

2019 COHORT

MULTICULTURAL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY





Akeya Channell

Human Services Case Manager

State of Illinois

I am defined by the story of my name. As a child I hated my name, I used to think it was ghetto. No one could pronounce it or spell it. I used to tell people that my middle name was my first name. That was until I learned the story of my name. I was named by my aunt Vicky she named all the children in my family born in the late 70's and 80's. My name comes directly from my cousin's name: Vikeya = Akeya. When I was born she told my mom that she wanted the best for me so much she named me after her own child. A few years back my aunt passed away. I told myself that day that I had to be the best Akeya that I could be for her and that means loving my name.



Amy Diaz

MPA Candidate & Senior Executive Assistant to the Dean of the Business College

DePaul University

I am a daughter, a sister, a mother, a wife, an aunt, a proud Chicana. I am formally trained in Public Policy and Administration and Corporate Anthropology. What makes me "me" is the sum total of my cumulative life experiences. My most defining role is that of a Chicana single mother. The first-hand experience with many of the issues I hope to address with policy, community, and leadership, give me an intimate understanding of the lack of services and understanding available for women of color. I am tenacious and stubborn, loyal and protective. I am ready and overdue to take my personal and formal academic experience to my community to lead and empower.



Ayom Siengo

Vice President of Community & Strategic Partnerships

Skills for Chicagoland's Future

For more than a decade, Ayom has supported the holistic advancement of developing communities throughout Chicago. Currently, as the Senior Manager of Financial Capability at United Way of Metropolitan Chicago (UWMC), Ayom manages a \$4 million dollar investment focusing on the advancement of economic stability (job training and placement, tax support, and financial education and asset building) throughout the six-county region. Since 2006, Ayom has held various leadership roles in community and workforce development. In addition to his work at UWMC, Ayom is currently a board member of the Economic Development Committee at Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning and the Chicago Workforce Funders Alliance. He is a 2016 Urban League Impact Fellow and was the 2014 recipient of Chicago Jobs Council's Betty J. Wilhoitte Award, has served as co-chair of the 741 Collaborative Partnership's Executive Committee, and was an inaugural member

of Cabrini Green Legal Aid's Young Professionals Board. Raised in Rogers Park, Ayom currently resides in Flossmoor, IL with his wife, Gabrielle, and their four children. When not at work, he loves to bike ride and garden, and he has cheered for the Cubs since the 80's. Ayom holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from Illinois State University and is completing a Master's degree in Urban Planning and Policy at the University of Illinois at Chicago.



Christian Diaz

Housing Organizer

Logan Square Neighborhood Association

Christian is the Lead Housing Organizer at Logan Square Neighborhood Association. Previously, he served as executive director of Chicago Votes where he helped steer a committee to pass Automatic Voter Registration in Illinois. Christian identifies as queer, Latino and an immigrant. He brings years of experience in racial justice advocacy, having worked in coalitions to win driver's licenses for undocumented persons, to require data transparency on student arrests in all publicly-funded schools, and to ban 10-day suspensions of high school students in Illinois.



Credell Walls

Community Engagement Specialist

Forest Preserves of Cook County

Credell Walls has spent over 15 years of his career implementing nature-based youth development programs with the Jane Goodall Institute-USA and the Garfield Park Conservatory Alliance. Currently, he works with the Forest Preserves of Cook County as the Community Engagement Specialist continuing his efforts of connecting people to the environmental world. Proud alumni of the Chicago Public School system and public housing, he holds a BA from DePaul University in Nonprofit Management and will finish his MA in Biology from Miami University of Ohio in December 2018. He has presented on radio and on stage with the world-renowned primatologist and United Nation Ambassador, Dr. Jane Goodall and at various environmental conference nationally. In his spare time, when he is not with is adorable 18-month-old Jr. and wife, he enjoys performing sketch comedy and going to the movies.



