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the woods fund mission

Woods Fund of Chicago is a grantmaking foundation whose goal is

to increase opportunities for less advantaged people and communities in the metropolitan area, including the opportunity to shape decisions affecting them.

The foundation works primarily as **a funding partner**

with nonprofit organizations. Woods supports non-

profits in their important roles of **engaging** people

in civic life, **addressing** the causes of poverty

and other challenges facing the region, **promoting**

more effective public policies, **reducing** racism and

other barriers to equal opportunity, and **building**

a sense of community and common ground.

core principles

The Woods Fund has a strong belief in the need for and effectiveness of including the less advantaged in the entire process of addressing issues that affect them. To this end, the Woods Fund encourages and supports organizations and initiatives that promote “participatory policy making” by reaching out to their less advantaged constituencies. Such efforts should involve the less advantaged in identifying and defining the issues that face them, and in forming effective solutions to these problems.

“When you become part of something, in some way you count. It could be a march; it could be a rally, even a brief one. You’re part of something, and you suddenly realize you count. To count is very important.”

-STUDS **TERKEL**

The Woods Fund believes that encouraging a close, learning-based partnership with its grantees can further the causes of Chicago’s less advantaged residents and communities.

All grantees of the Woods Fund are expected to engage in a learning partnership. Through this partnership, the Woods Fund expects that grantees will share best practices and successes with the Woods Fund and fellow grantees, as well as those challenges that impede effective implementation. This powerful collaboration has the potential both to inform the Woods Fund’s grantmaking process and to educate the nonprofit community and others about ideas and strategies that they may successfully adopt.

board, officers, & staff

CURRENT STAFF

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OFFICERS*

KRISTIN PATTON*

Secretary UNTIL DECEMBER 2008

1941

The Woods Fund of Chicago is an outgrowth of the **Woods Charitable Fund**, which was established in **1941** by Frank Woods and his wife, Nelle Cochrane Woods. Frank Woods was an attorney and a nationally prominent telephone company executive. He and his wife incorporated the foundation with their three sons. For over fifty years, the Woods Charitable Fund made grants in Lincoln, Nebraska and Chicago, Illinois. In **1993**, the Woods Charitable Fund restructured and created two separate foundations with different grant programs in Chicago and Lincoln. It was at this time, with the transfer of part of the original assets that the Woods Fund of Chicago came into being. Since that time, the Woods Fund of Chicago has made **nearly \$45 million dollars** in grants. These grants have been used to support countless nonprofit organizations in metropolitan Chicago in advancing social and economic justice through community organizing and public policy development, and to promote community building through the arts.

founders

FRANK H. WOODS

(1868–1952)

NELLE C. WOODS

(1870–1950)

THOMAS C. WOODS

(1895–1958)

HENRY C. WOODS

(1895–1968)

FRANK H. WOODS, JR.

(1905–1980)

1993

history of the foundation

DIRECTORS

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PROFESSOR AND FELLOW OF THE DEPAUL
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ENLACE CHICAGO

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DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR OF EDUCATION
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
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UBS INVESTMENT BANK

CHARLES N. WHEATLEY

PRESIDENT
SAHARA ENTERPRISES, INC.

LUCIA WOODS LINDLEY

Director Emeritus

the community organizing imperative

FROM THE
BOTTOM
UP

CHANGING SYSTEMS

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

The mantra of the historic presidential race over the past two years—from all candidates on both sides

of the political fence—was “change.” Americans are unhappy with the direction our country has been taking and want new governmental responses to challenges such as the sinking economy, the high cost of health care, the Iraq and Afghanistan wars, and climate change. The candidate who prevailed in the election championed change not only of the policy agenda itself, but also of the process by which policy options are decided upon. His campaign drew millions of Americans into public life for the first time in their lives. Barack Obama brings to the White House a wealth of experiences that will shape his presidency, and not the least among them is his years as a Chicago community organizer. His election has **opened the door for a long-overdue discourse on the importance of community organizing in building a robust democracy** and a government responsive to its constituents.

“Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time.

We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.”

-BARACK **OBAMA**

This past year, community organizing often became the fodder of campaign charges and humor, and those of us who understand the importance of organizing, on the whole, failed at the time to rise up effectively to challenge the untruths underlying that barrage. So I take this opportunity here to point out that **the United States of America is, at its very root, the creation of a grassroots movement** to gain better governmental representation for an underserved public. We owe our individual rights and independence as a country to that movement, **that bottoms-up action that we today call “community organizing.”**

“We cannot seek achievement for ourselves and forget about the progress and prosperity for our community. Our ambitions must be broad enough to include the aspirations and needs of others, for their sake and for our own.”

—CESAR CHAVEZ

In reality, there are few things more quintessentially democratic than when citizens coalesce around a common purpose. From the abolition of slavery to women’s suffrage, civil rights, and many, many other movements, **we are a stronger country because people are free to identify their common interests** and then fight for their enactment.

The Woods Fund **invests in community organizing as both an end and a means**. The “end” of community organizing is the work of always involving “ordinary” people in strengthening our democracy; without organizing, our society risks becoming the dominion of the moneyed, the highly educated, the well connected among us. We also invest in community organizing as a means, a critical element of the work in gaining public policies to effectively strengthen our metro area’s families and communities.

Democracy. Family. Community. The Woods Charitable Fund was founded nearly 70 years ago by pillars of the business community in the Heartland—Nebraskans Nelle Cochrane Woods and telephone company executive Frank Woods—to strengthen these core institutions. Over the years, the foundation has invested in hundreds of different organizations directed toward the Woods family’s **vision of a better life and future for struggling Midwestern families**.

Fourteen years ago, the Woods Fund of Chicago was established out of the restructuring of the Woods Charitable Fund, creating one foundation in each of the two cities the Woods family lived in and most cared about, Lincoln, Nebraska and Chicago. In those fourteen years, the **Woods Fund of Chicago has increasingly invested in partnerships to facilitate change**—partnerships that involve community groups working together across race and class, economic and religious lines and that also involve research and policy experts who can lift up the voices of residents, provide compelling systematic data, and craft policy alternatives of benefit to less advantaged residents and Illinoisans.

We offer in this Annual Report some illustrations of **the changes these partnerships between community organizing and policy experts have produced**, changes of real benefit for the residents of our city and state. As the Woods Fund continues to support work that advances social justice and economic fairness, we are continually inspired by the Woods family’s founding vision, and **we are continually humbled as well by this family’s charge to us to help create better lives and futures for struggling families**.



DEBORAH HARRINGTON

President

strengthening families, communities, and democracy

COMMUNITY ORGANIZING AND SYSTEMS CHANGE

Often, publications of and about foundations describe grants awarded, and this Annual Report

is no exception: most of its pages are devoted to such a list. But first we take this space to describe some of the systems changes that have occurred through the hard work of organizations awarded Woods Fund grants over the past several years. As our President's letter notes, we celebrate in this report the growing effectiveness of partnerships between community organizing groups and policy advocates in effecting changes of lasting benefit to our area's less advantaged residents. Community organizing is at the heart of policy change strategies the Woods Fund invests in to:

“Most reforms, most problems are complicated. But to me there is nothing complicated about ordinary equality.”

-ALICE PAUL

- **Increase opportunities** for Chicagoans to provide for their families through avenues such as asset building (earnings and savings), access to affordable housing, public benefits and health care; and
- **Build communities** with high performing public schools, strong local economies, vibrant arts and culture life, affordable housing, and just, responsive governments.

The tremendous victories for less advantaged residents about to be described are quite clearly the result of the work of grantees, not the Woods Fund itself, and the work described was typically accomplished with multiple funding partners. So we introduce this report with a salute to our grantees and funding partners.

Increased job opportunities for less advantaged residents

THE **PARTNERS**

- The **Grassroots Collaborative**, comprised of 45 community, faith based, and civic groups, led the campaign to limit “big box” retail businesses in the City that provide low wages and few benefits for workers. The campaign was victorious in the City Council but did not survive a mayoral veto. Since the veto, the Collaborative has continued to build its **Living Wage Campaign**, seeking more adequate wages and benefits for the City’s thousands of low wage retail workers.
- The **Developing Justice Coalition**, a group of faith and community based organizations led by the **Developing Communities Project** and **TARGET Area Development Corporation** and supported by research of groups such as the **Center for Impact Research**, as well as the policy expertise of the **Safer Foundation**, has informed State and City policy changes significantly reducing employment discrimination against former offenders. Former offenders now have access to 26 occupations in fields in which previous offenses would have no bearing on their ability to perform the work well. Offenders confined for minor offenses can have their records sealed to prospective employers, and the City has created a new transitional jobs program for former offenders.
- The **Chicago Workers Collaborative**, the **Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights**, and several labor unions have helped raise awareness of abuses in the day labor industry, informed legislation that increases job security and improves working conditions for day laborers, and championed fair labor practices with respect to Illinois’ thousands of immigrant workers.
- Policy advocates **Women Employed Institute** and the **Chicago Jobs Council** have supported these partnerships with research and policy expertise, shifted the focus of policy from “jobs” to “career paths,” and expanded the constituency for workforce systems improvement. Women Employed’s research creating the Illinois Self-Sufficiency Standard—how much someone must actually earn to pay for food, housing, healthcare, child care, and transportation—has helped frame “living wage” debates and given rise to a career pathways initiative that is fueling improvements in community colleges’ job training programs. The Chicago Jobs Council has built grassroots networks in 5 cities statewide to provide quality workforce services as well as champion new policy ideas such as the State’s Job Training and Economic Development program (linking job training and economic development), the State’s Transitional Jobs program (a new approach to moving people on welfare into the workforce), and the City’s Opportunity Chicago program (a jobs-focused approach to helping public housing residents succeed in mixed income communities).

“What makes community organizing especially attractive is the faith it places in the ability of the poor to make decisions for themselves.”

– PAUL **WELLSTONE**

THE **CHANGE**

Community involvement in improving public school performance

THE **PARTNERS**

- Over 100 “community schools”—partnerships between community groups and schools that have proven effective in improving learning outcomes, providing social and recreational services, *and* caring for children of working parents before and after school—exist now in Chicago Public Schools, thanks in large part to the work of Woods Fund grantees. In alphabetical order, **Albany Park Neighborhood Council**, **Community Organizing and Family Issues**, **Logan Square Neighborhood Association**, **Organization of the NorthEast**, and **West Town Leadership United** were among groups fueling this movement, helping build the **Coalition to Expand Community Schools** and pressing successfully for new funds (both private and public) and what is now Chicago Public Schools’ Community Schools Initiative.
- Local School Councils, the institutions for community involvement in school governance created by the School Reform Act of 1989, are alive and well in hundreds of public schools as results of the diligent work of community organizations and advocates such as **Designs for Change** and **Parents United to Reform Education**, who work to increase community participation in LSCs and help LSCs select principals, manage budgets, and inform public school policy. While foundation funding to create Local School Councils was plentiful 15+ years ago, little has remained available to keep building and renewing these councils, which select and evaluate principal performance, review and amend budgets, and monitor overall school quality. The Woods Fund has recognized this continuing need and, in so doing, created continuing opportunity for parents and other concerned community residents to shape and monitor public school improvement.

