ILCHF has a single vision: *that every child in Illinois grows up healthy.*

Working through grantee partners across the state, the Foundation focuses its grant making on identifying and funding solutions to the barriers that prevent children from accessing the ongoing health care they need, with a primary focus on children’s oral health and children’s mental health.
DEAR FRIENDS,

Welcome to our 2020 Annual Report—our opportunity to recognize with profound gratitude the remarkable work of our 2020 grantee partners. In 2020, teams at 87 inspiring organizations were awarded just under $13 million in grants which are supporting initiatives that improve the health and wellness of children and families in Illinois.

2020 was a year like no other, bringing heartache and challenges to us all, as the COVID-19 pandemic and the broad unveiling of the intolerable impacts of structural racism upended all that we hold dear. Like so many foundations, ILCHF spent 2020 responding to the needs both exacerbated by and created by COVID-19. In April 2020 our Board of Directors reacted swiftly to the pandemic by authorizing $5 million in emergency COVID-19 response funding in addition to our usual annual grantmaking of about $5.5 million per year.

After hearing from our statewide partners that childcare services and resources were an immediate need, particularly for the families of healthcare providers, ILCHF’s first COVID-19 grant was to the Illinois Critical Access Hospital Network (ICAHN) to support childcare for essential hospital workers in rural hospitals across Illinois. The pandemic, and resulting statewide shutdown, caused a dramatic increase in hunger among Illinois children and families while significantly increasing demands upon the eight Illinois serving foodbanks. ILCHF responded with two rounds of funding to the foodbanks totalling $1.5 million. These funds were used to provide meals to children and families impacted by school and after school program closings and record levels of unemployment.

Next, we heard from grantee partners that their greatest need was for general operating funds which they could use to keep their doors open and their teams employed and available to provide services to children and families as they figured out how to continue to provide services in a pandemic. In response ILCHF made its first general operating grants. First, ILCHF provided 22 Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC’s) in Illinois over $1 million in total to support general operating costs for services for children and families through the “FQHC COVID-19 Response” initiative. Funds were provided to address the loss of revenue associated with the move from the provision of a full spectrum healthcare to focused COVID-19 response efforts. This initiative was in partnership with Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation who provided an additional $1 million in total to 20 additional FQHC’s.

Next, seeking to support and maintain children’s mental health services, ILCHF provided general operating grants to 23 Screening Assessment and Stabilization Services (SASS) community mental health providers totaling $2.5 million. These grant funds were used to maintain SASS staff positions during the early stage of the pandemic when referral rates for crisis services declined drastically, and fee-for-service funding was insufficient to sustain the programs.
As the pandemic progressed and we moved towards reopening some services, 19 oral health providers across the state received grants totalling over $1.5 million through the “COVID-19 Oral Health Capacity Building” initiative. Grant funds were provided to offset the additional costs associated with re-opening children’s oral health programs and addressing the increased need for safety procedures and the gaps associated with lost revenue resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. ILCHF was grateful to again partner with Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation who provided over $1.5 million in total to an additional 17 oral health providers.

Finally, ILCHF continued funding efforts to strengthen a system of care approach to children’s mental health in Illinois. Building upon two successful cycles of our Children’s Mental Health Initiatives (CMHI 1.0 and CMHI 2.0), ILCHF made a new round of grants, CMHI 3.0, to five grantees of nearly $4.25 million dollars over four years to improve children’s mental health in their communities.

Our grantee partners and the communities they will serve are as follows:

- **Rush University Medical Center** – West Side of Chicago
- **Rosecrance, Inc.** – Winnebago & Boone Counties
- **Methodist Medical Center of Illinois–Unity Point** – Peoria, Tazewell & Woodford Counties
- **Bridgeway** – Knox, Warren & Henderson Counties
- **Chestnut Health System** – St. Clair County

In order to learn from the experiences of these communities, ILCHF awarded a grant to the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Children & Family Research Center to evaluate the CMHI 3.0 projects. We look forward to sharing what these providers and their community members will teach us about this work.

