Our Mission: To help people of “all colors” enhance their own economic and education goals.

The organization has a bold and ambitious goal to impact 3,000 individuals in select communities by 2030, serving 350 annually. As a servant leader, the Executive Director holds strongly that we, as a society should not rely on other structures to begin the conversation around those who struggle economically but to change the narrative from an advocacy and innovative perspective.

What We Achieved This Year

- **337** Community Residents Served
- **68%** Employment Placement Rate
- **100%** Clients are "Work Ready"
- **$17.16** Average Hourly Wage
- **$1.6M** Secured Towards Workforce Development & Housing Services
- **28** "New" Community & Business Partnerships
- **100%** Veterans Have Permanent Housing
- **98** Young Adults placed in a paid, work-based learning opportunity
- **88** Females Served between 18-25 y.o.
- **77** Females Served at 25 years and older

About Our Organization

- Minority & Female Owned
- Talented & Diverse Team
- Based On Chicago's Southside
- 90% Women of Color
- 100% Female Operated
- 100% African American Staff
- 88% Female African American Board of Directors

Our Success Story

Illinois Youth Investment Program Participant: Keoroncia M. “I want to be able to take care of myself financially.”

With hopes of finding employment stability and security, Keoroncia attended an information session where she learned more about Of Color, Inc (OCI) workforce programs. After speaking with OCI staff, she decided to move forward in the program in anticipation of finding an employment opportunity. “I would love to work with children or somewhere where I can interact with people often.” Keoroncia explained when describing her employment goals and interests.

After enrolling in the Program, Keoroncia completed Job Readiness Training and excitedly began discussions about her work-based learning placement with her Business Service Representative. Because of her interest in the Health and Science Industry, together they decided placement at Walgreens as a Customer Service Representative would be the most suitable opportunity for Keoroncia.

Shortly thereafter, the Walgreens store manager stated, “Keoroncia has great work ethic. She comes in on time and can complete back dates very well.” On the merit of her work performance, the store manager asked Keoroncia to formally apply for a Customer Service Associate position with Walgreens. As a result of Keoroncia’s determination to work, she was offered and accepted a job opportunity working at Walgreens. Keoroncia explained to her Business Service Representative how excited she was to receive the offer letter and how she was ready to officially start working. “Thank you for always checking in and making sure that I have the necessary tools to succeed. I got one of the official Walgreens work shirts and everything! I’m grateful for this opportunity and will continue to use what I learned from the program in my everyday life.”

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