



T A G FOUNDATION

2015

Annual Report

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

We are committed to being a different nonprofit in the urban community. Our projects are measurable. The community will be directly improved by our efforts. We believe sustainable solutions are the primary answer to urban renewal.



Melissa Traywick



Reginald Summerrise



Letitia Patterson

Dear Friends,

We learned a lot this year. Purpose and fundraising drove the narrative. So many people have so many ideas as to how to socially and economically impact a community; it took real focus to determine what we can do with the skills and resources we have available now.

Walkable communities are the key. I decided to work with the one that I grew up in. When my Mom died, she was Corresponding Secretary of the Block Club. My parents bought that house 46 years prior. It was (and still is) a beautiful neighborhood and vibrant community. But the retail corridor is almost vacant. New neighbors are moving in and others are aging in place. As the world changes, our communities have to keep up with the times. It doesn't take a lot of money to make a difference. We are seriously contributing to the growth and well-being of the Ridgeland Block Club Association. We will use the template we're developing for other communities. We are on our way to making a difference.

It was in a community meeting when someone mentioned the photographs of The Chicago Defender archives were disintegrating. This was more than alarming. My family and thousands of other black families considered The Chicago Defender as the only true historical record of the Black experience in Chicago. Digital availability of our history is as important as our future! We applied for a planning grant from The Robert McCormick Foundation and got it! In the planning stage, we learned there are approximately 100,000 photos in the archives being viewed by no one! Our organization is aggressively trying to change that fact.

We applied for a few more grants that we did not receive. But the success with The Robert McCormick Foundation helped us understand how best to move forward to achieve more success. We completed the planning grant stage in short order. The project is an extremely important one to our organization.

The best is yet to come!



Angela Ford

Executive Director



A photograph of a decorative mosaic sphere resting on a grey stone pedestal. The sphere is covered in small, multi-colored tiles in shades of purple, blue, and gold. The pedestal has a fluted, classical design. The scene is set outdoors in front of a window with a dark frame, reflecting bare trees. To the right, a portion of a door with ornate metalwork is visible. The ground is covered with light-colored gravel.

YEAR IN REVIEW

Our second year including a lot of listening and community involvement. We're learning a lot about real impact and cultivating leadership. We are still firmly focused to help urban communities get BLACK-TO-BASICS!

ON THE TABLE



This year was the second On-The-Table event held by Chicago Community Trust (CCT) in line with their 100th Anniversary. They used the image of our Executive Director and our bike giveaway in their collaterals for 2015. While excited to be included on the promotional end, we weren't successful making meaningful connections with the Trust to further our outreach and programming in urban communities.

For that reason, we kept our *conversation* small and inexpensive. We are committed to making sure all capital expended moves the needle in the neighborhoods. We are already "talking". Our conversations have already started! We'll keep moving towards successful partnerships. Maybe, we'll connect with Chicago Community Trust in a meaningful way in the future. We're optimistic!



RIDGELAND BLOCK CLUB

Our involvement with The Ridgeland Block Club Association occurred almost organically. It's the block on which our Executive Director grew up. It's her wonderful childhood experiences that created the mission of The TAG Foundation. Recreating or re-encouraging walkable urban communities where people know their neighbors and shop locally is a primary goal of TAG.

The block club was already in existence, but looking to establish it's relevance in the community as a voice of participation and inclusion. The TAG Foundation worked with The Ridgeland Block Club's President Ben Handy. We created the website for the Association. The concept was ours, the words, goals and vision is that of the President. We created the logo of the association and continue create their promotional cards for events, meetings and occasions. We post every blog, often written by the President, Ben Handy and we update their event pages and information when necessary.

TAG's goal with this organization is to serve as a partner in making sure the organization is relevant in the conversations with the City of Chicago and attracts all relevant services and amenities to the community. Our philosophy is, a firmly established organization committed to the betterment of any community is the cornerstone of a strong neighborhood.