As 2020 came to a close, the Board of Directors authorized additional COVID-19 Response funds of $7.5 million in 2021 and 2022 over and above our usual annual grantmaking. We have spent 2021 listening to grantee partners and other stakeholders across the state in order to understand how best to support those working to improve the health of Illinois’ children and families. Our 2021 annual report will detail the award of just over $13.5 million in grant funds over two years in support of children’s oral health, and mental health, and to address food insecurity. The remaining $1.5 million in COVID-19 Response funds will be awarded in 2022.
Like many of you, in 2020 we shared in the profound grief caused by the senseless murders of Ahmaud Arbery, George Floyd, and the countless others who lost their lives, and we emphatically supported the national outcry for racial justice catalysed by their deaths. We know that a meaningful response requires deep learning and sustainable action. To deepen our internal learning, our initial steps were to (1) create the Health Equity and Social Justice Work Group to lead the Foundation’s equity, diversity and inclusion work, (2) to issue an Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) RFP, in order to partner with experts in the field who will help the Foundation identify and implement best practices to embed the concepts of equity, diversity and inclusion in our daily work, and (3) to commit $2 million in 2021 grant making to initiatives in communities disparately impacted by systemic racism and COVID-19.

As a further preview to our 2021 annual report, this year we partnered with CommonHealth Action (CHA), a Washington DC-based consultancy which for nearly two decades has developed people and organizations to improve people’s health through equitable policies, programs, and practices. This year our Board of Directors and staff participated in an organizational EDI assessment, completed CHA’s EDI curriculum and at our December Board meeting adopted our EDI Action Plan. Through this work we will continue learning, planning and acting with a diverse range of stakeholders to ensure that we have a deeper understanding of the needs and opportunities to create a lasting impact. As we implement our EDI Action Plan over the next two years, we know that our approach to our work will change. We look forward to learning from you how we can be a better partner and collaborator as we work to fulfil our vision that every child in Illinois grows up healthy.

As we anticipate our next steps on this long and winding road, we welcome feedback, input and ideas from our grantee partners, collaborators, and stakeholders on how to maximize our impact within marginalized communities in Illinois. And while we know the journey forward is filled with challenges and diversions, we are heartened by the unwavering commitment of our partners across the state who are working diligently to make sure that the children of Illinois have the support and services they need to live healthy lives. We are also inspired by people of all walks of life who have banded together in order to champion greater equity, justice, access and parity across the board. This inspiration serves to renew our commitment to push the boundaries of what we previously thought was possible. We thank you for your continued partnership over the years. We look forward to a healthier future together.

Sincerely,

Peter Flynn, PhD  
Board Chair

Heather Higgins Alderman  
President

ILCHF 2020 Annual Report  3
2020 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Access Community Health Network  
FOHC COVID-19 Response  
Metro Chicago  
$50,000

Ada S. McKinley Community Services, Inc.  
COVID-19 SASS  
Children’s Mental Health Initiative  
Metro Chicago  
$149,940

Advocate Charitable Foundation  
Oral Health COVID-19  
Capacity Building  
Metro Chicago  
$70,561

Alivio Medical Center  
FOHC COVID-19 Response  
Metro Chicago  
$50,000

Asian Human Services Family Health Center Inc.  
FOHC COVID-19 Response  
Metro Chicago  
$50,000

Aunt Martha’s Youth Service Center  
FOHC COVID-19 Response  
Metro Chicago  
$50,000

Beloved Community Family Wellness Center  
FOHC COVID-19 Response  
Metro Chicago  
$50,000

Bridgeway, Inc.  
CMHI 3.0 – Youth Empowerment Services (YES) System of Care  
Northwest Central  
$850,000

Bright Star Community Outreach Corporation  
2020 ILCHF Presidential Grant  
Metro Chicago  
$10,000

Cass County Health Department  
FOHC COVID-19 Response  
Southwest Central  
$50,000

Center For Youth And Family Solutions  
COVID-19 SASS  
Children’s Mental Health Initiative  
East Central  
$49,980

Centerstone  
COVID-19 SASS  
Children’s Mental Health Initiative  
Southern Illinois  
$99,960

Central Counties Health Centers, Inc.  
Oral Health COVID-19  
Capacity Building  
Southwest Central  
$100,000

Central Illinois Foodbank, Inc.  
Children’s Nutrition Program  
Southwest Central  
$25,000

Central Illinois Foodbank, Inc.  
Children’s Nutrition Program Part 2  
Southwest Central  
$162,500

Chestnut Health Systems Inc.  
CMHI 3.0 – St. Clair County Systems of Care Coordination Project  
Southern Illinois  
$850,000

Chestnut Health Systems Inc.  
COVID-19 SASS  
Children’s Mental Health Initiative  
Southern Illinois  
$49,980

Chestnut Health Systems Inc.  
FOHC COVID-19 Response  
East Central  
$50,000

Chicago Family Health Center, Inc.  
Oral Health COVID-19  
Capacity Building  
Metro Chicago  
$100,000