“If you have come here to help me, you are wasting your time. But if you have come because your liberation is bound up with mine, then let us work together.”

—LILLA WATSON

“There is one thing you have got to learn about our movement. Three people are better than no people.”

-FANNIE LOU **HAMER**

- A citywide youth organizing initiative called **Voices of Youth in Chicago Education (VOYCE)** was created to address the high dropout rate and low college enrollment rate for Chicago Public School (CPS) students. VOYCE’s leadership includes student organizers from seven community-based organizations and 12 CPS high schools committed to create lasting change. This collaborative believes the engagement of CPS students, themselves, is vital in helping resolve high dropout and low college-enrollment rates that continue to plague Chicago public high schools. VOYCE’s student leaders undertook a year-long study of the reasons for these problems and potential solutions. Utilizing a unique Participatory Action Research model, VOYCE students carefully examined their own lives and experiences in their schools and crafted two key learning questions to guide their research. These research findings led to recommendations that inform organizing strategies and aid students’ continued push for school reform. This effort builds invaluable community organizing capacity among youth.

- Elementary school children in Chicago can no longer be suspended or expelled for minor infractions such as hugging another child, chatting quietly with friends in a lunchroom, or speaking out of turn in class, as results of the work of a cross-neighborhoods collaborative of parents, Parents Organized to Win, Educate, Renew Policy Action Council. Supported by advocates such as **Community Justice for Youth** and Northwestern University’s **Children and Family Justice Center, POWER-PAC** has replaced the old Uniform Discipline Code, built on a now-discredited “zero tolerance” policy, with a new Student Code of Conduct that emphasizes teaching misbehaving children positive ways of relating to teachers, peers, and the classroom environment.

“There must be, not a balance of power, but a community of power; not organized rivalries, but an organized peace.”

-WOODROW **WILSON**

Policies that help stretch the incomes of lower wage families

THE PARTNERS

“Washing ones hands of the conflict between the powerful and the powerless means to side with the powerful, not to be neutral.”

-PAULO FREIRE

- The **Make Work Pay Coalition**, a group of 60 community and civic groups chaired by the **Center for Tax and Budget Accountability**, expanded the value of the Earned Income Credit in Illinois this year to reach an additional 150,000 low wage working families. The Coalition also convinced the Illinois General Assembly to eliminate the sunset provision of a state level EIC created through the Coalition's efforts in 2000. The Earned Income Credit reduces the tax burden on low wage families, providing an important work incentive.
- Recognizing that housing is the major expense of most lower wage families, the **Balanced Development Coalition, Business and Professional People in the Public Interest, the Chicago Rehab Network, and Illinois Housing Action** have, collectively, raised public awareness about the importance of affordable housing in building healthy communities in the metro area, won policies that assure that at least 15% of all new housing developments in the city are of affordable units, advanced a program that would provide housing counseling to first time home buyers to prevent subsequent foreclosures, and successfully championed policies that increase funding for affordable housing and that preserve existing affordable units.
- Several Woods Fund grantees have won protections for lower income residents from predatory lenders. Almost 10 years ago, a collaboration of the **National Training and Information Center, Southwest Organizing Project, and Woodstock Institute** presciently informed legislation to restrict predatory home lending practices among lending institutions subject to state regulation. More recently, the **Monsignor Egan Pay Day Loan Coalition**, staffed by the **Illinois Public Action Foundation** and involving dozens of Woods Fund grantees, informed a 2005 law in Illinois that limits interest rates on and applications for short term “payday” loans. The Coalition is now seeking new policies to limit lenders who sabotage this law by extending the terms of their very-high-rate loans.
- Since creating the Family Care program in 2002 that newly extended health care benefits to over 30,000 low wage families (see the Woods Fund Annual Report for 2002), the partnership of the **Shriver Center, United Power for Action and Justice** and **Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights** has rolled along, always adding partners, expanding the Family Care program to cover additional uncovered workers, and positioning Illinois to be among the leaders nationwide in offering healthcare benefits options to lower income residents.

Broad-based constituency building for systems change

THE PARTNER

Catalyzed by a few individuals faced with the protracted challenges of working in isolated communities, **United Congress of Community and Religious Organizations (UCCRO)** has grown into a cutting-edge, and highly promising grassroots multi-ethnic human rights alliance. UCCRO crosses traditional boundaries of race, ethnicity, neighborhoods and religion to mobilize people, policy and ideals for the equitable advancement of marginalized communities. Armed with a vision of justice for all people, UCCRO is comprised of some of the leading community organizations across the Chicagoland area. Drawing from a variety of organizing principles, these leaders understand the inherent power of collective action. UCCRO rejects the prevailing tactic of pursuing isolated and narrow victories where in the past a community-based organization won, but won alone. To the contrary, UCCRO builds its power through collaborative partnerships to win long-term victories that change systems and remove structural barriers. Using a human rights framework, UCCRO proactively addresses growing racial disparities by organizing to ensure equity and justice for all.

UCCRO alliance member campaigns include: winning equity for Chicago residents around Chicago's bid for the 2016 Olympics; organizing for more recreational spaces and green space for residents of Little Village; advocating for healthcare access in the Lakeview community; joining the national campaign for a moratorium on raids, deportations and separation of families; and seeking restorative justice in Chicago schools.

“In order for us as poor and oppressed people to become part of a society that is meaningful, the system under which we now exist has to be radically changed... It means facing a system that does not lend itself to your needs and devising means by which you change that system.”

- ELLA BAKER

All these partnerships have won important changes with and on behalf of less advantaged residents.

The partnership strategy, marrying “bottoms up” and “top down” expertise, is a highly promising systems change approach. But *much* work remains to be done, by our foundation, all these organizations, and others:

- Thousands of Illinoisans still work hard and play by the rules, but cannot make ends meet. One medical emergency, one expired lease, one new infant can mire them in debt from which it takes years to emerge. The serious global recession is daily adding to the numbers of Illinoisans on the economic precipice.
- Despite the hard work of school administrators, parents, advocates, and community groups, about half of all Chicago children entering high school do not graduate, thus limiting for life their earning and learning options.
- Many low income communities remain neglected, unsafe, and full of environmental hazards, deteriorating structures, and non-working adults, while little policy attention is being given to distressed urban neighborhoods.
- Forty years after the victories of the civil rights movement, people of color remain far more likely to die prematurely, suffer from treatable illnesses, drop out of school, earn wages that are lower than their skills and experience warrant, be denied conventional loans, and enter the correctional system.

Looking forward, we see at least two sources of emerging fuel for “bottoms up” systems change. First, the tremendous involvement of young people, older people, people of color, and others in this past year’s election campaigns creates new opportunity to increasingly involve Americans in the public decisions that affect them. Second, we see the growing power of community based arts and culture groups in drawing residents into public life to beautify their communities, celebrate their commonalities, and challenge injustices. **The Woods Fund’s commitment to changing systems from the bottom up presents us with enormous opportunity to build on this new energy, creativity, enthusiasm and experience to renew our local communities, gain equality of opportunity and get even greater numbers of people engaged in public life.**

“We must remember that one determined person can make a significant difference, and that a small group of determined people can change the course of history.”

—SONIA JOHNSON

general info

feedback

As we implement our strategic directions and the guidelines, we welcome feedback, thoughts, suggestions, and concerns. Please contact us by mail at the address below (attn: Deborah Clark) or by e-mail (dclark@woodsfund.org).

guidelines

For an overview of our grant programs and to obtain application instructions, please visit our website (www.woodsfund.org). If you do not have a computer, you can obtain free online access at your local library. To request a hard copy, call or send us an e-mail (application@woodsfund.org).

contact

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“**The best education I received was working with people in the community on a grassroots basis.**

Because what it taught me was

that

**ordinary
people,**

when they are working

together

**can do
extraordinary
things!”**

-BARACK OBAMA

GRANTS ARE UNRESTRICTED FOR
GENERAL SUPPORT AND FOR CHICAGO-
BASED ORGANIZATIONS UNLESS
OTHERWISE DESCRIBED.

grants summary

2007 | 2008

WOODS FUND OF CHICAGO	2007	2008
Intersection of		
Community Organizing and Public Policy	\$ 1,386,500	\$ 1,473,000
Community Organizing	1,072,000	775,000
Public Policy	363,000	427,500
Arts and Culture	272,000	272,000
Discretionary for Special Purposes	138,050	138,000
Other	125,000	125,000
TOTAL GRANTS PAID	\$3,356,550	\$3,210,500

grants paid 2007

Intersection of community organizing and public policy

Access Living of Metropolitan Chicago

First payment of two-year support for housing and education advocacy to this disability rights organization, which focuses primarily on accessibility of Chicago Housing Authority units, restoration of special education funds, and the inclusion of special education students in charter schools. **30,000**

Bickerdike Redevelopment Corporation

Support for the Leadership Development and Organizing Initiative, to this northwest side community development corporation whose organizing is focused on affordable housing, civic participation and youth issues. **30,000**

Business and Professional People for the Public Interest

First payment of two-year support for affordable housing advocacy and a public housing transformation study. **50,000**

Chicago Arts Partnerships in Education

General operating support for efforts to improve educational outcomes through arts integration in the curriculum design. **25,000**

Chicago Coalition for the Homeless

General operating support for organizing and advocacy efforts to prevent and end homelessness. **40,000**

Chicago Jobs Council

General operating support for its workforce advocacy efforts and research for the purpose of increasing opportunities for disadvantaged individuals and low-income workers. **38,500**

Chicago Rehab Network

Final payment of three-year general operating support for efforts to address the lack of affordable housing in the Chicago metropolitan area. **60,000**

Chicago Workers' Collaborative

Support for community organizing and advocacy efforts among day laborers that seeks to raise labor standards for low-wage workers in Illinois. **35,000**

Community Organizing and Family Issues

Final payment of two-year support for the POWER-PAC project that seeks to reform discipline practices in Chicago public schools and build a citywide organization that supports low-income parents. **30,000**

Community Renewal Society

First payment of two-year support for the Children of the Incarcerated Campaign to end the cycle of intergenerational incarceration by changing policies and programs, as well as practices that affect children and families with an incarcerated parent. **50,000**

Designs for Change

Support for the Aiding Local School Councils project, which seeks to provide high quality education and organizing assistance for Chicago Local School Council members and other activists to improve education policy and practice. **30,000**

Developing Communities Project

First payment of two-year support to this multi-issue faith-based organization's Red Line Extension Project advocating extension of public transportation to underserved communities on the south side. **30,000**

Developing Government Accountability to the People

FISCAL AGENT: JEWISH COUNCIL ON URBAN AFFAIRS
General operating support to this coalition of community-based organizations working to make Chicago city government more democratic and transparent. **30,000**

Grand Boulevard Federation

Support for the Peer Parent Education Network, an education organizing initiative that brings parents together in Bronzeville-area schools to harness leadership potential and further explore school reform issues. **40,000**

Grassroots Collaborative

General operating support to this coalition of community organizations and labor organizations in support of their advocacy work to call attention to the need for living wage jobs. **35,000**

