



Joán Brito Lugo
**THE PUERTO RICAN
CULTURAL CENTER**

50TH
ANNIVERSARY



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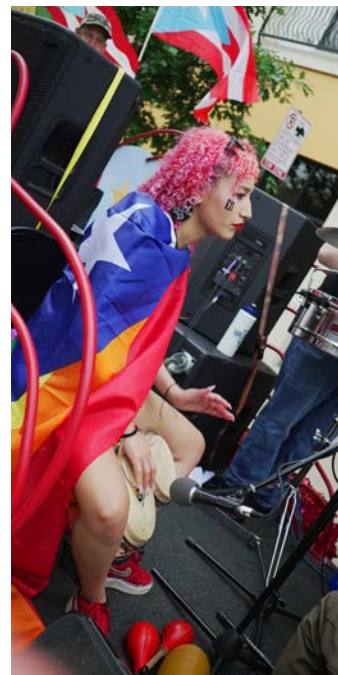
ABOUT US

Founded in 1973, The Puerto Rican Cultural Center (PRCC) Juan Antonio Corretjer is a non-profit, community-based institution that serves the socio ecological needs of Chicago's Puerto Rican /Latino community. It is built on the following principles: a philosophy of self-determination, a methodology of self-actualization and critical thought, and a moral value that bridges self-reliance and communal responsibility, which is best expressed in the Center's motto, **"To live and help to live"**

50 YEARS BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF HOPE AND CHANGE 1972-2022



SELF-DETERMINATION SELF-ACTUALIZATION SELF-RELIANCE



MISSION STATEMENT

The PRCC is named after Juan Antonio Corretjer, the celebrated Puerto Rican national poet laureate and one of the most significant political theorists of the 20th century. The PRCC was established within the historical context of the building of communities of resistance initiated, following the Spanish conquest of Puerto Rico, by our Taino forebearers, runaway African slaves and marginalized poluations, such as the Moors and Sephardic Jews. Throughout the Caribbean and everywhere in Latin America this practice was carried out in the hinterlands, in the mountains, and in other marginal geographical areas by the people who were known as cimarrones.

These Maroon societies became a place where people gathered to address the critical problems confronting them, where they recovered a sense of their history, and where they created a syncretic cultural production, such as music, poetry, and performances. In that tradition, the PRCC carries out a process of concientizacion meaning that it educates, organizes, and struggles for social, economic, and political empowerment of Puerto Ricans within a context,

which is holistic in nature and organic in form. Thus all of the PRCC's programs literally constitute an umbrella meeting the needs of our community, which at the same time encourages participants to think critically about their reality and promotes an ethic of self-reliance based on social responsibility. These programs address diverse issues that include wellness, social, educational, cultural, and quality of life matters for Puerto Rican/Latino and other marginalized communities. Our programs take on HIV/AIDS, education, literacy, housing, homophobia, substance abuse, gang violence, teen pregnancy, police brutality, racism, economic and community development, human rights violations, and the devastation created by generational and historical trauma.

The PRCC promotes the principles of self-actualization, self-determination and self-reliance for the Puerto Rican/Latino community through the study, recovery, and celebration of Puerto Rican culture. These efforts are devotedly undertaken through programs and annual events such as The Three Kings Day celebration, the Casita de Don Pedro project, the Puerto

Rican People's Day Parade, Fiesta Boricua, Haunted Paseo Boricua, the Community as a Campus initiative, the Greater Humboldt Park Community of Wellness, El Rescate Transitional Living Space for LGBTQ+ Youth, the Lisa Isadora Cruz Transgender Empowerment Center, the Nancy Franco Maldonado Paseo Boricua Arts Building, the Consuelo Lee Corretjer Child Care Center, as well as mural projects, and other initiatives. With our affiliate, The National Boricua Human Rights Network, the PRCC has also played a key role in human rights campaigns such as the defense of political prisoners, the struggle for peace in Vieques, the defense of undocumented immigrants, and the fight against the criminalization of youth.

For the past 50 years the work of the PRCC has been formed by a socio-ecological model, which recognizes the interplay among key factors including social justice, community and institutional building, policy, advocacy, environmental justice, education, housing, and access to equitable health care.

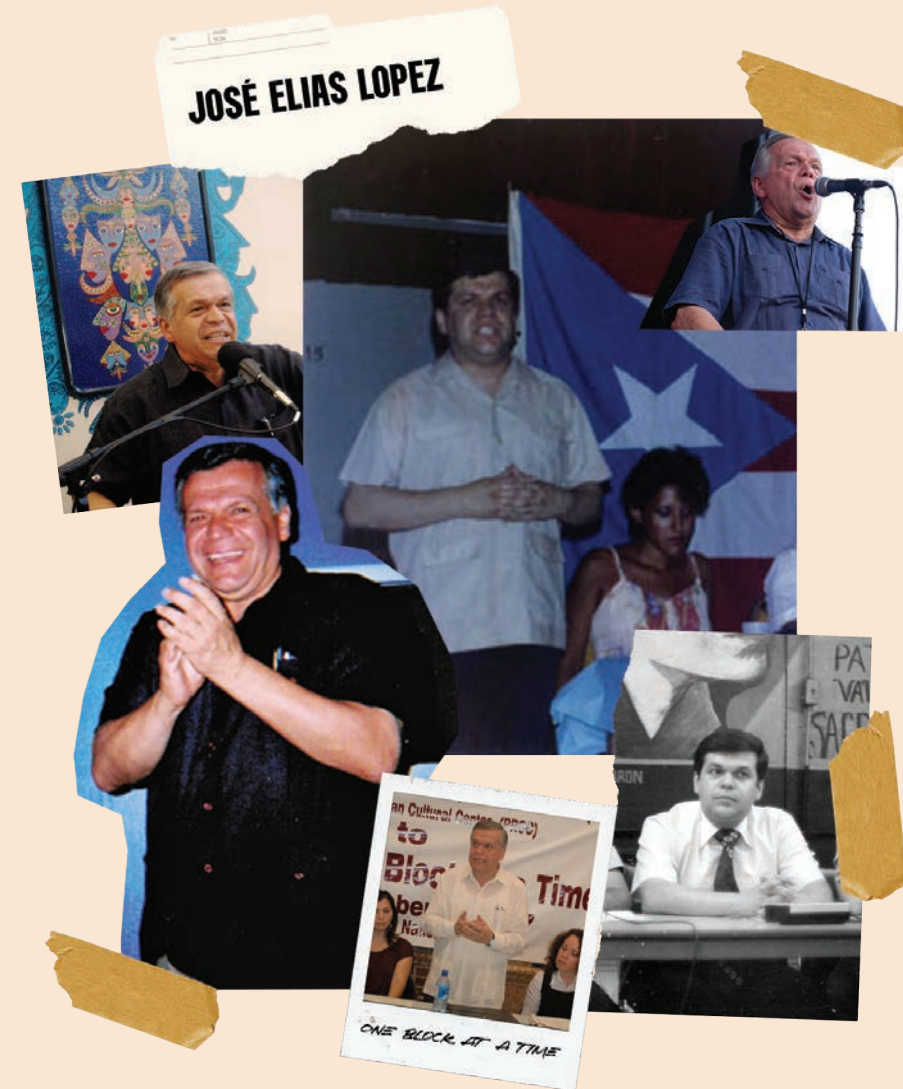
MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JOSÉ ELIAS LÓPEZ

DR. PEDRO ALBIZU CAMPOS HIGH SCHOOL:
FROM DECOLONIZING PEDAGOGY TO PARALLEL INSTITUTIONS
A MAROON EXPERIMENT IN AN URBAN SETTING

Fifty years ago, a group of Puerto Rican activists as well as several Latino supporters, including a Brazilian, a Venezuelan, several Mexicans, and some white supporters, initiated the process that eventually created what came to be called the Puerto Rican High School. This alternative educational experiment, which our founding students lovingly referred to as La Escuelita, was soon after named Rafael Cancel Miranda, then a Puerto Rican political prisoner. Today, it carries the name of the great Puerto Rican anti-colonial figure, Dr. Pedro Albizu Campos.

The high school was developed to address the systemic marginalization of our Puerto Rican youth as revealed in one of the first sociological studies conducted on Puerto Ricans in Chicago. The study was titled, “Puerto Rican Dropouts: Numbers and Motivation.” I was selected to work as a research assistant to Dr. Isidro Lucas, the lead investigator. The study uncovered the startling reality that our young Puerto Rican students confronted a school system that literally pushed them out at an alarming rate of 72.9 percent. This meant that at the time, for every 100 Puerto Rican students that entered the Chicago Public Schools, nearly 73 would end up being referred to as a “drop out.”

While the above figure was astounding, for me the theme which we drew from the study was equally foreboding; “teachers hear me; they don’t listen to me”. I was a graduate of one of those high schools, Tuley High School, which had the highest concentration of Puerto Rican students in Chicago at the time of the study. Tuley High School was built for 1500 students but, by 1968 when I graduated, it had over 3000 students. Every inch of the building, including its dimly lit basement where the students had to go to pick up their textbooks, was utilized. At one point, as a student there, and as



the president of the Tuley Student Council, I helped to create an initiative to promote literacy and reading by making books easily accessible to students, thus creating an alternative library in the school in which there were no obstacles to book usage. We named this effort “The Great Exchange.”

