$25,000 no-strings-attached awards to individual leaders and, if eligible, a \$25,000 grant for their affiliated, not-for-profit organizations. Awardees represent leaders from existing grantee organizations of the Field Foundation (within the past two years), along with current grantees from the MacArthur Foundation's Chicago Commitment and Chicago-based Journalism & Media portfolio. In addition to being a grantee of either Field or MacArthur, awardees must be working in the areas of art, journalism and storytelling, or justice.

Recipients may use their awards as they see fit—from supporting work to reflection or professional development. They also have access to optional network programming and other opportunities.

Between May 1, 2022, and April 30, 2024, funding for the Leaders for a New Chicago program totaled \$1,000,000. This included 20 awards to leaders and 20 general operating grants to their affiliated organizations. As in previous years, these awardees represent a diversity of age, ethnicity, gender identity, religion, and sexual orientation. Coming from different geographic backgrounds and income levels, they include artists, advocates, cofounders, educators, executive directors, organizers, social change agents, storytellers, and members of collectives or shared leadership models.

**\$1M**

**invested in the Leaders for a New Chicago program from May 1, 2022-April 30, 2024**

The Leaders for a New Chicago Award seeks to build a more inclusive city by creating new pathways for visionaries to inform decision-making in Chicago.

| Fiscal Year 2023 Leaders |
|--------------------------|
| Emily Blum               |
| Antonio Gutierrez        |
| Kevin Iega Jeff          |
| Dixon Romeo              |
| Irene Romulo             |
| Scheherazade Tillet      |
| trina reynolds-tyler     |
| Tanya Watkins            |
| Dr. Dorene P. Wiese      |
| avery r. young           |

| Fiscal Year 2024 Leaders |
|--------------------------|
| Glo Choi                 |
| Mark Clements            |
| Amethyst J. Davis        |
| Carlos Flores            |
| Vanessa Harris           |
| Pastor Phil Jackson      |
| Judith McCray            |
| Yvette Moyo              |
| Ling Young               |
| Nasir Zakaria            |



“What makes this program so important is the people we honor are dreamers who lead with their imaginations. They imagine a world that doesn’t exist but needs to exist. By lifting them up, we make our society better.”

— Daniel O. Ash

## Field Foundation Graduate Fellowship Program

The Field Fellowship is a nine-month supervised placement, offering graduate students in Chicago a premier experience in philanthropy and community power building. Fellows learn all aspects of the Field Foundation grantmaking process—reviewing proposals, conducting site visits, and developing grant recommendations. Fellows also gain exposure to a wide range of social and economic issues while discovering trends in the nonprofit sector. Brief interviews with three Field Fellows from Fiscal Years 2023-2024 are featured below.

**Patrick Gallagher Landes** is the Development Manager for the Garfield Park Community Council, working to raise money to create better housing and access to food on Chicago's West Side.

**What did you learn from your experience as a Field Fellow?** I think the most valuable thing was familiarizing myself with the landscape of social issues across the city. By learning more about the organizations that are improving Chicago's neighborhoods, I learned about the issues that a wide array of Chicagoans are organizing to address.

**Is there a fond memory you recall from your fellowship?** I really enjoyed working with previous Leaders for a New Chicago to choose the next cohort.

**What is your advice for future Field Fellows?**

I think future fellows should really take their time to develop relationships with the organizations who are applying for grants, particularly in areas that resonate with the fellows. It's a great opportunity to expand your professional circle.



“

**It's a great opportunity to expand your professional circle.”**



“

**A lot can be learned in moments of change...”**

**Edith Zarco** took a significant break after obtaining her MA in Social Work, Social Policy, and Social Administration from the University of Chicago. She looks forward to making a return to the philanthropic sector in 2025.

**What did you learn from your experience as a Field Fellow?**

I came in with several years of experience in the nonprofit sector. Working in philanthropy gave me a different perspective and understanding of the challenges of the field and the different ways of approaching decision-making. I was also fortunate enough to be a fellow during a time of change for the foundation. A lot can be learned in moments of change, and I got a behind-the-scenes view.



**Is there a fond memory you recall from your fellowship?** Attending the Hispanics in Philanthropy conference with Field Foundation staff and some of Field's grantees was an impactful moment because I was surrounded by people in philanthropy with similar or shared identities and experiences. Some of the most genuine and insightful takeaways from the conference were from my conversations with the Field grantees.

