2024 ANNUAL REPORT

S2S

SPRINGBOARD TO SUCCESS

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LETTER FROM THE BOARD

Springboard to Success (S2S) calls on our community to invest in the power of potential of Chicago youth living in public housing.

As the non-profit partner of the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA), we fund programs and create opportunities for CHA youth to further their academic success and pathway to economic independence. We do this by providing exposure and opportunity through scholarships, summer programming for high school students, and college and career events. S2S bridges gaps and reduces barriers for CHA youth on their journey to and through college and into professional careers. Education is a research proven pathway out of poverty, and we know youth who engage with S2S have a higher lifetime earning potential, leading to financial stability and independence.

In 2024, we increased the number of scholarships awarded, launched a pilot emergency fund for scholarship recipients, and served a record 200 students at our annual Take Flight College Reception. Our growing community of supporters is directly impacting this growth in numbers of CHA youth served and changing the world one student at a time.

The S2S Board of Directors is proud to present our 2024 Annual Report and extends a heartfelt thank you to all of our stakeholders for your steadfast commitment to the S2S mission.





MISSION

Springboard to Success (S2S) supports programs and partners that propel the Chicago Housing Authority's youngest residents on their pathways to academic success, economic stability and independence.

VISION

Youth currently living in CHA households achieve housing stability as an adult without the requirement of a housing subsidy.









PURPOSE

Fund and enhance programs that support Chicago Housing Authority youth and the development of 21st Century Learning Skills needed to achieve success in college, career and life.

Fund and enhance the S2S/CHA Resident Scholarship Program.

Leverage Springboard to Success' network of local nonprofit partners to help CHA youth get to and through college. These organizations help us to identify CHA youth in their programs and connect them to S2S scholarships and services.





2024 IN NUMBERS

2X

S2S program participants are twice as likely to attend college than CHA youth who do not participate in our college exposure programs.



30,000 books distributed to CHA youth at Operation Warm event.



37% of S2S Scholarship awardees have left CHA Housing.



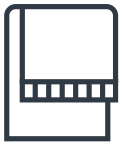
S2S Scholarships awardees have higher lifetime earning potential than peers.



Average Median Family Income for S2S Scholars is $13,000 per year.



211 S2S scholarships were awarded for the 2024 and 25 year!



2024 Take Flight College Reception served 200 youth by providing dorm essentials such as linens, towels, toiletries and laptop computers.

2X

S2S summer programs participants are twice as likely to attend college than those who do not participate in college and career exposure programs.

6X

S2S scholarship recipients are 6x more likely to persist in college and graduate than their peers.

SINCE 2014

Total scholarships awarded:
2,397

Total $ amount of scholarships since 2014:
$3,140,000

S2S has raised over:
$5,143,538

Youth impacted:
77,397!

Year	Total scholarships	Total awarded
2014	214	$241,000
2015	220	$250,000
2016	230	$268,000
2017	236	$266,000
2018	213	$243,000
2019	221	$251,000
2020	224	$224,000
2021	279	$279,000
2022*	162	$323,000
2023	187	$374,000
2024	**211**	**$421,000**

*Individual award amount increased to $2,000

REALIZING THE POWER OF THEIR POTENTIAL

In 2024 we celebrated the 10th anniversary of S2S and the thousands of CHA youth who have benefited from our sponsored programs and events. Here is a snapshot of where some are today in their early professional careers.

10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY ALUM SPOTLIGHT



LORIANNA A. YOUNG

Current Occupation:
Civil Litigation Attorney



JAMEELAH McCREGG

Current Occupation:
Family Self Sufficency Coach



DAVORA BUCHANAN

Current Occupation:
Domestic Violence Advocate and Housing Coordinator



TAAJ REAVES

Current Occupation:
Intellectual Property Attorney



KIMORA CUSTON

Current Occupation:
Violence Recovery Specialist



KENTAE ELEM

Current Occupation:
Risk Advisor Consultant



DIVONTE LUMPKIN

Current Occupation:
Chief Financial Officer



FRANK LAWRENCE JR.

