



SKILLS
for **Chicago**

An aerial photograph of Chicago, showing a dense urban landscape with numerous buildings, streets, and green spaces. The skyline is visible in the distance under a clear sky.

2025 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

From Our Chief Executive Officer: The Year in Review

In a year marked by uncertainty, one thing became clear: collaboration drives success. Despite national hiring slowdowns and growing pressures on our communities, we helped more job seekers, bringing stability to families and new confidence to overlooked talent.

We made many shifts this year in our technology, branding, messaging, and programs, each intentionally led by listening to job seekers, employers, and community partners. This evolution is reflected in our first rebrand in 13 years, from Skills for Chicagoland's Future to **Skills for Chicago**: a change signaling a deeper accountability to our city's neighborhoods and a sharper focus on securing jobs now, not later.

This meant more targeted outreach, like our continued efforts with the Civic Committee Public Safety Task Force and with Community Violence Intervention (CVI) organizations to bridge workforce development and public safety—a long-standing need.

Some have labeled this work “DEI.” Federal policy changes and misinterpretations of our mission have led some employers to pull away. However, our mission is straightforward: we connect employers to overlooked talent. This isn't for charity's sake. It is because a connected workforce is a proven business and economic benefit that also strengthens communities.

The data shows systemic disinvestment that is unsustainable; our results show what's possible when employers engage differently. The growing number of cities partnering to adopt our model—now eight affiliates and counting—is proof that this approach works.

This year showed us that when collaboration leads, impact follows. That's a foundation we can all build on.

Bridget Altenburg

Bridget Altenburg

Chief Executive Officer



2025 Impact Snapshot



**990 Individuals
Placed Into Jobs**



**\$26.9M
Annualized
Wages Earned**



**82
Community
Partners**



39 Community Events



\$18.57 Average Wage



92%
of those
served are
people of
color

64%
of placements
identify as female

Impact in Action



“Skills stepped in to help me find the right opportunity. One that matched not just my certifications but my calling. I couldn’t have asked for better support than Adam at Skills! He helped me prepare for the entire process, and I still can’t thank him enough. Because when I got that call, it was more than a job offer: it was a testament that I was on the right path again.”

Keevon B.
Northwestern Patient Care Technician
Skills Placement

“The important thing to know is that Skills didn’t try to ‘save me.’ Skills didn’t hand me power like some gift. I already had that. What they did was stand with me. They gave me solidarity and people in my corner. They reminded me of what I already knew deep down: I had everything it takes. I just needed a chance to show it.”



Danita G.
BlueCross BlueShield Patient Care Advocate
Skills Placement

Employer Partnerships

Businesses we've hired most job seekers with in 2025 include:



MISERICORDIA
HEART OF MERCY



BlueCross BlueShield
of Illinois



AT THE FOREFRONT
UChicago
Medicine



Northwestern
Medicine®

40

COMPANIES
& COUNTING

[VIEW ALL](#)

Community Partnerships

This work is made possible through a collaborative network of allies, including:



ST. SABINA EMPLOYMENT
RESOURCE CENTER



NORTH LAWDALE
EMPLOYMENT
NETWORK

82

ORGANIZATIONS
OVERALL

[VIEW ALL](#)



ASAFEHAVEN®
Restoring Hope & Opportunity



Lawrence HallSM



Beyond Chicago: Skills for America's Future

Since 2016, we've been bringing our proven jobs-first model to cities across the country. By adopting the Skills model, each partner is equipped for the mission of building a more equitable workforce for all. Learn more at: skillsforchicago.org/nationalexpansion

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Participating
Cities
Nationwide