The Ridgeland Block Club Association is well on it's way to becoming the anchor organization of the Calumet Heights community. We continue to work with them to establish policy and place on Chicago's Southside. Feel free to follow them on Facebook or at the website, www.ridgelandblockclub.com

Join Us!

Good Neighbors Building a Strong Community Together.

THE RIDGELAND BLOCK CLUB ASSOCIATION



Events



The Ridgeland



Resources



Say Hi!

www.ridgelandblockclub.com







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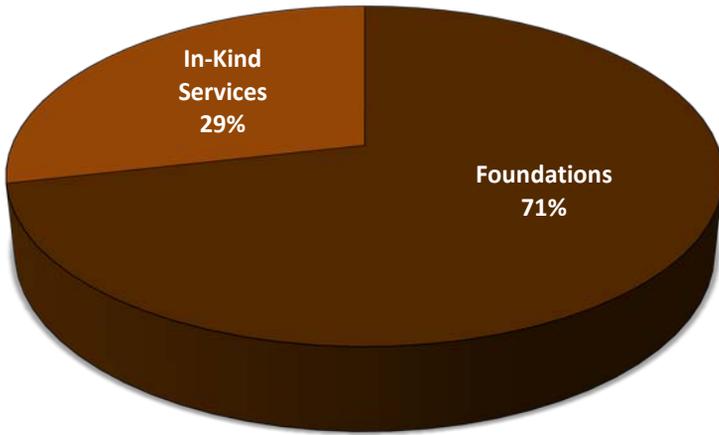
We received a planning grant from The Robert McCormick Foundation to assess the current condition of the photographs of the Chicago Defender Archives. This prestigious newspaper was, by far, the primary recording of African-American history in Chicago and the initial motivation of The Great Migration.

Assessing the status of the archives and proposing meaningful solutions to preserve Black journalism is a true honor and privilege of the TAG Foundation. There is much to do to preserve Black History!



FINANCIAL INFORMATION

CONTRIBUTIONS

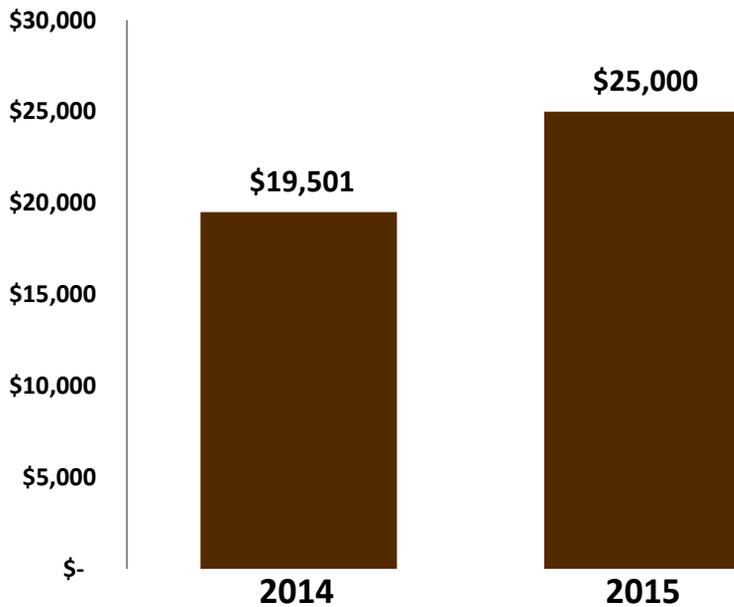


EXPENDITURES

Compensation	\$15,250.00
Supplies	2,028.87
Phone	1,120.79
Transportation	256.10
Consultants	2,150.00
Utilities	198.01
Other	693.30
Bank Fees	5.00

\$21,702.07

Cash on Hand \$3,297.93



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**CHICAGO
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AND AFFILIATES

For more information on T A G Foundation, our social enterprises and events,
please visit our website at www.thisistagfoundation.com

Cover photo: Ridgeland Avenue, Chicago, IL taken by Byron Rivers



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