



# AROUND TRP

monthly highlights

MARCH 2023

## A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Hello friends, supporters, and community!

As we move towards spring and leave this mild winter behind us, we welcome March, celebrate the historical achievements of women around the globe, and focus on female history-makers. At TRP, women have and continue to play critical roles in growth. Three of our legacy founders, Rose Dominguez, Cecilia Paz, and Esperanza Godinez, were incredible visionary leaders. I am blessed to be surrounded by strong and supportive women at TRP, especially at home. Without the support of my wife, daughters, and mother, I wouldn't be who I am today. *¡Arriba las mujeres!*

The future looks bright as we move forward with TRP's positive trajectory. We celebrated the opening of Casa Durango (a \$28.2 million project with 53 units of affordable housing) with a ribbon-cutting ceremony attended by residents, public officials, and partners. Creating affordable housing like Casa Durango is part of a bigger strategy to create balance development and prevent displacement.

We look forward to developing Casa Yucatan (100 units of affordable housing) and participating in the development at 18th and Peoria (which could bring, at minimum, 400 more units of affordable housing) in Pilsen alone. Creating balanced development is crucial for this community and Chicago as we look to provide families with opportunities to live in their neighborhoods and this great city.

Every spring, we enter a new season anticipating new growth. Our tree logo has grown to have roots in Pilsen, and we have planted seeds in other neighborhoods, including Little Village, Back of the Yards, and Melrose Park. The branches of our tree continue to thrive statewide through our initiatives, including ELLAS, HOPE, Access to Justice, Welcome to IL, Full Circle Homes, ERAP, Lift Up, and Mi Hogar, among others.

As we continue to expand, our mission remains true to our origins: "To build trusting relationships to educate and propel individuals, immigrants, and families to achieve their social and economic aspirations, stable homes, and equitable participation in their community." That is our *PROMESA*!

In gratitude,

Raul

P.S. On April 4, 2023, Chicagoans need to exercise their civic responsibility and vote for the next Mayor of the City of Chicago. See the events section for information on how you can participate in a Mayoral Forum.

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## TRP HIGHLIGHTS

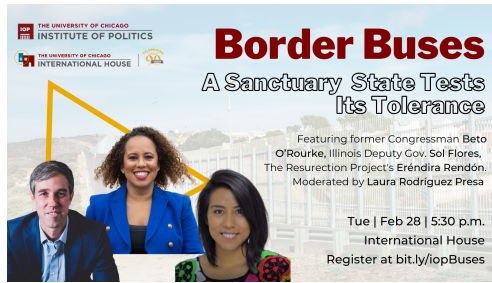
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### CONGRATULATIONS, ROCIO PULIDO!

**Rosio Pulido, Program Manager of Immigrant Justice Partnership**, has been selected for the Latino Policy Forum's 2023 Multicultural Leadership Academy Cohort. The six-month program provides civic leaders the leadership skills to facilitate collaboration between Latinos and African Americans through intercultural collaboration and social action. Read more about the program and cohort [here](#).

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## CONGRATULATIONS, ERE!

**Eré Rendón, Vice President of Immigrant Justice**, participated as a panelist hosted by **The University of Chicago Institute of Politics** along with former Congressman **Beto O'Rourke**, Illinois Deputy Governor **Sol Flores**, and moderated by **Laura Rodríguez Presa** to discuss migrants bused from Texas and Chicago as a sanctuary state. To view the recorded panel discussion, click [here](#). For more information on how you can get involved, visit [Welcome to IL](#).

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## CASA DURANGO RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY

On February 21, TRP staff was joined by residents of Casa Durango, **Marisa Novara**, Commissioner of the City of Chicago's Department of Housing, **Samir Mayekar**, Deputy Mayor for Neighborhood and Economic Development, **Kristin Faust**, Executive Director of the Illinois Housing Development Authority, **Tracey Scott**, CEO of the Chicago Housing Authority, **Bryon Sigcho-López**, 25<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman, **Jesus "Chuy" Garcia**, 4<sup>th</sup> District U.S. Congressman, **Pam Daniels-Halisi**, Managing Director of Commercial Real Estate for BMO Harris Bank, and partners for the celebration of the opening of Casa Durango, a 53-unit multi-family affordable housing development across two properties: 1858 S. Racine Avenue and 2010 S. Ashland Avenue. Click [here](#) to view the full press release, and to view the photo album on Facebook, click [here](#). Thank

you to our local vendors for adding flavor to the event: [Panaderia Nuevo Leon](#) provided the conchas, [Urban Treez](#) provided the refreshments and fresh fruit, and Photography by [Eddie Quiñones](#). We look forward to celebrating with the community in the summer, stay tuned!

