

## *IX. Social Services and Economic Development in America's Urban Campus*

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In addition to the world-renowned art, music, and theater programs mentioned in the previous chapter, the colleges and universities of America's Urban Campus provide programming to foster a sense of community and to help those in need throughout the city. Students and teachers volunteer for tens of thousands of hours at clinics and non-profits, while colleges and universities throughout the city invest in their local neighborhoods through community-based organizations, parks, residential and commercial development, infrastructure, public safety, and more.

### **HEALTH CARE**

Chicago is home to several premier health care facilities and academic medical centers, many of which are affiliated with AUC institutions. The city also boasts a significant number of health-care related jobs and provides a rich environment for healthcare innovation, with a confluence of research institutions, top health care companies, and technology spaces, like MATTER, that support and nurture healthcare start-ups.

AUC institutions received more than \$660 million in biomedical and life sciences research funding from the National Institutes of Health to AUC institutions in 2017.<sup>19</sup> AUC institutions not only lead the state in healthcare research funding, they also cover all corners of the city, providing critical health care services to Chicago citizens.

Examples of health care initiatives at AUC institutions include:

- **The LGBTQ Mental Health and Inclusion Center.** Adler University produced and maintains this website that acts as an online directory for over 350 support services. Resources accessible on the site include basic needs, mental health, legal support, substance abuse, social groups, health centers, and networks. Additionally, there is a list of resources for times of crisis like counseling centers or violence hotlines.
- **Adler Community Health Services (ACHS).** ACHS is the clinical training arm of Adler University for a number of its graduate-level behavioral health programs including Doctor of Psychology in Clinical Psychology, Couple and Family Therapy, and Master of Arts in Counseling. ACHS embeds its training programs within underserved communities across Chicago who demonstrate high need for behavioral health services.

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19. National Institutes of Health Research Portfolio Online Reporting Tools, "NIH Awards By Location and Organization," [report.nih.gov/award/index.cfm](http://report.nih.gov/award/index.cfm), accessed August 2018.

- **Northwestern Feinberg School of Medicine.** Northwestern University's medical faculty, residents, and students serve the Chicago community through outreach and engagement activities, including free medical services through Chicago clinics, and collaborative research projects and studies. The Institute for Public Health and Medicine is an innovative force at the interface of medicine and public health.



Feinberg School of Medicine

Photo credit: *Northwestern University*

- The Center for Community Health engages directly with Chicago communities and provides seed money to community groups interested in improving health outcomes.
- **Urban Health Initiative (UHI).** The University of Chicago's Urban Health Initiative is an effort to improve health and access to quality care for residents of Chicago's South Side. Through the South Side Healthcare Collaborative, the University has established a network of local primary care providers, community health centers, and local hospitals to treat patients before they get to the emergency room. Also, the University is working with community groups and residents to better understand the impacts of the environment on long-term health and wellness.
  - **Rush Community Service Initiatives Program (RCSIP).** Started in 1991, RCSIP is an interprofessional program with student volunteers from all four of Rush University's colleges who are supported by faculty and staff. RCSIP provides services to more than 10,000 community members annually through programs that focus on providing health care to people in underserved communities, educating the community about healthy living and disease prevention and management, and training and educating young people about the wide range of career opportunities in health sciences.
  - **Rush College of Nursing Office of Faculty Practice.** The practice encompasses multiple professional nursing roles that include consultation, educational services, administrative services, program development, research nurses, and the provision of direct nursing care services to individuals, groups, and communities. Nursing services are provided at an affordable price to community partners. The Office enables faculty to maintain a presence in the healthcare community while also contributing to the overall mission and vision of the College, a practitioner-teacher model. Over 5,000 annual Rush University student hours are supported across its faculty practice sites. These sites provide Rush interdisciplinary students with the opportunity to work in diverse, real-world community clinical rotations.
  - **Center for Community Health Equity.** The goal of the Center is to improve community health outcomes and contribute to the elimination of health inequities in Chicago. The Center was co-founded by DePaul University and Rush University in 2015 as a resource to support collaborative health equity scholarship and collective action in the region. The Center connects sociologists, geog-

raphers, and other social scientists with health care professionals to foster research that could help achieve social justice in local communities.