Heartland Alliance for Human Needs and Human Rights

Support for the From Poverty to Opportunity Campaign that brings together a broad range of stakeholders to develop and advocate for a poverty eradication strategy anchored in human rights standards. **40,000**

Illinois Action for Children

First payment of two-year support for advocacy and organizing to increase state funding for early childhood education and the Preschool for All campaign, that assures that every three- and four-year-old in Illinois can participate in high-quality early childhood education programs. **43,000**

Illinois Asset Building Group

FISCAL AGENT: HEARTLAND ALLIANCE FOR HUMAN NEEDS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Support for a coalition of diverse organizations working together to advance asset-building policies through the creation of a statewide Children’s Savings Account policy and program in Illinois. **60,000**

Continued support for this coalition of diverse organizations. **50,000**

Illinois Hunger Coalition

Support for Latinos Organized for Justice and the Anti-Hunger Action projects. Both are intended to train local leaders to more effectively educate policy-makers on immigration issues, hunger and the need to make nutrition programs and other income supports available to low-income individuals. **40,000**

Latinos United

General operating support for policy advocacy and research on issues of particular concern to Latinos, including access to early childhood education programs. **25,000**

LeClaire Courts Community Development Corporation

Support for the salary of a part-time organizer who will work with this community development corporation to organize public housing residents to advocate for the creation of cooperative housing at Chicago Housing Authority’s LeClaire Courts. **20,000**

Metro Seniors In Action

General operating support to this coalition of neighborhood-based senior citizen organizations for community organizing around issues of transit, health care, and pedestrian safety. **20,000**

Midwest Academy

First payment of two-year support for the community organizing summer intern program which builds the field of organizing by creating a pipeline for entry-level organizers who are well-trained. **30,000**

National Training and Information Center

Final payment of three-year support for community organizing and advocacy-related work in the metropolitan Chicago area. **50,000**

Parents United For Responsible Education

General operating support to organize parents to assist and defend effective Local School Council systems at the city and state level. **45,000**

People for Community Recovery, Inc.

Support for efforts to engage public housing residents in ways which encourage them to exercise their rights and participate in the redevelopment of Altgeld Gardens. **15,000**

Pilsen Alliance

General operating support for community organizing efforts to improve the quality of life and preserve the diverse culture of the Greater Pilsen community. **20,000**

Protestants for the Common Good

Final payment of two-year general operating support for continued advocacy and public policy work and the implementation of a church network strategy to leverage the potential for efficient and powerful advocacy in each of the targeted state senate districts. **40,000**

Public Action Foundation, The

Support for the Monsignor Egan Campaign for Payday Loan Reform, an advocacy effort to protect consumers from major predatory lending, auto title, and refund anticipation loans. **25,000**

Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law

First payment of two-year support for the Advocacy Project, which seeks to advance policy around increased earnings for the working poor, access to universal health care, family leave, children’s savings accounts, and job opportunities for the hard-to-employ. **120,000**

South Suburban Action Conference

Final payment of two-year general operating support for faith-based organizing efforts in Chicago’s south suburbs focusing on issues related to education, housing, economic development and racial profiling. **25,000**

Strategic Learning Initiatives

Final payment of three-year support for the Scaling Up Best Practice project and other policy development and research activities. **45,000**

Supportive Housing Providers Association

General operating support for statewide advocacy on behalf of housing and service providers for very low-income communities and individuals with special needs. **25,000**

TARGET Area Development Corporation

General operating support for a multifocus organization that works for social justice reform and systemic change through local leadership development, organizing, research, and collaboration. **40,000**

First payment of two-year general operating support. **35,000**

We The People Media

General operating support to this publisher of the bi-monthly magazine, *Residents Journal*, that is written by and for Chicago public housing residents and other low-income individuals. **20,000**

TOTAL INTERSECTION OF COMMUNITY ORGANIZING AND PUBLIC POLICY \$1,386,500

community organizing

A+ Illinois

FISCAL AGENT: CENTER FOR TAX AND
BUDGET ACCOUNTABILITY

Support for the community organizing work of this statewide coalition to convince policy makers to support state-level tax reform and increased education funding solutions. **50,000**

AGAPE Youth Development and Family Support Services

Support for the Garfield Area Partnership (GAP) Community Organizing Initiative, a strategy developed by AGAPE that will empower community residents and enable them to advocate around issues of neighborhood safety, youth development and affordable housing. **25,000**

Albany Park Neighborhood Council

Second payment of three-year general operating support for ongoing community organizing work. **40,000**

Alianza Leadership Institute

FISCAL AGENT: LUGENIA BURNS HOPE CENTER
Support for the development of an organizing curriculum to be used as a resource for southeast Chicago institutions and Latino constituencies, as well as establish this organization as a training ground for Latino organizers and leaders. **40,000**

Arab American Action Network

Final payment of two-year support toward the salary of a youth organizer to develop leadership capacities of Arab youth. **30,000**

Asian American Institute

Support for a full-time organizer to expand the organization's capacity to further mobilize and empower Asian Pacific Americans in the Chicago metropolitan region. **25,000**

Blocks Together

General operating support for this multi-issue, direct-action community organization that addresses issues such as neighborhood security, government accountability, school improvement, leadership development and youth organizing at the city, state, and federal levels. **30,000**

Brighton Park Neighborhood Council

Second payment of three-year general operating support for community organizing efforts in the Brighton Park neighborhood. **40,000**

Community Organizing Award

FISCAL AGENT: WIEBOLDT FOUNDATION
For award and expenses related to the 2007 Community Organizing Award, to recognize outstanding work in the field of community organizing. **20,000**

Community Renewal Society

Final payment of two-year support for the Civic Action program, an effort to continue work to reform aspects of the criminal justice system, and promote public housing that is safe and does not isolate residents economically. **30,000**

Crib Collective, The

Support for capacity building with a focus on organizational development to this youth organizing group that works to create a culture of social entrepreneurship among youth in Chicago's North Lawndale and Little Village communities. **25,000**

Inner-City Muslim Action Network

General operating support to this south side organization that works with diverse, low-income residents of the Chicago Lawn area advocating for social justice in order to address community issues. **45,000**

Interfaith Leadership Project

General operating support for this institution-based, multi-issue community organization working in several western suburbs to address education, immigration reform, access to health care, public safety, and civic participation. **25,000**

Jane Addams Senior Caucus

Support for the Housing Advocacy Project to this organization that organizes tenant associations in low-income senior buildings across the north lakefront in efforts to preserve long-term affordability for residents. **20,000**

Kenwood Oakland Community Organization

First payment of two-year general operating support for this grassroots, multi-issue community organization focused on improving schools and preserving affordable housing on the south side of Chicago. **35,000**

Korean American Resource & Cultural Center

Support for the Workplace Justice Campaign that organizes low-wage Korean workers to demand their rights under American labor law, including the right to overtime pay and safe working conditions. **25,000**

Lakeview Action Coalition

General operating support for organizing around issues of homeless youth, affordable housing, and access to health services. **11,000**

Latino Union of Chicago

FISCAL AGENT: JEWISH COUNCIL ON URBAN AFFAIRS
Final payment of two-year general operating support for work in organizing day laborers. **40,000**

Lawndale Christian Development Corporation

Final payment of three-year support for community organizing and strategic activities to address affordable housing, prisoner re-entry, community school partnerships and job creation strategies. **35,000**

Logan Square Neighborhood Association, Inc.

First payment of two-year support restricted to community organizing and advocacy activities to engage neighborhood leaders on issues such as improving local schools, preserving affordable housing and developing youth leadership. **35,000**

Lugenia Burns Hope Center

General operating support for this community organization working in Bronzeville and other south side neighborhoods on issues of affordable housing and education, citizens' rights, and responsibilities to form public policy. **30,000**

Metropolitan Area Group for Igniting Civilization, Inc.

General operating support to this south side community organization that seeks to broaden its community stakeholder base in order to increase its membership and garner wider support for its violence prevention and youth programs. **40,000**

Metropolitan Planning Council

Support for the Reconnecting Neighborhoods Project, which increases the community's involvement in the planning process for transit and retail development in neighborhoods affected by the Chicago Housing Authority's Plan for transformation. **25,000**

Metropolitan Tenants Organization

First payment of two-year support for this organization that informs, organizes, and trains low to moderate-income tenants to be advocates for safe, affordable housing. **30,000**

Northwest Neighborhood Federation

General operating support to this organization that works with residents of the Belmont-Cragin area to help them identify their most pressing issues and then shape and execute a strategy to address those issues. **30,000**

Organization of the NorthEast

General operating support for community organizing and policy advocacy work on the issues of land use and affordable housing, immigration reform, employment, and education. **35,000**

Public Action for Change Today

FISCAL AGENT: INDUSTRIAL AREAS FOUNDATION

First payment of two-year general operating support to this young adult organizing initiative that brings together young people from across the metropolitan region to advocate on a range of issues. **35,000**

Resurrection Project, The

Support for the salary of a community organizer for this multi-issue community organizing and development organization operating on Chicago's southwest side. **25,000**

Southside Together Organizing for Power

FISCAL AGENT: ILLINOIS JUSTICE FOUNDATION

General operating support to this emerging south side community organizing group that brings together low-income Woodlawn residents to advocate for affordable housing and tenant organizing in Woodlawn. **35,000**

Southwest Organizing Project

General operating support to build a broad-based organization of churches, mosques, schools, and other institutions in southwest Chicago, to enable families to exercise common values, determine their own future and connect with each other to improve life in their neighborhoods. **35,000**

Telpochcalli Community Education Project, The

FISCAL AGENT: GOODCITY

General operating support to this organization that uses a combination of direct action organizing and popular education to actively engage and provide low-income individuals with the tools and skills to tackle issues that directly affect them and their community. **25,000**

United African Organization, Inc.

