

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

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ucan



OUR VISION: YOUTH WHO SUFFER TRAUMA CAN BECOME OUR FUTURE LEADERS

Dear Friends,

There is a reason older generations are looked to for wisdom and guidance across the world. Those who have seen history play out can provide valuable knowledge of what works and what doesn't.

In 150 years at UCAN, here is what we've seen work:

- Healing from trauma is possible with compassionate care
- Giving youth a platform to advocate for their needs instills confidence and hope
- · A job bolsters a young person's dignity and resilience
- One caring adult can mean the difference in positive decision making for youth

Over the next two years, UCAN will be completing an ambitious campaign to enhance our ability to deliver the kind of quality programming that positively impacts the lives of those we serve. Our clients want the opportunity to live their lives to the fullest and are hungry for change. UCAN is uniquely equipped to support the needs of those who walk through our doors, meeting them where they are and through a culturally sensitive lens. Through our work, we can further illuminate the path where opportunity meets potential and magic happens to create a stronger and more sustainable UCAN.

Please consider signing up to receive our monthly newsletter, connecting with us on social media, and attending one of our many events to deepen your connections. You will see firsthand how your generosity and support are creating safe and caring spaces for youth and families to learn and grow. Together, we will make our communities more equitable for the future.

Sincerely,

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Zack Schrantz President/CE0

Markell Bridges Governing Board Chair



UCAN works towards a single vision: *youth who suffer trauma can become our future leaders.* In all that we do, we advocate for youth, families and the communities served by providing opportunities that change lives through impactful programs, consistent presence, and unrivaled diversity and inclusion. For most of our 150 years, we primarily focused on the full support of youth in care. In our more recent history, we've expanded to include other areas of programming.

VIOLENCE INTERVENTION & PREVENTION SERVICES

Our Violence Intervention & Prevention Services (VIPS) program is a resource to help our youth thrive in a safer environment, one where they can feel empowered to fulfill their potential and become our future leaders. We've expanded trauma-informed services delivered to acutely at-risk youth in North Lawndale by hiring additional youth development coaches to support their needs. Participants who engage with our program significantly decrease their likelihood of being involved with violent incidents in the community.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Working with youth, adults and families in a variety of settings, UCAN's culturally diverse counselors and youth development specialists help clients address complex issues such as abuse, neglect, behavioral problems, separation and loss. As we enhance the experience of youth and families accessing our mental health services, it in turn helps those in treatment continue to progress, be successfully discharged and ultimately lead healthier, more emotionally balanced lives.

YOUTH LEADERSHIP & DEVELOPMENT

We designed youth leadership services for young people between the ages of 12 to 24 to help them grow, learn and progress towards a bright future brimming with the promise of their potential. These culturally relevant efforts are rooted in a Positive Youth Development (PYD) framework, building on the strengths each young person brings while asking adults to listen and to be flexible. This critical programming leads to improved life skills and competencies, increased feelings of acceptance and support, and a desire to play a more positive and proactive role in their environments.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

UCAN's Workforce Development programs empower our participants to achieve their highest level of potential by honing their job skills and propelling them toward economic self-sufficiency. Our work is driven by the desire to inspire, motivate and educate. We respect the life experiences our participants bring to the table and recognize how those experiences might positively or negatively impact future employment goals.

ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT & SUPPORT

We are committed to supporting our clients throughout every stage of life, and that support doesn't end — it continues well into their adulthood, in the early stages of their careers, and as they continue their relationship with UCAN as members of our alumni network. This critical resource provides the social and emotional support that promotes healthy lives into adulthood.





150 YEARS LATER....

Not many can say they have celebrated their sesquicentennial anniversary — partly because the word is a mouthful — but also because enduring for 150 years requires adaptability, dedication and resilience.

Throughout the year, we engaged internal and external audiences in our work through a series of celebrations, which culminated in the kick off of a new fundraising campaign — The Power of Potential — that is aligned with UCAN's strategic plan.

Some major anniversary events and activities included:

- UCAN unveiled its new 150th logo.
- We hosted Spirit Week leading up to our annual Employee Recognition Banquet.
- In collaboration with StoryCorps, we collected Sesquicentennial Stories, a series of audio interviews with UCAN staff and alumni.
- Select staff received the **President's Coin** in recognition of their actions and behaviors, which met the highest organizational standards of care or support.
- The 150th Anniversary Microsite documented a detailed history of UCAN and those who have impacted or been impacted by our work.
- The lobby of the Nichols Center was formally dedicated to the memory of the late Cook County Commissioner Robert Steele.