**What is your advice for future Field Fellows?** As a fellow, you have access to folks who have been in the philanthropic field for a long time and an abundance of resources. Don't hesitate to ask for what you need and what would be helpful for you as a learner. The Field Fellowship is an investment in you and in your potential. Take advantage of the rooms and conversations you will be part of. Regardless of what your background is, your experience and expertise are invaluable to those spaces. The Foundation equally benefits from your insights and your ability to bring new perspectives. Be curious, ask questions, and provide feedback.

**Rupal Paliwal** is a Data Science and Insights Analyst at Chicago Public Schools. In this position, she analyzes millions of student records, empowering school leaders with data-driven, equity-centered advising strategies and ensuring that decisions are informed by actionable insights.

**What did you learn from your experience as a Field Fellow?** I gained a deeper understanding of philanthropy and the nonprofit world, particularly the importance of breaking traditional power dynamics between funders and grantees. I learned to approach grantmaking not as a transactional process but as a collaborative effort to uplift communities. Additionally, I developed skills in grant evaluation, strategic partnerships, and effective communication with stakeholders—all of which have been invaluable in my current role.

**Is there a fond memory you recall from your fellowship?** One of my fondest memories was conducting interviews with nonprofit organizations. Listening to their incredible stories, visions, and ideas was both inspiring and humbling. Each organization had such a unique and creative approach to addressing challenges, which made the process not only rewarding but also deeply motivating.

**What is your advice for future Field Fellows?**

My advice is to fully immerse yourself in the experience because what you put into it is what you'll get out of it. Approach your work with curiosity, openness, and humility. Engage deeply with nonprofits and their missions—this is your opportunity to listen, learn, and meaningfully contribute. Remember that the role is not just about giving grants; it's about building trust, fostering equity, and empowering communities to achieve their goals. Be present and intentional in every step of the journey.



**“**  
**I learned to approach grantmaking not as a transactional process but as a collaborative effort...”**

# Healing Illinois: Investing in Racial Healing

In October 2023, the Field Foundation announced a new partnership with the **Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS)** for the re-launch of **Healing Illinois**, a racial healing initiative.

Introduced in 2020 to address racial disparities, Healing Illinois has supported efforts to bring racial healing to communities in innovative and impactful ways. **At the heart of this initiative is the belief that everyone in Illinois can play a role in healing by valuing each other's experiences and honoring the histories of the state's diverse communities.**

## Healing Illinois Overview

In 2023-2024, the Field Foundation and IDHS partnered to distribute **\$4.5 million in Healing Illinois grants to 184 organizations** for community-based activities, with grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$40,000. The organizations spanned **47 counties**, creating a vibrant network of racial healing efforts. Field was pleased that **26% of organizations funded were current or past grantees.**

**\$4.5M**

**in Healing Illinois grants  
distributed in 2023-2024.**

“Healing Illinois creates a powerful opportunity for grantee organizations to bring people together across the state for meaningful dialogue and racial healing,” said Field Foundation President Daniel O. Ash. “This work aligns with the Field Foundation’s focus on power building—at the community level and across communities—to drive action and improve daily life for all.”





## Spotlight on the “Segregation and Migrant Crisis Reporting Project”

An example of work funded by Healing Illinois is “The Segregation and Migrant Crisis Reporting Project,” a hard-hitting news collaboration between five local media outlets investigating two critical issues for Chicago: segregation and the migrant crisis.

Managed by Public Narrative, a nonprofit that elevates community voices in journalism, the group published a series of multi-media news stories over two weeks with reporting from **Borderless Magazine, The Chicago Defender, Chicago News Weekly, Cicero Independiente**, and the **Investigative Project on Race and Equity**. The timing of the series coordinated with the April 2024 premiere of the documentary, “Shame of Chicago, Shame of the Nation,” a Field-funded production which inspired the segregation reporting. Four of the participating news outlets are Field grantees.

The project was a unique and impressive collaboration with all news outlets maintaining editorial independence.

## Deeping Community Partnerships

Healing Illinois partnered with four large nonprofits throughout the state to deepen connections to local organizations and support them in advancing their racial healing work. These partners are: **The YWCA of Northwestern Illinois**, the **United Way of Springfield**, the **United Way of Champaign County** and the **Southern Illinois Community Foundation**.

All Healing Illinois award recipients are 501(c)(3) organizations and Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) certified, or working with a GATA-certified intermediary.