FISCAL AGENT: ILLINOIS COALITION FOR IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEE RIGHTS

Support for the hiring of an executive director for this coalition of African community-based associations aimed at advancing state and federal campaigns for comprehensive immigration reform. **35,000**

West Town Leadership United

General operating support for this school-based community organizing group that takes on a broad range of community issues in the West Town and Humboldt Park neighborhoods on Chicago's near northwest side. **20,000**

Westside Health Authority

Support for the Catch It! Campaign and the Student Freedom Riders youth initiatives that accomplish community change through empowering residents and building their capacity to take on leadership roles in the community. **35,000**

Women and Girls Collective Action Network

Support for this organization's media justice campaign Females United for Action, a youth organizing initiative working to change media portrayals of marginalized communities. **11,000**

TOTAL COMMUNITY ORGANIZING	\$1,072,000
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public policy

Center for Tax and Budget Accountability

First payment of two-year support for this bipartisan fiscal think tank focused on ensuring that tax and economic policies in Illinois related to poor and working class constituencies are sound and fair. **55,000**

Chicago Community Foundation, The

Support for Illinois Creates (IC), an arts education policy campaign initiated by Chicago Community Trust and led by the Illinois Arts Alliance. This grant will support IC's continued efforts to advocate for a comprehensive, standards-based arts education program for all Illinois public school students. **20,000**

Chicago Metropolis 2020

Support for the salary of a new program director for the Justice/Violence Initiative, which continues to work at the community level for successful policy research, analysis, development and implementation. **25,000**

Community Assistance Programs

Final payment of two-year support for policy advocacy to mandate employment training and job placement services for youth exiting the foster care system. **30,000**

Juvenile Justice Initiative

Final payment of two-year general operating support for this statewide coalition focused on juvenile justice issues and working to achieve concrete improvements and lasting changes for youth in the justice system. **20,000**

Continued general operating support. **37,500**

Loyola University Chicago

Second payment of three-year support of a Wal-Mart economic impact study to provide empirical data to advocates working on the issue of living-wage jobs. **19,500**

Final payment of three-year support. **36,000**

Northern Illinois University

First payment of two-year support to the Office for Social Policy Research for the public education component of State of Working Illinois, a series of portraits that provide comprehensive information and analyses about current labor market conditions and their consequences. **25,000**

Safer Foundation

First payment of two-year support for policy advocacy to eliminate systemic barriers to employment for formerly incarcerated individuals. **45,000**

Women Employed Institute

First payment of two-year support for this organization's efforts to achieve the systemic reform necessary to make Illinois' public education and training accessible, as well as responsive to the needs of low-income adults and to help them advance to better jobs. **50,000**

TOTAL PUBLIC POLICY	\$363,000
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arts and culture

About Face Theatre Collective doing business as About Face Theatre

Second payment of three-year general operating support to further capacity building efforts. **10,000**

Albany Park Theater Project

Final payment of three-year general operating support to a multi-ethnic ensemble of teenagers creating original performance works out of real-life stories from the immigrant, working-class Albany Park neighborhood. **10,000**

American Indian Center (AIC)

Support to the oldest chapter of AIC in the United States for their program Urban Indians—Contemporary Lives, Contemporary Art, showcasing the work of local Indian artists. **7,500**

Archi-Treasures Association

Second payment of three-year general operating support to bring together community residents to participate in the Garden Gallery Project. **10,000**

Arts & Business Council of Chicago

Final payment of two-year support for expenses related to efforts to diversify the number and percentage of minority On BOARD participants. **7,500**

Beyondmedia Education

Second payment of three-year general operating support to build organizational infrastructure and staffing. **10,000**

Chicago City Theatre Company doing business as Joel Hall Dancers & Center

Final payment of two-year general operating support for this Chicago based repertoire dance ensemble. **10,000**

Chicago Public Art Group

First payment of three-year general operating support to this arts organization that partners with community development organizations, neighborhood groups, social service agencies, advocacy groups and schools to design projects that help realize social, cultural, educational, and aesthetic goals. **15,000**

Community Film Workshop of Chicago, The

Support for the Using Media for Community Building Initiative, which provides digital media education to support and develop digital video artists in underserved communities. **10,000**

Community TV Network

Second payment of three-year general operating support to engage low-income youth in producing and presenting empowering digital videos in order to improve their lives and their neighborhoods. **10,000**

Congo Square Theatre Company

Support for the Staffing and Structure Project of this highly esteemed African-American ensemble whose mission is to produce definitive and transformative theater about the African Diaspora as well as other world cultures. **15,000**

Deeply Rooted Productions

Support to help strengthen organizational capacity and management infrastructure within this innovative African-American contemporary dance company. **10,000**

Free Street Programs, Inc.

Final payment of three-year general operating support for a community-based theater organization. **10,000**

Gilloury Institute doing business as Silk Road Theatre Project

General operating support to this theater that showcases playwrights of Asian, Middle Eastern, and Mediterranean backgrounds and whose work addresses themes relevant to the people of the Silk Road and the Diaspora communities. **10,000**

Giordano Jazz Dance Chicago

General operating support to this American jazz dance company whose focus is to develop and preserve the indigenous American art form of jazz dance. **10,000**

Guild Complex

Support for the Poetry Performance Incubator Project, which seeks to create a hybrid art form that successfully kneads poetry and theatre in an ensemble setting. **7,500**

Interfaith Youth Core

Support for the post production of Post the Proof, a full length documentary film chronicling a yearlong service exchange program between 30 young people from Chicago and Amman, Jordan. **10,000**

Live Bait Theatrical Company

First payment of three-year general operating support to this theater company that produces work by Chicago playwrights that is diverse, globally-recognized, and which uses non-traditional literary approaches. **10,000**

Luna Negra Dance Theater

Final payment of three-year general operating and capacity building support to an organization that creates, performs and teaches contemporary dance by Latino artists, bringing their work to a wider audience. **10,000**

Next Theatre Company

Support for the Next Communities Project, an outreach program that creates professionally directed topical plays about controversial community issues based on dialogue among community members. **12,000**

Pegasus Players

Second payment of three-year general operating support for their community-building outreach programs. **12,500**

Pros Arts Studio

Second payment of three-year general operating support for a neighborhood-based organization providing art instruction to children through schools and community institutions in a near west side Latino neighborhood. **12,500**

Puerto Rican Arts Alliance

Final payment of three-year general operating support of an organization that maintains Puerto Rican traditions, promotes Puerto Rican arts and arts education and brings them to other ethnic groups and cultures. **10,000**

Renaissance Society, The at the University of Chicago

Support for the exhibition "Black Is, Black Ain't," which examines the current discourse on race as framed by contemporary art. **7,500**

Street-Level Youth Media

First payment of three-year general operating support to this arts organization that provides technology access and community-based media training to low-income, underserved urban youth, a demographic too frequently neglected by policymakers and mass media. **15,000**

Thread of Development Jail Arts and Literacy Program at Cook County Juvenile Detention Center

FISCAL AGENT: CHICAGO LIGHTS
Support for Free Write, a new creative media project that will provide the only one-on-one literacy program for incarcerated youth at the Cook County Juvenile Detention Center. **10,000**

TOTAL ARTS AND CULTURE	\$272,000
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discretionary for special purposes

Allianza Leadership Institute

FISCAL AGENT: LUGENIA BURNS HOPE CENTER

Support for participation in the 2007 Organizer's Forum conference on training and development of organizers. **500**

Balanced Development Coalition

FISCAL AGENT: ORGANIZATION OF THE NORTHEAST

Support for an evaluation assembly and publication related to the completion of the Balanced Development campaign. **3,000**

Chicago Institute for the Moving Image

FISCAL AGENT FOR ESAU MELENDEZ DOCUMENTARY: IMMIGRATION NATION!

Support for a documentary film titled Immigrant Nation! that chronicles the 2006 Chicago immigrant rights' organizing movement. **5,000**

For Action In Togetherness Hold Fast, Inc. also known as F.A.I.T.H., Inc.

Support for emergency capacity for this Community Advisory Group to the Illinois Department of Corrections. **3,500**

Gilloury Institute doing business as Silk Road Theatre Project

Support for convening a dialogue with the philanthropic community organized by Silk Road Theatre Project regarding the lack of diversity in Chicago theater. **5,000**

Health and Medicine Policy Research Group

Support for an advocacy strategy for public education and outreach efforts that will educate and engage public and health care providers in the debate around the budget hearings for the Cook County Bureau of Health Services. **5,000**

I-GO Car Sharing

FISCAL AGENT: CENTER FOR NEIGHBORHOOD TECHNOLOGY

Support to initiate a targeted policy advocacy strategy with aldermen, planning officials, and Chicago developers for the I-GO Car Sharing project. **10,000**

Illinois PIRG Education Fund

Support for the Save Our Transit Project, which combines research and policy development with grassroots activism to write and disseminate a report that provides a voice to those most affected by the decisions made by transit agencies and lawmakers. **5,000**

Inner-City Muslim Action Network

Support for participation in the 2007 Organizer's Forum conference on training and development of organizers. **250**

Kelly+Yamamoto Productions

FISCAL AGENT: CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT DOCUMENTARY, INC.

Support to help defray production cost of Stories to Tell, Dreams to Live, an hour long documentary about "at risk" immigrant youth in the Albany Park Theatre Project who change their lives through theater. **5,000**

Kenwood Oakland Community Organization

Support for participation in the 2007 Organizer's Forum conference on training and development of organizers. **500**

Latino Union of Chicago

Support for the Immigrant Defense Committee Training Fund. A "train-the-trainers" weekend to give leaders in immigrant communities the skills and knowledge necessary to facilitate infrastructure-building workshops related to immigration raids. **3,000**

Lugenia Burns Hope Center

To support participation in the 2007 Organizer's Forum conference on training and development of organizers. **500**

Support for an organizing and public awareness campaign to create a Bronzeville Housing Trust Fund. **5,000**

Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum doing business as National Museum of Mexican Art

Support to help with the planning process for its new Immigration Exhibition exhibit to be displayed in the summer of 2008. **8,000**

Monroe Foundation, The

Support for a coalition of south side groups organizing to secure community lending agreements with local financial institutions. **5,000**

Mujeres Latinas En Accion

Support for the Breakin It Down Planning Committee to provide financial assistance for ten individuals, from small and mid-sized organizations of color, to attend a comprehensive and customized one-day fundraising workshop. **300**

National Public Housing Museum

FISCAL AGENT: CHICAGO COMMUNITY TRUST

Support for outreach to secure the input of former and current public housing residents in shaping the content of a new Public Housing Museum. **7,000**

National Training and Information Center

Support for a Public Housing Resident Leadership Summit, a three-day national conference of public housing residents to develop a united platform for public housing reform. **4,000**

Northwest Neighborhood Federation

Support for the translation, distribution, and community outreach related to the report “Dando un Paso Pa'lante o Pa'tras? — Latinos in the Chicago Public Schools.” **5,000**

OASIS Network

FISCAL AGENT: NORTHWEST INDIANA FEDERATION OF INTERFAITH ORGANIZATIONS INC.

Support for staffing, leadership development and communication expenses to establish the Oasis Network African American Leadership Commission Inc. (Oasis AALC). **8,000**

Protestants for the Common Good

Support for a coalition that is working to garner support from aldermen toward the approval by the Chicago City Council for an Inclusionary Zoning Ordinance. **5,000**

South Side Organizing Summit

FISCAL AGENT: LUGENIA BURNS HOPE CENTER

Support for the south side Organizers Summit to gain resources for the community, to analyze power dynamics and interact with their peers. **5,000**

Southside Together Organizing for Power

FISCAL AGENT: ILLINOIS JUSTICE FOUNDATION

Support for participation in the 2007 Organizer's Forum conference on training and development of organizers. **500**

Southwest Youth Collaborative

Support to host a town hall meeting that provides a forum for Black Men and Boys, distinguished leaders and legislators to have a dialogue about the issues and challenges facing them. **2,500**

TARGET Area Development Corporation

Support for its work engaging residents and leaders in a campaign to expand drug schools statewide for low-level non-violent offenders. **8,000**

The Hip Hop Civic Engagement Project

FISCAL AGENT: BLACK UNITED FUND OF ILLINOIS

Support to develop a locally-based social marketing campaign that will promote democracy and civic participation through the context of Hip Hop culture. **5,500**

University of Illinois, Institute of Government and Public Affairs

Support for the Critical Issues Facing Illinois Conference focusing on the affordability of health care and providing health insurance for the uninsured. **5,000**

SUBTOTAL DISCRETIONARY FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES **\$120,050**

South Side Initiative Discretionary

The following organizations all received mentoring grants for the purpose of establishing mentor partnerships. These partnerships provided executive directors and community organizers with the opportunity to learn in a structured way from an expert in their field. Funds were designated to support mentoring relationships for emerging south side organizers.

