



TRANSITIONS



2016 **ANNUAL REPORT**



Homan Square strives to sustain an environment that helps students and families live their best lives through quality educational, recreational, health-care and family support services; while instilling the desire to dream big dreams and the skills to maximize success. The Homan Square campus includes:

Chicago Park District
DRW College Prep
Family Focus Lawndale
Free Spirit Media
Greater Westside Development Corporation
Green Garden Café
Holy Family School
Lawndale Business Renaissance Association
Lawndale Christian Health Center
Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago
North Lawndale Employment Network
North Lawndale YMCA
Options for Youth
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Smooches Cafe
Turning the Page
YWCA Julian Grace Innovation and Technology Institute

TRANSITIONS

DEAR FRIENDS,

One day back in 1989, Charlie Shaw and I were having lunch in Evanston, where I was employed on one of his projects. As he was prone to do, he started drawing on a paper napkin, showing the Sears Tower downtown, with an arrow pointing west. He said there was another Sears Tower on a big complex, and asked that I “go take a look”. Little did I know that visit would totally change the trajectory of my career and my life!



Kristin Dean

Driven by Charlie’s vision and enthusiasm, we spent the next 17 years creating homes and apartments, a beautiful community center that, to this day, serves as the hub of the campus, a YMCA day care center and plans for two schools. When Charlie tragically and suddenly passed away in 2006, his family, friends and staff knew there was no turning back. We had to carry on!

And carry on we did. The original Sears Power House became a 650-student charter high school after a \$40M renovation. Holy Family Ministries created an exemplary pre-K-8th grade school. Ninety-three additional affordable apartments and townhomes were built. Homan Rails Farm took root on the abandoned CSX railway. And, at long last, the original Sears Tower, now known as the John D. and Alexandra C. Nichols Tower, was renovated and activated by creative and effective service providers.

The Homan Square campus is now physically complete and providing a home to an amazing group of non-profit organizations. How many neighborhoods in the country can boast of having 15 exemplary service providers, covering: day care; recreation; health care; computer training; family services; pre-K thru 12th grade education; workforce development; urban farming; housing services; business retention services; arts education; digital media education; education/reading enrichment and community development? Even more amazing is the collaborative spirit that is growing among the providers. There is no limit to what this team will be able to accomplish together!

After 27 years, my time has come to step aside and let others carry Homan Square to even greater peaks. I do so with the utmost gratitude for opportunities that deepened my understanding, conviction, and compassion for underserved communities and the organizations committed to strengthening them. I cannot express the depth of my appreciation for all the friends I have made through the decades who have supported this very special place called Homan Square.

Thanking you all, and wishing you the best in the future!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristin". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Kristin Dean
President, Foundation for Homan Square

TRANSITIONS

HOMAN RAILS



FARM

SINCE THE FALL OF 2014, the Homan Rails Farm has grown from a few hoop houses on the old CSX rail bed bordering Homan Square, into a thriving and essential connector for the entire campus. This year alone, more than 150 students from DRW College Prep and Holy Family School used the farm as a science field experience, planting seeds and installing a drip-line irrigation system while learning about farming and biology.

Even more impressive was a 6-week paid internship program on the farm supported by Chicago Public Schools. Interns grew heirloom, organic peppers and tomatoes that were sold by Sugar Beet Coop in Oak Park. Participants learned about organic farming and the business potential for urban agriculture. Interns and staff also ran twice weekly activities with the 3rd-8th graders of the Holy Family School summer camp. We also ran a seed-starting workshop with Turning the Page—one of their four summer field trips—and brought some of our fresh produce around the Homan Square campus so that our various providers could get a taste!

The biggest contribution of the Homan Rails Farm, beyond agriculture, is its ability to connect campus providers and community programs. The summer began with a 7-week design/build workshop with ACE Mentors Chicago, which took 21 students through the process of designing and building a shaded pavilion on the farm. Every student received a college scholarship for participating and the farm has a new teaching space. A similar partnership with SAIC resulted in a new mural; a teaching opportunity with Holy Family students that lead them through the design and creation of two aquaponics systems in their science classroom; and a workshop with three girl scout troops about animal habitat creation. Holy Family students are launching into fall with plans for constructing a chicken coop on the farm.