Crusaders Central Clinic Association  
Oral Health COVID-19  
Capacity Building  
Northern Illinois  
$100,000

Children’s Home Association of Illinois  
COVID-19 SASS  
Children’s Mental Health Initiative  
Northwest Central  
$149,940

Christian Community Health Center  
FOHC COVID-19 Response  
Metro Chicago  
$50,000

Community Counseling Centers of Chicago  
COVID-19 SASS  
Children’s Mental Health Initiative  
Metro Chicago  
$149,940

Community Health Partnership of Illinois  
FOHC COVID-19 Response  
Collar Counties  
$50,000

County of Lake  
DBA Lake County Health Department and Community Health Center  
COVID-19 SASS  
Children’s Mental Health Initiative  
Collar Counties  
$149,940

Children’s Home Association of Illinois  
COVID-19 SASS  
Children’s Mental Health Initiative  
Northwest Central  
$149,940

Christian Community Health Center  
FOHC COVID-19 Response  
Metro Chicago  
$50,000

Community Counseling Centers of Chicago  
COVID-19 SASS  
Children’s Mental Health Initiative  
Metro Chicago  
$149,940

Community Health Partnership of Illinois  
FOHC COVID-19 Response  
Collar Counties  
$50,000

County of Lake  
DBA Lake County Health Department and Community Health Center  
COVID-19 SASS  
Children’s Mental Health Initiative  
Collar Counties  
$149,940
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EVERY child in ILLINOIS grows up healthy
**Rosecrance, Inc.**
CMHi 3.0—Coming Together for Healthy Children—Building a Youth Mental Health System of Care
*Northern Illinois*
$850,000

**Rosecrance, Inc.**
COVID-19 SASS
Children’s Mental Health Initiative
*Northern Illinois*
$149,940

**Rural Health, Inc.**
FQHC COVID-19 Response
*Southern Illinois*
$50,000

**Rush University Medical Center**
CMHi 3.0—BRIDGES—Building Resilience—Integrating Data—Generationally Effective Systems
*Metro Chicago*
$850,000

**Shawnee Health Service and Development Corporation**
FQHC COVID-19 Response
*Southern Illinois*
$50,000

**Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law**
Children’s Oral Health Access Project
*State of Illinois*
$25,000

**Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law**
Children’s Mental Health Initiative
*Northern Illinois*
$99,960

**Sinissippi Centers, Inc.**
COVID-19 SASS
Children’s Mental Health Initiative
*Northern Illinois*
$99,960

**SIHF Healthcare**
Oral Health COVID-19
Capacity Building
*Southern Illinois*
$95,695

**St. Louis Area Food Bank, Inc.**
Children’s Nutrition Program
*Southern Illinois*
$25,000

**St. Louis Area Food Bank, Inc.**
Children’s Nutrition Program Part 2
*Southern Illinois*
$162,500

**TCA Health Inc.**
FQHC COVID-19 Response
*Metro Chicago*
$49,758

**Telpochcalli Community Education Project (TCEP)**
2020 ILCHF Presidential Grant
*Metro Chicago*
$10,000

**University of Illinois at Chicago College of Dentistry**
Access Barriers to Dental Care for African American Children in Chicago Study
*Metro Chicago*
$28,844

**Tri-State Food Bank, Inc.**
Children’s Nutrition Program
*Southern Illinois*
$25,000

**Tri-State Food Bank, Inc.**
Children's Nutrition Program Part 2
*Southern Illinois*
$162,500

**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**
CMHi 3.0 Program Evaluation
*East Central*
$562,964

**University of Illinois School of Public Health**
Formative Evaluation of Chicago Family Connects
*Metro Chicago*
$100,000

**Well Child Center**
Oral Health COVID-19
Capacity Building
*Collar Counties*
$100,000

**Whiteside County Community Health Clinic, Inc.**
FQHC COVID-19 Response
*Northern Illinois*
$50,000

**Will County Community Health Center**
FQHC COVID-19 Response
*Collar Counties*
$50,000

**Will County DBA as Will County Health Department**
COVID-19 SASS Children’s Mental Health Initiative
*Collar Counties*
$149,940
For a copy of the 2020 audited financial statements, 2020 Form 990PF, or a complete and detailed listing of our 2020 program investments, visit our website at www.ilchf.org or contact Nedranae Hunt at 630.571.2555.
EVERY child in ILLINOIS grows up healthy
The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new.

SOCRATES