Our biggest challenge was not the acquisition of books, as we received over 5000 from a book publishing company. Instead, the biggest challenge was a lack of space. To overcome this challenge, we had to engage the woodshop course to create portable and moveable library shelves that could easily be closed and stored in the school’s small lunchroom. During nearly seven periods of lunch held each day, students could browse and take out books from our moveable units. Even though it became an amazing and engaging experiment that promoted literacy and reading, it was eliminated for lack of space following our graduation in 1968.

This overcrowded school, its lack of an educational commitment to addressing the needs of monolingual Spanish-speaking students, and the racism of the school staff would create a major struggle that culminated with the successful opening of Roberto Clemente High School in 1974. Clemente replaced Tuley as the community’s high school.

Emboldened by the grim conclusions contained in “Puerto Rican Dropouts: Numbers and Motivation” and the struggles that many had initiated, including my brother Oscar López Rivera, mentors like Carmen Valentin and activists like Mirta Ramirez, to address bilingual education, overcrowded schools, and racist administrators, I decided to become a teacher.

By 1971, I was back at Tuley High School, not as a student, but as a teacher. My first day there as a teacher became my day of epiphany. That day I was able, for the first time, to enter a forbidden space for students—the teacher’s lounge. As I opened the door to this space, I was dismayed as I immediately noticed my former English teacher (a wonderful white woman who had treated me very well) sleeping on a sofa, with a cardboard sign that had a hand-written message, “Do Not Disturb, Prs

[Puerto Ricans] at work.” I realized that this “kind” woman was revealing her true self and how she felt about Puerto Ricans to her colleagues. For her, Puerto Ricans were unmotivated and lazy, therefore you didn’t have to listen to them. The theme that these so-called dropouts had so eloquently expressed, “Teachers hear me; they don’t listen to me,” and which became the central theme of the report finally became real for me. I had to grapple with the reality that I was a nerdy, light-skinned Puerto Rican, who through her lens, was to be seen as the “exceptional” Puerto Rican. It dawned on me that this is one of the characteristics of modern racism, whereby the colonizer deemed the colonized, in the words of Frantz Fanon, “as the quintessence of evil.” Obviously with the caveat that there are those the colonizer deems “exceptional” that will be used to legitimate and carry out the colonial enterprise.

That wake-up call began to inform my paradigm around social activism. We, as a community, had to find some immediate alternatives to address the racist educational system we were confronting. Through a series of discussions and conversations with my brother and other community activists, we began to think about the best way to confront this reality. We began study circles to read and discuss such works as the Wretched of the Earth by Frantz Fanon, the Pedagogy of the Oppressed by Paolo Freire, Man’s Search for Meaning by Victor Frankl, and other works to situate the context for the alternatives we wanted to construct.

Soon I began to organize an after-school class on Puerto Rican history at the Association House with some of my students at Tuley. At the same time, Oscar had begun working with several high school students in other high schools to prepare them as community organizers, and a friend of ours, a white progressive lawyer, Steve Rayder, had initiated another after-school program around community law in his law office on North Avenue.

These three efforts came together to create the first articulation of what would become the Puerto Rican High School at 2048 W. Augusta, in a dim, small basement of San Marcos Presbyterian Church. Luckily, we were able to align our school with a progressive educational alternative experiment conducted by Catholic nuns at a school called St. Mary of the

Lakes, which was able to provide our students with a high school diploma.

The twelve students who were the founding members of the school immediately became involved in every major struggle in the community—the demand for quality bilingual education with a culturally informed curriculum; the demand for jobs for the adults in the factories and enterprises in the community; the opening of spaces for our Latino students at the universities; the demand for quality health care for our Puerto Rican and Latinos in the hospitals and other health services; and the demand for quality housing as well as an end to arson-for-profit schemes.

The students also became a pivotal part of the campaign to free the Puerto Rican Nationalist political prisoners. Having been exposed to the reality of the existence of the Puerto Rican political prisoners, Lolita Lebrón, Rafael Cancel Miranda, Irvin Flores, Andrés Figueroa Cordero, and Oscar Collazo, they became deeply involved and engaged. Following a prisoner uprising at Marion federal prison in Marion IL, and the particular work of attorney Michael Deutsch and the People's Law Office to defend these prisoners, our students initiated an incredibly rich correspondence with Rafael Cancel Miranda. He was the Nationalist prisoner geographically closest to Chicago. Following the uprising, Rafael had been placed in a control unit in the Marion prison since the prison administration considered him one of the leaders of the uprising.

The exchange of letters became so intimate, so profound, and so frequent that Rafael asked the students to refer to him as “Tio Pito,” as he was lovingly called by his nephews. The letters became a hallmark of the small

school. A bulletin board dedicated to “Write to Tio Pito” was the most important place in the school, and soon after the students decided to name the school after him from 1973 to 1979, when he and the other prisoners were released from prison. La Escuela Superior Rafael Cancel Miranda became the school's trademark and the emblem for all its paraphernalia and soon after, he was awarded an honorary High School diploma from the school, since Rafael had never been able to graduate from high school. Upon his release on September 9, 1979, along with the other Nationalists, the High School became the place that they visited first. On that day the school was re-named Dr. Pedro Albizu Campos Puerto Rican High School, the beloved leader of Puerto Rican nationalism.

Thus, the Puerto Rican High School, now Dr. Pedro Albizu Campos Puerto Rican High School, morphed into a series of projects under the umbrella of the Puerto Rican Cultural Center in 1973, creating parallel institutions, informed by the practice of our visionary maroon societies of Puerto Rico, the Caribbean, and Latin America, a practice which is the fountainhead of our identities.

The foundational decolonizing principles that framed the articulation of the Puerto Rican High School 50 years ago, continue to define the work of the entire Puerto Rican Cultural Center to this day. They are our mission and vision: self-determination, self-reliance, and self-realization.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS



DR. MARGARET POWER
Chairperson

Margaret Power is a professor of history emerita at the Illinois Institute of Technology. Her seventh book, *Solidarity across the Americas: Anti-imperialism and the Puerto Rican Nationalist Party* will be published in spring 2023. She coordinates the PRCC Archives Project, along with other board members.



MICHAEL HANNAN
Treasurer

Michael Hannan taught language arts, science, social studies and mathematics at Dr. Pedro Albizu Campos High School for 16 years and served there as lead teacher for seven. He holds a Master of the Arts in Teaching History from the University of Illinois at Chicago and an M.A. in Educational Leadership from Northeastern Illinois University. He currently works at Alternative Schools Network where he designs, manages, and provides professional development for out-of-school time programs in 18 schools across Chicago, collaborating with school leaders to create high quality programs.



LUIS ALEJANDRO MOLINA
Secretary

Luis Alejandro Molina serves as Secretary of the Board of Directors. During his 45+ years of service to the community, he has volunteered as a tutor, assistant program director, graphic designer, tech mentor, Local School Council member at the elementary and High School levels, and human rights campaign organizer. He is proud of the work of the Puerto Rican Cultural Center over the past 50 years, against all odds, and of its legacy of struggle.



DR. MICHAEL RODRÍGUEZ MUÑIZ
Member

Dr. Michael Rodríguez Muñiz is one of the founders of Batey Urbano, the Humboldt Park No Se Vende campaign, and La Voz del Paseo Boricua newspaper. He received his PhD in sociology from Brown University, and is an assistant professor in the Department of Sociology and the Latina and Latino Studies Program at Northwestern University.



MARÍA TONI BERRÍOS
Member

María Antonia “Toni” Berrios is a retired State Representative, who served for 12 years in the Illinois General Assembly. She has a masters in Business Administration from Keiser University and helped to start the PRCC Women’s Committee to engage in a safe space for the women to come and share information.



DR. ANN PETERSON-KEMP
Member

Ann Peterson-Kemp is a retired faculty member from the University of Illinois, with a specialty in community informatics. She has collaborated with the PRCC on groundbreaking and award-winning community-based research, education, and library programs for over 20 years, funded in part by major grants from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services.



VERÓNICA OCASIO
Member

Veronica Ocasio is the Director of Education and Programming at the National Museum of Puerto Rican Arts and Culture. She holds a Master’s Degree in Urban Planning and Public Policy and is a certified Master Teacher. She has 20+ years of service in the Humboldt Park community, working to bring the necessary resources to address the disparities in housing, the arts, and education. Her commitment is to help build the Puerto Rican Cultural Center’s capacity to develop affordable housing in order to combat gentrification.