- UCAN celebrated more than 50 tenured staff during a reception held to honor their dedication and passion to the UCAN mission and the youth and families we serve.
- 150 Facts Celebrating 150 Years were launched on all of our social media platforms to share on a daily basis fun and interesting facts about UCAN.
- **Petria's Place**, the healing harden located on the Drost Harding campus, was expanded to include a brick path in honor of this milestone in which staff, supporters and volunteers could purchase an inscribed brick.
- Light pole banners and other **anniversary signage** was installed at each of our eight sites to publicly commemorate this monumental time in our history.
- A special 150th Anniversary Celebration was held at the Chicago History Museum on March 29, 2019 and featured a display of UCAN antiques.
- Throughout the organization, UCAN "birthday" parties were held to at each site to celebrate UCAN turning 150 years old.





VIOLENCE INTERVENTION AND PREVE

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"I'm appreciative. I saw that I had problems. My coach, Roy, has helped me build a better character." —OSHÁ RICHARDSON

Two years ago, Oshá Richardson was facing a court case, struggling with

addiction and unsure of his future. He was connected to our Violence Intervention and Prevention Services, which pairs high-risk youth with Youth Development Coaches who act as mentors, caseworkers and a support system. Flash forward to today, and Oshá credits his coach, Roy Pierson, with helping him maintain housing, get sober, and attain a job at Soldier Field. Because of the turnaround in his lifestyle, he was able to beat his court case.

"It's phenomenal," he says of VIPS. "I had a rough come up. Roy makes sure I'm staying on my game. He checks in with me. I know I can run to him and talk to him about anything. UCAN lets me come up [to campus] when I'm having a bad day, need to get away, or if I just need to vent. It just works."

The VIPS team also acts as violence interrupters, and works directly with the community, canvassing and building trust.

"Violence interrupters are the first ones. They are like the firefighters, they are on the front lines," says Marty Murff, a VIPS Supervisor. "They are out on the streets, they hear what's going on [in the community] and they do a lot of mediations, which are critical in stopping violence before it starts or before retaliation."

VIPS recognizes there is no one answer to solving the epidemic of violence, and it's evident in their programming.

BY THE NUMBERS:

- 92% of program participants were not charged with a violent crime in 2019.
- 85% of program participants were connected with a caring adult.
- 99% of program participants felt that UCAN has given them the opportunity to improve their futures.
- 99% of program participants felt that UCAN has helped them determine ways they can decrease their exposure to and/or involvement in violence.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT AND MENTAL



"[DFLN] was something I looked forward to. Each session I took away either a new life skill, techniques, pointers — there was just always something to take away, and I built relationships with the mentors." —DIAMOND NEAL



Within our Counseling and Youth Development Services (CYDS) department is an array of programs that are rooted in these principles. Whether it's through workforce development, counseling services or parenting assistance, personal growth and healing are at the forefront.

Kemonate Johnson participates in three programs housed under CYDS: Diermeier Future Leaders Now (DFLN), a 25-hour leadership institute; Project Visible Man (PVM), a male mentor group; and UCAN Voices, a musical therapy group. In his experience with CYDS, he's learned "not to take this day for granted." Each program lends itself to a different facet of personal development, be it leadership, self-esteem or emotional control.

Diamond Neal also graduated from DFLN, and she is a member of the female counterpart to PVM, Phenomenal Women. She first came to UCAN through our School Based Counseling and Youth Development Services, which places UCAN therapists in Chicago Public Schools for therapy and referrals to other programs. It was her first experience with therapy, and she found it incredibly rewarding. "I would just spill everything to her," she recalls. "She would give me tools and advice. She was honest. She helped me."

BY THE NUMBERS:

- 789 people received a mental health service through our Community Outpatient Mental Health program.
- 97% of CYDS participants felt that UCAN has helped them develop leadership skills.
- 145 youth graduated from DFLN and Advanced DFLN. Of these, 57 youth came from North Lawndale.

ALUMNI OUTREACH

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"Your team becomes your family, our testimonies plant the seed, the dedication becomes our home and the advocacy becomes our life." —TINA WESTLEY



UCAN's alumni services outreach intentionally is twofold and comprises our Alumni Services Program and the Alumni Association.

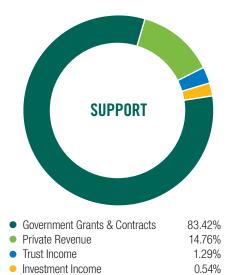
The Alumni Services Program (ASP) provides youth with an array of support and resources to assist in navigating their goals past their UCAN participation. For example, alumni looking for jobs receive resume building support via our Workforce Development department. Alums who are new parents are connected with parenting resources or receive donated baby items. Alumni seeking to further their education are pointed to scholarships or application assistance. The program is designed to be flexible and assist alumni with any hurdle they are currently facing.

