

Holistic Plan

April 2021



Wellness - Mutual Aid Builds Power & Healing

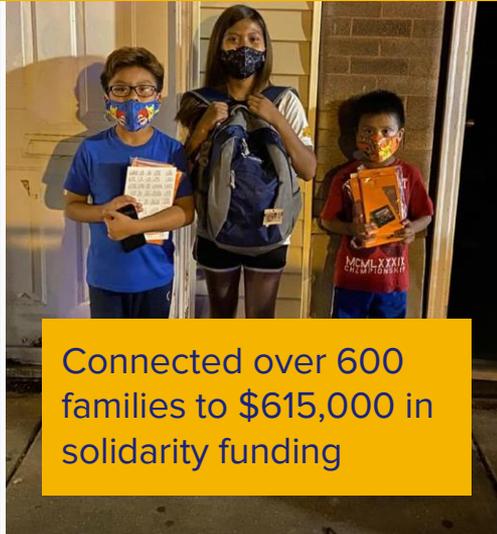
WE BELIEVE that in our Palenque we build power by taking care of one another and standing against systems that tear us apart.

WE ARE in love with learning what it means to be a pro-Black, pro-indigenous, and pro-liberation organization. We understand that to build a bright future for Black and Brown people in Chicago it means defunding systems of oppression like the Chicago Police Department.

We will continue to raise the resources needed to strengthen our community care network and build power to challenges systems of oppression.

LSNA endorses the Black Abolitionist Network's Defund CPD Campaign as an important step in **funding the Black and Brown future** this city deserves.

With local restaurants and mutual aid networks, connected families to over 10,000 meals



Connected over 600 families to \$615,000 in solidarity funding

Made 200 vaccine appointment for mostly undocumented BIPOC



Welcomed the Hermosa/LS/Avondale Mental Health Clinic

Wellness - Uplifting BIPOC Life

Our *Palenque* will create a space for our Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities, relatives, and partners to gather, learn, heal, and strategize together toward our vision of a joyful, liberated, decolonized future and share more over the coming year about this vision.

● WE WILL

- work with our **Members Action Council** to nurture existing/future collaboration and alignment
- continue our **Mutual Aid** efforts and evolve them to ensure that we build power with those most impacted
- internalize **Palenque** as a mindset and practice internally and externally as a way to work toward pro-Black, pro-Immigrant, and pro-Indigenous policy change and healing

Racial Healing is a matter of Public Policy: Parent Mentor Program

WE BELIEVE:

- We are the bridge between our communities and our schools.
- We create trust and unity by building strong lines of solidarity that allow us to organize.
- We provide a sacred space for Black and Brown parents to build their leadership and self confidence by building solidarity with one another.
- We are transforming our life, our school, our community.



WE ARE:

- Determined to continue planting the seed for parent leaders to grow by nurturing their skills, talents, and gifts.
- Committed to celebrate humanity by extending mutual support across our community impacting the quality of life and acting as an agent of change to find leadership within themselves.



WE LEARNED:

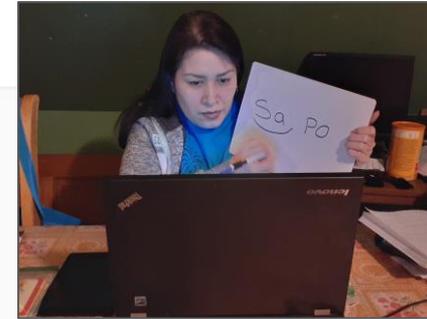
- To explore every alternative to find resources and services to our communities.
- That by working as a collective we grow our social and economic capital.
- To impact our children's education by reimagining remote learning, sharing our personal histories, and reflecting on learning life-long skills.
- To build stronger relationships with teachers, students, parents, staff, and community by engaging in virtual actions and events promoting social distancing, mutual aid, and academic and tech support.

Parent Mentor Program

We have learned to show courage under fire and an enormous sense not only of self-preservation or survival but instead it has been a great opportunity to show the power of being surrounded by Community. Therefore, through the Parent Mentor Program, we will continue building the world that we want to live. We will be planted but we can never be buried.