100⁺

Community
Partners

270

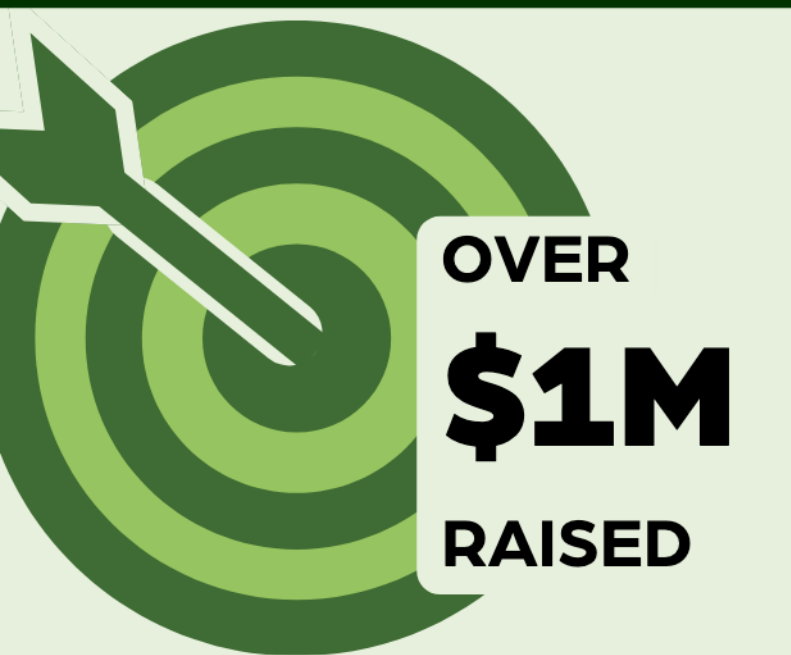
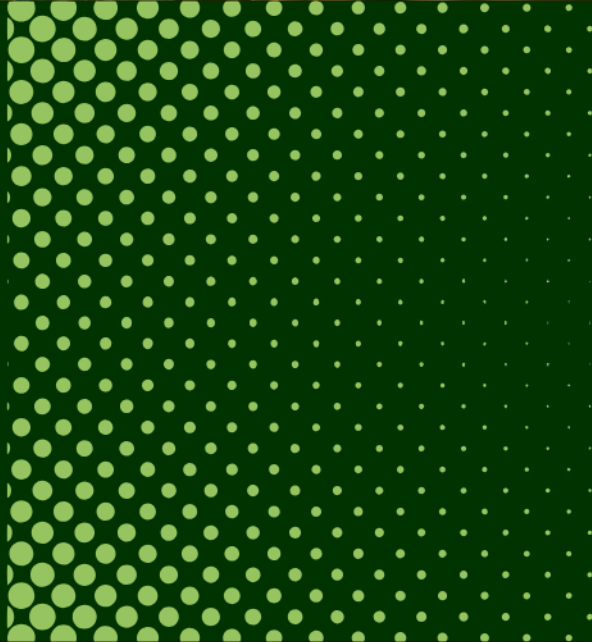
Hiring
Partners





EMPLOYMENT CHAMPIONS BREAKFAST

With **72** sponsors and over **600** attendees, our annual fundraiser celebrated impact and collaboration like never before while empowering our work for the year ahead.



**OVER
\$1M
RAISED**



2 CHANGEMAKERS HONORED



**CHAMPION FOR
EQUITABLE HIRING**



**CHAMPION FOR
COMMUNITY IMPACT**

Funding and Support

Corporate, Foundation, & Government Supporters

\$500,000+

City of Chicago's Department of Family & Support Services
Robert R. McCormick Foundation

\$100,000-\$499,999

Aviv Foundation
Jewel Osco
JPMorgan Chase Foundation
Pritzker Traubert Foundation
Steans Family Foundation
The Chicago Community Trust
Tullman Family Office

\$50,000-\$99,999

Bank of America Foundation
BMO
Crown Family Philanthropies
The Duchossois Family Foundation
McDonald's
Paul M. Angell Family Foundation
Polk Bros. Foundation

\$25,000-\$49,999

Allstate
Aon Hewitt
BDT and MSD
BlueCross BlueShield
CDW
Christopher Family Foundation
Exelon
Finnegan Family Foundation
Hyatt
Margot and Thomas Pritzker Family Foundation
McKinsey & Company Inc
Northwestern Memorial HealthCare
Old National Bank
PNC Bank
UL - Underwriters Laboratories
Ulta Beauty
United Way of Metropolitan Chicago

\$10,000-\$24,999

Accenture
Alight Solutions
Alvarez & Marsal Property Solutions
Anonymous
ARCO/Murray
Carelton Medical Benefits Management
Challenger, Gray & Christmas, Inc.
CNO Financial Group
DePaul University
Endeavor Health
Ernst & Young
Fifth Third Bank
GCM Grosvenor
HUB International
ITW Foundation
Journey for Good Foundation
Just Act Partners
KPMG
Latham & Watkins
Midway Partnership
Morningstar
NASCAR
Northern Trust Corporation
Pritzker Pucker Family Foundation
Rush University Medical Center
Tawani Enterprises, Inc.
The Owens Foundation
U.S. Bank Foundation
Walgreens
Wintrust

