

2020

Annual
Report



Tri-County
Urban League

APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS

The Tri-County Urban League has established
Apprenticeship programs in the following areas:

- BUILDING MAINTENANCE REPAIRER—APPROVED
- WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST
- YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PRACTITIONER
- DIRECT SUPPORT SPECIALIST
- EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATOR
- GRAPHICS DESIGNER
- CAMERA OPERATOR
- DIGITAL VIDEO EDITOR
- CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST
- RECREATION ASSISTANT
- ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN/FINANCE SPECIALIST
- HEATING, VENTILATION & AIR CONDITIONING (HVAC)
INSTALLER-REPAIRER

This has been a trying year and time has flown by. Many of us have dealt with illness and even death. In similar fashion, The Tri-County Urban League also went through a tough year. Prior to my arrival we had to shut down the daycare due to COVID outbreak. Several staff members suffered from COVID. Internally, we have established our protocols and routines for sanitization and vaccinations.

In spite of it all, we are still blessed and have seen triumph. Our building is hopping now. We can hear children laugh. People in need are learning more and more about our services.

Kids and adults alike are all being tutored. People are receiving GED services day and night. People are being fed through our foodbank. We are even addressing ad-hoc emergencies from time to time.

We are proud to serve our community. We remain focused and committed to doing the work. Whether it be working to identify pathways to a productive future, words of encouragement and holistic programs to assist them through life's challenges. We take pride in being able to assist them with gainful employment, improved academic skills and stronger social skills to build strong individuals and families.

We continue to collaborate and align resources with Illinois Central College and Jobs Partnership continues to be a bright spot to assist individuals to gain new skills in a growing industry and improve the environment at the same time in the Central Illinois Solar Training Pipeline Program. Over the past year, the Urban League has witnessed the success of individuals become certified solar panel installers and embark upon a new career with a livable wage.

Illinois Central College is leading the way to improve opportunities for individuals to obtain certifications beyond high school and buking the workforce of the future through the Regional Workforce Development Alliance and the Workforce Equity Initiative. The Urban League maintains a strong collaboration with both initiatives to insure those with multiple barriers have opportunities to gain a certification that assists them to gainful employment and the necessary case management and supportive services to complete the programs they pursue. These efforts will insure our community continues to strive.

We are developing relationships with companies all across the region and nation to develop mentoring and job opportunities for our constituents.

And, today I am pleased to announce in the coming weeks we will be launching 15 new apprenticeship programs. They will be led by professionals in the community who look like them. They are all excited to participate. We are looking for more volunteers every day.

This summer we had STEAM Camp, filled with bright eyed children eager to learn the Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, & Math components of each day's activity. In line with this we have partnered with STEM Nola and The University of Illinois to be a partner in the STEM Illinois initiative. We were chosen to be the Peoria site for our city.

The support we receive from each of you enables us to continue to provide a beacon of hope for those we serve. We thank you for your generosity and believing in us. We are so grateful for your encouragement and support these past 56 years and look forward to many more years as we work each day to empower our community and change *lives*.

Glenn R. Ross
Board Chairman

Dawn Harris Jeffries, Ph.D.
President & CEO

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The Education Department of the Tri-County Urban League is a vital and integral component of direct service. The many programs within the Education Department provide a wide array of opportunities for individuals to obtain educational success. Our on-site Family Learning Center empowers all ages, kindergarten through adulthood, by cultivating maximum academic achievement and promoting a philosophy that learning is a life-long process.

The Family Learning Center

The Family Learning Center provides individualized self-paced literacy and Adult Basic Education (ABE) instruction as well as GED (General Educational Development) Test preparation for students ages 16 and up. Participants enrolled vary academically from levels 0.0 to 12.9 in reading, math, language arts, and spelling. Outcomes of the program are to achieve a grade gain in one of the subjects and/or successfully pass the four official tests in Reasoning and Language Arts, Math, Science & Social Studies. Due to the increased need for evening GED sessions, the program has expanded its hours of operation. Staff is recruiting and preparing for enrollment of additional students to meet in the evening. Evening classes are anticipated to begin in early October 2021. Most of the tutoring students are working adults and are receiving assistance via Zoom, and the telephone. This has allowed the program staff more flexibility in providing services to the clients.

Despite the challenges with the governors shutdown, and other COVID related issues, 140 students were enrolled in the program and successfully obtained a grade gain in reading, math, language arts, and/or spelling, or passed the GED exam.