# Fiscal Years 2023-2024 Art, Journalism & Storytelling, and Justice Grantees

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|--|--|
| <a href="#"><u>African American Arts Alliance</u></a>                              | <a href="#"><u>Collaboracion Theatre Company</u></a>                       |
| <a href="#"><u>AirGo</u></a>   | <a href="#"><u>Congo Square Theatre Company</u></a>                        |
| <a href="#"><u>Albany Park Theater Project</u></a>                                 | <a href="#"><u>Crossing Borders Music</u></a>                              |
| <a href="#"><u>Alliance of the SouthEast (ASE)</u></a>                             | <a href="#"><u>Deeply Rooted Dance Theater</u></a>                         |
| <a href="#"><u>Alt Space Chicago</u></a>   | <a href="#"><u>DVIDEO 79 Productions</u></a>                               |
| <a href="#"><u>American Indian Association of Illinois</u></a>                     | <a href="#"><u>E3 Radio</u></a>  |
| <a href="#"><u>Arab American Action Network</u></a>                                | <a href="#"><u>Elastic Arts Foundation</u></a>                             |
| <a href="#"><u>Archi-Treasures Association</u></a>                                 | <a href="#"><u>Equity and Transformation</u></a>                           |
| <a href="#"><u>Arise Chicago</u></a>   | <a href="#"><u>Equity Arts</u></a>   |
| <a href="#"><u>Arts of Life Inc</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Fertile Ground Factory, LLC</u></a>                         |
| <a href="#"><u>Asian Americans Advancing Justice   Chicago</u></a>                 | <a href="#"><u>Floating Museum</u></a>                                     |
| <a href="#"><u>Assata's Daughters</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Forgiving Cain</u></a>                                      |
| <a href="#"><u>Ballet Folklorico de Chicago</u></a>                                | <a href="#"><u>Free Street Theater</u></a>                                 |
| <a href="#"><u>Black Alphabet NFP</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Full Spectrum Features</u></a>                              |
| <a href="#"><u>Black Sheep Collective</u></a>                                      | <a href="#"><u>Girls Like Me Project</u></a>                               |
| <a href="#"><u>Block Club Chicago</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Grassroots Collaborative</u></a>                            |
| <a href="#"><u>Borderless Magazine NFP</u></a>                                     | <a href="#"><u>Gypsy Productions</u></a>                                   |
| <a href="#"><u>Borderless Studio LLC</u></a>                                       | <a href="#"><u>Hartman Publishing, Ltd.</u></a>                            |
| <a href="#"><u>Brighton Park Neighborhood Council</u></a>                          | <a href="#"><u>Harvey World Herald</u></a>                                 |
| <a href="#"><u>Center for Native Futures</u></a>                                   | <a href="#"><u>Healing to Action, NFP</u></a>                              |
| <a href="#"><u>Centro de Trabajadores Unidos: Immigrant Workers' Project</u></a>   | <a href="#"><u>Heaven Gallery</u></a>                                      |
| <a href="#"><u>Chicago Art Department</u></a>                                      | <a href="#"><u>Honey Pot Performance</u></a>                               |
| <a href="#"><u>Chicago Community Bond Fund</u></a>                                 | <a href="#"><u>IL Muslim Civic Coalition</u></a>                           |
| <a href="#"><u>Chicago Housing Justice League</u></a>                              | <a href="#"><u>Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights</u></a> |
| <a href="#"><u>Chicago Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, Inc.</u></a> | <a href="#"><u>in c/o: Black women (in care of Black women)</u></a>        |
| <a href="#"><u>Chicago Mahogany Foundation</u></a>                                 | <a href="#"><u>Injustice Watch</u></a>                                     |
| <a href="#"><u>Chicago News Weekly, LLC</u></a>                                    | <a href="#"><u>Institute for Nonprofit News</u></a>                        |
| <a href="#"><u>Chicago Public Media</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>International Latino Cultural Center of Chicago</u></a>     |
| <a href="#"><u>Chicago South Side Film Festival</u></a>                            | <a href="#"><u>Investigative Project on Race and Equity</u></a>            |
| <a href="#"><u>Chicago Torture Justice Center</u></a>                              | <a href="#"><u>Invisible Institute</u></a>                                 |
| <a href="#"><u>Chicago Torture Justice Memorials</u></a>                           | <a href="#"><u>Kartemquin Educational Films</u></a>                        |
| <a href="#"><u>Chicago United for Equity</u></a>                                   | <a href="#"><u>Kehrein Center for the Arts Foundation</u></a>              |
| <a href="#"><u>Chicago Video Project</u></a>                                       | <a href="#"><u>Kuumba Lynx</u></a>   |
| <a href="#"><u>Chicago Votes</u></a>   | <a href="#"><u>La Raza Newspaper</u></a>                                   |
| <a href="#"><u>Children's Best Interest Project</u></a>                            | <a href="#"><u>Latino Policy Forum</u></a>                                 |
| <a href="#"><u>Cicero Independiente</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Latino Union of Chicago</u></a>                             |
| <a href="#"><u>Lawndale Pop-Up Spot</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>The #LetUsBreathe Collective</u></a>                        |
| <a href="#"><u>Little Village Environmental Justice Organization</u></a>           | <a href="#"><u>The Final 5 Campaign</u></a>                                |
| <a href="#"><u>Lugenia Burns Hope Center</u></a>                                   | <a href="#"><u>The HANA Center</u></a>                                     |
| <a href="#"><u>LWC Studios</u></a>   | <a href="#"><u>The Hoodoisie</u></a>                                       |