“The Homan Rails Farm is both a working production farm and a living classroom,” said Jeff Levrant, farm manager. “Urban agriculture has so much promise for creating jobs, addressing food deserts and helping people reconnect with the natural environment. Our partnerships with other organizations create new relationships and often produce new amenities for the Homan Square Campus. The farm is growing far more than greens and vegetables.”



TRANSITIONS

LAWNDALE CHRISTIAN HEALTH CENTER

The Lawndale Christian Health Center (LCHC) is building a new dental clinic at Homan Square, adjacent to LCHC's primary care clinic. Quality dental care for low-income neighborhoods is critical. The Surgeon General recently called oral hygiene a "silent epidemic" for "low-income individuals, the frail and vulnerable, and the traditionally underserved." LCHC's dental clinic will include six dental chairs and is expected to serve an additional 3,000 new dental patients per year including 2,250 children. The dental center will provide access to dental care for the families of North Lawndale, East Garfield Park and West Garfield Park.



HOLY FAMILY HAS NEW LEADER

A great leader and friend of Homan Square, Dr. Susan Work is retiring as CEO of Holy Family Ministries after 28 years of service. She was responsible for moving Holy Family to the Homan Square Campus and making it a valuable partner to all our service providers. Dr. Ciunial J. Lewis has been appointed the new CEO for Holy Family Ministries. She has more than 25 years of professional experience in the areas of human services, education and public health management and most recently served as the CEO of New Age Services Corporation. Welcome Dr. Lewis!

SCHOOL OF THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO (SAIC) ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

The role of the arts in community life is taken for granted in many communities. Neighborhoods like North Lawndale, however, have suffered a loss of local arts programming as their economic fortunes declined. The SAIC Tower Artist in Residence (AIR) program encourages community participation by hosting artists committed to engaging community members and supporting their creativity.

The first artist in residence, Marshaun Hendricks, used streetwear fashion as an inspiration and a tool to engage community members around crime, its sources, and prevention strategies. The current artist in residence is Cheryl Pope a SAIC Fashion Department faculty member. Her work focuses on issues of power, inequality, race, gender, and segregation in Chicago. She will collaborate with North Lawndale youth to explore the intersection of poetry and the visual arts. Pope also hosts open studio for youth and adults to work with her on a quilt called **Tell Your Story**, which will be in display in a Wicker Park gallery.

SAIC is also offering classes at the Tower. **The Our Stories, Our Sounds** program teaches young people the basics of audio recording for them to produce and share their own creations. Another program, **Making Your Mark: Drawing, Painting, and Collage** explores the world of two dimensional art and design from texts on phone, graffiti on walls, paintings in a museum, ads in a magazine, and sketches in a notebook.



NICHOLS TOWER

The Nichols Tower is the latest award winner on the Homan Square Campus. The City of Chicago Landmarks Commission recognized our restoration effort with the Chicago Landmark Award for Preservation Excellence. The award commends projects that involve notable improvements to Chicago Landmarks.

The Nichols Tower was also flagged as one of 20 sites to see on the annual Open House Chicago weekend sponsored by the Chicago Architecture Foundation.



HOMAN SQUARE LEADERSHIP



LAURA J. LODE (1959–2016). No one who visited Homan Square would ever forget the enormous impact Laura Lode had on everything that happened on the Campus. She had an almost fanatical penchant for organizing processes, events, and people. She had an even deeper love and respect for all the families, service providers, employees, and young people who worked at and visited Homan Square. We will all miss her presence, humor and contributions.



KRISTIN DEAN is stepping down as President of the Foundation for Homan Square after nearly three decades of accomplishments in North Lawndale. She started at Homan Square when Charlie Shaw first began evaluating the potential of the former Sears, Roebuck & Co. site for redevelopment. Since then, she has managed the sale of new homes; led community outreach efforts; raised funds for the construction of the Homan Square Community Center, the restoration of the Power House and Nichols Tower, and managed the work of the Foundation. Although those projects have received national recognition, Kristin would tell you that the greatest reward is seeing the countless residents, young and old, taking advantage of the always-expanding programs and services offered at Homan Square, and the amazing service providers working together for the benefit of the community.