- **Chicago Cancer Health Equity Collaborative (CHEC).** This center is a National Cancer Institute partnering Northwestern University, Northeastern University, and the University of Illinois at Chicago. The mission of Chicago CHEC is to advance cancer health equity through meaningful scientific discovery, education, training and community engagement. This center combats the health disparities in communities as their findings have indicated low-income and predominantly minority communities face cancer deaths at twice the national average. Their Research Fellows programs works directly with AUC students to encourage their involvement with cancer research.
- **Trauma Center.** In May 2018, the University of Chicago officially began treating patients at the newest adult emergency department in the city. The \$39 million facility is a Level 1 trauma center located in the South Side of Chicago. The last time the South Side had an adult trauma center was in 1991. The center's focus is on violence recovery and wraparound services designed to help trauma patients successfully transition back into the community. This includes outpatient services like psychiatric, behavioral health, and recovery care.<sup>20</sup>



University of Chicago Trauma Center

Photo credit: UC Hospitals

- **Chicago Biomedical Consortium (CBC).** Comprised of researchers from the University of Chicago, University of Illinois at Chicago, and Northwestern University, projects launched by the CBC have attracted \$616 million of funding since 2006, primarily from the National Institute of Health (NIH).<sup>21</sup>
- **Loyola Community and Family Services (Loyola CFS).** Loyola University Chicago established this community mental health agency in collaboration with Loyola's Schools of Education and Social Work. The agency serves the mental health needs of children and families residing and connected to the Rogers Park and Edgewater communities. Loyola CFS provides individual, family and group counseling, psychological assessments of children and adolescents, outreach and case management services, psychoeducational services to families and communities, and school based services at local elementary and high schools.
- **The University of Illinois Hospital & Health Sciences System (UI Health).** Part of the University of Illinois at Chicago, UI Health provides comprehensive health care, education, and research. UI Health comprises a clinical enterprise

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20. UC Hospitals, "Ceremony for New Adult ED Marks Milestone for UChicago Medicine," December 5, 2017, [www.trauma.uchospitals.edu](http://www.trauma.uchospitals.edu), accessed on April 15, 2018.

21. Chicago Biomedical Consortium, "Accomplishments," March 20, 2018, <https://www.chicagobiomedicalconsortium.org/about/accomplishments/>, accessed on August 22, 2018.

that features a 465-bed tertiary care hospital, 21 outpatient clinics, and six Mile Square Health Center locations, which are Federally Qualified Health Centers. UI Health also includes the seven UIC health science colleges: the College of Applied Health Sciences; the College of Dentistry; the School of Public Health; the Jane Addams College of Social Work; and the Colleges of Medicine, Pharmacy, and Nursing, including regional campuses in Peoria, Quad Cities, Rockford, Springfield, and Urbana.

- **Mile Square Health Center.** In the mid-1960s, the medical needs of Chicago's public housing residents often went unaddressed. Mile Square Health Center was established to provide services to those who lived in the Henry Horner Houses, and subsequently, residents of ABLA and Rockwell Gardens. Today Mile Square's main location stands at the former location of the Henry Horner Houses. In 1990, Mile Square became part of UI Health and today it offers medical education programs for physicians, nurses, certified nurse midwives, and pharmacy students.
- **Urban Health Program (UHP).** In 1978, the Illinois State Legislature called for the formation of the Urban Health Program at the University of Illinois at Chicago in response to community protests and outcries that significant health care disparities plagued the state's poor, urban, mostly minority communities. The purpose of the UHP was to attract and support more students from traditionally underserved populations into the degree programs at UIC that lead to health care careers. When UHP students graduate, they often work within underserved communities, particularly in the city of Chicago. UHP estimates that nearly 70% of all Black and Latino doctors practicing in Chicago are graduates of UIC and the UHP or its predecessor programs.

## LEGAL SERVICES

Among the 22 member institutions of America's Urban Campus, there are seven law schools:

- DePaul University College of Law
- Chicago-Kent College of Law (Illinois Institute of Technology)
- John Marshall Law School
- Loyola University School of Law
- Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law
- University of Chicago Law School
- Western State College of Law at Argosy University.