WE WILL:

- Continue advocating for education, equitable funds, resources for our schools.
- Protect and strengthen our communities by creating Palenques that provide liberation and integration, allowing us to bloom with honor while guiding with love.



WE WILL:

- Take the lessons from the last year into the future that sometimes to heal, feeling pain and hurt is inevitable. We need to change the narrative in order to heal.
- Continue organizing to demand the resources and services needed for us to thrive instead of survive. Therefore, we will be extending our Palenques and quilombos to our schools to organize, thus we can humanize social-emotional and academic support for a better future.



We share this work with Avondale-Logandale, Barry, Darwin, Funston, Goethe, McAuliffe, Monroe, Mozart, Stowe, and Yates schools.

Racial Healing is a matter of Public Policy: Parent Engagement Institute

WE BELIEVE that what we do is NOT more important than how we do it. Scaling up does not need to mean repeating patterns of oppression or bureaucratic behaviors. We believe Black, Brown, and immigrant parents determine the future of their own lives and their families, schools, and communities.

WE ARE committed to making the Parent Mentor Program public policy - a publicly funded and community-driven universal part of public education.



Parent Engagement Institute



WE HAVE LEARNED AND AFFIRMED THAT:

- Mutual aid is our way of being.
- Our dreams of going universal are more achievable than we thought, and we don't have to sacrifice our values, philosophy, training, and relationships to grow.
- Technology has allowed Parent Mentors and staff around the state to feel **more** connected to the whole than before.
- We can adapt - Google Classroom, Zoom, electronic surveys, simultaneous translation, and more.

WE WILL:

- Continue to expand the Parent Mentor Program to more organizations and schools throughout the city, state, and country.
- Go deeper in the schools we are in through Pro-Black Pro-Healing Histories We've Never Been Told; Healing and Restorative Cultures, Culturally Relevant Tutoring Techniques through TIPTOP, and Organizing Beyond the Classroom.

Racial Healing is a matter of Public Policy: Schurz Sustainable Community Schools (SCS)

WE BELIEVE that schools are a **community space** for **TRANSFORMATIVE** education where:

- youth/ parents/ guardians are welcomed for their wisdom and are seen as **co-creators** in building this learning space
- curriculum is relevant to and representative of our students and their families/communities
- learning is **pleasurable** and **freeing/decolonizing** and **healing centered**



WE HAVE LEARNED

- critical connections over critical mass
- loss due to COVID over loss of learning
- integration over isolation

What's in our future?

We WILL:

- Build the **Student Voice Committee** and build **Black and Brown** solidarity at Schurz
- Ensure that **Restorative Justice practices** are **daily tools** available to teachers and students
- Support our students through our **Parents in Action** and emphasize their importance in our community, particularly through the **student-driven clubs** and **mini grants**
- Push for transparency and shared leadership, especially making sure that **young people** are in **decision-making process** from its inception

Racial Healing is a matter of Public Policy: McAuliffe and Mozart Community Learning Centers (CLCs)

We BELIEVE that CLCs:

- are spaces (open from mornings - evenings) where students and parents feel loved and cared for, where they know they are both physically safe and emotionally safe to express themselves and feel heard

- provide **opportunities** for parents and any adult in the community to learn new languages and skills, and provide **pathways** for meaningful jobs/careers

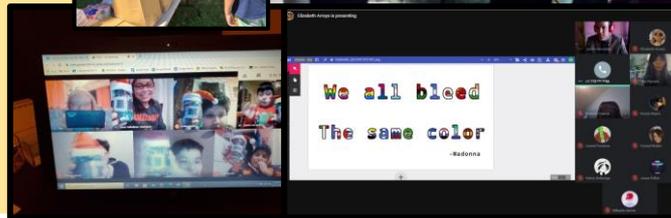
- engage students in **civic learning** so they understand the value of giving back to their communities

WE HAVE LEARNED

- **trusting relationships** (i.e. w/ teachers and administration) built **successful remote programming**
- **remote programming for entire families** resulted in **more retention**

We WILL:

- Continue to **collaborate** with schools to bring programs that enrich the lives of students and parents
- Ensure that **trauma-informed care** and **SEL** is a central focus of our programs for both students *and* parents
- Continue to **utilize technology** to build even stronger relationships with students and families, and **amplify our labor of love**



Racial Healing is a matter of Public Policy: Youth Leadership Institute

WE BELIEVE that liberation happens when narratives written by us replace the assumptions placed on us.