Current Occupation:
Marketing Coordinator



LA'NITA BROOKS

Current Occupation:
Broadcast News Reporter



GEORGE BEECHAM

Current Occupation:
Biology Teacher



TONIKA DAVENPORT

Current Occupation:
Director of Racial Equity, Inclusion & Justice

BECOME A FILMMAKER

Geared towards female identifying youth, the **Become a Filmmaker** filmmaking intensive is designed to provide all essential skill sets for a job in film: pre-production, camera operation, lighting, sound, and video editing. Working in small teams, 15 participants created three original short films. The films were screened as part of their graduation celebration and then went on to play at local venues and film festivals. The films' themes provide a voice for social topics important to CHA youth and serve as an entry point to community discussions on creating positive change in Chicago.

The completed short documentary films included:



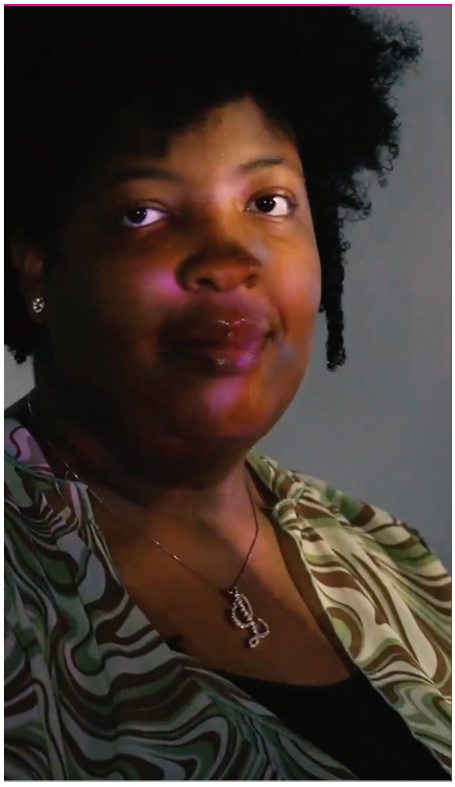
HERE I AM

One woman's journey to bring more awareness to Sickle Cell Anemia and its little known yet significant impact on the Black community.



HIP HOP IS A HOME

A short film showcasing the inter-generational power of music to build bonds, create community, and heal–especially for Chicagoans experiencing everyday hardships and trauma.

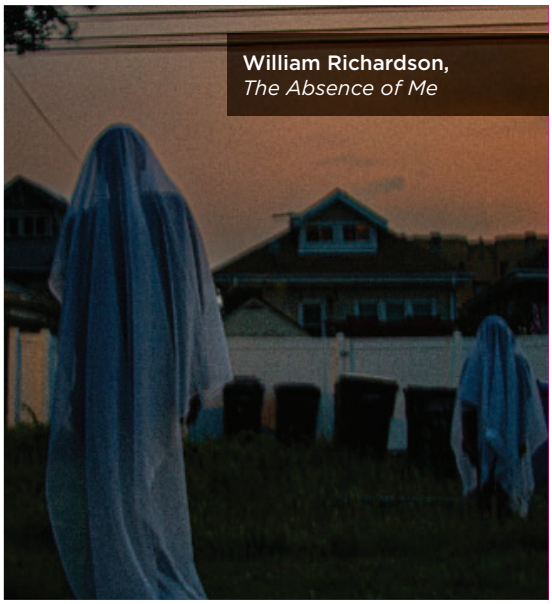


SCENE ME

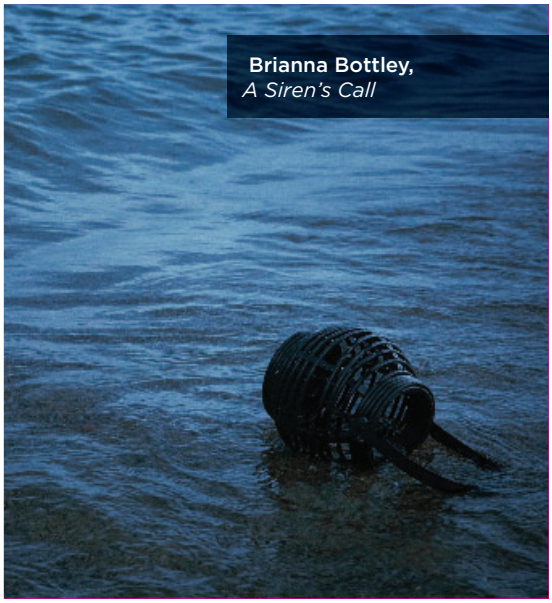
A personal account on the effects of misrepresentation of plus sized Black women in media and its toll on identity and self-esteem.