Each of these schools offer clinical projects and programs that provide JD candidates opportunities to develop legal experience and serve the surrounding community. Some clinical programs offer pro bono services, and others may charge fees on a sliding scale. The following list outlines just some of the topics that are covered by clinics of multiple America's Urban Campus law schools.

- **Business and Entrepreneurial Law.** This work involves the transactional practice of law and small-business counseling. The clinics provide services such as contract review and negotiation, employment issues, non-disclosure and confidentiality agreements, and more.

- **Child and Family Law.** The clinics handle matters of legal separation, divorce, child support, child custody, visitation, and similar matters. Some represent children in cases relating to abuse or neglect, delinquency, special education, and mental health. Others offer students the opportunity to work on policy and legislative research and advocacy projects that have an impact on systems affecting children and families, including juvenile justice, health, and immigration.
- **Community Law.** Students represent Chicago-area residents who cannot afford legal services in civil legal cases under the supervision of clinical faculty, acquiring first-hand knowledge about the essential skills involved in the practice of law: client interviewing and counseling, case planning and negotiation, fact investigation, and oral and written advocacy. Founded in the 1980s, the Loyola Community Law Center is Loyola's first law clinic.
- **Criminal and Juvenile Justice.** Students in these clinics provide legal representation in criminal cases. Half of the law schools in America's Urban Campus offer a clinic specifically for clients who have been wrongfully convicted.
- **Tax Law.** These clinics handle disputes with the Internal Revenue Service and often represent low- and middle-income taxpayers and small business taxpayers, handling issues surrounding audits, asset seizures, and other debt enforcement actions.
- **Health Law.** Examples of health-related cases include disability denials, discrimination issues, and vaccine-related injuries.
- **Environmental Law.** Half of the America's Urban Campus law schools provide representation for environmental issues such as permitting, illegal pollution, site remediation, and regulation enforcement.
- **Immigration Law.** These clinics assist with immigration law for families, children, and adults. Students provide a wide range of services, representing clients seeking immigration benefits (e.g., asylum, work authorization, and lawful status). One clinic specifically focuses on representing unaccompanied immigrant children, a particularly vulnerable population.

## VIOLENCE PREVENTION

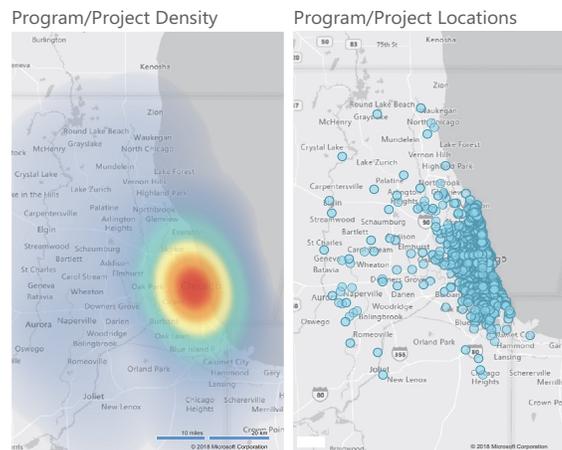
In response to the rise in gun violence in 2016-2017 and concerns from AUC institutions in the growing inequities in Chicago's neighborhoods, AUC initiated a concerted effort to raise awareness of the role institutions play in preventing violence. These institutional partnerships across the city, with co-funding from the Chicago Community Trust, addressed issues surrounding poverty, racism, and violence.