Eira Corral Sepulveda

Village Clerk

Village of Hanover Park

Eira Corral Sepúlveda represents the young, diverse, and vibrant community of Hanover Park, IL as the Village Clerk using her skills to promote leadership, inclusion, and efficiency. Elected at the age of twenty-three in 2009, at the time, she was the youngest elected official in the State of Illinois. As the Village Clerk, she is the keeper of the municipality's records and the Local Elections Officer. Additionally, having the responsibility to issue business licenses, liquor licenses, taxi licenses, and other permits, she maintains a strong relationship with the developing business community in Hanover Park. Government transparency is a key element in her role as the appointed Open Meetings Act and Freedom of Information Act Officer. Her office also coordinates Special Events for the Village of Hanover Park. Her former professional

experience was with the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute (USHLI), a national, non-profit and non-partisan organization, holding the title of Media Relations and Field Coordinator. She earned her Bachelors of Arts from DePaul University with a double major in Political Science and Latino & Latin American Studies and a double minor in Community Service.



Graciela Guzman

Coalition Manager, Protect Our Care Illinois Coalition

Heartland Alliance

I am shaped by my personal experiences with my family and within organizing. I grew up the oldest of five siblings to parents who escaped the Salvadorean Civil War to provide for their families. Our upbringing taught us everything about community: every person has a role when we lean on each other to make it. My parents instilled mutual respect as a core value: you give every person their place; you listen without preparing your response; you defend and fight for others to have their place; conversation is incomplete if you or someone is missing from it. Our community showed me the way respect can catalyze change through understanding. When I was young, my grandfather passed away after healthcare systems delayed his access to healthcare as an undocumented, uninsured man. I saw the ways systems create,

perpetuate, and are sustained by the barriers they put up for others; these others suffer unimaginable fates if we stand by and do nothing-my grandfather died. My experiences as an advocate for my family showed me the power of finding my voice and led me to organizing. Organizing with my community around healthcare showed me the power of people unified by a mission and desire for good. I learned I could work within the system and out of it to expand who was being helped. I learned to be creative to never accept a no. My way is fully passionate, immersed, and personally invested in my work. It is a necessary labor of love and part of my life's work. As the daughter of immigrants, I bring them into every space, and especially my organizing, to make sure we are being represented and that our experiences build toward a vision where we all benefit.



Hector Torres
Co-Owner and Co-Facilitator
 Building a Better Man

I have approximately 20 years of professional experience in non-profit settings, ten of those in an administrative capacity. The focus of my work has been the development, implementation, management, and supervision of service and educational programs that addressed the health and well being of individuals, with an emphasis on diversity and multiculturalism. Being a Latino who moved to the US, opened the door for me to engage in deep learning about multiculturalism. As part of my learning, I rely on cultural humility in order to effectively communicate and celebrate cultures different from mine. Throughout my career, I have had the opportunity to engage in different roles leading me to develop and sharpen an array of professional skills in the areas of administration, education, supervision, development, academics, and behavioral health. My

experience has been enriched by the diversity of settings where I have worked, which have included: Hospitals, Universities, Private Practice, and Community Agencies. Furthermore, I have had the opportunity to develop collaborations and work with institutions outside the United States, including institutions in Guatemala, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and Venezuela. Currently, I am the Chief Program Officer at Center on Halsted, the Midwest largest and most comprehensive LGBTQ community center. In my role, I am responsible for overseeing Center on Halsted's social service departments, which include Youth Programs, Senior Services, Behavioral Health Services, HIV and STD Services, and Youth Housing. I am deeply committed to COH's mission of advancing community and securing the health and well-being of the LGBTQ people, in hopes that we can contribute to having a thriving lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer community, living powerfully in supportive inclusive environments. I am also a co-founder and facilitator of the Building a Better Man Project, a violence prevention intervention. www.bbmproject.com



Kathleen Bolamba
Program Manager
 Embarc

My name is Kathleen Bolamba and I have the pleasure of serving as a Program Manager with Embarc, a three year high school elective course that supports students in personal and academic growth. My journey into the education landscape was not completely planned. I majored in Exercise Science for my undergraduate studies and planned to pursue a career as a health professional. However I had a very pivotal conversation my senior year of college where I realized my deep passion for educational access and equity. I decided to leave my home in Southern California upon graduating college and move to Chicago, a city I knew very little about. It was here where I served as an AmeriCorps member with City Year as a student success coach in an elementary school in the Austin community. I quickly learned about

the barriers and challenges facing our young people as I began to form relationships with my students and their families, teachers, and administrators. After completing my two years of service, I began my time at Embarc in my current role where I witness students having the chance to be their fullest selves when they are afforded access to incredible places and people that triggers intrinsic motivation in themselves. I am a deeply relational person that enjoys hearing others' stories and what makes them light up. In the long term, I hope to utilize my skills to be a champion in the education sector dedicated to fighting educational inequity.