KEVIN SUTTON will be taking the reins as Executive Director of Homan Square. Kevin officially joined the Foundation five years ago, he has deep roots in the community and a life-long passion for strengthening families and transforming underserved neighborhoods. Kevin has been a part of the Homan Square vision from the early days—as one of the first purchasers of a single family home, and then by serving on the community center advisory board and governing board at Power House High School. We are delighted to welcome Kevin into this important role.



VALOIS VAUGHN recently joined the team as Director of Operations. Valois has lived and worked in the community for many years and has a strong real estate background with special emphasis on property management.

In addition to Kevin’s on-site leadership, IFF will oversee the management of Campus properties. They are the leading nonprofit community development financial institution (CDFI) in the Midwest and were founded in Chicago in 1988 to invest in and financially strengthen nonprofits and the people and communities they serve. IFF is a great partner with deep, innovative experience in community planning, lending and property management in low-income communities. They have a long history of supporting nonprofits on the West Side and have worked with Homan Square for many years as advisors, and understand and share our mission to serve the residents of North Lawndale and surrounding communities.

2015/2016 ANNUAL FUND

**THANK YOU TO THOSE
WHOSE GREAT GENEROSITY
ALLOWS US TO TOUCH
THE LIVES OF MANY.**

FOUNDER'S CIRCLE

(\$10,000 +)

Bev and Warren Hayford
Marmon Group, LLC
John D. and Alexandra C. Nichols
Frank and Karen Ptak Family
Foundation
Shaw Family Foundation
Harrison Steans

CHAIRMAN'S CIRCLE

(\$5,000 - \$9,999)

Anonymous
Jannotta Family
John and Judy McCarter
Holly and John Madigan
Pepper Family Foundation
Ann and Earl Skidmore

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

(\$2,500-\$4,999)

James and Catherine Denny
Foundation
Becky and Mike Murray
Catherine Shaw
Carole and Gordon Segal
Joel and Nancy Smith
John and Karen Smith
Carol and Richard Woodard

PATRON

(\$1,000-\$2,499)

Anonymous
Dwight and Sharyn Austin
Cameron S. Avery and Lynn B.
Donaldson
Mr. and Mrs. Kelley A. Bergstrom
Amy and Peter Barrow
Stanton R. Cook Foundation
Kristin Dean and John Wadden
Mr. and Mrs. James R. Deferville
Mr. and Mrs. John N. Fix
Paul Galvin Memorial Foundation
Trust
Mr. and Mrs. James J. Glasser
The James Huntington Foundation
David T. Kindler
Bill and Susan King
Bill & Blair Lawlor
John S. Lillard
Tom Lillard
Puth Family Foundation
Susan R. and John W. Sullivan
Foundation
Bernice Weissbourd
Cindy and Bill Wirene

SPONSOR

(\$100-\$999)

Donna E. Barrows
John and Patricia Benna
Bob and Sheila Berner
Laurence Booth
Patricia and John Brennan
Robert and Sally Cunningham
Donnelly Foundation
Merri Ex
Stephen Friedman
David and Mary Grumhaus
George R. Halik
Mike and Barbara Heaton
Jeffrey P. Hemmings
Mr. and Mrs. Philip W. Hummer
Jackyn Jacunski
Kenneth Kaufman
Keller Family Foundation
Kathleen Krehbiel
Daniel W. Luther and Cathryn
Ruggeri
Claudine Malik and Richard Ernst
James P. Martin
John and Ann McDermott
Jane Perkins
Bob and Cynthia Pugliese
Real Globe Advisors
Myron and Alicia Resnick
Gwen and Chris Reynolds
Charlie and Linda Ruder
School of the Art Institute
of Chicago
Lisa and Eric Sorensen
Lynette Stuhlmacher
Blanche Suggs
Kevin and Lynn Sutton
Rich and Patty Tilghman
Tully Family Foundation
Edward and Ana Williams
Dr. and Mrs. John P. Zaremba



**WE HOPE YOU WILL CONSIDER INCLUDING THE
FOUNDATION FOR HOMAN SQUARE IN YOUR ESTATE
PLANNING. YOUR GIFT WILL ENSURE THE
VIBRANCY OF THE HOMAN SQUARE CAMPUS
FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.**



Foundation for Homan Square

3517 West Arthington Street
Chicago, IL 60624

773.265.4404 *phone*

773.265.4405 *fax*

www.homansquare.org