Sincere Love,
Art & Motion



William Richardson,
The Absence of Me



Brianna Bottley,
A Siren's Call

NEXT LEVEL PHOTOGRAPHY

Next Level Photography is a six-week program designed to expose CHA youth to the field of photography and develop professional photographic skills. Sixteen participants were given a professional DSLR camera and led through a number of technical and creative exercises to provide a base for a potential career in photography. CHA youth were exposed to camera mechanics, lighting techniques, and a variety of photography genres (sports, portraiture, fine art, wedding, street/photojournalism) presented by accomplished photographers in each field. Although they were given autonomy to explore topics, they were urged to focus on visual stories that felt important to them and their community.

MOVIE & TV SCRIPTS 101

Nine CHA youth were invited to participate in an intensive six-week summer program studying the art of screenwriting. **Movie & TV Scripts 101** allowed youth to become well-versed in the Classical Hollywood conventions of writing for film and television, and then developing a story pitch in to an original short script. The program culminated with a live table read with actors from DePaul University's Theatre School. The final scripts presented at the graduation ceremony as a live table read were No Man's Land, a short fantasy drama about a boy who goes on an adventure with a giraffe, and Is This Love, a short crime romance on how far two individuals are willing to go for the other.









FUTURE FOUNDERS – BE YOUR OWN BOSS

Be Your Own Boss is a six-week paid internship program for high school age CHA youth. Twenty participants explored the startup ecosystem, networked with entrepreneurs, built community with peers from different backgrounds, and pitched the businesses they built in a competition format at the program's end. Participants explored key entrepreneurial concepts and applied this knowledge to a business being built with a group of co-founders. Alongside learning the fundamentals of entrepreneurship, this program enabled participants to practice, and refine key career skills including interview practice, resume building and networking.



PEACEPLAYERS CHICAGO

PeacePlayers uses the power of sport to unite, educate, and inspire young people to create a more peaceful world through sports programming, peace education and leadership development. Using basketball as both a hook and a tool, PeacePlayers created engaging and transformative learning experiences for 18 CHA young people ages 13 – 15.

The Leadership Development curriculum encouraged participants to expand their perspectives, engage with their communities, and build empathy across diverse backgrounds. Career Readiness focused on soft skills such as punctuality, teamwork, accountability, and project management. Peace Building recognizes the challenges faced by young people in communities with high crime rates, and created safe spaces for them to explore their identities, challenge their perceptions, and build connections with peers from different backgrounds. Basketball as a learning tool was the central tool for teaching these components, as the game naturally requires individual effort and teamwork.



TAKE FLIGHT NETWORKING & RECRUITMENT EVENT

In supporting CHA youth getting to and through college, S2S also provides exposure and connection to professionals and a variety of career industries. The Take Flight Networking & Recruitment event offers CHA college students and recent graduates an opportunity to network, explore career options, and learn about summer internships and employment. It also serves as a valuable "check-in" over winter break to help them navigate any potential hurdles that could negatively impact their ability to continue in their studies.





TAKE FLIGHT COLLEGE RECEPTION

The Take Flight College Reception celebrates the accomplishments and achievements of graduating CHA high school seniors and endeavors to impart words of wisdom and guidance as they begin their collegiate journey. While CHA youth may receive financial aid to pay for tuition, they still face a significant gap between their financial aid award and their family's ability to pay the cost of other out-of-pocket expenses. The Take Flight reception meets a critical need by providing students with dorm room necessities such as linens, towels, and desk lamps. Each student also received a refurbished laptop.

Our 2024 event was hosted at Guaranteed Rate Field, home of the Chicago White Sox, with sponsorship support from the Molina Healthcare Foundation, AT&T, Meijer, Enterprise and SnapChat.