The Alumni Association comprises former UCAN clients that focuses on networking, mentorship, volunteering and advocacy. Each year they travel to Springfield, III., for Foster Care Youth and Alumni Legislative Shadow Day, where they speak with legislators about their experience as youth in care and what they think the foster care system needs. They've successfully helped craft and pass legislation, including persuading Governor JB Pritzker to provide emergency funding to child welfare agencies and alumni services across the state.

Both ASP and the Alumni Association are designed to be a multifaceted support system for alumni as they age out of UCAN programs and services.

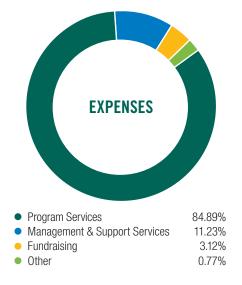
BY THE NUMBERS:

- 32 alumni received services throughout the past year.
- 100% of alumni feel there are people at UCAN whom they can go to if they have a problem.
- 100% of alumni felt that because of UCAN, they have made progress towards their academic/career goals.
- 41 alumni have continued to stay engaged with UCAN through a volunteer event, advocacy effort, or a celebration this year.





Therapeutic Youth Home	22.09%
 UCAN Academy 	15.73%
 Professional Foster Parenting 	15.34%
 Transitional/Independent Living 	14.00%
 Teen Parenting Service Network 	8.64%
Violence Intervention & Prevention	8.35%
Services	
 Counseling & Youth Development 	5.69%
Services	
 Other Programs 	3.79%
 Housing Support Services 	3.60%
 Workforce Development 	2.76%



FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of June 30, 2019

TOTAL NET ASSETS TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$40,692,198 \$65,518,693
Total Assets	\$65,518,693

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019

Revenue	
Program	\$37,568,817
Fundraising	\$6,646,178
Trust	\$579,191
Investment	\$242,579
TOTAL REVENUE	\$45,036,765
Expense	
Program	(\$38,114,883)
Management & General, Support	(\$5,041,964)
Fundraising	(\$1,398,915)
Other	(\$345,890)
TOTAL EXPENSE	(\$44,901,652)
NET OPERATIONS	\$137,113
Pension Plan Adjustment	(\$287,627)
CURRENT YEAR CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(\$152,514)
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	\$40,844,712
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$40,692,198

Financials reflect UCAN Operations only. Title Holding Company information not included.

COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY: NORTH LAWNDALE

In 2019, **21,390** youth and families were served or impacted by UCAN's programming.

About 50% of those served or impacted are from the North Lawndale community.

35% growth in individuals served and **80%** growth in community impact since 2016.

Of those North Lawndale residents served: 44% were youth aged under 18 45% were ages 18-24 11% were 25 and older

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

308 job placements for youth and adults in 2019. Of these, 38 were for North Lawndale residents.

571 work-based learning completions for youth and adults in 2019. Of these, 84 were for North Lawndale residents.

96% of Summer Youth Employment Program participants felt that because of UCAN, they are confident in their ability to keep a job.

99% of SYEP participants learned skills they can use in workplaces inside and outside of UCAN.

97% of Housing and Workforce Development participants felt that because of UCAN, they have made progress towards their academic/career goals.



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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 150TH PRESIDENT'S COIN INITIATIVE

As part of our 150th Anniversary, UCAN's Senior Leadership Team (SLT) decided to do something special to acknowledge the dedication and compassion of our staff. Over the course of the year, dozens of staff members were celebrated with a special UCAN 150th President's Coin in recognition of their spirit, service and teamwork.

Selected by the President/CEO of UCAN, Zack Schrantz, winners were presented with the coin during monthly SLT meetings. There they were greeted with fond memories and kind words from the senior leadership of the organization.

The more than 65 coin recipients ranged from tenured staff to diversity, equity and inclusion champions to alumni-turned-employees to the administrative team. Others have spent their entire careers with us working directly with youth in care — collectively adding up to 211 years of service — which speaks to their incredible compassion and knowledge.

Other recipients came from our Quality Improvement team, who worked tirelessly over the past two years leading our Council on Accreditation process. The IT team was also recognized for their consistent dedication to problem-solving and supporting their colleagues' technical needs. We honored the Violence Intervention and Prevention Services team, who are out in the community every day, forging bonds and supporting youth. Other recipients included our Workforce Development program, which provides our youth and families the dignity of employment and a future career path, as well as our Transitional Living Program and Residential program, both of which directly support youth in our facilities around the clock.

The 150th President's Coin recipients come from across the entire agency and bring a variety of skills to our team, but at the heart of it all, they bring their dedication to our mission, as do each and every member of the UCAN family. We are incredibly proud of the over 700 employees who make up our family, and we applaud their commitment, selflessness and compassion.

WE THANK OUR DONORS

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The 1869 Society, named for the year in which UCAN was founded, honors those who have chosen to include UCAN in their estate plans.

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