WE HAVE LEARNED how to grieve the loss of our brothers and sisters, and learned how to find healing in our collective action against the racial injustices/discrimination that took their lives.

As we look out into the future, WE WILL:

- Reclaim our narratives
- Show how we (youth) have been displaced/criminalized
- Begin to demand that funding goes toward our learning instead of the police/SROs

We invite all members of LSNA to encourage their youth members to become part of the Youth Leadership Institute



Welcome to the 5th Annual
National Day of Racial Healing

Bienvenidos al 5to Día
Nacional Anual de Sanación Racial

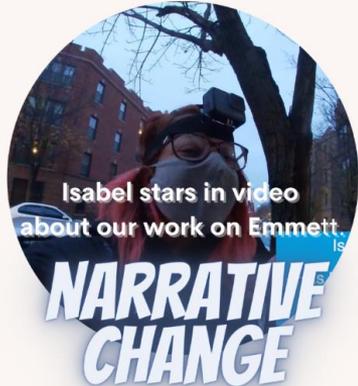


Racial Healing is a matter of Public Policy: Housing and Land Use

We believe all people, regardless of race or income, deserve the opportunity to succeed in school and in life, and this means having a stable home.

We've learned to build **power** by developing leaders, changing narratives, and taking action for racial equity in housing policy *through online digital organizing*.

WE ARE building power through community organizing and winning!



CTA reissued RFP for 2525 N Kedzie mandating affordable homes after LSNA rejected first proposal.



- There are 400+ affordable homes in the pipeline
- CDOT agreed to create *La Placita* in Logan Square
- Demolitions were banned for 14 months; and
- Now there's a minimum density requirement + \$15k+ demolition impact fee in the Bloomingdale Trail area
- CHA is accepting ITIN#s in waitlist applications
- 20% units will be required to be set-aside in new large developments

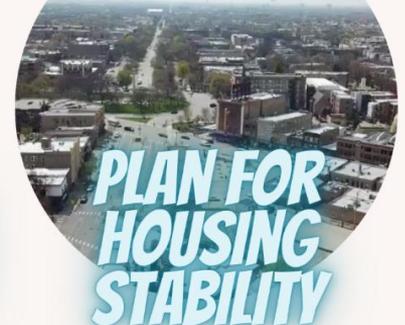
In 2021 **we must** build power using a racial equity framework to plan for universal housing stability.

WE WILL:

- Secure affordable housing for mixed status families at 2525 N Kedzie in Ward 32 and continue our creation + preservation strategy overall
- Develop an equitable transit-oriented land use plan with the help of Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning and Elevated Chicago
- Develop 60 leaders as part of Vision 60/60 for next year's Congress



Community driven zoning, min density, CBAs, Chicago Plan, demo fee, CMAP eTOD plan.



We invite all LSNA members to share in this work

Racial Healing is a matter of Public Policy: Immigration

WE BELIEVE in creating a Palenque where **EVERYONE** belongs.



WE ARE fighting for the liberation of our community; a liberation that results in everyone's full membership of society; true citizenship for all.



WE LEARNED

- There is a deep need for joy and the arts as healing (Carnaval del Carino, Day of the Dead).
- Need for mutual aid (free family meals, care packages/supplies, solidarity funds).
- LSNA's integrated response (funds to our clients), looks at the whole person.
- These activities have informed our advocacy in the moment and into the future.

Immigration



WE WILL

Advocate for policies and work that support our Palenque values:

- ❖ Continue to expand mutual aid for all businesses and community
- ❖ Continue to build on the Welcoming Corridor work in Hermosa
- ❖ State: Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), Illinois Way Forward legislation, Immigrant Services Line Item (ISLI), Defenders For All
- ❖ Federal: Citizenship for All campaign (ICIRR)
- ❖ Expand Department of Justice Accredited team to allow us to help more clients with citizenship, Green Card renewals, and DACA



We share this work with ICIRR, Erie Neighborhood House, NEIU El Centro, and all our LSNA members.