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|---|---|
| <a href="#"><u>Mandala South Asian Performing Arts</u></a>              | <a href="#"><u>The IJJ Foundation</u></a>                       |
| <a href="#"><u>Muntu Dance Theatre</u></a>                              | <a href="#"><u>The Obsidian Collection Archives</u></a>         |
| <a href="#"><u>NON:op Open Opera Works</u></a>                          | <a href="#"><u>The People's Lobby Education Institute</u></a>   |
| <a href="#"><u>Not Me We</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>The Trace</u></a>                                |
| <a href="#"><u>Organized Communities Against Deportations</u></a>       | <a href="#"><u>THE URBAN ARK</u></a>                            |
| <a href="#"><u>Organizing Neighborhoods for Equality: Northside</u></a> | <a href="#"><u>Threewalls</u></a>                               |
| <a href="#"><u>People Matter</u></a>                                    | <a href="#"><u>Traces of Home</u></a>                           |
| <a href="#"><u>Pigment International</u></a>                            | <a href="#"><u>True Star Foundation</u></a>                     |
| <a href="#"><u>Pilsen Alliance</u></a>                                  | <a href="#"><u>Urban Growers Collective</u></a>                 |
| <a href="#"><u>Prism Photo Workshop</u></a>                             | <a href="#"><u>UrbanTheater Company</u></a>                     |
| <a href="#"><u>Prison + Neighborhood Arts Project</u></a>               | <a href="#"><u>West Point School of Music</u></a>               |
| <a href="#"><u>Public Media Institute</u></a>                           | <a href="#"><u>Window to the World Communications, Inc.</u></a> |
| <a href="#"><u>Public Narrative</u></a>                                 | <a href="#"><u>Women for Economic Justice</u></a>               |
| <a href="#"><u>Puerto Rican Arts Alliance</u></a>                       | <a href="#"><u>Workers Center for Racial Justice (WCRJ)</u></a> |
| <a href="#"><u>Reader Institute for Community Journalism Inc</u></a>    | <a href="#"><u>Working Family Solidarity</u></a>                |
| <a href="#"><u>Rebellious Magazine for Women</u></a>                    | <a href="#"><u>Worldview Solutions Inc</u></a>                  |
| <a href="#"><u>Reparations Media NFP</u></a>                            | <a href="#"><u>YR Media</u></a>                                 |
| <a href="#"><u>Restore Justice Foundation</u></a>                       |   |
| <a href="#"><u>Safe Work Coalition</u></a>                              |   |
| <a href="#"><u>Segundo Ruiz Belvis Cultural Center</u></a>              |   |
| <a href="#"><u>Shorefront Legacy Center</u></a>                         |   |
| <a href="#"><u>Sistematic Podcast</u></a>                               |   |
| <a href="#"><u>Sisters in Cinema</u></a>                                |   |
| <a href="#"><u>Sixty Inches From Center</u></a>                         |   |
| <a href="#"><u>South Chicago Dance Theatre</u></a>                      |   |
| <a href="#"><u>South Side Community Art Center</u></a>                  |   |
| <a href="#"><u>South Side Weekly Nfp</u></a>                            |   |
| <a href="#"><u>Southside Together Organizing for Power</u></a>          |   |
| <a href="#"><u>Stomping Grounds Literary Arts Initiative</u></a>        |   |
| <a href="#"><u>Streetwise, Inc.</u></a>                                 |   |
| <a href="#"><u>TGi Movement</u></a>                                     |   |