S2S ALUMNI NETWORKING EVENT

In November, we welcomed former S2S scholarship recipients and program participants who are now young working professionals to an inaugural networking event. Held at the VU Rooftop Bar, S2S Alums had an opportunity to mix and mingle not only with one another, but with other seasoned successful professionals who grew up in CHA housing. Sam Mendenhall, a Partner at the law firm of Winston and Strawn, and an alum of CHA's LeClaire Courts, gave special remarks.









ANNUAL SPRING FUNDRAISER

We gathered in May to celebrate the 10th anniversary of S2S and the many CHA youth who have directly benefited from S2S sponsored programs and events. S2S Board Treasurer Stephanie Klein, and retired CHA Chief Investment Officer Michael Gurgone, co-chaired our fundraising Host Committee, and the evening was emceed by WTTW/Chicago PBS on air personality Jill Hopkins. Over $270,000 was raised to support the summer youth programs and college prep events featured in this report, as well as scholarships during the evening's paddle raise.

STANDING ON CHRISTMAS

NBC 5 Chicago News Reporter and Morning Co-Anchor Evrod Cassimy, recorded a holiday album "Standing On Christmas", released on Black Friday, with sales proceeds donated to S2S. Additionally, he surprised five CHA residents, nominated by fellow residents or case managers, with a $500 gift card to make a difference for their families during the holiday season. We are grateful for Evrod's generous support of CHA families and look forward to our continued partnership.





STAND UP FOR S2S

In September, Board Vice Chair Lauren Hooberman, hosted an evening of stand-up comedy to support S2S. Held in the beautiful Bramble Arts Loft and headlined by nationally known comedian Dwayne Kennedy, Stand Up for S2S raised money and attracted new supporters on behalf of CHA residents.

CHA EMPLOYEE SUPPORT FOR SCHOLARSHIPS FOR RESIDENTS

For the third consecutive year, CHA employees have directly supported scholarships for residents. During open enrollment, each employee had an opportunity to make a one-time gift or sign-up for a payroll deduction to increase the number of available scholarships. Our employee campaign brought in nearly $25,000 and offered another avenue to make a big difference in the lives of the youth we serve.



THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS



Springboard to Success (S2S) gratefully acknowledges the individuals, corporations, and organizations whose generosity in 2024 has made a direct impact on the lives and futures of CHA youth. Your investment in their potential fuels opportunity, achievement, and casting change.

$100,000+

Chicago Housing Authority

$25,000+

KoHop Community Impact Fund
Molina Healthcare
Nan McKay and Associates
Angela Parker

$10,000+

ALFA Chicago
AT&T
Disparti Law Group
Enterprise
Globetrotters Engineering
Stephanie Klein

$5,000+

Applegate Thorne-Thomsen
BMO
Cortex Construction
Humana
Jencare
Lowe's Home Improvement
John McKay
Saul Ewing LLP
Steps Consulting

$2,000+

CEDA
CIBC
CVR
Dennis Dooley
William J. Dvorak
Huntington Bank
McMaster Carr
UI Health
Ronald Redd
SnapChat
US Bank

$1,000+

Attucks Asset Management
Bethany Beaver
Bronner Group
Cheryl Burns
January Corn
d'Escoto
Fiducient Advisors
Fifth Third Bank
Fulton Grace
God First Ministries
Gurgone Group
Charlotte Hanlon
HDR
Mary Howard
HusArchtecture
Ice Miller
Jeffery Leving Foundation
Diane Knoepke
Domenico Maniscalco
Ann McKenzie
Michael Moran
Brian O'Neal
Setna IO
Taft
Donna Marie Thomas