After-School Tutorial Program

The After-School Tutorial Program promotes academic success & employment readiness by providing youth in grades K-12, and adult learners, with homework help in all subjects (including college-level courses), and test preparation. The program provides our students with the needed study time to be successful in school. With the help of program staff and committed volunteers, the program was able to provide tutoring assistance to over 107 youth and 20 adults. ***Last year, 91% of the students and adult learners achieved academic success.***

EDUCATION

DEPARTMENT

Community Technology Center

The Community Technology Center helps youth and adults with the technology skills necessary for success in the digital age. It is designed to help bridge the digital divide that is present in most low-income communities. As a result of funding from several corporate partners, the center is able to provide training at reduced costs. Dedicated staff and volunteers take an active part in helping to bridge the digital gap. This year, over 150 individuals have benefitted from access to the Community Technology Center, by way of home work/project completion, employment application completion, or computer skill attainment/upgrade

Tomorrow's Scientists, Technicians and Managers Program (TSTM)

Tomorrow's Scientists, Technicians and Managers Program (TSTM) is designed to serve as a tool to motivate and encourage minority and underprivileged youth to acquire the necessary educational skills required for careers in science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (STEAM). Since 1978, the program has devoted itself to implanting academic excellence and success in the lives of the youth. TSTM provides students with assistance in curriculum selection, college and career counseling, academic tutorials, field training, scholarship incentives, summer enrichment, outreach & community service and recognition & orientation. ***65 Students were served this program year and student who applied for scholarships were awarded an average of \$2,000.***

TSTM also collaborates with the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE), local Fraternities and Sororities, Illinois Central College, Bradley University, Caterpillar African-American Network (CAAN), and other organizations and groups to conduct satellite activities for further student enrichment. The partnerships have created opportunities such as the Engineering Club also known as NSBE Jr. which introduces the students to various engineering professions and opportunities; Girls Who Code (GWC) Club, which provides coding instruction to Middle School boys and girls, and the Bridge Club, which prepares Middle School students for the annual Bridge Building Competition in February.

COUNSELING

DEPARTMENT

The Urban League's Counseling Department is focused on program services that build strong families. Youth are offered after-school programming that builds self-esteem and prevents negative behaviors. Families engaged in the child welfare system have several programs to assist them to get back on track and the Parent-Child Education Center is developing strong winds every day. For example, the following programs are offered:

Teens Organized for Pride and Success (TOPS) Program serves students ages 9-18. The prevention program helps students with goal setting positive thinking problem solving, and ways to prevent negative behaviors. In this program, **18 students were served. Students increased in their knowledge of healthy life skills and demonstrated learned skills leading to positive behavior change.**

The Visitation Program provides supervised and therapeutic visits between parents and their children in foster care, under the auspices of the Department of Children and Family Services, and according to their guidelines. Program Facilitators provides transportation for the children in foster care and often act as a liaison between the case-worker, foster family, and the natural parent(s). **In this program, 20 clients were served and 975 units of service were provided.**

The Family Habilitation Program offers services that are focused on engaging the parent and caregiver in developing the skills necessary to support the management of daily household tasks, such as meal planning budgeting, shopping, healthcare, hygiene, and accessing resources. **In this program 15 clients were served and 450 units of services were provided.**

The Parent Education classes are "Infants, Toddlers and parents and "Parent with Love & Logic. These classes have been helpful to the clients we serve because they provide practical and effective parenting methods for infants to teen children. Through these classes, parents learn positive approaches to parenting and how to help their children be ready for the real world. In these classes, 60 clients were served 750 units of services were provided. Based on the clients who were measured, over 90 % of the parents show appropriate interpersonal skills or better and 90% demonstrated positive behavior change.

COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

The TCPUL Daycare Center serves children ages 6 weeks to 5 years of age. Students are provided a nurturing, safe environment with caring teachers who are committed to their early childhood education. Stimulating curriculum is offered that engages the child's intellectual, social, emotional and physical development and insures they are prepared to enter kindergarten functioning at age appropriate levels. Parent engagement is an important focus on the Center and staff strives to keep parents informed of their child's progress on a regular basis. The Center's goal is to prepare all children for kindergarten and a successful educational future. Our Parent Child Center has remained closed since May 2021 due to outbreak of COVID-19 with staff and children. During the COVID shut-down we have conducted renovation in the center. We repair the water leaks in the ceiling and chipping paint on the walls. In the first quarter, Due to the COVID-19 outbreak we lost staff and children in the center. We have hired new staff and collected over 10 child care applications for upcoming opening on 11/15/2021. ***Due to state regulations we are able to go back full classroom capacity. Tri-County Urban League company policy and procedures since the COVID-19 outbreak is that all staff must continue to wear masks and is vaccinated to ensure the safety for our parents and children. Children will wear their masks at all times in classrooms and will only be removed during mealtimes and nap. This will allow our center to provide safe service delivery for our program.***