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## ELLAS VACCINE EVENT

ELLAS welcomed **Dr. Luna** with the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH), who presented to 25 ELLAS members as a part of our Vaccinate Your Family micro-grant. She presented information about COVID-19, Mpox, and other vaccines to keep your family healthy. Each participant received five vaccine booklets to share with their family and friends.

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## HOPE'S NOCHE DE GALA

On February 11, HOPE family services hosted 250 people at the Noche de Gala. The fundraiser was successful and will provide additional resources to HOPE's programming. Hay Opciones Para Ellas (HOPE) is a TRP initiative that strengthens families through counseling. To learn more about services, counseling, or the domestic violence program, visit [here](#).

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## 25th WARD ALDERMANIC FORUM

On February 8, TRP and partnering organizations co-hosted a forum at Benito Juarez H.S. for the residents of the 25<sup>th</sup> Ward. **Anthony Ponce**, Anchor/Reporter for Fox 32 Chicago, moderated the forum between 25<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman Byron Sigcho-López and candidate Aida Flores as they discussed their plans for the ward. Sponsoring organizations included TRP, Pilsen Neighbors Community Council, Eighteenth Street Development Corporation, Gads Hill Center, Alivio Medical Center, Frida Kahlo Community Organization, El Valor, Instituto del Progreso Latino, Familia Latina Unida Sin Fronteras, Pilsen Wellness Center, ESDC Chamber of Commerce, Casa Michoacán, Chicago Commons, United Neighborhood Organization, El Hogar del Niño, Healthy Hoods, Mujeres Latinas En Acción, Asociación Pro-Derechos Obreros, Chicago Día de los Niños, and Unite 25.

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### PARTNERSHIPS



### "WITH THIS LIGHT"

**Miraflores Films** and partners present **"With This Light,"** a story of faith in action. Highlighting a Franciscan nun, Sister Maria Rosa Leggol, who helped more than 80,000 Honduran children escape abject poverty. The film inspires and engages the viewer to support her fight to end childhood poverty through wide-ranging projects, including homes, vocational schools, and medical programs. Miraflores Films is a media company dedicated to amplifying the voices of inspiring women and BIPOC creators through quality documentary films. To learn more about the film, click [here](#). **Jessica Sarowitz** leads Miraflores Films. TRP was honored to celebrate Jessica's work and contributions to our community at our 2022 Gala.

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Apply for 2023

# SCHOLARSHIP

Are you a college-bound high school student? Are you currently an undergrad student seeking financial assistance?

Apply now

<https://www.cclatinocaucus.org/about-scholarships>

The **Chicago City Council Latino Caucus Foundation (CLCF)** is opening its annual scholarship program for the 2023-2024 academic year. **\$5,000 scholarships** are currently available to Chicago high school and undergrad students. Apply [here](https://www.cclatinocaucus.org/about-scholarships) the deadline is **Friday, May 5, 2023, at 11:59 P.M.**

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## PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENTS

TRP was joined by community partners, the office of **George Cardenas**, Cook County Board of Review, the office of **Michael Rodriguez**, 22<sup>nd</sup> Ward Alderman, the office of **Jesus “Chuy” Garcia**, 4<sup>th</sup> District Congressman, and the **Mexican Consulate** to assist residents in filing for property tax appeals. TRP staffed workshops since January that have assisted 197 families. For more information on appealing your property tax, claim your unclaimed cash, fill out certificate of errors, or apply for housing assistance, contact TRP at **312-880-1137**.

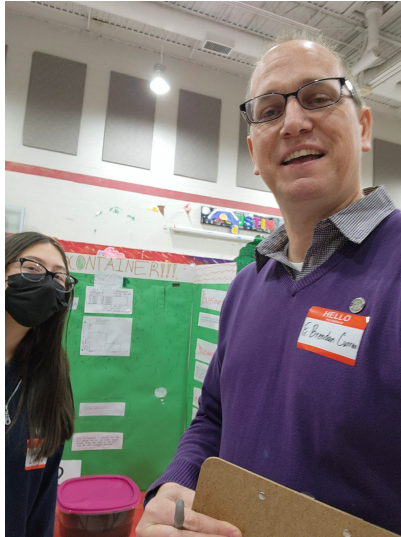
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## TRP VACCINATION CLINIC

TRP partnered with **Rush Hospital** and the **Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH)** to offer the new bivalent COVID-19 booster and the flu shot. Protecting our communities against COVID-19 remains a priority, taking care of your health helps take care of those around you.