LaTrice Davis
Managing Director
 Mid South Business Association and Resource Center (MSBARC)

Through a career and life committed to serving others, LaTrice "Elle" Davis is a steadfast professional striving to make organizations and people better. With nearly two decades of experience in non-profit management, program development, partnership development/management, outcome measurement, quality improvements, strategic planning, grant writing and staff training and coaching, Elle has honed her ability to assess and create viable, results-driven solutions that positively impact her clients. From professional development, program creation and implementation, to mentor and coach, Elle embodies the concept of servant leadership. Elle's first love is for children - especially providing opportunities and increasing

positive experiences for underserved youth, as evidenced by her work with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago. Her passion for improving the lives of children and adults was only fueled higher during her eight years of service. Being downsized only inspired Elle to grow her influence and led her to establish The Elevate Group, LLC in 2009, a consulting firm specializing in empowering youth development professionals by providing interactive training, meeting facilitation, coaching and development solutions. With a proven track record of results, Elle garnered a robust clientele including: Boys & Girls Clubs of America; Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago; Illinois Action for Children; Center for New Horizons; Polished Pebbles Girls Mentoring Program; Phalanx Family Services; St. Sabina Church; New Jersey's Union County College; and Gary Comer Youth Center. Elle holds a Bachelor's Degree in Social Work from Creighton University, and a Master's from New York University also in Social Work. She currently serves as the Managing Director (MSBARC), as well as a mentor with iMentor, which matches students with a mentor equipped to guide students on their journey toward college graduation. Elle also serves on the board of Reflections Foundation the governing body for Polished Pebbles Girls Mentoring Program.



Lola Jenkins

Vice President of Operations

Westside Association for Community Action

The youngest daughter of Gloria and Ernie Jenkins, coming of age on the West side of Chicago, Ms. Jenkins was deeply involved in service activities with organizations such as Family Focus Lawndale, The Greater Chicago Food Depository, YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago, and The Links, Inc. Demonstrating a standard for high achievement, Ms. Jenkins graduated from Spelman College in May 2004. Characteristic of her foresight concerning her early desire for a career in social service, she earned a degree in political science, with a minor in sociology. After returning to Chicago from Atlanta, Ms. Jenkins began her career in community service and advocacy as the acting Operations Manager for the Westside Association for Community Action (WACA) in July 2005. In this capacity, she operated

and oversaw the preparation of quarterly and annual budget programs. Exercising her life-long knowledge of social service networks, she successfully acted as WACA's official representative at political and business functions. Promoted to VP of Operations in February 2008, quick wit and sharp intellect have been the defining factors in Ms. Jenkins' quick rise. She is responsible for maintaining financial budgets and ensuring the organization is compliant with state and federal guidelines. Ms. Jenkins is credited with streamlining business processes to increase agency efficiency, and her detail oriented approach has proven beneficial to maintaining WACA's fiscal viability. Politically aware and socially refined, Ms. Jenkins has served as an intensely devoted advocate for the underrepresented and ill-served residents of her community. She is an actively sought after voice, and can often be seen networking at major events to create bridges of opportunity for WACA's diverse constituency. Her personal philosophy is "To whom much is given, much is required." Most recently, she received her Master's in Business Administration from Lewis University in May 2013.



Matt Woods

Program Manager

Urban Gateways/Street-Level

Interdisciplinary artist Matt Woods has been a sought-after project manager and arts cultivator in Chicago since he moved to the city in 2001 as a Project Leader for City Year/ Americorp. Having earned his BFA he moved to Chicago to help launch a city wide initiative for 6th- 8th graders in service learning now known as The Young Heroes program. While in grad school at both the Art Institute and Columbia College he cultivated curriculum with grass roots media centers like Chicago Television Network, Video Machete, and the Clinton presidential standard, Street Level Youth Media(which he now manages for Urban Gateways). His college internship was with Yahoo! He was among the first gen to join Gallery 37 when it went into schools. He's given tours to over 50,000 children and youth at the MCA

not to mention being the interface of contemporary art for professionals, teachers, and families at the Art Institute, Hyde Park Art Center, and the Smart Museum. Years of developing projects have honed a leadership style that synthesizes technology, popular education, and contemporary art to service youth, grassroots organizations, and public institutions across Chicago. In his personal work, aside from self-producing two albums (Savage Journey and Orfeus Uprising), Matt created and curated one of the flagship events at the start of a second wave of underground black artists and musicians known as The Soul Sessions which started from his loft and moved to the Hot House.