Alianza Leadership Institute 3,000

FISCAL AGENT: LUGENIA BURNS HOPE CENTER

Grand Boulevard Federation 3,000

Inner-City Muslim Action Network 3,000

Lugenia Burns Hope Center 3,000

Southside Together Organizing for Power 3,000

FISCAL AGENT: ILLINOIS JUSTICE FOUNDATION

Southwest Organizing Project 3,000

SUBTOTAL SOUTH SIDE INITIATIVE DISCRETIONARY **\$18,000**

TOTAL DISCRETIONARY FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES \$138,050

other

Chicago Fund for Education Organizing

FISCAL AGENT: PUBLIC INTEREST PROJECTS INC.

First payment of three-year support to a funders collaborative in support of education issues. **50,000**

Fulfilling the Dream Fund

FISCAL AGENT: PUBLIC INTEREST PROJECTS INC.

Second payment of three-year support for a collaborative supporting the work of the Mexican American Legal Defense Fund, the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights under the Law and other local Latino and African-American community organizing groups to address employment discrimination that affects these racial minority groups in Chicago. **50,000**

Hispanics In Philanthropy

First payment of two-year support for the Chicago site of the Collaborative for Strong Latino Communities, a concerted effort of foundations, corporations, government agencies and individual donors to raise local funds for Latino-led and Latino-serving nonprofits. **25,000**

TOTAL OTHER \$125,000

TOTAL 2007 GRANTS PAID \$3,356,550

grants paid 2008

Intersection of community organizing and public policy

Access Living of Metropolitan Chicago

Final payment of two-year support for housing and education advocacy to this disability rights organization, which focuses primarily on accessibility of Chicago Housing Authority units, restoration of special education funds, and the inclusion of special education students in charter schools. **30,000**

Action Now

FISCAL AGENT: TARGET AREA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

General operating support to this member organization that mobilizes residents in North Lawndale, Little Village, and Englewood to address such issues as foreclosure prevention, school reform, and criminal justice reform. **45,000**

Applied Research Center

Support for the Racial Justice Leadership Initiative Project in Chicago, which investigates the hidden racial consequences of public policy and builds the capacity of organizations and individuals to change practices and policies that affect them. **20,000**

Business and Professional People for the Public Interest

Final payment of two-year support for affordable housing advocacy and a public housing transformation study. **50,000**

Chicago Coalition for the Homeless

Support for its community organizing and public policy advocacy work to develop leadership among homeless individuals to address affordable housing issues, ex-offender policy, and supportive services. **45,000**

Chicago Jobs Council

Support for Illinois Works for the Future Campaign, a statewide collaborative effort to create systems change through fostering integrated workforce and economic development policy in Illinois. **40,000**

Chicago Workers' Collaborative

FISCAL AGENT: CENTER FOR LABOR AND COMMUNITY RESEARCH

General operating support for a collaborative that organizes low-wage immigrant laborers to advocate for better working conditions and fair pay. **35,000**

Community Organizing and Family Issues

Support for Parents Organized to Win, Educate, Renew – Policy Action Council (POWER-PAC), a project to conduct parent-led organizing and advocacy on education issues such as restorative justice, early childhood education, and the reinstatement of recess. **30,000**

Community Renewal Society

Final payment of two-year support for the Children of the Incarcerated Campaign to end the cycle of intergenerational incarceration by changing policies, programs, as well as practices that affect children and families with an incarcerated parent. **70,000**

Developing Communities Project

Final payment of two-year support to this multi-issue faith-based organization's Red Line Extension Project advocating extension of public transportation to underserved communities on the south side. **30,000**

Developing Government Accountability to the People

FISCAL AGENT: JEWISH COUNCIL ON URBAN AFFAIRS

General operating support for this organization's effort that involves research, public outreach and education and the distribution of a report card to assess the performance of the city of Chicago and its aldermen in eight key issue areas. **25,000**

Good Jobs First

Support for the Good Jobs First-Illinois Project, which seeks to identify alternative public sector resources to support job training in less-advantaged communities in Chicago and the surrounding inner ring suburbs and uses an equity framework to ensure government accountability. **20,000**

Grand Boulevard Federation

Support for the Peer Parent Education Network, a project which organizes public school parents to advocate for equitable resources for south side schools, and fairness around school closings. **40,000**

Grassroots Collaborative

Support for a coalition of community and labor organizations actively seeking to create structural change in Chicago and statewide, as well as strengthen the movement for social justice and economic equity with a special focus on the Chicago bid process for the 2016 Olympics. **40,000**

Heartland Alliance for Human Needs and Human Rights

Support for the From Poverty to Opportunity Campaign that seeks to reduce extreme poverty in Illinois by fifty percent by the year 2015 through its advocacy efforts to create an Illinois Commission on Poverty Elimination. **40,000**

Housing Action Illinois

General operating support for this statewide coalition focused on organizing members and allies to support its public policy agenda for housing justice in Illinois. **25,000**

Continued general operating support. **30,000**

Illinois Action for Children

Final payment of two-year support for advocacy and organizing to increase state funding for early childhood education and the Preschool for All campaign, that assures that every three and four-year-old in Illinois can participate in high-quality early childhood education programs. **45,000**

Illinois Asset Building Group

FISCAL AGENT: HEARTLAND ALLIANCE FOR HUMAN NEEDS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Support for the Children's Savings Account policy and program in Illinois. **50,000**

Illinois Coalition for Immigrant & Refugee Rights

First payment of two-year support for its organizing and advocacy work bringing together immigrant and refugee groups from across the state to advocate for increased opportunity and civic engagement of immigrants throughout Illinois. **60,000**

Illinois Hunger Coalition

Support for its three organizing and advocacy programs, Anti-Hunger Action, Community Quality Councils, and Latinos Organized for Justice, that seek to alleviate and end hunger in Illinois. **40,000**

Inner-City Muslim Action Network

General operating support for this multigenerational, national Muslim nonprofit leader in social change, service delivery and artistic excellence, with a special focus on immigration and criminal justice reform. **40,000**

Interfaith Housing Center of the Northern Suburbs

Support for its tenant organizing project, that organizes low-income tenants to protect access to affordable rental housing in the near northern suburbs. **25,000**

Lakeside Community Development Corporation

Support for the salary of the housing organizer to work with community residents and agencies to support the preservation of affordable housing in the Rogers Park neighborhood. **25,000**

Latino Union of Chicago

General operating support to this community organization that collaborates with day laborers to develop the tools necessary to collectively improve economic and working conditions. **40,000**

Little Village Community Development Corporation now known as ENCLACE Chicago

First payment of two-year general operating support to organize residents in the Little Village neighborhood around such issues as neighborhood safety, school reform, and juvenile justice. **35,000**

Midwest Academy

Final payment of two-year support for the community organizing summer intern program which builds the field of organizing by creating a pipeline for entry-level organizers who are well-trained. **35,000**

National Training and Information Center

General operating support for its work in metropolitan Chicago to train and support organizers, build capacity of community organizations, and convene organizations for public policy campaigns. **50,000**

Northwestern University School of Law, Children and Family Justice Center, Bluhm Legal Clinic

Support for the Illinois Coalition for the Fair Sentencing of Children, an advocacy effort that works to eliminate the sentencing of juvenile offenders to life without possibility of parole. **25,000**

Pilsen Alliance

General operating support for this social justice organization committed to developing grassroots leadership in Pilsen and neighboring working-class, immigrant communities in Chicago's lower west side. **25,000**

Protestants for the Common Good

General operating support for organizing and advocacy that includes education funding reform, increasing TANF cash grants and reducing structural barriers for the formerly incarcerated. **40,000**

Public Action Foundation, The

Support for the Monsignor Egan Campaign for Payday Loan Reform, an advocacy effort to protect consumers from major predatory lending, including auto title and refund anticipation loans. **25,000**

Restaurant Opportunities Center United

FISCAL AGENT: RESTAURANT OPPORTUNITIES CENTER OF NEW YORK

Support to launch a Chicago-based restaurant worker project to organize immigrant workers in the restaurant industry to improve working conditions and job mobility. **35,000**

intersection of community organizing and public policy (cont.)

Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law

Final payment of two-year support for the Advocacy Project, which seeks to advance policy around increased earnings for the working poor, access to universal health care, family leave, children's savings accounts, and job opportunities for the hard-to-employ. **120,000**

Supportive Housing Providers Association

General operating support for a statewide coalition advocating for adequate funding and understanding of the need for housing and social services for formerly homeless individuals. **30,000**

TARGET Area Development Corporation

Final payment of two-year general operating support for a multifocus organization that works for social justice reform and systemic change through local leadership development, organizing, research, and collaboration. **40,000**

United African Organization, Inc.

FISCAL AGENT: ILLINOIS COALITION FOR IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE RIGHTS

General operating support for this emerging coalition of African community-based associations that is working to build a solid framework for community organizing around issues of common concern to African immigrants and refugees. **35,000**

Voices for Illinois Children

Support for the organization's Community Engagement Associate, who connects less-advantaged communities in Chicago to the organization's policy work for fairer taxes and opportunity for low-income families. **18,000**

We The People Media

General operating support for this organization that uses media to bring the voices and perspectives of public housing residents to the broader public through publications like *Residents Journal* as well as broadcast and internet media. **20,000**

TOTAL INTERSECTION OF COMMUNITY ORGANIZING AND PUBLIC POLICY	\$1,473,000
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community organizing

A+ Illinois

FISCAL AGENT: CENTER FOR TAX AND BUDGET ACCOUNTABILITY

Support for the community organizing work of this statewide coalition that organizes and advocates for improved state education funding and tax reform. **50,000**

Albany Park Neighborhood Council

Final payment of three-year general operating support for ongoing community organizing efforts. **35,000**

Alianza Leadership Institute

FISCAL AGENT: LUGENIA BURNS HOPE CENTER

General operating support for culturally-sensitive Latino organizing training and the sponsoring of a new community organization in south Chicago. **40,000**

Asian American Institute

Support for its community organizing work to improve education, immigrant rights, and civic participation in Asian communities within Chicago. **25,000**

Blocks Together

General operating support for this West Humboldt Park multi-issue, direct-action community organization that addresses issues of school governance and Tax Increment Financing reform. **30,000**

Brighton Park Neighborhood Council

Final payment of three-year general operating support for community organizing efforts in the Brighton Park neighborhood. **35,000**

Chicago Freedom School

General operating support to engage and mobilize youth around issues of social change and justice, addressing the root causes of poverty and inequality by exploring the historical context of movement building, training leaders and advocates, and through developing organizing campaigns. **25,000**

Community Organizing Award

FISCAL AGENT: WIEBOLDT FOUNDATION

For award and expenses related to the 2008 Community Organizing Award, to recognize outstanding work in the field of community organizing. **20,000**

For award and expenses related to the 2009 Community Organizing Award, to recognize outstanding work in the field of community organizing. **20,000**

Jane Addams Senior Caucus

Support for its Housing Advocacy Project that organizes low-income senior citizens in the north lakefront area to preserve and protect affordable housing. **20,000**

Kenwood Oakland Community Organization

Final payment of two-year general operating support for this grassroots, multi-issue community organization focused on improving schools and preserving affordable housing on the south side of Chicago. **40,000**

Korean American Resource & Cultural Center

Support for the Workplace Justice Campaign that organizes and advocates for worker rights as well as helps Korean business owners understand their legal obligations. **25,000**

Lakeview Action Coalition

Support for this multi-issue, institution-based community organization working to sustain racial, economic and other forms of diversity in a rapidly gentrifying Lakeview neighborhood. **20,000**

Logan Square Neighborhood Association, Inc.