Invitees engage in discussion during the "Forging Partnerships to Prevent Violence in Chicago" Workshop

Photo credit: *America's Urban Campus*

- **“Forging Partnerships to Prevent Violence in Chicago.”** In May 2017, AUC held a working session at Roosevelt University where invitees from all AUC institutions met to discuss the best ways to address the complex issues of poverty, racism, and violence. The result of this session was a report released outlining the ideas, best practices, challenges, and recommendations of the participants. Some examples of practices included in the report are: working to actively engage AUC students with issues at hand; develop a “Partnerships Conference” to align institutions with the city; focus more research resources on root causes of racism, poverty, and violence; work towards providing policy recommendations to lawmakers; and much more.<sup>22</sup>
- **Snapshot Report.** To implement the recommendations of the “Forging Partnerships” workshop, AUC published “A Snapshot of Programs in Higher Education Addressing Racism, Poverty, and Violence” in 2018.<sup>23</sup> This document acts as a searchable database of the many violence prevention programs implemented by 16 of the 22 AUC member institutions. The programs and initiatives are grouped into sub-categories: place-based, education, research, innovation, and civic engagement. This document not only provides a description of programs, but also links to websites and contact information.
- **Heat Map.** To accompany the “Snapshot” document, AUC created an interactive heat map (shown at the right) to give geographical context to the various programs and initiatives undertaken by member institutions. The heat map shows the location of programs by each AUC institution and provides addresses for all locations, illustrating where opportunities for partnerships could arise or where there are gaps in program coverage.



Heat Map of AUC Programming

Photo credit: America's Urban Campus

- **Campus Meets Community: Sustaining Reciprocal Partnerships.** This one-day workshop was another initiative implemented as a result of the “Forging Partnerships” workshop. AUC co-sponsored this event with the Illinois Campus Compact to explore the elements and issues of university and community partnerships and made plans for a 2019 follow-up conference.<sup>24</sup>

22. America's Urban Campus, “Forging Partnerships to Prevent Violence in Chicago,” May 23, 2017, [www.americasurbancampus.org](http://www.americasurbancampus.org), accessed on April 18, 2018.

23. America's Urban Campus, “A Snapshot of Programs in Higher Education Addressing Racism, Poverty, and Violence,” January 2017, [www.americasurbancampus.org](http://www.americasurbancampus.org), accessed on April 18, 2018.

- **Chicago Gun Violence Research Collaborative (CGVRC).** Currently hosted by DePaul University and started by Sinai Urban Health Institute in 2016, this collaborative brings together nearly 20 major universities, hospitals, and public policy organizations to address the crisis of gun violence in Chicago. Through engagement and collaboration with community members and other stakeholders, CGVRC aims to catalogue and share existing research on gun violence, host forums to bring people together to address gun violence, and conduct new research on community-identified issues.
- **Take Back the Halls: Ending Violence in Relationships and Schools (TBTH).** This dating violence prevention and community activism program gives teenagers the opportunity to examine issues such as domestic violence, sexual assault, sexual harassment, and sexual abuse, as well as social structures that support violence in the culture. TBTH aims to empower young people to become community leaders and active participants in the movement to end violence. Heather Flett, AM, LCSW, and Dr. Beth Catlett, Director of the Beck Research Initiative for Women, Gender, and Community at DePaul University, partnered to create TBTH.
- **Sexual Misconduct Task Force.** National Louis University has partnered with community agencies to provide local resources and support students who have experienced gender-based violence, including sexual assault and domestic violence.
- **“Take Back, Give Back” Conference.** In February 2017, East-West University Student Ambassadors held a conference with a focus for students to become more aware of issues of violence and how they can become more active in their communities. Speakers at the conference included congressmen, families directly affected by violence, social workers, and students. Following the conference, students identified initiatives that could be started and how to best disseminate information to fellow students.
- **Cure Violence.** Part of the University of Chicago School of Public Health, Cure Violence is a teaching, training, research and assessment non-governmental organization focused on a health approach to violence prevention. This approach diverges from the prevailing paradigm that understands violence as moral corruption or human failing and applies punitive strategies to address the problem. When Cure Violence launched in West Garfield Park, one of the most violent communities in Chicago, shootings fell by 67% in its first year.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

America's Urban Campus members also contribute to the economic development of the Chicago area. Colleges and universities are anchor institutions that invest in student housing, offices, public parks, entertainment venues, and infrastructure in neighborhoods throughout Chicago. Some of the most notable developments have occurred in the South Loop, Bronzeville, Hyde Park, Lincoln Park, and Rogers Park. Specific contributions range from leadership and

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24. Illinois Campus Compact, “Campus Meets Community Workshop,” [www.illinoiscampuscompact.org](http://www.illinoiscampuscompact.org), accessed on June 19, 2018.

partnering on development projects to research and evaluation of policies and programs.