Maurice Perkins
Public Safety Coordinator
 Teamwork Englewood

I started out as a rising star in Chicago's underground rap scene, that used my position to make a difference in not only Englewood, the community where I was born, raised and still calls home but all across the city of Chicago. As someone who has a voice in the community, I felt obligated to be the person I never had growing up. I am the founder of Think Outside Da Block, a non-profit whose mission is to rally the community together to enhance our youths' interests, skills, and abilities through positive youth development strategies in safe spaces. I promote entrepreneurship and try to redefine the meaning of success amongst the youth. My organization hosts 6 annual events that include The Spring Break Youth Bash (bowling and skate party), Roll N Peace (bike ride), Roll N Peace Da Remix, The Think Outside Da Block Party, The Thanksgiving Extravaganza, & The Winter Roller Jam. I am also looking to roll out an 8 week curriculum on what it actually means to think outside da block 1st quarter of 2019.



Melody Jackson
Director of Adult Mental Health
 Metropolitan Family Services

Melody Jackson, LCSW is a graduate of Barat College-Lake Forest, Ill, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and a minor in Women's Studies. Following the completion of her BA, Ms. Jackson further pursued her education at Loyola University, School of Social Work-Chicago where she obtained a Master's in Social Work (MSW). Ms. Jackson has obtained her licensure and is currently a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. Ms. Jackson has dedicated her career to working in social service and community mental health with over 17 years of experience. Ms. Jackson is currently employed at Metropolitan Family Services where she serves as Director of Adult Mental Health.



Michael Tafolla
Case Manager
 Precious Blood Ministry of Reconciliation

My name is Michael Tafolla. I am the son of a Puerto Rican mother and Mexican father who migrated in search of a better life. They showed me the value of believing in yourself when no one else will. I grew up in a violent neighborhood, Little Village, that led me into becoming a violent individual myself. At 18 I went to jail and began serving a 20 year sentence shortly after. Six months later I changed my life for my family. Since then I have obtained my GED, Associates in Science and Arts, became a Certified Peer Educator, Certified English as a Second Language Instructor, Trauma Informed Care facilitator, mentor, tutor, and community leader among other accomplishments. I was released in July of this year, since then I have been an Adler Intern, Case Manager, guest speaker, and have started a network, Heart of Chicago, to help the people in desperate need obtain resources in their time of need until they can be connected to an organization or entity that can provide a sustainable outcome. I have endured so much in my 38 years

on this earth. I could have given up several times and have continuously chosen not to. Not to Give up on myself or on others. Instead I have chosen to take on the challenge of overcoming all odds and believing in my fellow men and women. I choose to be a resource and an example. I am going back to school to obtain my Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Social Work and minor in Counseling.



Mireya Fouche
Founder
 One Heart One Soul Coalition

I am a first generation Mexican American. I moved to Los Angeles for school and found myself unable to afford the cost of living and education. Rather than coming home to Chicago, I endured seasons of homelessness as a college student. Living out of a suitcase for 6 months and spending endless hours in the school library until graduation gave me firsthand experience on what many endure for years. I moved back to Chicago with a burning question, "What if I brought art programs into homeless youth shelters?" That question led to 7 years of programming and reaching multiple lives through seasons. My passion for creativity and people brought me to help launch an NPO thrift shop with a focus to reduce recidivism. I'm honored to have received a Dr. King Drum Major Award, Illinois Correction Community Empowerment Award, Fashion & Humanities Award, a feature on Univision and more importantly, trust from populations often ignored.