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM

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JUAN MANUEL CALDERÓN
Chief Operating Officer

LISETTE FUENTES
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MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO
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JESSICA FUENTES
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MARVIN GARCÍA
Director of Community as a Campus

EMMANUEL DAVILA
Director of PRCC Business Initiatives

XOCHITL RAMÍREZ
Director of Consuelo Lee Corretjer Centro Infantil

NATASHA BROWN
Director of Human Services and Housing Initiatives

JOSE LUIS RODRIGUEZ
Director of Facilities Rehabilitation

ZENAIDA LOPEZ
Director of El Rescate Transitional Living Program

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Associate Director of (CICLC)

LEONY CALDERÓN
Coordinator of Puerto Rican People’s Day Parade on Division St., Muévete, and Trans Chicago 2.0

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Senior Associate Director in the Public Health Initiatives

DEZARAE RODRIQUEZ
Associate Director of Public Health Initiatives, Trans Chicago Empowerment Center

CARMEN GARCIA
Associate Director of Public Health Initiatives, Vida/SIDA

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CLARISA LÓPEZ-RAMOS
Program Coordinator Humboldt Park Youth Employment & Empowerment Program

XIOMARA RODRIGUEZ
Associate Director of Social/Digital Media



PROGRAMS

PUBLIC HEALTH INITIATIVES

THE HELEN RODRÍGUEZ TRIAS AND VIRGINIA BISHOP PUBLIC HEALTH INITIATIVES

The Helen Rodríguez Trias and Virginia Bishop Public Health Initiatives of the Puerto Rican Cultural Center seeks to address major health concerns that have an impact on the Puerto Rican community particularly among the LGBTQ population, women, and children.

CCRC (PROMOTORES DE SALUD)

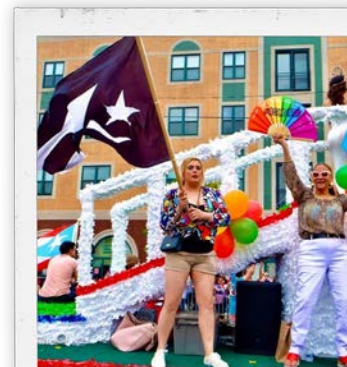
With the purpose of continuing to promote the mission of the PRCC of self-actualization, self-determination, and self-reliance in the community, the PRCC became part of the Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership and joined the COVID-19 Community Response Corp (CCRC). The team, which was formerly the “Promotores de Salud”, will promote and work towards the eradication of COVID-19 in our communities. PRCC continues to enforce its commitment to educating, empowering, and supplying fact-based information on COVID-19 and the need to be vaccinated in our communities. It provides our communities with the tools to achieve a healthier quality of life.

BARTOLO HERNANDEZ VIDA/SIDA HIV PREVENTION PROGRAM

Vida/SIDA, initiated in 1988, is one of the oldest Latino based HIV Programs in the United States. It provides culturally appropriate prevention, intervention and wrap around services. Deeply rooted in the motto of the Puerto Rican Cultural Center “Live and Help to Live”, it provides HIV and STI screening, referrals, linkage to medical care. It also offers leadership building, and resource advocacy aimed at improving the lives of people living with HIV. HIV rates among Latinos and other minority groups reflect the social and economic inequalities in which we live. Grounded in principles of social justice, Vida/SIDA’s culturally appropriate, wrap-around services help our participants overcome structural and personal challenges so they can live healthier and more fulfilling lives.

PUBLIC HEALTH MOBILE VAN

The mobile van revolutionizes PRCC’s ability to meet individuals where they are and engage them in care. The intent of the refurbished van is to increase PRCC’s presence in neighborhoods that are vulnerable to health disparities. As part of its expanded outreach across the city, PRCC’s health outreach programs provide HIV screening and linkage to health care services. This is a valuable point of access to other PRCC services for individuals based in neighborhood areas lacking health care. These needed and culturally competent services are provided in both English and Spanish.



POSITIVE ACTION FOR LATINX MEN- AN INITIATIVE FOR GAY, BISEXUAL, AND TRANS MEN

This project is funded by ViiV and aims to strengthen the community by connecting with others via dialogue of lived experiences through the HIV epidemic, challenges of gentrification, and other aspects that exemplify heritage, culture, and self-worth. This space has opportunities through PRCC's social media presence, through LIVE feeds on social media, through recorded videos aimed at the Latinx population on inequity and community concerns, and through opportunities to share creative skills in a process of social ecology.

HIGH-IMPACT PREVENTION

High-impact prevention (HIP) is a public health approach to reducing new HIV infections by using the strategies of Undetectable=Untransmittable (U=U) and PrEP medication to end HIV. By using combinations of scientifically proven, cost-effective, and scalable interventions targeted to the right populations in the right geographic areas, this approach promises to increase the impact of HIV prevention efforts, an essential step in achieving the goals of NHAS (National HIV/AIDS Strategy). This approach is designed to maximize the impact of prevention efforts for all Americans at risk for HIV infection, including gay and bisexual men, communities of color, women, injection drug users, transgender women, men and youth.

The Quality of Life Program facilitates HIV Counseling and Testing, MPowerment, and Many men Many Voices to Hispanic and Black MSM and Hispanic High Risk Heterosexuals (HRH) 18+ living in the Chicago Metro Area.

The RIG-8 program allocates federal and state HIV prevention funds to agencies through high impact, targeted prevention initiatives via outreach throughout Suburban Cook County.

LA BODEGA DEL BARRIO

This program provides food pantry assistance to qualified participants in different options to meet the participant's needs. It includes pantry food, culturally relevant pre-selected food, as well as hot food vouchers, bakery, and supermarket vouchers, through partnering with restaurants and local supermarkets. In addition, we collaborate and partner with other institutes to provide nutrition classes, health education classes, cooking demonstrations, physical activity, and a seasonal Farmer's Market. The collaborating partners are Dominican University, AMITA Saints Mary and Elizabeth Medical Center, IU Health, and Muévete.

MUÉVETE

Originated in Paseo Boricua in 2005, Muévete is a free community-based and volunteer led, physical activity program for beginners. The program aims to prevent and manage illnesses such as obesity and type 2 diabetes. Participation is open to everyone over the age of 18. Classes include, but are not limited to, dance aerobics, Zumba, Pilates, Tai Chi, Yoga, strength training and seasonal walking groups (April-October). Muévete also works in collaboration with other entities to offer physical activity to other communities in the Chicago area. Currently classes are held Monday through Friday and take place at three different communities; West Town, Humboldt Park and Logan Square.

LIHEAP/CEDA ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

The LIHEAP/CEDA and Energy Assistance Programs help our community with providing assistance in paying utilities bills, including gas and light. This program is federally funded through The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and is administered by Community and Economic Development Association, (CEDA) of Cook County, Inc.

LISA ISADORA CRUZ TRANS EMPOWERMENT CENTER

As we confront the reality of people redefining their human sexuality throughout the world, at the Trans Empowerment Center (TEC) we seek to address the needs of one of the most historically underserved and unrecognized communities by providing a platform to amplify a unified voice for the Chicago Transgender Community, particularly those from communities of color. The Center engages the trans community through a safe culturally affirming, informative, and trans-umbrella oriented environment. Among these are the following:

Trans 2.0

Trans Chicago 2.0 provides culturally appropriate, wrap around services in a trans-oriented environment to a population of Latino and African American men who have sex with men and with transgender women. This initiative increases HIV/AIDS and STD awareness, provides access to mental health services with an emphasis on substance abuse treatment, promotes protection, and links and refers the population into care as needed for an enhanced quality of life.

PS 21-2102

The PS 21-2102 program provides culturally appropriate services to Latino and African American transgender and gender non-conforming persons and their partners, ages 18 and older. Services provided are comprehensive HIV/STI/Hep C screening, linkage, re-linkage and re-engagement to care, PrEP referrals, evidence-based interventions enrollment, comprehensive brief Substance Use/Abuse assessment for referral, Mental Health, Gender Affirming Pathways Counseling and essential support services.

PS 22-2203

This is a culturally appropriate high impact prevention program serving Latinx and African American ages 13-18 that identify as transgender girls, gender nonconforming, and their partners in Chicago with the goal of reducing HIV transmission and HIV-associated morbidity and mortality.



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

The Behavioral Health Center is fundamentally committed to providing comprehensive behavioral health targeting areas such as substance abuse, trauma, and other mental health disorders. We use an evidence-based model to address mental health issues that arise from historical and generational trauma, which marginalized communities of color confront. Some of the services provided include the following:

- Co-occurring disorders
- Substance Abuse Counseling
- Psychotherapy services
- Brief crisis intervention
- Trauma informed care

URBAN AGRICULTURE

The main goal of The Urban Agriculture program is to address the issue of food justice in our community by improving access to local food, educating the community on the environmental benefits of local food, and focusing on the nutritional value of plant-rich diets. Its purpose is to mentor youth in urban agricultural occupations and engage more people in local, organic food production. The PRCC is presently working on an expansion of this program to include the development of a food system that is based on the creation of rooftop greenhouses in the soon to be Puerto Rico Town on Division Street, located from Western Avenue to Pulaski Road. This system is to be framed within the context of an aligned educational curriculum from Preschool to College and beyond that will harness the wisdom of the ages, in terms of agricultural production and incorporate the latest critical thinking process of informatics and algorithms. Ensuring the maximum food production in the most minimal space that is also culturally relevant. The initiatives below speak to some of these goals.



WEST TOWN HEALTH MARKET

This market is hosted by Ascension St. Mary & Elizabeth Medical Center. Our goal is to reduce food insecurity and improve food access for community residents in the Humboldt Park area. The West Town Health Market is a seven-month, weekly farmers market (Thursdays from 1-6 PM, June 2-October 13th) and primarily serves the greater West Town communities.