## COMMUNITY ORGANIZING



## LARA ACADEMY SCIENCE FAIR

On February 24, **Father Brendan Curran** joined Lara Academy as an honorary judge in the science fair! Congratulations students!

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## TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIPS

**MYTH:** This program takes away funding needed for public education.

**FACT:** The Invest in Kids Act does the exact opposite. The Tax Credit Scholarship Program passed as part of a comprehensive education funding reform. This package included landmark, equitable funding for public schools mandating a \$350 million annual increase in funding and includes a hold harmless provision, so public schools will not lose funding, even if a student switches to a private school. Since the law passed, public schools have received more than \$1.425 billion in new funds. (footnote source: <https://bit.ly/3Zl9sKw>) Write your representative at <https://bit.ly/3ZuKgaX> and share your support now!

## COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

## HOPE MEN'S GROUP

HOPE, a TRP initiative, invites men, husbands, and fathers to join the **Men's group**. Men encounter many challenges and difficulties, and in this group, we will be able to find answers and develop skills to overcome these challenges and find solutions. The group meets every **Tuesday** at Immaculate Conception Church from **6:00 PM to 8:00 PM**. To register, call **312-421-7647**.

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## MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

**TRP; Southwest Organizing Project, the Healthy Chicago Equity Zone at McKinley Park, and Tu Casa Guanajuato** have partnered to host workshops on managing anxiety, depression, and stress through interactive activities, crafts, music, movement and expression. Join the workshops every Thursday through mid-April, starting March 16, from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM at Casa Guanajuato, 3661 S. Archer Avenue, Chicago, IL 60609. To register contact Casa Guanajuato at **312-247-2077**.

## IMMIGRANT JUSTICE

## VOLUNTEER TRAINING

The Immigrant Justice Legal Clinic is holding volunteer training throughout the year. For more information and to register to volunteer, click [here](#).

## FULL CIRCLE HOMES

## TRP LENDING

Spring forward with a new home project! Homeowners can borrow up to \$30,000 with a low-interest rate of 4%. The loan can be used for needed repairs and upgrades to your home. For more information, contact [Jose Lepez Jr](#) at 312-880-1881, or click [here](#) to apply.

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## PARTNERSHIP WITH IDHS

The Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS)/Emergency Rental Assistance Program 2 helps renters facing financial hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic. You can receive assistance with rent and utility payments, up to 15 months of arrears, and three months of future payments for 18 months. To apply, schedule an appointment with a TRP Representative today by calling 312-880-1137.

## REAL ESTATE ASSETS AND SERVICES (REAS)

### AFFORDABLE HOUSING

TRP's REAS team builds positive change in the community through affordable apartments in Pilsen, Little Village, and Back of the Yards. Click [here](#) to learn more about the current vacancies.

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### RESIDENT ENGAGEMENT

On February 27, TRP hosted a listening session between the City of Chicago's Department of Housing (DOH) and residents of TRP apartments. Twenty-five tenants representing nine different TRP buildings were present to provide their input on topics ranging from supportive services, the need for new affordable rental housing development, gentrification and displacement, and targeted funding to specific populations like single mothers, homeless, low-income households, etc. Among the topics were the 18th and Peoria development site, at which tenants wanted to see the city provide affordable rental apartments for families and seniors and home-buying opportunities for community residents.

DOH engaged with these community residents in how DOH can best support those living in affordable housing development. DOH is preparing the next Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP), which helps DOH direct federal affordable housing funds like the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program. The listening sessions with tenants help determine how DOH can best support future tenants and new affordable housing developments to ensure all Chicagoans have access to safe, affordable, and healthy homes. TRP tenants interested in participating in supporting future housing developments should contact Alma Silva at 312-374-8096 or [asilva@resurrectionproject.org](mailto:asilva@resurrectionproject.org).

## EVENTS

## ELLAS OPEN HOUSE

ELLAS, a TRP initiative, creates a space for Latina breast cancer survivors where they can find moral support resources to recover and return to their new normal. Join our open houses, empower yourself, and learn how to support other survivors on **March 13, 2023, from 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM** at La Casa Resource Center, 1815 S. Paulina Street, Chicago, IL 60608. For more open house dates or more information, call **312-880-1888**.

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## FINANCIAL WELLNESS

**Free Financial Assessment Consultations**, Every Wednesday from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM. Casa Hidalgo, 3600 S. Wood St. Chicago, IL 60608.