Final payment of two-year support restricted to community organizing and advocacy activities to engage neighborhood leaders on such issues as improving local schools, preserving affordable housing and developing youth leadership. **40,000**

Lugenia Burns Hope Center

General operating support for this organization that mobilizes congregations and develops leaders in the Bronzeville neighborhood to support more affordable housing opportunities for residents. **30,000**

Metropolitan Area Group for Igniting Civilization, Inc.

Support for its community organizing and public policy advocacy that engages families and develops youth leaders in the Woodlawn neighborhood. **40,000**

Metropolitan Tenants Organization

Final payment of two-year support for this organization that informs, organizes, and trains low to moderate-income tenants to be advocates for safe, affordable housing. **30,000**

Northwest Neighborhood Federation

General operating support to this organization that works with Latino and Polish residents in the neighborhoods of Belmont-Cragin and Hermosa on issues such as immigration reform, neighborhood safety, and school improvement. **25,000**

Organization of the NorthEast

General operating support for this member organization comprised of community institutions in the north lakefront area addressing issues such as affordable housing, school improvement, and criminal justice reform. **35,000**

Partners in Community Building, Inc.

Support for the Seniors Together Organizing Project that engages residents in senior buildings throughout the south side to advocate for greater access to affordable housing. **20,000**

Public Action for Change Today

FISCAL AGENT: INDUSTRIAL AREAS FOUNDATION

Final payment of two-year general operating support to this young adult organizing initiative that brings together young people from across the metropolitan region to advocate on a range of issues. **35,000**

Resurrection Project, The

Support for the salary of a community organizer for this multi-issue community organizing and development organization operating on Chicago's southwest side. **25,000**

San Lucas Workers Education and Leadership Development Center doing business as San Lucas Workers Center

General operating support for this workers center that endeavors to organize jointly US-born and immigrant workers through its Day Labor Accountability and Publicity Project. **25,000**

Southside Together Organizing for Power

FISCAL AGENT: ILLINOIS JUSTICE FOUNDATION

General operating support for an organization that mobilizes low-income community residents to leverage more equitable and sustainable community development while preserving current subsidized housing stock in Woodlawn and surrounding communities. **30,000**

Southsiders Organized for Unity & Liberation

FISCAL AGENT: METROPOLITAN ALLIANCE

OF CONGREGATIONS

General operating support to this faith-based organization committed to training and developing leaders to become more active and effective in the public arena in order to work for social justice. **20,000**

Southwest Youth Collaborative

Support for the Educational Rights Coalition, a collaboration working to dismantle the zero tolerance policies and practices that criminalize young people. **20,000**

Women and Girls Collective Action Network

Support for the media justice campaign Females United for Action, a youth organizing initiative working to change media portrayals of marginalized communities. **15,000**

TOTAL COMMUNITY ORGANIZING	\$775,000
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public policy

Center for Tax and Budget Accountability

Final payment of two-year support for this bipartisan fiscal think tank focused on ensuring that tax and economic policies in Illinois related to poor and working class constituencies are sound and fair. **60,000**

Chicago Metropolitan 2020

Support for the salary of the organization's Justice/Violence Initiative Program Director to work in the areas of juvenile justice and community reentry of the formerly incarcerated with an emphasis on engaging community groups in efforts to improve effectiveness and equality in the criminal justice system. **25,000**

Community Assistance Programs

Support for policy advocacy to mandate employment training and job placement services for youth exiting the foster care system. **30,000**

Health and Medicine Policy Research Group

Support for the Cook County Bureau of Health Services Advocacy Project intended to ensure that an adequate and effective health safety net exists for poor and disenfranchised individuals and communities by reforming the Cook County public health system. **25,000**

Juvenile Justice Initiative

General operating support for this statewide advocacy organization supporting juvenile justice policy in Illinois that preserves the rights and opportunities of affected youth. **37,500**

Latino Policy Forum, The

Support for policy advocacy and research on issues of particular concern to Latinos in the Chicago metropolitan region, including access to early childhood education programs, affordable housing, immigration reform and leadership development. **35,000**

Mikva Challenge Grant Foundation

First payment of two-year support for its Youth Advocacy Councils that convene and train youth to improve public policy related to education, safety, and teen health. **25,000**

Northern Illinois University

Final payment of two-year support to the Office for Social Policy Research for the public education component of State of Working Illinois, a series of portraits that provide comprehensive information and analyses about current labor market conditions and their consequences. **25,000**

Safer Foundation

Final payment of two-year support for policy advocacy to eliminate systemic barriers to employment for formerly incarcerated individuals. **50,000**

Women Employed Institute

Final payment of two-year support for this organization's efforts to achieve the systemic reform necessary to make Illinois' public education and training accessible, as well as responsive to the needs of low-income adults and to help them advance to better jobs. **55,000**

Woodstock Institute

Support for its work against predatory lending in metropolitan Chicago, which encompasses research, policy analysis, and advocacy on mortgage and consumer credit issues affecting low-income individuals and families. **35,000**

Workforce Alliance, The

Support for the Skills2Compete Campaign in Illinois whose goal is to update the universal skills guarantee from high school to two years of postsecondary education. **25,000**

TOTAL PUBLIC POLICY	\$427,500
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arts and culture

About Face Theatre Collective doing business as About Face Theatre

Final payment of three-year general operating support to further capacity building efforts. **12,500**

Archi-Treasures Association

Final payment of three-year general operating support to bring together community residents to participate in the Garden Gallery Project. **12,500**

Arts Work Fund for Organizational Development

FISCAL AGENT: CHICAGO COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Support for project development and implementation of a pilot plan for Consultants on Call, which is intended to help build the organizational capacity of small and emerging arts and culture groups located on the south side of Chicago. **10,000**

Beyondmedia Education

Final payment of three-year general operating support to build organizational infrastructure and staffing. **12,500**

Cerqua Rivera Art Experience

Support for the expansion of its Youth Ensemble which is comprised of students primarily from low-income communities to learn dance techniques, receive stipends and perform with the professional dance company. **7,500**

Chicago Human Rhythm Project

General operating grant to this dynamic organization whose focus is to engage the public in American tap dance and contemporary percussive arts through world-class concerts, educational forums and community outreach programs. **10,000**

Chicago Jazz Philharmonic

Support for staff leadership and the transition project of this emerging orchestra whose focus is to merge jazz and classical traditions to bridge gaps in genre, artistry and diversity. **10,000**

Chicago Public Art Group

Second payment of three-year general operating support to this arts organization that partners with community development organizations, neighborhood groups, social service agencies, advocacy groups and schools to design projects that help realize social, cultural, educational, and aesthetic goals. **15,000**

Community TV Network

Final payment of three-year general operating support to engage low-income youth in producing and presenting empowering digital videos in order to improve their lives and their neighborhoods. **12,500**

Deeply Rooted Productions

General operating support for this African-American contemporary dance company whose mission is to share with the public its philosophy and understanding of dance and dance's profound effect in cultivating human potential. **10,000**

Gillourey Institute doing business as

Silk Road Theatre Project

First payment of two-year general operating support to this emerging theater that showcases playwrights of Asian, Middle Eastern, and Mediterranean backgrounds and whose work addresses themes relevant to the people of the Silk Road and their Diaspora communities. **15,000**

Giordano Jazz Dance Chicago

First payment of two-year general operating support to this American jazz dance company whose focus is to develop and preserve the indigenous American art form of jazz dance by creating new and innovative jazz dance choreography and taking this art form to audiences of all ages and from all ethnic backgrounds. **10,000**

Illinois Arts Alliance

General operating support to this statewide arts advocacy and service organization whose mission is to promote the value of the arts to all residents in Illinois through research, capacity building and the sharing of information and resources. **12,000**

Illinois Humanities Council, The

Support for the arts portion of the Illinois Public Square's series titled: Looking for Democracy in '08 and Beyond. **10,000**

Institute of Puerto Rican Arts & Culture

Support for capacity building to help engage a new permanent executive director to lead this museum that is devoted to the promotion, integration and advancement of Puerto Rican arts and culture. **10,000**

Lira Ensemble

General operating support to this organization that is the nation's only performing arts company specializing in Polish music, song and dance. **10,000**

Music Theatre Workshop

First payment of three-year support to this organization that engages youth, including incarcerated girls and young women, in artistic skills development and performance in ways that are designed to promote youth and community development. **10,000**

Pegasus Players

Final payment of three-year general operating support for the community-building outreach programs. **12,500**

Pew Charitable Trusts

First payment of two-year support for the start-up and launch cost of the Illinois Cultural Data Project that helps to build statewide collaboration of private and public partners through a web-based data collection system for arts and culture organizations. **15,000**

Pros Arts Studio

Final payment of three-year general operating support for a neighborhood-based organization providing art instruction to children through schools and community institutions in a near west side Latino neighborhood. **12,500**

South Chicago Art Center

Support for the Teen Apprenticeship Program of this neighborhood-based center that is dedicated to educating less-advantaged youth in visual arts practices, encouraging intellectual curiosity and promoting friendship, peace and solidarity among area youth. **7,500**

Street-Level Youth Media

Second payment of three-year general operating support to this arts organization that provides technology access and community-based media training to low-income, underserved urban youth, a demographic too frequently neglected by policy makers and mass media. **15,000**

Teatro Vista... Theater With A View

General operating support to this small theater company that endeavors to bring Latino culture to the widest possible audience while simultaneously trying to create opportunities for Latino actors, playwrights and theater professionals. **10,000**

Urban Gateways

Support for the Centers for the Art of Learning project, a pilot based in four Chicago neighborhoods in partnership with the New Communities Project Local Initiatives Support Corporation to develop comprehensive community arts programming. **10,000**

TOTAL ARTS AND CULTURE	\$272,000
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discretionary for special purposes

Chicago LGBTQ Immigrants Alliance

FISCAL AGENT: LATINOS PROGRESANDO

Support for Immigration at the Margins, a community forum on immigration practices that provides a venue to present a different perspective on immigration policies and rights that are humane to everyone. **1,000**

Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning

Support for a convening to introduce GO TO 2040, a comprehensive regional land use and transportation plan to educate Latino and African-American community stakeholders about the plan and to mobilize them to actively participate in its development. **3,000**