The PRCC plays an integral role in this project as part of the Greater Humboldt Park Community of Wellness Initiative, which is generously sponsored by Community Trust. Glenda Guzman and Emma Martinez co-direct this part of the program.

DR STEVE WHITMAN GREENHOUSE

The greenhouse is named after renowned epidemiologist, the late Dr. Steve Whitman, whose groundbreaking studies on health inequities helped frame much of the health and wellness work undertaken by The Puerto Rican Cultural Center. Students work alongside a gardener in the rooftop greenhouse, planting and caring for vegetables and herbs all year long as part of the Science classes of the Dr. Pedro Alibizu Campos High School. Additionally, the Conuco Urban Agriculture Initiative of the PRCC plants and harvests organic products at the greenhouse for its sofrito production which is sold weekly at the farmers market.

PHI ADVISORY BOARDS

The PRCC has a Public Health Initiatives Advisory Board. Members on this advisory board have the opportunity to guide the development of the Public Health Initiatives specific programs, contribute in strengthening the services to the community, and advocate the importance of health issues and awareness among vulnerable populations. Participation in the Youth Advisory Boards (through age 24) and Community Advisory Boards (age 25 and above) are for qualified participants.. See a PHI staff member for more information.

HOUSING INITIATIVES

EL RESCATE TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAM (TLP)

The Puerto Rican Cultural Center created El Rescate (The Rescue), as an innovative community-based response to Puerto Rican/Latino LGBTQ youth homelessness. A recent study found that in any given year in Cook County there are nearly 2,000 homeless youth on the streets with nowhere safe to sleep. Coupled with findings from the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, which noted that as many as 42% of street-based youth self-identify as LGBTQ, the issue of LGBTQ youth homelessness has become a crisis at both the local and national level. El Rescate is one of only two housing programs in the nation and the only one of its kind in the Midwest, which specifically provides services for LGBTQ and/or HIV-positive youth ages 18 to 24. Beyond being a one-of-a-kind program, El Rescate is unique in its approach to counseling and programming. We provide our residents substantive and culturally relevant workshops, designed to empower them with all the tools necessary to help transition them out into independent living. In the process, we provide them counseling to help them overcome any internal or external obstacles that might be hindering their progress into independent living. El Rescate Transitional Living Program celebrated its 10th year anniversary on March 3, 2022, and from the untrained eye, anyone walking into El Rescate can easily assume this program is well funded with an unlimited amount of resources but, since its birth the reality is far different. The program has existed entirely on the pillars of the Puerto Rican community of Humboldt Park and the Puerto Rican

Cultural Center and without the community, the program would have long ceased to exist. What makes El Rescate successful is the community from which it sprouted. Although El Rescate receives state and city funding, it is the fundraisers, donations and networks of mentors that have helped to sustain El Rescate through its hardships. For this reason, the residents of the program are made to feel as if they have an extended family of supporters instead of simply a small staff made up of individuals who have made a commitment not only to the residents but to El Rescate as a whole. Since El Rescate provides its residents an array of wraparound services, this program is now housed under Human Services.

NANCY FRANCO-MALDONADO PASEO BORICUA ARTS BUILDING

The Nancy Franco-Maldonado Paseo Boricua Arts Building is a new artists' live/work project, located in the heart of the Paseo Boricua Business District. When it opens, it will provide a canvas on which local artists can breathe new life. The project has replaced four ailing, vacant buildings into a new 5 story building with 24 apartments full of creativity and community while simultaneously defining a new architectural language appropriate for the continuing development of Paseo Boricua and Puerto Rico Town. While respecting the broader architectural language of Chicago and its immediate Division Street context, the building facade will reflect the creative community residing inside. The mostly white façade will be punctuated by strategically placed color waved into the spaces that provide a unique identity to the residential units within. At the same time, because Paseo Boricua has a strong Puerto Rican heritage, the inclusion of wood slats also evokes the detailing of the colonial architecture found throughout the island of Puerto Rico, interpreted in a contemporary way. The architecture will pay homage to the neighborhood culture and celebrate the richness the artists of

Puerto Rican heritage bring to Chicago. Social spaces will facilitate casual interaction and intellectual discourse that will help strengthen the sense of community among the resident artists and the public at large. A Community Room/Gallery and future theater spaces will coexist and provide a place for this flourishing community to dwell. In the upper floors, live/work units will allow artists and designers to pay a simple, affordable rent for their living and production space. These units are set up to allow each artist to have a small showroom to display their work to potential buyers, while allowing privacy for their personal and family spaces. Downstairs, the Urban Theater Company (UTC) will build a 100 seat theater with concessions and Bar/Lounge space to open in 2023. This theater will be the main venue for UTC's plays and other productions. It is expected that The Arts Building will become a major cultural attraction, as well as an economic anchor that will provide income to the community and strengthen the local culture already present on Paseo Boricua.

HOPLWH

The Housing Opportunities for People Living with HIV (HOPLWH) is a rent subsidy program through which The Puerto Rican Cultural Center Vida/SIDA Program helps people disabled by HIV/AIDS avoid homelessness during periods of illness or financial distress. This critical program provides short-term rent subsidies directly to the recipients and landlords.

HOPLWH Program Referrals and assistance are available after assessments are completed to ascertain what services are needed.

HOPWA - FACILITIES REHABILITATION

This program works with community-based agencies who receive Housing Opportunities for Persons Living with AIDS (HOPWA) funds to address capital Improvement needs of their housing units. It is premised on the idea that people should live in housing that is safe, secure and environmentally healthy. Our role is to assess a facilities condition, prepare a property condition report that identifies all the major repairs required, and solicit bids from general contractors or specific trades (plumbing, electrical, heating, roofing) who can perform the work in a professional manner. These competing bids are then presented to the City Department of Public Health who makes the final decision. We manage and supervise the work by coordinating with the contractor and community-based agency. We do not provide direct services to community residents as we work directly with community-based agencies to renovate the buildings that house community residents.



EDUCATION INITIATIVE

COMMUNITY AS A CAMPUS (CAAC)

The Humboldt Park “Community as a Campus” (CAAC) is a community-wide education initiative founded in 2011 and is anchored by the Puerto Rican Cultural Center of Chicago. The CAAC seeks to create an educational pipeline from Pre-K to age 16 that is supplemented with wrap-around services provided by partnering community agencies. The heart of the initiative is the revitalization of Roberto Clemente Community Academy and the enhancement of the participating elementary feeder schools. In all, the CAAC education initiative coordinates services to 17 schools.

Overall, the CAAC aims to improve educational offerings and outcomes at the school level, increase parent engagement and continuing education opportunities, and provide youth with opportunities to participate in civic engagement and pathways to careers. The CAAC builds its success by aligning the International Baccalaureate (IB) curriculum from the participating IB elementary schools to Roberto Clemente Community Academy and the expansion of Dual Language and STEM programs.

Through the efforts of three education institutes (Teacher/ Administrator, Parent Popular, and Youth Leadership), the CAAC has organized a community-wide sports program for elementary schools, a band initiative that strengthens school bands and provides students with additional music training, an attendance support program that builds relationships with parents and a dual enrollment program at Roberto Clemente Community Academy sponsored by Northeastern Illinois University and The University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health.

Moreover, there are Adult Education Bridge programs in manufacturing, health, and information technology. CAAC is a CPS Community Action Council and has a Memorandum of Understanding with CPS to implement the community-wide initiative. The Chicago Community Trust , Kids First Chicago, CPS FACE have all invested in the CAAC work to expand after school programs and increase student attendance and retention rates.

PARTICIPATING CAAC SCHOOLS

- **Jose De Diego Community Academy**
- **Chopin Elementary School**
- **Yates Elementary School**
- **Lowell Elementary School**
- **Stowe Elementary School**
- **Moos Elementary School**
- **West Park Academy of Fine Arts**
- **Alfred Nobel Elementary School**
- **Erie Elementary Charter School**
- **Esmeralda Santiago Charter School**
- **Salem Christian Elementary School**
- **Sabin Elementary Magnet School**
- **Roberto Clemente Community Academy**
- **ChiArts Fine Arts High School**
- **Dr. Pedro Albizu Campos High School**
- **Association House High School**
- **West Town Academy**

CONSUELO LEE CORRETJER CENTRO INFANTIL

Named after the Puerto Rican poet, educator, and pianist Consuelo Lee Corretjer (1904-1988), The Center is a bilingual childcare/Head Start that operates in partnership with El Valor, and in collaboration with Erikson Institute’s Center for Children and Families. This crucial community resource offers quality child care and Head Start services for children ages six (6) weeks to five (5) years. The Center was created in 1980 in response to the need for bilingual-bicultural, preschool programs in the community. It places special emphasis on Puerto Rican and Latin American culture as well as language retention.

While the program is designed to help ease the child’s transition into elementary school and provides services primarily to working families, it also seeks to engage the children in discovering their individuality and uniqueness within a community that boasts a rich history and cultural legacy. This allows the children to understand the world around them, act responsibly on that world, and most importantly, to transform it. Self-discipline and self-actualization are encouraged in the program’s curriculum. Parents participate in the entire process of program development. The Center’s staff is in a continual dialogue with parents and attempts to raise consciousness about all aspects of child development. Special emphases are placed on a child’s rights as a human being and individual, and as part of a community.