\$5,000-\$9,999

AbbVie
Businessolver
Cariloop
Chicago Bears Football Club
Chicago Blackhawks
Chicago Cares
Citibank
David Hiller Household
Freedman Seating
Goldman Sachs
Home City Ice
Lockton Companies
Meridian Group International
Misericordia Home
Origami Works Foundation
Patzik, Frank & Samotny
PricewaterhouseCoopers
Sagin LLC
Shaker Recruitment Marketing
Shirley Ryan Ability Lab
University of Chicago Medicine
Willis Towers Watson

>\$4,999

CBRE
Continental Painting & Decorating, Inc.
DLA Piper LLP
Health Transformation Alliance
ORBA
Salesforce
The Alter Group

Funding and Support

Individual Donors

\$50,000+

Mark Hoplamazian
& Rachel Kohler
Joe & Elizabeth Pomerence

\$10,000-\$49,999

Bridget Altenburg &
Dr. Colleen Doody
Jeremy Baskin
Jennifer Bloomquist
Mike & Cindy Bonds
Andy Eichfeld &
Nancy Crowe
Rich Floersch
Mark & Pam Kendall
Art & Elaine Margulis
Claudia Saran
Dr. Manika Turnbull

\$5,000-\$9,999

Jeffrey Bilek
Joseph & Stacey Blasko
Carolyn Booth
John Challenger
Mary and Terry Dillon
Daniel Gamba
Corliss Garner
Srron Graham
Malaika Myers
Sammy Patel
John & Jeaneane Quinn
Diana Sparacino
Eric Stevenson
John Lynch & Marie
Trzupek Lynch

\$1,000-5,000

William Broderick
Dennis Chacko
Michael Clayborne
Christina Corley
Peter Herlihy
Courtney Kammer
Larry Krueger
Kelly Manthey
Jon Milonas
Jennifer Natalya-Pritzker
Jill O'Donovan

\$1,000-5,000 (cont'd)

Pam & Pete Tully
Andrew Weil
Cory White

\$500-\$999

Dominic & Maggie Altobelli
Kevin Cole
Jim Coleman
Gillian Darlow
Ric Estrada
Kimberly Evans Killon
Diane & Paolo Fellin
Craig Freedman
Ellen Hanson
Paul McDonough
Monique Pinnock
Joel Rodarte
Lori Seaman
Rocco Tarasi
Michael Wilder

\$100-\$499

Jackie Abbott
Modestus Alozie
Stephanie Alvarez
Mina Arsala
Peter Austin
Karina Ayala Bermejo
Chelseaa Beckford
Shannon Bennett
Sudi Bjornstad Korba
Sarah Black
Marcia Bond
Meredith Brinson
Katherine Brown
J'ai Brown
Christopher Brown, IV
Matthew Bruce
Christine Bulger
Kathleen Caliento
Marcus Chapman
Kyle Clauss
KK Cleland
Erin Cohan
Nancy Coletto
Alex Conte
Emily Cooper

\$100-\$499 (cont'd)

Stephen Cornejo Garcia
Lea Crenshaw
Karen DeToro
Mirlene Dossous
Kate Doyle
Nicola Evans
Liz Eversoll
Alex Fergerson
Jordan Finfer
Tim Flood
Yvonne Franzese
Susan Gibbs
Janice Glavtcheff
Jessica Golden
Christine Harshey
Allison Hasser
Regina Hermann
Kate Hermann Stone
Caleb Herod
Jackie Jackson
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Kelly Judge
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Jason Mercer
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Gaurav Monga
Vivek Natarajan
Carolyn Nopar
Dan Osten
Brenda Palms
Erica Patten
Christian Peterson
Mandee Polonsky
Denise Poole
Lirhonda Price
Clayton Pryor
Charlene Raichett

\$100-\$499 (cont'd)

Amy Rakoczy
Rebecca Raymond
Jaycee Riewe
Manuel Rodriguez
Michele Saliano
Clarita Santos
Crystal Savage
Monique Shelton
Melanie Sillas
David Sinski
Arbin Smith
Rick Stefaniak
Gina Stuart
Lori Taylor
Tracy Volel
Kynnee Wallace
Sara Wasserteil
Marc Weisman
Audrey Williams-Lee

