

ANNUAL REPORT

2021

PROVIDING ALL YOUNG PEOPLE WITH A SAFE AND NURTURING ENVIRONMENT TO PLAY.

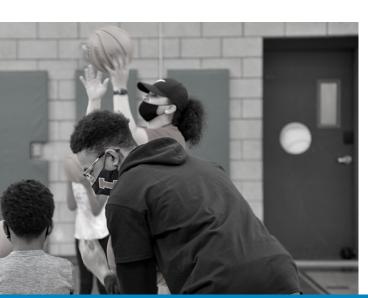




Background + Mission

- Initial discussions began in 2013 alongside the North Lawndale Community Coordinating Council to enhance collaboration, coordination and cooperation across youth programming
- Shared vision of community leaders to collaborate to create safe and supportive sports and recreation opportunities for all children in North Lawndale
- Officially formed the North Lawndale Athletic and Recreation Association (NLARA) in 2017 recognizing we are stronger together
- Serving 3,800 young people ages 5-18 and their families as we enter our 5th year of operation





Culture

- Programming focused on the holistic development of children: socially, emotionally, physically
- Building sustainable data collection processes to track and evaluate collective impact of the **NLARA**
- Coaches/parents trained to cultivate an environment to foster each child's growth
- Ongoing community asset and needs assessments to centralize community voices

OUR PARTNERS



The Investment **Endless Energy 4 Point Play UCAN** Ana Sierra Women's **Basketball League**



The Bloc



Chicago Lions Rugby

Boxing Out Negativity





North Lawndale Eagles





Working Bikes

Girls in the Game Lawndale Christian Fitness Center West Side Sports League **Collins Academy**



AmericaSCORES - Chicago Urban Initiatives



A Step Ahead Chess



Equiticity

Girls on the Run



UCAN Play Like a Champion Old St Patrick's Church **NLCCC**

Wisdom Knot The Bloc **Carole Robertson**



Franklin Park Little League



Community Engagement



- Food pantries, at-home athletic equipment kits, and back-to-school events provide broad support for young people and families
- Sports days and bike rides showcase programming opportunities and the power of a caring community

Collaboration

- A virtual basketball league at the height of the pandemic allowed youth from various schools and teams to train alongside each other while staying safe
- Sharing of resources (field space, coaches, skills) maximized programming opportunities for youth across all NLARA member organizations





Expanding Horizons

- Programming that includes literacy and computer skills, scientific curiosity, and artistic expression
- Community service projects for athletes
- Out of state tournaments, fields trips and camping
- College visits for youth of all ages!

Special Thanks to Our 2021 Donors and Supporters

The 100x1000 Foundation
Alderman Michael Scott Jr.
The Chicago Cubs
Commissioner Dennis Deer
Equiticity

Four Point

Four Point Play

IMC Foundation

Laureus USA - Sport For Good Chicago Lawndale Christian Fitness Center

Nike, Inc.

North Lawndale Community

Coordinating Council

Old St. Patrick's Catholic Church

Play Like a Champion Today

Representative Lakesia Collins

Steans Family Foundation

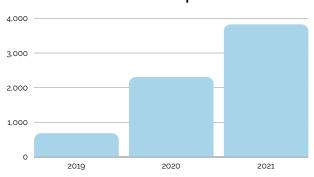
UCAN

The University of Notre Dame

West Side Sports League

Working Bikes

Total Participation



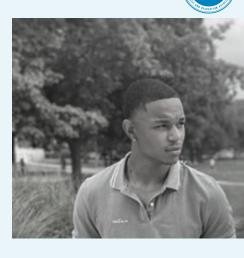
NLARA By the Numbers

Increased girl participants by 260% over the past year!

> Provided traumainformed, SELfocused training to 77 coaches

"I loved my experience with the NLARA because it allowed me the opportunity to do what I love, and that's give back to my community."

Jamal Coleman, 19





"The NLARA has been of great support to our Ana Sierra Women's Basketball League brand and journey. We're grateful to have a network that believes in our vision and mission. We look forward to the growth of our partnership to continue serving our youth in North Lawndale and the greater Chicago community."

Ana Sierra, NLARA Member

Next Steps for 2022

- Increase impact to 5,000 youth and families in FYE June 2022
- Increase community partnerships from 31 to over 35 with special emphasis with the Parks and Schools.
- Engage 50-100 coaches and parents in NLARA workshops
- Establish strong/stable funding base to support hiring of staff
- Build out the NLARA marketing and communications strategy to improve community outreach

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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North Lawndale Athletic and Recreation Association (NLARA)

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