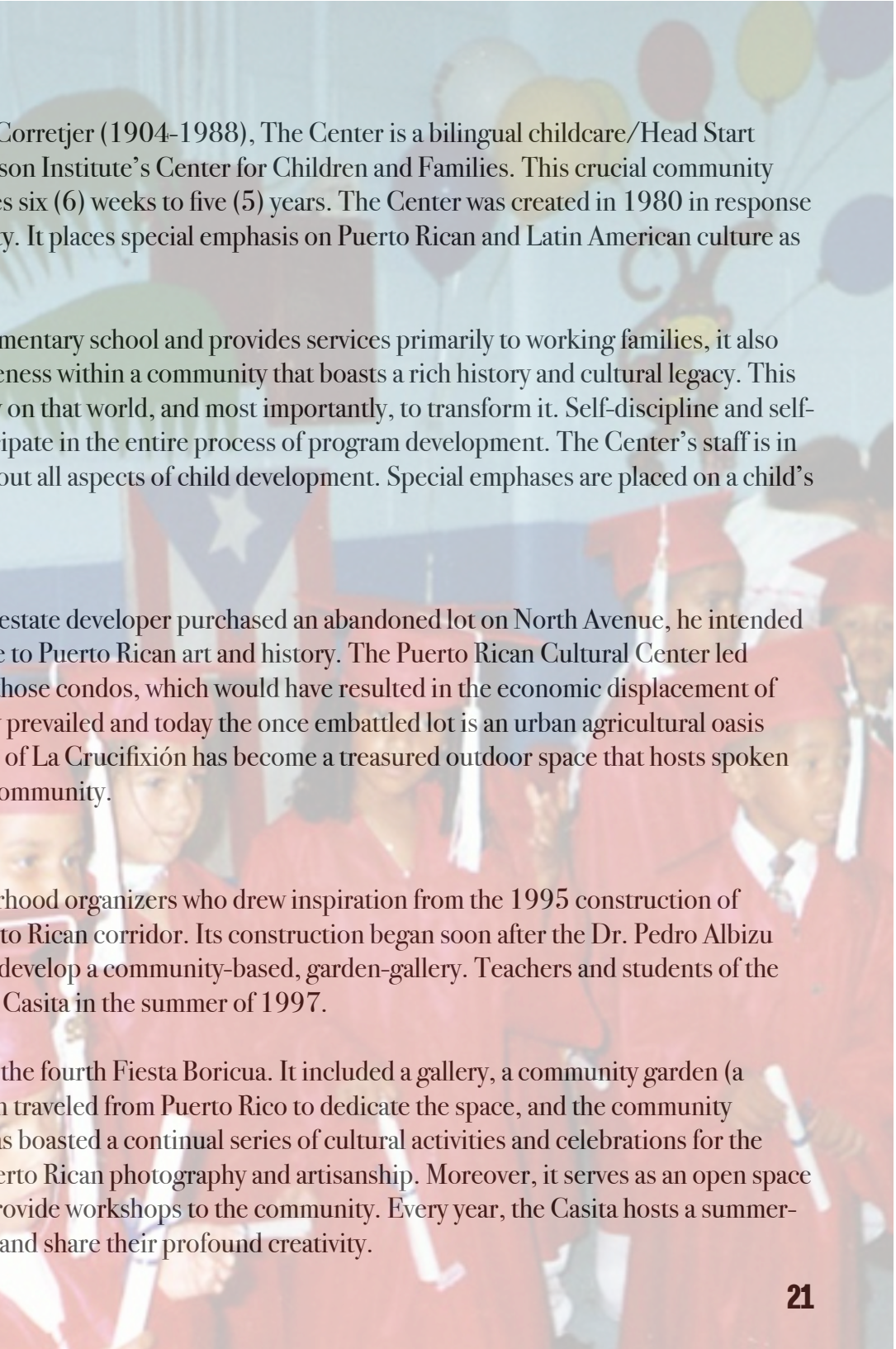
THE COMMUNITY GARDEN OF LA CRUCIFIXIÓN

La Crucifixión boasts Chicago’s oldest Puerto Rican mural. When a real estate developer purchased an abandoned lot on North Avenue, he intended to erect a complex of condominiums that would cover this historic tribute to Puerto Rican art and history. The Puerto Rican Cultural Center led community residents in a struggle against the developer’s plans to erect those condos, which would have resulted in the economic displacement of many Puerto Rican residents. Through great persistence, the community prevailed and today the once embattled lot is an urban agricultural oasis under the stewardship of The Puerto Rican Cultural Center. The Garden of La Crucifixión has become a treasured outdoor space that hosts spoken word and music performances, and is a reflective gathering spot for the community.

LA CASITA DE DON PEDRO

La Casita de Don Pedro is a prized community space created by neighborhood organizers who drew inspiration from the 1995 construction of the Paseo Boricua Flags, which today demarcate the Division Street Puerto Rican corridor. Its construction began soon after the Dr. Pedro Albizu Campos High School reached an agreement with Architreasures, Inc. to develop a community-based, garden-gallery. Teachers and students of the school, along with young people, children, and adults began work on the Casita in the summer of 1997.

The Casita de Don Pedro was inaugurated in September of 1997 during the fourth Fiesta Boricua. It included a gallery, a community garden (a bately), and the bronze Statue of Dr. Pedro Albizu Campos. Lolita Lebrón traveled from Puerto Rico to dedicate the space, and the community responded with great enthusiasm. Since the spring of 1998, La Casita has boasted a continual series of cultural activities and celebrations for the Humboldt Park community. The Casita’s gallery holds a collection of Puerto Rican photography and artisanship. Moreover, it serves as an open space for bomba & plena dancers and musicians to perform their artistry and provide workshops to the community. Every year, the Casita hosts a summer-long Puerto Rican artisan market where local artisans sell their creations and share their profound creativity.



Puerto Ricans request city's aid

By Derrick Blakley

LEADERS OF Chicago's Puerto Rican community met with city officials Tuesday to ask that their troubled Northwest Side neighborhood receive additional Puerto Rican police officers, improved recreational programs in Humboldt Park, and better representation in federally funded programs aimed at upgrading the area.

The requests came after the city's Department of Human Services announced that it is raising to 1,000 from 900 the number of jobs that will be available in the largely Puerto Rican Humboldt Park area this summer. With other programs, city officials said the increase will bring to 4,300 the number of summer jobs in the area.

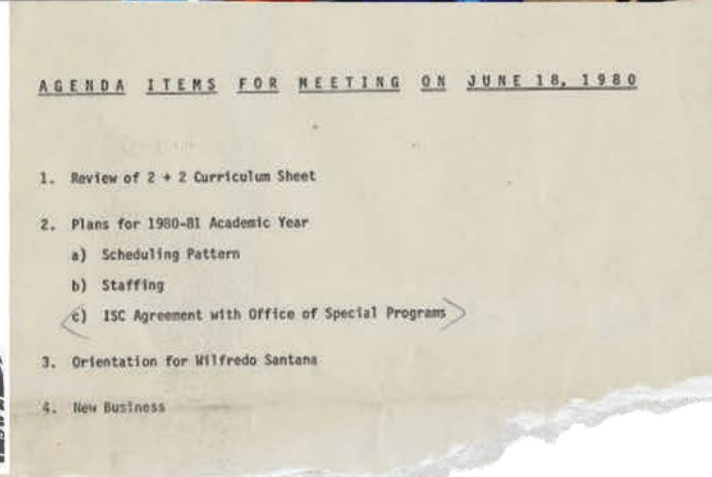
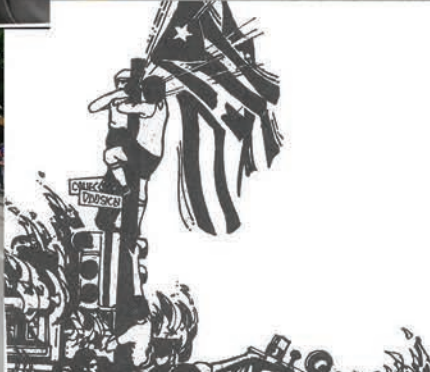
Carlos Castro, president of the Puerto Rican United Front, said more Puerto Ricans police are needed Front, said more Puerto Rican police are needed.

Samuel Nolan, deputy police superintendent who met with Castro and the neighborhood leaders said it is impossible to add more Puerto Ricans to the police department, except with approval of federal Judge Prentice Marshall.

Castro said Humboldt Park is in need of additional supervisory and recreational programs and a larger staff, as well as better sanitary facilities. The group also asked that the park's best house be reopened.

"PEOPLE SHOULD be brought into the park to keep the kids busy," he said.