Chicago Tenant Coalition for the Preservation of Section 8 Housing

FISCAL AGENT: LAKEVIEW ACTION COALITION

Support to this citywide coalition of community organizations to hire a facilitator and pay for space, transportation, food and materials for a retreat for its tenant leaders and staff. **3,000**

Coalition for a Better Chinese American Community

FISCAL AGENT: CHINESE AMERICAN SERVICE LEAGUE

Emergency support to permit the hiring of a Chinese-American community organizer, who will organize limited-English youth on issues such as school violence, immigrant support, and community safety. **10,000**

Community Renewal Society

Support for Catalyst Magazine's convening highlighting the status of Chicago Public Schools High School Redesign Initiative, including the publication of an investigative report on the Initiative. **5,000**

Crossroads Fund

Support for the Anti-Corruption Project to present long-term historical data on the pattern, scale and social costs of corruption in a way that is easily used by community and civic groups. **5,000**

Gamaliel Foundation

Support for conducting and analyzing interviews throughout the Chicago area as part of a comprehensive self-evaluation of the organization. **10,000**

Grassroots Grantmakers

FISCAL AGENT: BATTLE CREEK COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Support to help defray expenses associated with its fall 2008 Chicago "On the Ground" learning intensive for funders. **2,500**

Inner-City Muslim Action Network

Support for its Youth Council that works to mobilize youth to take direct action addressing issues that affect their communities, such as employment, living wage, public safety, housing, and access to quality education **7,000**

Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum doing business as National Museum of Mexican Art

Support for its education department to develop an Immigration Curriculum that will supply educational resources to educators to discuss and learn about immigration. **10,000**

Mujeres Latinas En Accion

Support to publish and promote a multi-issue research document entitled "Latinas Portraits" that depicts the growing and largely ignored status of Latinas in the Chicago metropolitan area. **10,000**

National Organizers Alliance

Support for a national database of organizing jobs to connect aspiring organizers with employment opportunities. **10,000**

National Public Housing Museum

Support for the museum's first on-line public housing photography exhibition presenting a compelling collection of images from public housing developments in Chicago and featuring the work of three distinguished photographers. **7,000**

People for Community Recovery, Inc.

Support for public education and outreach activities in Altgeld Gardens that will mobilize and inform public housing residents about upcoming Local Advisory Council elections. **425**

Roosevelt University, Institute for Metropolitan Affairs, Illinois Consortium on Drug Policy

Support for "Explore the Effects of Plea Bargaining on Drug Offenders in Cook County" Project, a project to determine if group differences such as gender, race, and neighborhood exist in plea agreements offered to individuals initially charged with drug sales or possession offenses within Cook County. **5,000**

United Congress of Community and Religious Organizations

FISCAL AGENT: TARGET AREA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Support for the State of Unity Town Hall meeting in Springfield, Illinois. **5,000**

Westside Health Authority

Support for its Culture of Learning Campaign, primarily driven by youth organizers, to improve the community's infrastructure and support the public schools by working with a statewide coalition to advocate for equitable school funding. **3,000**

SUBTOTAL DISCRETIONARY FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES **\$96,925**

**South Side Initiative
Discretionary**

Arab American Action Network

Support for four members to attend the National Network for Arab American Communities conference as an opportunity to learn strategies to build organizational capacity. **1,000**

Brighton Park Neighborhood Council

Support for training to send a new housing organizer to Midwest Academy's Organizer Training. **775**

Support for a mentor partnership to develop capacity related to fundraising. **3,000**

Center for Economic Policy Analysis

For presentation of materials and delivery of a workshop on the Cook County tax and budget systems to South Side Initiative Learning Table participants. **1,000**

Center for Tax and Budget Accountability

For presentation of materials and delivery of a workshop on the Chicago and Illinois tax and budget systems to South Side Initiative Learning Table participants. **1,000**

Communities for an Equitable Olympics 2016

FISCAL AGENT: KENWOOD OAKLAND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

Support to a coalition of eleven community and labor organizations for a campaign to secure a community benefits agreement with the city of Chicago in the areas of affordable housing, employment, economic development, and transportation needed in communities affected by the city's 2016 Olympics bid. **15,000**

Grand Boulevard Federation

Support for a staff member to obtain outside training to build fundraising capacity. **350**

Support for a mentor partnership to build capacity. **3,000**

**Metropolitan Area Group for Igniting
Civilization, Inc.**

Support for a staff member to obtain organizing training. **950**

Monroe Foundation, The

Support for the Community Reinvestment Organizing Project (C.O.P.), a grassroots community organizing and public policy initiative that focuses on engaging stakeholders in communities adversely affected by irresponsible predatory and subprime lenders and subsidiaries of Chicago area financial institutions. **5,000**

Southside Organizers Summit

Support for a coalition that seeks to provide technical assistance and strategic guidance to leaders of color working on Chicago's south side. **10,000**

SUBTOTAL SOUTH SIDE INITIATIVE
DISCRETIONARY \$41,075

**TOTAL DISCRETIONARY
FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES \$138,000**

other

**Communities for Public Education Reform
(formerly called Chicago Fund for
Education Organizing)**

FISCAL AGENT: PUBLIC INTEREST PROJECTS INC.

Second payment of three-year support to a funders collaborative in support of education issues. **50,000**

Fulfilling the Dream Fund

FISCAL AGENT: PUBLIC INTEREST PROJECTS INC.

Final payment of three-year support for a collaborative supporting the work of the Mexican American Legal Defense Fund, the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights under the Law and other local Latino and African-American community organizing groups to address employment discrimination that affects these racial minority groups in Chicago. **50,000**

Hispanics In Philanthropy

Final payment of two-year support for the Chicago site of the Collaborative for Strong Latino Communities, a concerted effort of foundations, corporations, government agencies and individual donors to raise local funds for Latino-led and Latino-serving nonprofits. **25,000**

TOTAL OTHER \$125,000

TOTAL 2008 GRANTS PAID \$3,210,500

independent auditor's report

Board of Directors

Woods Fund of Chicago

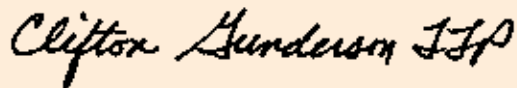
Chicago, Illinois

We have audited the accompanying statements of financial position (cash basis) of Woods Fund of Chicago as of December 31, 2008 and 2007, and the related statements of activities (cash basis) for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Fund's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in the summary of significant accounting policies, these financial statements were prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the assets, liabilities and net assets of Woods Fund of Chicago as of December 31, 2008 and 2007, and its revenues and expenses for the years then ended on the basis of accounting described in the summary of significant accounting policies.



CLIFTON GUNDERSON, LLP

Oak Brook, Illinois

June 10, 2009

statements of financial position

CASH BASIS

WOODS FUND OF CHICAGO

December 31, 2008 and 2007

ASSETS	2008	2007
Cash and temporary cash investments, including \$0 and \$9 held on behalf of Chicago Community Organizing Capacity Building Initiative, at December 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively	\$ 2,491,502	\$ 596,786
Investments:		
Corporate stock, at cost	15,716,394	22,368,046
Mutual funds, at cost	32,477,713	34,599,920
Partnership interests, at cost	<u>3,090,637</u>	<u>2,836,451</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 53,776,246</u>	<u>\$ 60,401,203</u>
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
LIABILITIES		
Due to Chicago Community Organizing Capacity Building Initiative	\$ -	\$ 9
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted net assets	<u>53,776,246</u>	<u>60,401,194</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 53,776,246</u>	<u>\$ 60,401,203</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

statements of activities

CASH BASIS

WOODS FUND OF CHICAGO

Years Ended December 31, 2008 and 2007

REVENUES, GAINS AND LOSSES	2008	2007
Investment income:		
Interest on cash and temporary cash investments	\$ 27,009	\$ 78,645
Dividends	1,312,012	1,602,866
Realized gain (loss) on sale of corporate stocks	(3,168,533)	2,922,470
Realized gain (loss) on sale of mutual funds	(83,903)	283,742
Realized gain on sale of equipment	-	400
Capital gains distributions	784,873	2,187,937
Realized gain at termination of partnership	1,106	-
Other interest income	11,473	-
Rental income from subleased office space	28,955	-
Other income:		
Class action settlements	2,114	26,463
Tax refunds	15,249	-
Fiscal agency fee	9	31,141
Refunds of prior year expense	18,250	-
Total revenues, gains and losses	<u>(1,051,386)</u>	<u>7,133,664</u>
OPERATING AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES		
Compensation of officers, directors and key employees	324,180	260,580
Other employee salaries and wages	163,591	205,883
Employee benefits	148,097	177,121
Legal fees	18,733	6,773
Other professional fees	424,127	469,060
Taxes	56,042	151,948
Occupancy	148,460	146,012
Travel, conferences and meetings	34,065	22,195
Printing and publications	1,651	12,424
Other operating and administrative expenses	135,640	67,725
Total operating and administrative expenses	1,454,586	1,519,721
CONTRIBUTIONS, GIFTS AND GRANTS PAID	3,210,500	3,356,550
LOSS ON IMPAIRMENT OF PARTNERSHIP INTEREST	908,476	-
Total expenses and disbursements	<u>5,573,562</u>	<u>4,876,271</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(6,624,948)	2,257,393
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>60,401,194</u>	<u>58,143,801</u>
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 53,776,246</u>	<u>\$ 60,401,194</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

notes to financial statements

WOODS FUND OF CHICAGO

December 31, 2008 and 2007

1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Woods Fund of Chicago (the "Fund") was created pursuant to a Plan of Reorganization for Woods Charitable Fund, Inc. ("Charitable Fund") and was incorporated in the State of Illinois on November 16, 1993 as a charitable corporation not for pecuniary gain. In accordance with the Asset Transfer Agreement, 70% of the market value of assets of the Charitable Fund was allocated to the Woods Fund of Chicago. The Fund is a grantmaking foundation whose goal is to increase opportunities for less-advantaged people and communities in the metropolitan area, including the opportunity to shape decisions affecting them. The Fund works primarily as a funding partner with nonprofit organizations. The Fund supports nonprofits in their important roles of engaging people in civic life, addressing the causes of poverty and other challenges facing the region, promoting more effective public policies, reducing racism and other barriers to equal opportunity, and building a sense of community and common ground. The Fund's primary sources of revenue are investment income and realized gains. The Fund's fiscal year ends on December 31. Significant accounting policies followed by the Fund are presented below.

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Fund have been prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles. Accordingly, revenue is recorded when received rather than when earned and expenses are recorded when paid rather than when the obligation is incurred.

Financial Statement Presentation

The Fund prepares its financial statements under provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 117, *Financial Statements of Not-for-Profit Organizations*. Under SFAS No. 117, the Fund is required to report information regarding its financial position and activities according to three classes of net assets: unrestricted net assets, temporarily restricted net assets and permanently restricted net assets. All of the Fund's net assets are unrestricted.

Temporary Cash Investments

The Fund considers all highly liquid investments to be temporary cash investments. The Fund's temporary cash investments consist of money market funds.