EMPLOYMENT

DEPARTMENT

Employment Department

Our Employment services include outreach and recruitment, assessment, counseling and job preparatory skill development, job referrals and job placement. Participants are counseled to assist them in developing career goals and pathways that will lead to employment success. There were 4,443 clients who received workforce development /job placement counseling. Those service include Career Counseling, Job Readiness Skills, Job Referrals, and other workshops to assist them in securing employment including our Men's Closet.

South Village TIF Job Training Program

The City of Peoria funded program offered residents who live in the South Village TIF area many employment services to improve their quality of life. Services offered include job training assistance that focuses on workplace tools, education, employment and career pathways that lead to industry recognized certifications and/or job placement. Of the 18 individuals served, 12 have obtained industry recognized certifications and 12 have been placed in unsubsidized employment.

Central Illinois Solar Workforce Pipeline Program

This innovative collaboration between Illinois Central College, the Urban League and Jobs Partnership continues to train individuals for solar jobs of the future. The Urban League provided recruitment, assessment, eligibility and enrollment service for 16 students this year. Our students were very successful in 2020 with 94% completing the program and 93% of them passed the NABCEP examination and became certified. Many were hired in the industry and some participated in installing solar panels on the Urban League building.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

DEPARTMENT

Male Mentor Monday is a collaboration between the Tri-County Urban League and May I Community Outreach which serves boys ages 8-17. May I Community Outreach's mission is to educate, motivate, and empower our youth and adults so they can improve their ability to live and function productively in the community. Program topics include Personal Development, Academic Achievement, Entrepreneurship and Financial Literacy and more.

Teens to Queens is a collaboration between Tri-County Urban league and Divine Intellect which serves girls ages 11-17. Divine Intellect/Teens to Queens Mission is to bring leadership abilities out of every participant by providing the space for growth and holistic enhancement. Program topics include Self-Esteem, Academic Achievement, Leadership, Identity and Purpose, Adversity Awareness and more.

Girls Light our Way (GLOW)

The participants of GLOW are educated and counseled in the following areas:

Health

Involves physical, nutritional, and mental health. The girls learn the relationship between these three health matters and the role they play on their grades, long-term health, and day-to-day living.

Literacy of Power

The program is designed to provide girls with financial tools for everyday living. They gain a full understanding of how their job and career choices help or hurt their chances to pay their bills sufficiently and on time. These tools help them to consider their current choices and the impact on their lifestyles.

Self-Efficacy

The girls participate in activities designed to stretch their imagination and improve their self-confidence. At the end of the projects they are usually proud of themselves and say "I had no idea I could do that" and "I DID that!" Our goal is to hear more of that.

TRI-COUNTY (PEORIA) URBAN LEAGUE, INC.
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
Year Ended June 30, 2020

SUPPORT/REVENUE

Contributions	87,675	
Foundations/Trusts		10,000
Fees/Grants - Government Agencies		270,454
United Way		178,226
Program Service Fees		12,560
Special Events & Miscellaneous		<u>93,723</u>
Total Support/Revenue		<u>\$ 652,638</u>

EXPENDITURES

PROGRAM SERVICES

Employment Services	155,264	
Specialized Education	128,460	
Counseling	231,400	

SUPPORTING SERVICES

Management & General	<u>291,805</u>	
Total Expenditures		<u>\$ 806,929</u>

Change in net assets before pension-related changes other than net periodic pension costs	(154,291)	
Pension-Related Changes Other Than Net Periodic Pension Costs	(91,146)	
Change in Net Assets	(245,437)	
Net Assets, Beginning of Year		<u>1,262,974</u>
Net Assets, End of Year		<u>\$ 1,017,537</u>

The complete audit package, prepared by CliftonLarsonAllen LLP is available for examination at the Tri-County Urban League.

2020-2021

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Tri-County
Urban League

*Empowering Communities.
Changing Lives.*



STEAM CAMP



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PROGRAM CERTIFICATE**

The United States Department of Labor

Office of Apprenticeship

Certificate of Registration of Apprenticeship Program

Tri-County Urban League

*Building Maintenance Repairer
Peoria, Illinois*

*Registered as part of the National Apprenticeship System
in accordance with the basic standards of apprenticeship
established by the Secretary of Labor*