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DIGITAL PRESENCE INITIATIVE

LA VOZ DEL PASEO BORICUA

founded in 2004, is a grassroots, bilingual periodical published by The Puerto Rican Cultural Center. On a bi-monthly basis, this periodical reports on stories relevant to our community, disseminating news about local events, programs, resources, and developments. La Voz del Paseo Boricua acknowledges the achievements of the Puerto Rican community at large and advocates for the preservation of the heart of our barrio in Humboldt Park, "nuestro pedacito de patria en Chicago."

www.lavozdelpaseoboricua.org

DIGITIZING THE BARRIO: DOCUMENTING AND DISSEMINATING THE PUERTO RICAN EXPERIENCE IN CHICAGO THROUGH COMMUNITY-BASED ARCHIVES

A group of local scholars and volunteers are working with the PRCC

to preserve and make public the history of Chicago's Puerto Rican community. The intention is to process and digitize thousands of items from the PRCC's archive. Items include political posters, event fliers, bilingual community newspapers, correspondence, photographs, and audio/video tapes that offer unique insight into the major challenges and movements that have shaped the lives of Puerto Ricans in Chicago. This digitization project will train and employ community residents and students and organize a series of public events, including exhibitions and educational forums. Ultimately, it aims to use the PRCC's archive as the pilot collection for a sustainable community-led digital archive that will focus on the political, organizational, and cultural history of Puerto Rican Chicago and serve as a springboard and model for other community organizations.

PRCC BUSINESS INITIATIVES

The PRCC Business Initiatives Department supports small business growth and encourages entrepreneurship by providing bilingual (English and Spanish) business advising, training and necessary support at no cost. We are located in Humboldt Park, on the West side of Chicago, and we serve entrepreneurs and small business owners, in any geographical area.

ILLINOIS SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER (SBDC)

Illinois Small Business Development Centers are located throughout the state and provide information, confidential business guidance, training, and other resources for start-ups and existing small businesses.

Services Include:

- One-on-one business advice and management assistance
- Assistance with the development of business plans
- Help with accessing market information and the development of marketing plans
- Assistance with accessing business financing programs
- Assistance with financial analysis and planning
- Access to business education and training opportunities
- Specialized services in technology, innovation and entrepreneurial development

¡WEPA! MERCADO DEL PUEBLO INCUBATOR

The ¡WEPA! Mercado del Pueblo is an innovative project where startup vendors can begin selling their products as they formalize and grow their businesses with the support of PRCC's business programs, like the Illinois Small Business Development Center (SBDC), and the Neighborhood Business Development Center (NBDC). The Mercado is an example of how the intersectionality of resources and programs can create projects that encourage economic development in our communities. We are developing an economy that is sustainable and self-perpetuating.

CHICAGO BUSINESS CENTER (CBC)

The City of Chicago Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (BACP) created the Chicago Business Centers (CBC) program to help fill the current gap of local business resources, particularly for entrepreneurs in historically underserved locations and populations. Our CBC provides support to start-up entrepreneurs, and existing business owners, who need the assistance acquiring their City of Chicago business licenses.

NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS (NBDC)

The City of Chicago Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (BACP) created the Neighborhood Business Development Centers (NBDC) to assist in the development of small businesses in Chicago, serve as liaison between local businesses and the City of Chicago, and provide neighborhood business development services.

NBDCs have a strong neighborhood network and coordinates efforts with local aldermen, the City, and other community partners. They help start-up entrepreneurs, and existing business owners, with:

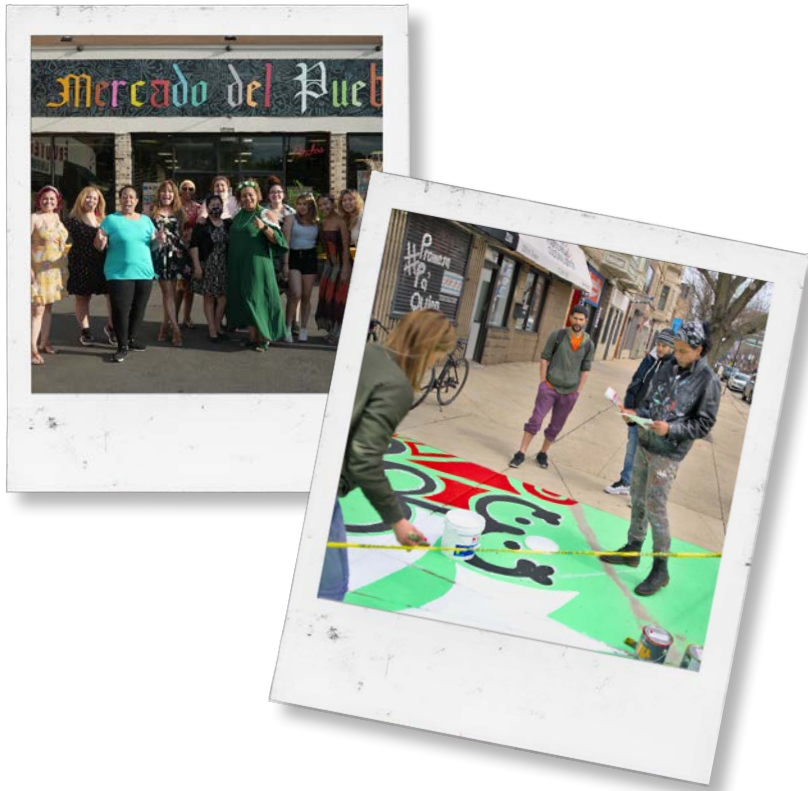
- Information about a particular neighborhood
- Getting a new small business started
- Troubleshooting City-related issues for small businesses
- Connecting businesses to financial resources
- Business-to-business networking opportunities
- Employment and workforce development assistance
- Consumer marketing assistance
- Connecting your business to the local community

INVEST SOUTH/WEST NORTH AVE. CORRIDOR MANAGER

INVEST South/West was launched by Mayor Lightfoot to re-activate a dozen commercial corridors on the South and West sides that have historically served as focal points for pedestrian activity, shopping, transportation, public spaces, and other quality-of-life amenities for local residents. As North Ave. Corridor Manager, we work alongside city agencies and local partners to increase neighborhood-level economic activity. This includes developing local business attraction and retention strategies, identifying needs and opportunities for public and private investment through monthly corridor roundtables, informing property owners about city economic development programs, marketing of underutilized and vacant land, and helping city agencies implement infrastructure and cultural enhancements.

CHICAGO ALFRESCO

The City of Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) is working with community organizations throughout Chicago to create active community spaces that are anchored by outdoor dining and highlight community-focused placemaking, support community identity, and provide opportunities for public enjoyment. Chicago Alfresco is part of a broader City initiative to open streets and create places for dining, public life, community, arts, culture, walking and biking. Chicago Alfresco incorporates outdoor dining and community activity in the public way and encourages the thoughtful design of visually appealing community places that cultivate a sense of ownership, belonging, and safety through activation, physical transformation, community engagement, and economic development.



HUMAN SERVICES INITIATIVE

VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION DEPARTMENT

The Violence Prevention and Intervention (VPI) Department seeks to provide services to young people from the ages of 7 to 24 in the Humboldt Park community that centers on restorative practices and healing. VPI currently houses two programs that offer gang/violence intervention and culturally sound afterschool programming at two of our community schools. The VPI Department is mission focused and data driven, seeking to increase public safety and decrease violence in Humboldt Park, Hermosa, and Belmont Cragin.

SERVICE COORDINATION AND NAVIGATION (SCAN)

Service Coordination and Navigation (SCaN) is a program that provides multiple resources and supports, often provided by multiple agencies and are synchronized to address the needs and strengths of each youth enrolled for services. Our model follows a strength-based, restorative and healing centered approach to guide young people towards a path that divorces them from violence and gang involvement. Services provided include but are not limited to cognitive behavioral therapy, housing stability

services, transportation assistance, employment search assistance, academic support and legal assistance.

TEEN REACH

The Puerto Rican Cultural Center's Teen REACH After School Programming offers culturally and age-appropriate services to 100 youth (ages 7-17) from Latina/o and other ethnic minority backgrounds in the community of Humboldt Park. Teen REACH strives to make meaningful connections with youth that are centered in relationship building and social emotional learning. Teen REACH offers tutoring, life skills, physical activity, mentorship, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), and creative outlets like Latin Dance, Bomba, Coding and Gaming. Teen REACH is currently offered at Roberto Clemente Community Academy and Benard Moos Elementary School with a diverse and community centered team that believes in a culturally and linguistically sound curriculum.

REIMAGINE PUBLIC SAFETY - VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Reimagine Public Safety seeks to integrate, coordinate, and leverage violence prevention

activities across the Humboldt Park community. Reimagine also seeks to utilize youth development, intervention and restorative mediation, healing centered mental health and substance use services, equity and racial justice, interagency and community based collaboration. Reimagine's team is composed of individuals that have lived experiences that allows them to relate and empathize with program participants. Relationship building sits center in the program so that transforming mindsets and perception is possible.

THE HUMBOLDT PARK YOUTH EMPLOYMENT & EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM

The Humboldt Park Youth Employment & Empowerment Program (HPYEPP) is a part of the Puerto Rican Cultural Center which is located in the Humboldt Park area. Our program offers a 12-week workforce development internship to support youth who live within the Humboldt Park, Hermosa, Logan Square, West Town, and Belmont-Cragin communities that are between the ages of 16 - 24. This program provides youth with 12 weeks of paid work experience, supplemented by weekly work-readiness courses to teach them critical workplace skills and prepare them for entry into the professional world.