photo: Urban Growers Collective, photography by Theresa Scarbrough

# Fiscal Years 2023-2024 Special Considerations Fund Grantees

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <a href="#"><u>(re)Chicago</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Mil Mujeres, Inc.</u></a>                             |
| <a href="#"><u>3Arts, Inc.</u></a>  | <a href="#"><u>Muslim Legal Fund of America (MLFA)</u></a>           |
| <a href="#"><u>Americas Media Initiative NFP</u></a>                      | <a href="#"><u>New America</u></a>                                   |
| <a href="#"><u>Black Metropolis National Heritage Area Commission</u></a> | <a href="#"><u>Norman Teague Design Studios</u></a>                  |
| <a href="#"><u>Bright Promises Foundation</u></a>                         | <a href="#"><u>OTV   Open Television</u></a>                         |
| <a href="#"><u>Bronzeville Historical Society</u></a>                     | <a href="#"><u>Project I Am NFP</u></a>                              |
| <a href="#"><u>Chicago African Americans in Philanthropy</u></a>          | <a href="#"><u>Reader Institute for Community Journalism Inc</u></a> |
| <a href="#"><u>Chicago Children's Museum</u></a>                          | <a href="#"><u>Real Men Charities, Inc.</u></a>                      |
| <a href="#"><u>Chicago Cultural Alliance</u></a>                          | <a href="#"><u>SocialWorks</u></a>                                   |
| <a href="#"><u>Chicago Learning Exchange</u></a>                          | <a href="#"><u>Southwest Organizing Project</u></a>                  |
| <a href="#"><u>Chicago Media Project</u></a>                              | <a href="#"><u>Strategy for Access Foundation NFP</u></a>            |
| <a href="#"><u>Chicago Urban League</u></a>                               | <a href="#"><u>The Chicago Community Foundation</u></a>              |
| <a href="#"><u>Chicago Video Project</u></a>                              | <a href="#"><u>The Chicago Community Trust</u></a>                   |
| <a href="#"><u>Chicago Votes</u></a>                                      | <a href="#"><u>The Discomfort Zone</u></a>                           |
| <a href="#"><u>Christianaire</u></a>                                      | <a href="#"><u>The Monroe Foundation</u></a>                         |
| <a href="#"><u>Columbia College Chicago</u></a>                           | <a href="#"><u>The Silver Room Foundation</u></a>                    |
| <a href="#"><u>Court Theatre Fund</u></a>                                 | <a href="#"><u>The Sojourner Truth Festival of the Arts</u></a>      |
| <a href="#"><u>Crossroads Fund</u></a>                                    | <a href="#"><u>The Triibe</u></a>                                    |
| <a href="#"><u>Cypher Foundation</u></a>                                  | <a href="#"><u>True Star Foundation</u></a>                          |
| <a href="#"><u>E3 Radio</u></a>   | <a href="#"><u>Young Chicago Authors</u></a>                         |
| <a href="#"><u>Fertile Ground Factory, LLC</u></a>                        |  |
| <a href="#"><u>First 100 Days Productions LLC</u></a>                     |  |
| <a href="#"><u>Forefront</u></a>  |  |
| <a href="#"><u>Full Spectrum Features</u></a>                             |  |
| <a href="#"><u>Guild Literary Complex</u></a>                             |  |
| <a href="#"><u>Harvey World Herald</u></a>                                |  |
| <a href="#"><u>HEAL Ministry</u></a>                                      |  |
| <a href="#"><u>Hyde Park Art Center</u></a>                               |  |
| <a href="#"><u>Illinois Humanities</u></a>                                |  |
| <a href="#"><u>Illinois Unidos</u></a>                                    |  |
| <a href="#"><u>in c/o: Black women (in care of Black women)</u></a>       |  |
| <a href="#"><u>Inner City Muslim Action Network</u></a>                   |  |
| <a href="#"><u>Lifeshouldbefun LLC</u></a>                                |  |
| <a href="#"><u>LIFT-Chicago</u></a>                                       |  |
| <a href="#"><u>Lugenia Burns Hope Center</u></a>                          |  |
| <a href="#"><u>LWC Studios</u></a>  |  |
| <a href="#"><u>Metropolitan Planning Council (MPC)</u></a>                |  |



photo: weareOTV, photo taken from Instagram





# In Memoriam

## Judith (Judy) Stofer Block

Judy devoted her life to civic service and was a dedicated advocate for children and families, making an important impact in her many leadership roles. Judy led the Field Foundation Board of Directors as Board Chair from 2009-2014 and served as Life Director for another decade.