UNDER $999

Angela Allen
David Anderson
Tracy Aronson
Chandes Atkins
Adelaide Auble
Felicia Barrett
James Bebley
Nicole Berry
Vali Bogdan
Opal Blake Williams
Gionna Branch
Kevin Brooks
Nicole Brown
Liliane Calfee
Emily Canham
Ann Cahill
Carlos Campos
Athene Carras
Julie Carr
Tamiko Casteel
Christopher Chavez
Yiyan Chen
Tameeka Christian
Keith Clincy
Citibank
Clara Cruz
Patrita Cummings
Charnese Davis
Charmainne Johnson Davis
Amanda DeWitt
Amy Disharoon
Laurinda Dodgen
Trish Domask
Steven Field
Lucas Fopma
David Forman
Stephanie France
Venis Frazier
Adrienne Fox
AJ Gallagher
Eric Garrett
Kiana Gates
Kathleen Grady
Jordan Gross
Greater Chicago Food Depository
Kristen Hamer
Gail Hampton
Lois Hampton
Sheila Harris
Cynthia Harris
Lauren Hooberman
Jocelyn Howard
Bridget Howard
Jennifer Hoyle
Harold Hufana
Sharayil Ignatius
Marvin Jarrett
Jason Johnson
Kenneth Johnson
Debra King
Elizabeth Kenefick
Theresa Kleinhaus
Sunil Kumar
Anne Lehocky
Lisa Lee-Herbert
Russell S Leslie
Teresa Lipsey
Marcos Lopez
David Martin
Miriam Martinez
Melanie Mansfield
Tina Mason
Mary Lynn Massa
Tonnie McGuire
LaTonya McKenzie
Adam McElhinney
Phil and Sally Meno
Bruce Merrell
Kellye Morris-Kidd
Sharon Moore
Aneesah Muhammad
Rosa Nieves
Mayra Ortiz
Rebecca Olvera
Janet Olson
Debra Parker
Crystal Palmer
Dharmesh Panchal
Andrew Powell
Katrina Profit
Clayton Pryor
Gloria Quintana
Ann Randall
Dayla Randolph
John Ramaker
Taaj Reaves
Angelina Romero
Patricia Rodriguez
Vincent Rose
Karen Rutz
John Salvino
Jack Schauer
Michael Schmieskors
Mehan Schultz
Matthew Sepanik
Elizabeth Silas
Stephanie Smith
Diane Smith
Clare Stanhope
Cary Steinbuck
Christopher Stinson
Jenna Stowrzyjanek
Margaret Sullivan
Jordan Townes
Maggi Tyska
Karen Vaughn
Yanira Valdez
Franchelle White
Kendrict White
Byron Williams
Opal Blake Williams
Mildred Watson
Francine Washington
Sharon Wheeler
Wintrust
Paul Wright
Brad Yost

2024 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

INCOME STATEMENT
FOR YEAR TO DATE DECEMBER 31, 2024 and 2023

REVENUE AND SUPPORT		2024	2023
Corporate Contributions	$	124,227	176,924
Government Contributions		373,100	336,571
Individual Contributions		52,935	37,438
Annual Appeal Contributions		-	-
Pledged campaign contributions (net of related expenses)		158,605	115,207
In-kind contributions and gifts		190,985	181,549
Net Assets Released from Restrictions		-	-
Miscellanious Income		-	-
Event Ticket Sales		44,200	60,275
Interest Income		89,255	44,748
TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT	$	1,033,307	952,712

EXPENSES			
Progam Services			
Youth Program Services	$	707,225	677,165
Senior Program Services		176,808	169,291
		884,031	846,456
Management and General		52,002	63,246
Fundraising		36,209	36,606
		88,211	99,852
Total Expense		972,242	946,308
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets		61,065	6,404
Net Assets - Beginning of Year		2,083,129	2,076,725
Net Assets - End of Year	$	2,144,194	2,083,129

BALANCE SHEET
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2024 and 2023

ASSETS		2024	2023
Current Assets			
Cash account	$	249,046	240,575
Accounts Receivable		9,000	8,000
Accrued Interest Receivable		39,045	10,148
Investments		1,819,834	1,830,881
Prepaid Expenses		27,269	-
Total Current Assets			
TOTAL ASSETS	$	2,144,194	2,089,604

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS			
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable			
Total Current Liabilities	$	-	6,475
Total Liabilities		-	6,475
Net Assets			
Unrestricted net assets		308,436	240,720
Temporarily restricted net assets		1,835,758	1,842,409
Total Net Assets		2,144,194	2,083,129
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	$	2,144,194	2,089,604



SPRINGBOARD TO SUCCESS

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