The program accepts all applicants that meet the criteria, including those who have no prior work experience, provided that they have not previously participated in an Illinois Worknet program. It especially welcomes school push-outs or students at risk of dropping out, teen parents, youth in single parent households, and homeless youth. Through partnerships with local businesses in the community, youth are introduced to diverse fields of work where they can learn from independent business owners and industry professionals for the duration of the 12-week period. The courses, which go hand in hand with the work, are created in tandem with a state-wide curriculum and supplement the skills that youth will be building in their worksites. The instructors have developed an engaging

course that offers career education, resume & cover-letter building & editing, life skill education including taxes and navigation, and educational planning.

In addition, the interns also receive case management services on a weekly basis. Participants will meet with their case manager regularly throughout the duration of the program where they will receive assistance and have their questions answered on an as-needed basis.

Once youth have completed the program they will have the skills and knowledge necessary to go into the workforce. The goal is to provide youth with permanent employment, re-engagement with their education, or enrollment in college or technical programs. Our office will remain available to graduated youth as a resource while they continue to develop career goals and follow their respective paths. We look at these youth as the future leaders and members of society and we are excited to help prepare them for that future.

Qualifications:

In order to qualify for participation in this program, the youth must:

- In order to qualify for participation in this program, the youth must:
- Be a resident of the Humboldt Park/West Town/ Logan Square/Hermosa/Belmont-Cragin neighborhood(s)

- Be between the ages of 16 to 24 at the time of participation
- Have a social security card & valid form of photo identification

Responsibilities:

- Ability to commit to 15 hours per week of work
- Ability to commit to 5 hours per week of instruction
- Be open & flexible to various work experiences
- Willing to work hard

How to apply:

Applications for this program must be completed in-person at the Humboldt Park Youth Employment and Empowerment Program office. Youth must complete a paper application, as well as have a photo ID and proof of ability to work in the United States. Qualifying applicants will complete a short interview to determine interests and gauge previous experience, and participate in a short program orientation before being placed.



Safe Passage Community Watchers are selfless and work together as a team directly with their surrounding schools and community organizations. They look out for the children in the neighborhood as they make their way to and from school. These parents and community members also interactively represent the communities of Humboldt Park/West Town/Hermosa where they live and work. Going above and beyond, the Safe Passage Community Watchers not only do what is expected of them from CPS, but also take the initiative of getting to know students and fostering positive relationships in the communities we serve. Having the community watchers in place, means more graduating students entering postsecondary institutions.



ANNUAL EVENTS

HAUNTED PASEO

Every October 31st, Paseo Boricua is transformed into a fun-filled, family-oriented, and safe Halloween celebration on Division St. Up and down the street, businesses distribute candy, children's faces are painted, and kids are engaged in historically relevant and culturally appropriate activities.

THREE KINGS WINTERFEST

Since 1995, the Three Kings WinterFest has been celebrated every year on January 6th, known as the Day of the Epiphany. It has become a tradition embraced by the entire community. Children and people of all ages sing Puerto Rican "aguinaldos" (Christmas carols) from business to business while the Three Magi and volunteers from the Latin American Motorcycle Association (LAMA), lead a procession down Division Street through the Paseo Boricua. Thousands join in a carnival-like atmosphere with revelers singing aguinaldos accompanied by live bomba and plena music.

The annual parade is followed by a cultural program at the Humboldt Park Fieldhouse where more than 5,000 gifts are distributed to the children of the community. Thus, business and community organizations, old and young, people from all walks of life come together to delight in this ancient tradition of our puertorriqueñidad, and to ensure its persistence into the next generation. This event is co-sponsored by a host of community organizations.



PUERTO RICAN PEOPLE'S DAY PARADE ON PASEO BORICUA

The Puerto Rican People's Day Parade was established in 1978, in Chicago IL on Paseo Boricua. The Puerto Rican People's Day Parade is community focused and driven, showcasing Puerto Rican arts, culture and music. It is free of the typical depictions that traditional ethnic parades perpetuate in the interest of commercialization. Celebrated in a carnival-like environment, the Puerto Rican People's Day Parade frames the Puerto Rican cultural experience within the language of social criticism and the discourse of possibilities. The Puerto Rican People's Day Parade is held annually in June on Division St. (Paseo Boricua) between Western and Humboldt Dr. www.prcc-chgo.org, Prpeoplesparade@prcc-chgo.org, 773-342-0855.



FIESTA BORICUA "DE BANDERA A BANDERA"

This festival has become synonymous with Paseo Boricua and what this area has to offer our community. It celebrates the best of Puerto Rican talent and musical culture. The Paseo Boricua makes visible a permanent corridor through the heart of Chicago's Puerto Rican community. "De Bandera a Bandera" (From Flag to Flag) is the slogan the organizers have chosen for this cultural encounter on Division Street. Since 1993, the festival has been celebrated along the commercially and culturally vibrant Division Street corridor called Paseo Boricua. Fiesta Boricua has become one of the largest and most important branded festivals of the Latino community in the Midwest, attracting more than 200,000 people annually. It showcases the diversity of Puerto Rican musical expression from bomba and plena to salsa and merengue, from folk music to hip hop.





AFFILIATE PROGRAMS

THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF PUERTO RICAN ARTS & CULTURE

The National Museum of Puerto Rican Arts & Culture is devoted to the promotion, integration, and advancement of Puerto Rican arts and culture by presenting exhibitions and programming created to enhance the visibility and importance of the rich Puerto Rican arts tradition. The National Museum of Puerto Rican Arts & Culture (NMPRAC), is a member of Museums in the Park.

DR. PEDRO ALBIZU CAMPOS PUERTO RICAN HIGH SCHOOL'S

The Schools mission is to provide a quality educational experience needed to empower students to engage in critical thinking and social transformation, from the classroom to the Puerto Rican community, based on the philosophical foundation of self-determination, a methodology of self-actualization, and an ethics of self-reliance.

URBANTHEATER COMPANY (UTC)

Fosters a pipeline of diverse and culturally specific actors, designers, and producers who embrace the responsibility of creating an environment full of honesty, integrity, representation, and acceptance in order to cultivate innovative and accessible theater. Through mentorship our productions act as launchpads for deepening UTC's history of community engagement in taking our stories "From the Streets to the Stage."

WEST TOWN BIKES

A community bicycle-learning center that offers youth programs at the shop and across the city, bicycle mechanics workshops and classes, and special events to members of the community. It also provides creative workspace for special bicycle building, utilitarian human powered design, kinetic art, advocacy projects, and many forms of constructive creation.

THE NATIONAL BORICUA HUMAN RIGHTS NETWORK (NBHRN)

An organization of Puerto Ricans in the US that educates and mobilizes the Puerto Rican community, the broader Latin American community, and other people of conscience regarding issues of justice, peace, and human rights.

THE PASEO PODCAST

The Paseo Podcast launched in August 2019 and continues to make progress in the podcasting world. Its mission is to highlight stories by, from, and about the Puerto Rican community here in Chicago and around the world. Every week, a different Boricua sits in the guest chair to share their stories and discuss issues that impact the Puerto Rican community not covered by traditional media. Episodes air every Thursday and can be accessed through paseomedia.org, iTunes, Spotify, Google Podcasts, and wherever else podcasts are streamed.

DIVISION STREET BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Promotes the economic, social development, and growth of "Paseo Boricua", the heart of the Puerto Rican community in Chicago along Division Street west of Western Ave. In addition, it works to increase the capacity of individuals in the field of business and commerce who seek to enhance their participation in the economic structure of our community and the City of Chicago.

LOCATIONS



VIDA/SIDA- HOPLWH AT HUMBOLDT PARK HEALTH HOSPITAL
1044 N FRANCISCO STREE
CHICAGO, IL 60622
(773) 772-5455

NANCY FRANCO-MALDONADO PASEO BORICUA ARTS BUILDING
2709-2713 W DIVISION STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60622

DR. PEDRO ALBIZU CAMPOS HS DR. STEVE WHITMAN GREENHOUSE
2739-41 W. DIVISION STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60622
(773) 342-8022 F. (773) 342-6609

LISA ISADORA-CRUZ TRANS CHICAGO EMPOWERMENT CENTER
2753 W DIVISION ST
CHICAGO, IL 60622
(773) 698-7473

LA BODEGA DEL BARRIO, MUÉVETE, PUERTO RICAN PEOPLE S DAY PARADE
2628 W DIVISION ST
CHICAGO, IL 60622
773-342-0855

LA CASITA DE DON PEDRO Y DOÑA LOLITA
2625 W DIVISION STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60622

EL RESCATE
2703 W. DIVISION STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60622
(872) 829-2662

URBANTHEATER COMPANY CAFÉ TEATRO BATEY URBANO
2620 W. DIVISION STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60622
(312) 767-8821

VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION DEPARTMENT
2619 W. DIVISION ST
CHICAGO, IL. 60622
773-360-1987

COLAB TECH CENTER
2636 W DIVISION ST.
(773) 697-3026

VIDA/SIDA BARTOLO HERNANDEZ DE JESUS HIV/AIDS INITIATIVE
2640 W. DIVISION ST.
CHICAGO, IL. 60622
(773) 278-6737

DR. HELEN RODRIGUEZ-TRIAS AND DR. VIRGINA BISHOP BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CENTER
2619 W. DIVISION ST
CHICAGO, IL. 60622