Nancy Garcia

Civic Engagement Organizer

Southwest Suburban Immigrant Project (SSIP)

Nancy Garcia currently works at Southwest Suburban Immigrant Project (SSIP), a nonprofit organization in Bolingbrook as the Civic Engagement Organizer. SSIP is an organization committed to the empowerment of the immigrant community through education, civic engagement and advocacy. Nancy graduated from Aurora University earning a bachelor's degree in Psychology. Prior to attending Aurora University, Nancy attended Joliet Junior College in Joliet IL. Nancy has been active in her community over the last 11 years in different activities ranging from providing translation for low income families at her local food pantry to participating as a mentor with Big Brother Big Sister of Will and Grundy County. Nancy plans to continue her education, and obtain her Master's degree in Research and Applied Psychology. She would like to conduct research on key areas in Psychology, primarily focusing on how people with different learning

styles, process incoming information to make sense of the world around them and how culture impacts a person's sense of identity and their role in their community. Nancy is originally from Michoacan, Mexico. She came to the United States with her parents and three siblings at the age of nine years. She currently lives in Romeoville IL.



Paloma Arroyo

Organizer, Public Policy Department

Planned Parenthood of Illinois

Growing up in a home rooted in paying it forward was critical to informing my frame of reference, passion for social justice and career path. It has been my guiding principle well into adulthood and credited largely by the fact that my parents, immigrants from Michoacan, Mexico, worked in the nonprofit and public education sectors and taught me the importance of being an advocate. In 2015, I graduated with a degree in Political Science from Ohio State and have worked in the nonprofit, state government, and political arenas for the last five years. Outside of work, I have volunteered with grassroots community organizations in Aurora, the Latino and Latin American Space for Enrichment and Research in Ohio, the Mikva Challenge, and as a Board Member of the Aurora Hispanic Heritage Advisory Board.



Rodolfo De Jesus

Community Outreach Specialist

Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago

I joined Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, Healthy Communities team in August of 2018. Serving as the Community Outreach Specialist assigned to the Belmont Cragin community. I joined Lurie Children's with over five years of experience in municipal government roles, including over two years as the Director of Constituent Services for 1st Ward Alderman Proco Joe Moreno and over two years as Policy & Communications Director for 31st Ward Alderman Milly Santiago. I have B.A. in Political Science from Augustana College and am currently working on Masters in Public Administration from Regis University. I serve as the President of the Board of Directors for the Center for Changing Lives. A non-profit based in the Logan Square community that offers employment, housing, and financial coaching to foster a community where everyone thrives. Personally, I love to travel and explore different countries and cultures. I find that it along with service to others are two of the most rewarding and fulfilling acts.



Sasha Peña

Manager of Career and Leadership Development

Chicago Scholars

Sasha Peña serves as the Manager of Career and Leadership Development at Chicago Scholars (CS). She works to assure infusion of career and leadership development in all CS programs. Sasha grew up in Hermosa Park and attended her community high school, Kelvyn Park. She is a proud Posse Alum and graduated from DePauw University in 2013 with a major in English Literature. After graduating, Sasha began a teaching fellowship with Citizen Schools, an AmeriCorps organization that provides low-income students with academic support and

opportunities for career exploration. As a Teaching Fellow, she partnered with teachers, volunteers, and families to foster both academic and personal growth within students. In 2015 she worked for The Posse Foundation, a nationally recognized college access and youth leadership development program. She served as a Program Coordinator for two years where she managed volunteers for the Academic Coaching Program, served as a project manager for several key events throughout the year, and managed the annual recruitment process. Sasha has spent the past five years relentlessly supporting youth through many different education experiences and connecting students to resources; she knows that this is where her passion lies.



Timothy Jones

Executive Director
Good News Partners

I am leader, communicator and writer. I found success in providing a context, different from the expectation. I provide influence and perspective on topics such leadership, organizational health, motivation & inspiration. I love the city of Chicago. I'm a community organizer, adviser, influencer, and community partner. I currently serve as the Executive Director of Good News Partners, a non-profit charged with ending homelessness and hopelessness in the city of Chicago. I was born into a heritage of community activists on the south side of Chicago, I have been a social justice activist and organizer, much of his life. I hold a Masters of Business Administration from the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University,

and received a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Resource Management from Northern Illinois University. I live by the mantra that I created: "Leave No Potential On The Table".