- **53rd Street Redevelopment.** The University of Chicago has partnered with the City of Chicago to revitalize the commercial corridor on 53rd Street in Hyde Park. One of the most notable projects is the development of Harper Court, which opened in November 2013. The 1.1 million square-foot mixed-use development is now a commercial hub that includes a 131-room Hyatt Place hotel, a 12-story office tower to house over 550 University of Chicago employees, the renovated Harper Theater, and several restaurants and retailers.
- **Center for Urban Economic Development (CUED).** Established in 1978, the CUED is a unit of the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs at the University of Illinois at Chicago and is affiliated with the school's Great Cities Institute. CUED conducts research, policy analysis, and evaluation on urban and regional economic and workforce development issues, programs, and strategies. Its work is based on the view that urban and regional economies can develop in ways that create broadly-shared prosperity—that they can become simultaneously more productive, more innovative, and more equitable. CUED collaborates with other researchers and with stakeholders at government agencies, foundations, economic and workforce development organizations, businesses, labor organizations, and civic organizations. CUED helps public and private sector leaders understand the economic impacts of existing and proposed policies and strategies and assists in formulating new policies and strategies.
- **Fredrick Blum Neighborhood Assistance Center.** The Neighborhood Assistance Center is part of the Department of Geography, Sociology, History, African American Studies, and Anthropology at Chicago State University. The center assists in developing neighborhood planning projects, performing land use and housing quality surveys, and conducting feasibility studies, among other services.
- **Rush's Anchor Mission Strategy.** Rush University not only provides medical education and health care services to the surrounding community, but also aims to address the root causes of poor health.<sup>25</sup> The anchor mission strategy is intended to address the social, economic, and environmental factors based on four commitments to the West-side: hire and develop local talent, buy and source locally, invest locally, and volunteer. Their commitment has made an impact in the area, as Rush is the largest employer on the West-side and spends millions of dollars on goods and services each year. Rush's commitment to their community is actively making the overall lives of residents better.
- **Amazon HQ2 Bid.** Recently, AUC retained AEG to put together a series of detailed talent statistics to provide the City of Chicago with more information for their Amazon bid. Data included information on regional graduation and degree statistics. With this information and input from other sources, Chicago advanced to the list of the Top 20 cities to be chosen for further evaluation.

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25. Rush, "Rush's Anchor Mission Strategy," [www.rush.edu](http://www.rush.edu), accessed on June 19, 2018.

## PROGRAMS FOR VETERANS

Several AUC schools offer programs to help members of the armed services transition into civilian life. These programs offer a variety of services, including preparation for college, treatment for trauma, and assistance in filing for Veteran Benefits Administration claims.

- **Veterans Upward Bound.** Veterans Upward Bound at Roosevelt University is the only veterans Federal TRIO Program funded by the U.S. Department of Education in Illinois. This pre-college program is designed to assist eligible veterans to prepare for entry into college by refreshing their academic skills. This program has helped dozens of Chicago-area veterans.
- **Veterans Integration to Academic Leadership.** DePaul University has partnered with Jesse Brown VA Medical Center to bring VA expertise and services to student veterans on campus. This is part of a national VA initiative known as Veterans Integration to Academic Leadership (V.I.T.A.L.), which aims to support veterans on campus through creating easier access to VA services and benefits.
- **The Veterans Legal Support Center and Clinic.** The John Marshall School of Law provides legal support services to Chicago veterans. They assist veterans with filing Veteran Benefits Administration claims, represent veterans on a range of legal issues, and help other schools develop veteran legal support centers.
- **The Veteran Affairs Office at Chicago State University.** The office assists veterans and eligible dependents with the processing of benefit information to secure the use of education benefits.
- **CreatiVets.** This program is partnered with the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and designed to teach art to combat veterans. The creators have shown that creative outlets help returning veterans cope and heal from the trauma of serving. Veterans have the option to learn ceramics, painting, photography, and song writing.



Creativets Logo

Photo credit: *Creativets*