**5 Steps to Build Credit**, Friday, March 10, 2023, 8:30 AM to 9:30 AM. Fulton Elementary, 5300 S. Hermitage Ave. Chicago, IL 60609.

**Personal Finance Workshop**: If you're a new homebuyer this workshop on personal finance is for you. This free two-part course provides education, tools, and guidance to make homebuying easier. Join the workshop on **Saturday, March 18, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.** to learn about financial goals, money management, and credit as it contributes to your goal of buying a home. Register [here](#).

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## CHICAGO'S FUTURE: GET OUT TO VOTE!

**Voting isn't just about civic duty. Your vote impacts every Chicagoan.**

As a nonpartisan organization, we do not promote specific candidates but will actively participate in three Mayoral Candidate Forums and invite you to attend any of the three events listed below. To learn more about Brandon Johnson, click [here](#). To learn more about Paul Vallas, click [here](#).

**United Power for Action and Justice (UPAJ)** - Sunday, March 19, 2023, at 3:00 PM.

TRP is a member organization of **UPAJ** and is working towards Housing Stability for the neighborhoods of Back of the Yards, North Lawndale, Chicago Lawn, and Roseland. Join this forum as the candidates Brandon Johnson and Paul Vallas share their commitment to meet and work with UPAJ as we build affordable homes at scale on the South and West sides of Chicago. Click [here](#) to reserve your seat.

**Sunday, March 19, 2023, at 3:00 PM**

Harmony Community Church  
1908 S. Millard  
Chicago, IL 60631

*(Transportation will be available! Departing at 2:00 PM from 46th and Wood, in Back of the Yards)*

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**BLACK AND BROWN: CHICAGO'S FUTURE – Monday, March 20, 2023, at 5:30 PM.**

TRP to co-host Chicago mayoral run-off debate with candidates Brandon Johnson and Paul Vallas at the **Chicago History Museum**. Doors open at 5:00 PM, and the program starts at 5:30 PM. Click [here](#) to register; live Spanish interpretation is available, and people are seated on a first-come, first-served basis.

**In collaboration with** the Latino Policy Forum (Forum), Chicago Urban League (CUL), Illinois Black Advocacy Initiative (ILBA), Illinois Latino Agenda (ILA), Hispanic Lawyers Association of Illinois (HLAI), Chicago Black Partners Alliance (CBPA), Association House of Chicago Hispanic Federation, Metropolitan Family Services (MFS), Instituto del Progreso Latino (Instituto), Metropolitan Planning Council (MPC), UCAN Chicago (UCAN), Gad's Hill Center, and Multicultural Leadership Academy (MLA).

**Monday, March 20, 2023, at 5:30 PM**

Chicago History Museum  
1601 N. Clark Street  
Chicago, IL 60614

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**1Chi4All – Saturday, March 25, 2023, at 11:00 AM**

TRP is a member of this alliance, which includes many partner organizations committed to quality-of-life plans in Chicago. We hope to hear each candidate's vision for Chicago neighborhoods. Candidates Brandon Johnson and Paul Vallas will be asked to address topics impacting the quality of life in Chicago's communities of color, including neighborhood access to jobs, investments, small business support, education, housing, and directly supporting and working with the community organizations. Click [here](#) to reserve your seat.

**Saturday March 25th at 11:00 am**

UIC Forum  
725 W Roosevelt  
Chicago, IL 60607

*(Transportation will be available! Departing at 10:15 AM from La Casa at 18th Street and Paulina.)*

## IN THE NEWS

**Raul Raymundo, CEO and Co-Founder**, wrote a letter to the Chicago Tribune Editorial Board in response to the board's strategy around property taxes and Pilsen. Read the letter [here](#).

**Liz Carretero, Director of Financial Wellness** was featured in the Chicago Defender along with the University of Chicago Center Civic Leadership 2023 cohort. The cohort includes 15 fellows from nonprofit organizations, click [here](#) to read more about the cohort.

**Eré Rendon, Vice President of Immigrant Justice**, spoke with the Chicago Sun-Times on how Chicago organizations are finding housing for newly arrived migrants. Read the article [here](#).

**TRP staff** was joined by residents, public officials, and partners to celebrate the ribbon cutting ceremony of Casa Durango. Several media outlets covered the ceremony.

[Chicago Sun-Times](#)

[WBBM-AM Radio](#)

[Univision Chicago](#)

[Lawndale News](#)

[La Raza](#)

**Telemundo Chicago** (link not available)

**WBEZ** (link not available)

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