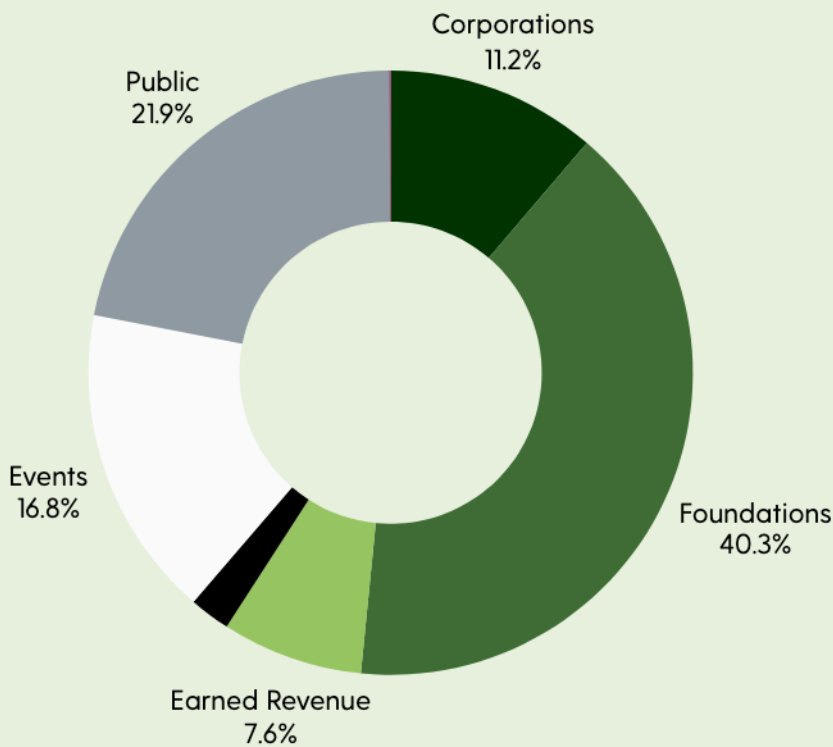
DONATE



We extend our
thanks to the
many donors not
listed here. This
mission is only
possible with
your support.

Financials

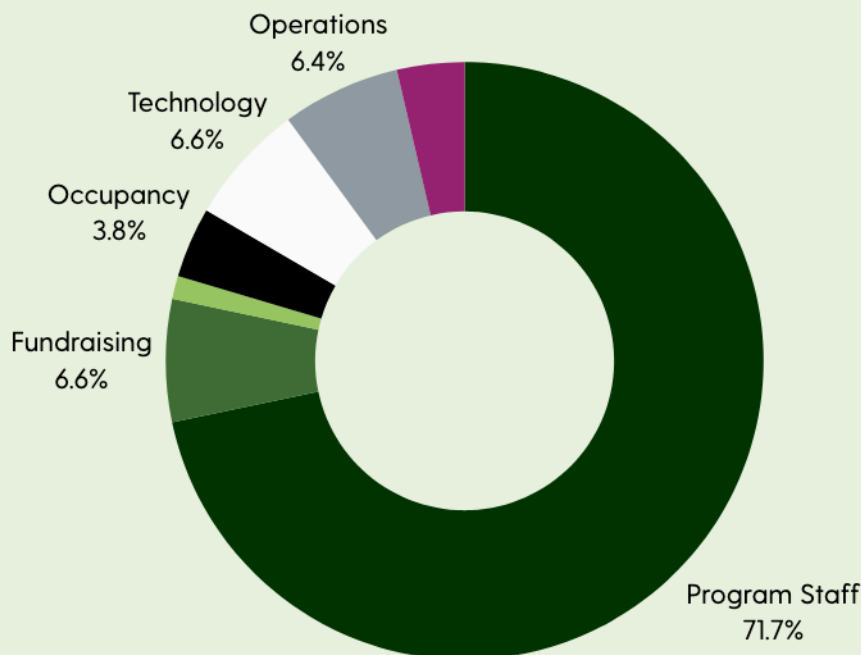
Revenue



Corporations	\$709,000
Foundations	\$2,542,000
Earned Revenue	\$476,000
Individuals	\$138,000
Events	\$1,056,000
Public	\$1,378,000
Other	\$48,000

Total Revenue \$6,325,000

Expenses



Program Staff	\$4,739,512
Fundraising	\$437,758
General Admin	\$82,054
Occupancy	\$253,000
Technology	\$433,000
Operations	\$423,000
Events/Marketing	\$241,000

Total Expenses \$6,609,324



SKILLS

for **Chicago**

LOOP

205 West Wacker Drive
Suite 2000
Chicago, IL 60606

ENGLEWOOD

815 West 63rd Street
2nd Floor
Chicago, IL 60621

*In partnership with Greater Englewood
Community Development Corporation*

GAGE PARK

3357 West 55th Street
Chicago, IL 60632

In partnership with PODER

NORTH LAWNSDALE

1111 South Homan
Chicago, IL 60624

*In partnership with North Lawndale
Employment Network*

SkillsforChicago.org



Skills For Chicago



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Skills for Chicago



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