Investments

Investments in marketable equity securities and partnerships are stated at cost. The Fund evaluates partnership interests yearly for impairment.

Refunds from Grants Awarded to Other Funds

Unexpended balances of grants awarded by the Fund are required to be returned to the Fund. Grant refunds to the Fund are recorded when received.

1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT.)

Income Taxes

The Fund has been determined by the Internal Revenue Service to be exempt from Federal income tax under Section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the "Code") as an organization described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Code. The Fund is a private foundation as described in Section 509(a). The Fund qualifies for the charitable contribution deduction under Section 170(b).

Change in Accounting Principles

Effective January 1, 2008, the Fund adopted FAS 117-1, *Endowments of Not-for-Profit Organizations: Net Asset Classification of Funds Subject to an Enacted Version of the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act, and Enhanced Disclosures for All Endowment Funds*, which provides guidance on the net asset classification of donor-restricted endowment funds for a not-for-profit organization that is subject to an enacted version of the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act of 2006 (UPMIFA). UPMIFA is a model act approved by the Uniform Law Commission (ULC; formerly known as the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws) that serves as a guideline for states to use in enacting legislation. While the expectation is that the State of Illinois will ultimately adopt UPMIFA, it has not yet done so. This FSP also improves disclosures about an organization's endowment funds (both donor-restricted endowment funds and board-designated endowment funds), whether or not the organization is subject to UPMIFA. The Fund currently has no endowments.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In June 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Interpretation No. 48, *Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes*—an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109 (FIN 48), to create a single model to address accounting for uncertainty in tax positions. FIN 48 clarifies the accounting for income taxes by prescribing a minimum recognition threshold a tax position is required to meet before being recognized in the financial statements. FIN 48 also provides guidance on derecognition, measurement, classification, interest and penalties, disclosure and transition. FIN 48 was effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2006, but the effective date has been deferred to fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2008 for certain nonpublic enterprises by FASB Statement of Position No. FIN 48-3, *Effective Date of FASB Interpretation No. 48 for Certain Nonpublic Enterprises (FSP FIN 48-3)*.

The Fund has elected to defer the adoption of FIN 48 and will continue to account for uncertain tax positions using the guidance in FASB Statement No. 5, *Accounting for Contingencies*, until FIN 48 is adopted. The cumulative effect of adopting FIN 48 will be recorded as an adjustment of retained earnings on January 1, 2009. The Fund has not determined the effect, if any, the adoption of FIN 48 will have on the Fund's Statements of Financial Position (Cash Basis) and Statements of Activities (Cash Basis), and has not determined if the adoption of FIN 48 will have a material effect on its financial statements.

2 INVESTMENTS

The Fund's investments are carried at cost. Fair values at December 31, 2008 and 2007 were determined as follows:

- Investments in mutual funds at net asset value.
- Investments in United States Government securities at latest bid quotation.
- Corporate stocks at closing prices of national securities exchanges or latest bid quotation.
- Partnership interests by the equity method.

The total market value of the Fund's investments, cash and temporary cash investments at December 31, 2008 and 2007 is \$47,958,318 and \$73,531,808, respectively.

Corporate Stock and Mutual Funds

Investments in corporate stock and mutual funds are stated at cost. Fair values and unrealized appreciation (depreciation) at December 31 are summarized as follows:

2008

	COST	VALUE	UNREALIZED DEPRECIATION
Corporate stock	\$ 15,716,394	\$ 14,264,237	\$ (1,452,157)
Mutual funds	<u>32,477,713</u>	<u>28,553,435</u>	<u>(3,924,278)</u>
Total	<u>\$ 48,194,107</u>	<u>\$ 42,817,672</u>	<u>\$ (5,376,435)</u>

2007

	COST	VALUE	UNREALIZED APPRECIATION
Corporate stock	\$22,368,046	\$ 27,951,495	\$ 5,583,449
Mutual funds	<u>34,599,920</u>	<u>42,011,131</u>	<u>7,411,211</u>
Total	<u>\$ 56,967,966</u>	<u>\$ 69,962,626</u>	<u>\$ 12,994,660</u>

Partnership Interests

During the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, the Fund was a limited partner in eight and seven partnerships, respectively. These partnerships require certain capital commitments. Partnership investments are stated at cost. The fair value of these investments is computed as the value of the Fund's partnership equity plus its allocated portion of income, expense and unrealized appreciation or depreciation of partnership assets as determined by each individual partnership.

Fair market value of partnership interests is as of the most recent information available. Fair market value of SB Partners Capital Fund, L.P. is as of December 31, 2008 audited information. Fair market value of Northern Trust Private Equity II, L.P., Northern Trust Private Equity III, L.P., FLAG International Partners, L.P., FLAG Private Equity III, L.P. and FLAG Real Assets Partners, L.P. is as of unaudited December 31, 2008 financial statements. Fair market value of Neighborhood Rejuvenation Partners, L.P. is shown at a nominal value due to the uncertainty of realizing value on the underlying assets.

2 INVESTMENTS (CONT.)

Partnership Interests

	ALPHA CAPITAL FUND II, L.P.	SB PARTNERS CAPITAL FUND, L.P.	NEIGHBORHOOD REJUVENATION PARTNERS, L.P.	NORTHERN TRUST PRIVATE EQUITY II, L.P.	NORTHERN TRUST PRIVATE EQUITY III, L.P.	FLAG INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS L.P.	FLAG PRIVATE EQUITY III, L.P.	FLAG REAL ASSETS PARTNERS L.P.	TOTAL
Investment at December 31, 2006	\$ 12,653	\$ 374,458	\$ 908,477	\$ 314,137	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ 253,000	\$ -	\$ 1,962,725
Capital contributions	-	-	-	330,000	185,000	95,000	379,500	-	989,500
Withdrawals and distributions	-	(65,050)	-	(28,851)	-	-	(21,873)	-	(115,774)
Investment at December 31, 2007	12,653	309,408	908,477	615,286	185,000	195,000	610,627	-	2,836,451
Capital contributions	-	-	-	330,000	111,000	195,000	345,000	379,250	1,360,250
Recallable return of capital	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(27,750)	(27,750)
Withdrawals and distributions	(12,653)	(18,586)	-	(37,557)	-	(4,698)	(81,220)	(15,124)	(169,838)
Loss on impairment of partnership interest	-	-	(908,476)	-	-	-	-	-	(908,476)
Investment at December 31, 2008	\$ -	\$ 290,822	\$ 1	\$ 907,729	\$ 296,000	\$ 385,302	\$ 874,407	\$ 336,376	\$ 3,090,637
Initial capital commitment	\$ 500,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,650,000	\$ 1,850,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 2,300,000	\$ 1,850,000	\$11,650,000
Capital contributed to date as of									
December 31, 2008	\$ 470,932	\$ 911,486	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 990,000	\$ 296,000	\$ 390,000	\$ 977,500	\$ 351,500	\$ 5,387,418
Most recent valuation of partnership interest	\$ -	\$ 544,984	\$ 1	\$ 731,436	\$ 201,978	\$ 309,362	\$ 600,977	\$ 260,406	\$ 2,649,144

2 INVESTMENTS (CONT.)

Partnership Interests

In 2008, an impairment loss of \$908,476 was recognized on the Neighborhood Rejuvenation Partners, L.P. partnership interest due to the uncertainty that the partnership interest will be recovered. The partnership interest was reduced to a nominal fair market value as of December 31, 2008.

In 2008, the Alpha Capital Fund II, L.P. was liquidated and a final distribution was received.

Total Investment Return

The following summarizes the investment return (loss) which includes interest on cash and temporary cash investments and investments:

	2008	2007
Interest income	\$ 27,009	\$ 78,645
Dividends	1,312,012	1,602,866
Net realized gains (losses)	(3,251,330)	3,206,212
Capital gains distributions	<u>784,873</u>	<u>2,187,937</u>
Total investment return (loss)	<u>\$(1,127,436)</u>	<u>\$ 7,075,660</u>

3 OPERATING LEASES

The Fund leases its office facilities under two operating leases expiring March 2009 and December 2010. Under these leases, the Fund is required to share building operating and maintenance costs and taxes. An agreement was made to sublease a portion of the office facility from February 11, 2008 until March 31, 2009 at an annual rental of \$32,610. The Fund also leases certain equipment under operating leases expiring July 2010. Future minimum rental payments, net of sublease income, under existing lease agreements for the years ended December 31 are summarized as follows:

2009	75,110
2010	<u>69,438</u>
Total	<u>\$ 144,548</u>

Total rent and equipment lease expense was \$98,656 and \$136,879 in 2008 and 2007, respectively.

4 NON-CONTRIBUTORY RETIREMENT PLAN

The Fund sponsors a simplified employee pension (SEP) plan qualified under Section 408(k) of the Internal Revenue Code. The plan is available to all employees 21 years of age and older who have performed at least one year of service in the immediately preceding five years. Contributions are at the discretion of the Fund. During the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, the Fund made contributions in the amount of \$36,725 and \$56,065, respectively.

5 GRANTS AUTHORIZED BUT UNPAID

Total grants authorized but unpaid at December 31, 2008 and 2007 were \$280,000 and \$1,245,000, respectively.

6 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Board members are compensated for their involvement on the Board of Directors. Directors receive an annual retainer and additional compensation for attending Board meetings. For the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, total directors' fees for all directors were \$39,000 and \$36,000, respectively. These fees are considered to be part of ordinary expenses of the Fund and are included in compensation of officers, directors and key employees in the Statements of Activities (Cash Basis).

7 EXCISE TAXES

The Fund is exempt from Federal income taxes and classified as a private foundation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (the "Code"). It is subject to a 2% (1% if certain criteria are met) federal excise tax on net investment income, including realized gains, as defined by the Code.

Current excise taxes were provided at 2% for 2008 and 2007.

8 FUNDS HELD AS AGENT

The Fund entered into an agreement whereby the Fund is a member and fiscal agent for the Chicago Community Organizing Capacity Building Initiative (the "Initiative"), which consisted of several organizations. As fiscal agent, the Fund received grants and contributions on behalf of the Initiative and disbursed funds as directed by the Initiative. Funds held on behalf of the Initiative at December 31, 2008 and 2007 totaled \$0 and \$9, respectively, which are included as a liability in the Statements of Financial Position (Cash Basis). Management fees received from the Initiative were \$9 and \$31,141 for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively, which are included as revenues in the Statements of Activities (Cash Basis). Operations of the Initiative terminated in 2007 and final distribution of remaining cash was made in February 2008.

9 CONCENTRATIONS OF CREDIT RISK

The Fund maintains its cash in one commercial bank located in Chicago, Illinois. Balances on deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) up to specified limits. Balances in excess of FDIC limits are uninsured. Total cash held by the bank was \$1,407,695 and \$1,062,116, at December 31, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

This information is an integral part of the accompanying financial statements.

“Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness, that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, ‘Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented and fabulous?’ Actually, who are you not to be?”

-NELSON **MANDELA**

“**Social advance
depends as much upon
the process through
which it is secured
as upon the
result
itself.**”

-JANE ADDAMS

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