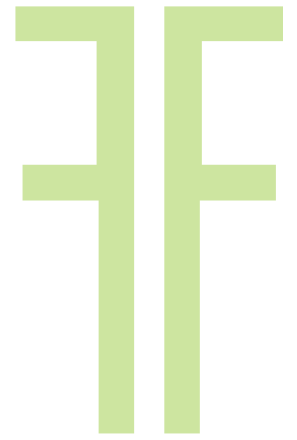
## Gary Harris Kline



Gary was an adviser and consultant to numerous individual clients, foundations, and nonprofits. His civic and charitable activities were extensive and included serving as Secretary of the Field Foundation Board of Directors from 1982 until he retired from Quarles & Brady in 2011.

**We appreciate their stewardship, friendship, and lasting contributions to the Field Foundation.**

# Spotlight on **Art**



The design of the Field Foundation’s Fiscal Years 2023-2024 Biennial Report was inspired by renowned Chicago artist Dorian Sylvain, who created a mural, **“The Ripple Effect,”** for the Field Foundation conference room. In her own words, Dorian describes the inspiration for her art.





“The two ends of the mural visually represent the South and West Sides of Chicago. The foundational colors of ‘sunshine yellow’ speak to the optimism and vision of generations of residents that made community investments to build families in Chicago as a result of the Great Migration. White patterns overlay the warm colors as does culture and traditions. The Center of the mural represents the Field Foundation and its resources that reach out to nourish communities...the circular shape radiates out creating a ripple effect that reaches far beyond the original point of contact. The Ripple nourishes ideas and builds dreams!”



# Leadership & Staff



**Daniel O. Ash**  
President



**Mark Murray**  
Chief Operating Officer



**Maudlyne Ihejirika**  
Journalism & Storytelling  
Program Officer



**Richard Tran**  
Arts Program Officer



**Zoe Magierek**  
Grants Administrator



**Maria McCandless**  
Director of  
Communications

*photo credits: True Star Media*

# Field Foundation Board & Life Directors

## Board

**Joe Aguilar**

Chair

**Gloria Castillo**

Vice Chair

**Daniel O. Ash**

Director

**Cathy J. Cohen**

Director

**Stephanie Field Harris**

Director

**Jamee Field Kane**

Director

**Lisa Yun Lee**

Director

**Lyle Logan**

Director

**Dr. Nicholas Pearce**

Director

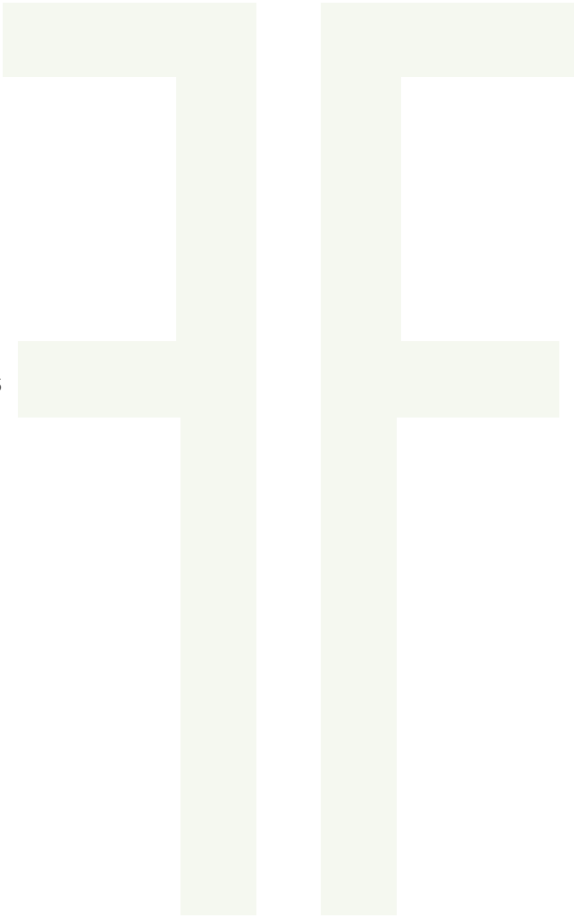
## Life Directors

**Marshall Field V**

**Rita Fry**

**Oliver Nicklin**

**George Ranney**







# Investing in the Promise of Chicago



FIELD FOUNDATION  
**Fiscal Years 23–24 Biennial Report**

Biennial Report Graphic Design by JNJ Creative, LLC.