Wendy Williams

Executive Director, Community Partnerships
University of Chicago

Wendy Walker Williams is the Executive Director of Community Partnerships University of Chicago Office of Civic Engagement. In this role, Wendy will ensure community stakeholders are informing and engaging in UChicago's core areas of civic engagement work, including but not limited to support for local entrepreneurship, community safety, and neighborhood development. She will also help to advance community engagement strategies that build strong partnerships and connect community stakeholders across the mid-South Side to the breadth of University resources. Wendy has more than 25 years of experience working in nonprofit leadership, civic engagement, planning, and community

development. As executive director of SECC, a nonprofit organization focused on improving the quality of life in the Kenwood, Oakland, Hyde Park, Woodlawn and Washington Park communities, she was responsible for leading the programmatic shift from enforcing building code and tracking crime statistics to strengthening the neighborhoods through economic and community development initiatives. Under Wendy's leadership, SECC led the effort to designate 53rd Street, Hyde Park's main retail corridor, as a Special Service Area, branding it "Downtown Hyde Park." During her tenure, the SECC implemented various business district improvement initiatives in Woodlawn, Washington Park and Kenwood, established the Neighborhood Enhancement Grants program to support high-impact neighborhood beautification projects, and launched the Woodlawn and Washington Park summits. Before joining SECC, Wendy served as an assistant commissioner for the City of Chicago Department of Planning and Development, deputy director of finance and administration for Gallery 37, and senior program manager for the Office of Community Relations and Involvement. She is vice chair of the Cook County Housing Authority, president of the South Chapter of the Independent Voters of Illinois Precinct Origination (IVI-IPO), and active in many national and local civic organizations.



William Nate Sanders

Associate Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Research
Chicago State University -> African American Male Resource Center

My name is William N. Sanders but most people call me Nate. I am the third child of four and the second son of three, to my mother and father. Both of which were determined to instill within us all a strong sense of spirituality, community, and education. As such, my formal years of learning began at Grambling State University where I received a bachelors in Psychology and a masters in Social Sciences with a concentration in Sociology. In addition, it was there where a mentor took the time to train me in research, data collection, statistical analysis and practical application of your findings. While I grew up in a home where we helped to sort through two shipping containers full of clothes, computers, and books which were eventually shipped to a village in Zimbabwe, it was

at Grambling where my own community activism began. While at Grambling, I eventually was appointed as the leader to a group of students dedicated to engaging and assisting their peers in finding a purpose to life. I created a rigorous but informal training module that connected student leaders with new freshmen students through small group engagement activities. I was also able to lead three teams to Japan to help them set up/create a mentor program with the students at Hokkaido University in Asahikawa, Japan. From there I eventually moved to Chicago to join the Chicago State University team where I am now working with the Black Students Resistance Network to help create a hub of research and solutions for black success. Within this group, our goal is to train a generation of black and brown leaders in leadership and the creation of a political analysis.



Willis Francis

Director of Clinical Services
Heartland Human Care Services

My parents, on my mother's side, migrated from Syria/Lebanon to Colombia to take advantage of economic opportunities and to seek refuge after years of war in Syria/Lebanon. My father is AfroColombian and my mother is Colombian with Lebanese/Syrian parents. I grew up as an Afro-Colombian identified child and migrated to the U.S. when only 17. At the time, as a gay youth I was very much closeted and working on becoming a church minister. I eventually came out and went on to study psychology and became a psychotherapy. My experiences gave me perspective into the life of minority individuals from Latinoamerica, as well as as being Black/Brown in the U.S. My initial battles with identify were centered around race, as I was typically identified first

as Black by many, and later as foreign born. Thru this I became very interested in promoting an awareness of culture and it's impact on human development and diversity. I have worked in a variety of roles, from serving immigrants within the chronically mentally ill populations as Latino Liaison with Trilogy Behavioral Health Services, to my extensive work with both Howard Brown Health Centers and later Center on Halsted as well. My professional teaching roles included adjunct faculty at The Chicago School and now Preceptor within Northwestern's Master of Arts in Counseling Program. My leadership roles included being president of the Evanston Coalition for Latino Resources, joining the Advisory Committee to NorthShore University Health Systems and serving as Co-Chair of the Illinois Childhood Trauma Coalition's sub-committee on Immigrant and Refugee populations.