PRCC BUSINESS INITIATIVES
2606 W DIVISION ST
CHICAGO, IL 60622
(773)698-7233

PRCC - FISCAL OFFICE
2556 W DIVISION STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60622
(773) 360-1613 | F. (773) 913-0706

¡WEPA! MERCADO DEL PUEBLO
2559 W. DIVISION STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60622

PRCC - ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE/SAFE PASSAGE
2543 W. DIVISION STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60622

PRCC - ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
2531 W. DIVISION STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60622
(773) 394-4935

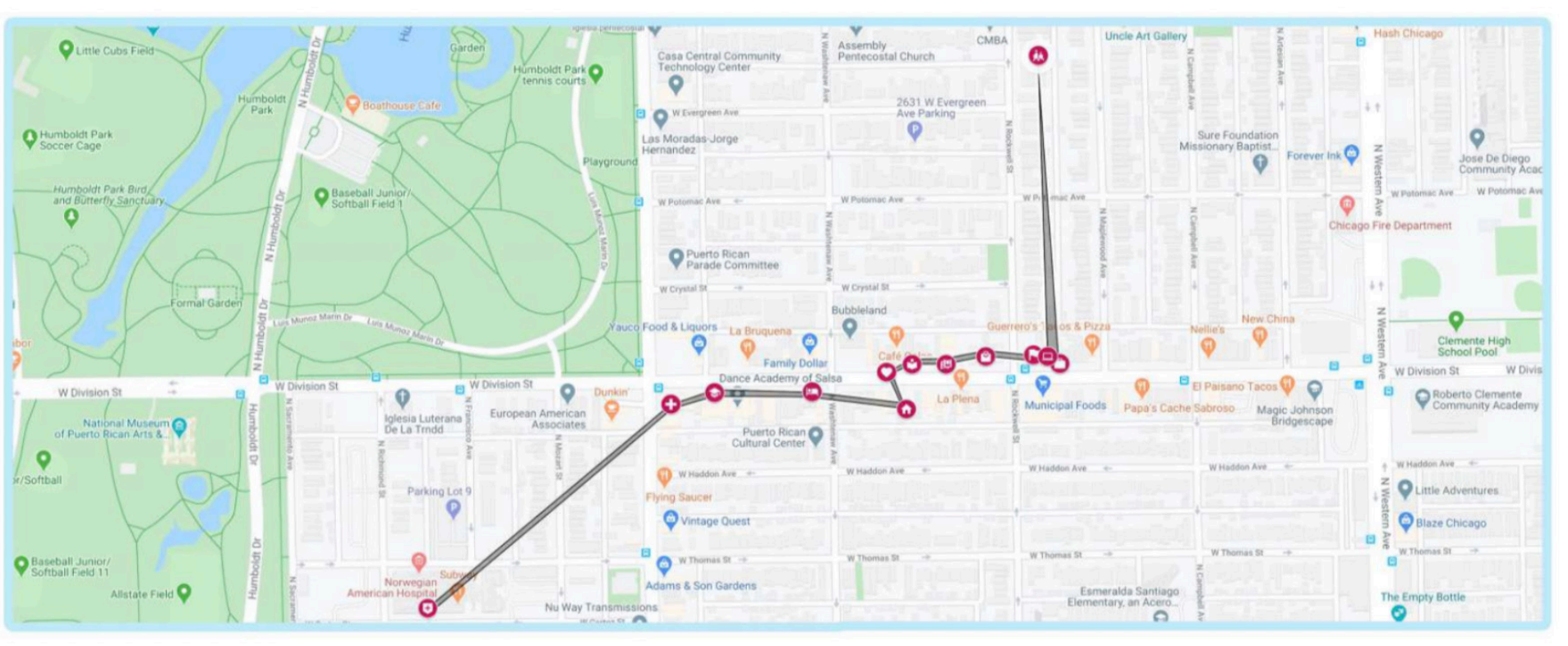
THE HUMBOLDT PARK YOUTH EMPLOYMENT & EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM
2425 W DIVISION STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60622
(773) 697-3026

THE DIGITIZING EL BARRIO ARCHIVE
2448 W DIVISION STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60622

THE CONSUELO LEE CORRETJER CHILD CARE CENTER
1345 N ROCKWELL ST
CHICAGO, IL 60622
(773) 342-8023

THE COMMUNITY GARDEN OF LA CRUCIFIXIÓN
2425 W NORTH AVE
CHICAGO, IL 60622

WHERE TO FIND US



2021 FISCAL YEAR DONORS, SPONSORS, AND FUNDERS

\$500,000 AND OVER

- Chicago Department of Public Health
- Illinois Department of Human Services
- Illinois Department of Public Health
Department of Health and Human Services
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health
Services Administration
- The Chicago Board of Education

\$300,000 TO \$499,999

- Centers for Disease Control
- Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership
- Illinois Department of Public Aid

\$100,00-\$299,999

- Illinois Department of Commerce and
Economic Opportunity
- Illinois Network of Child Care Resource
and Referral Agencies
- The Chicago Community Trust
- VIIV Healthcare

\$25,000-\$99,000

- Chicago Region Food System
- Children’s First fund
- Count Me In
- Department of Family and Support
Services
- Local Initiatives Support Corporation
- National Network of Library of Medicine
- United Way of Metropolitan Chicago

\$10,000-\$24,999

- AMITA Health
- Community Efforts Pass Through Funds
- Design Industries Foundation Fighting
AIDS (DIFFA)
- Hispanic Housing Development
Corporation
- Howard Brown Health
- José E. López

\$5,000-\$9,999

- ComEd
- Illinois Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
- Mariette Pathy Allen
- Nellie’s Restaurant
- Roberto Clemente High School

\$1,000-\$4,999

- ARCC Steering Committee
- Bickerdike Redevelopment Corporation
- City Colleges of Chicago
- City North Division LLC
- Gilead Sciences, Inc.
- Lakeside Bank
- Luis Alejandro Molina
- Marvin Garcia
- Midas Cosmetics
- Nadeya Khali
- Nellie’s
- Northwestern University
- Open 4 Business Productions

- Providence Bank & Trust
- Role Model Movement Inc.
- SEIU LOCAL 1
- Taste Jam
- The Puerto Rican Agenda of Chicago
- United Center

\$500-\$999

- Kenneth Martin-Ocasio
- Michelle Liffick
- Open 4 Business
- Sun Fresh Market LLC
- West Town Bikes NFP
- West Town Law Office
- Zenaida López

\$1-\$499

- Andres Santiago
- Ann Peterson Kemp
- Bank of America
- Boris Hernández
- Build Inc.
- Charles Schwab
- Community Counseling Centers
- CTA Foods
- Division Auto Clinic

- Dora Garcia
- Exelon
- Fidelity Charitable
- Giving a Foundation
- Henry Pye
- Illinois Youth Build Coalition
- La Bomba Restaurant
- La Bruquena
- Leslie Ann Mullin
- Michelle Lewis
- O.R. Giachello
- Paul Dailing
- Roberto Sanabria
- Taylor Moore
- Tip Top Food & Liquor



Puerto Ricans request city's aid
Derrick Blakley
Chicago Tribune (1963-Current file); Jun 8, 1977; ProQuest Historical Newspapers Chicago Tribune (1849 - 1985)
pg. B10

Puerto Ricans request city's aid

By Derrick Blakley

LEADERS OF Chicago's Puerto Rican community met with city officials Tuesday to ask that their troubled Northwest Side neighborhood receive additional Puerto Rican police officers, improved recreational programs in Humboldt Park, and better representation in federally funded programs aimed at upgrading the area.

The requests came after the city's Department of Human Services announced that it is raising to 1,000 from 690 the number of jobs that will be available in the largely Puerto Rican neighborhood this summer. With other programs, the city expects to increase with the summer season the number of jobs in the area.

Cárlos Castro, president of the Puerto Rican United Front, said more Puerto Rican police are needed. Front, said more Puerto Rican police are needed.

Samuel Nolan, deputy police superintendent who met with Castro and the neighborhood leaders said it is impossible to add more Puerto Ricans to the police department, except with approval of federal Judge Prentice Marshall.

Castro said Humboldt Park is in need of additional supervisory and recreational programs and a larger staff, as well as better sanitary facilities. The group also asked that the park's boat house be reopened.

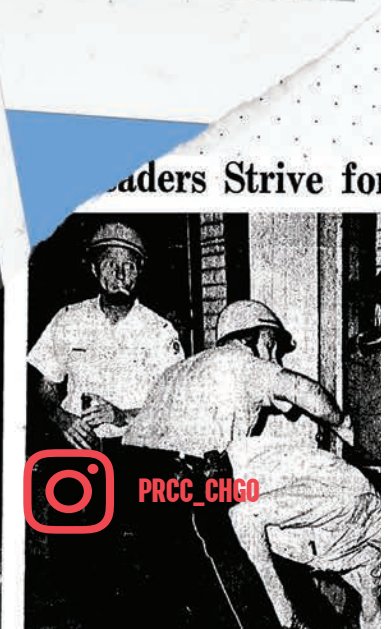
"PEOPLE SHOULD be brought into the park to keep the kids busy," he said.

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