

# Chicago Chesed Fund part of SolveHungerToday Campaign

BY MIRA TEMKIN

The Chicago Chesed Fund has been serving Jewish families throughout the city of Chicago in the Rogers Park, Peterson Park, and Albany Park neighborhoods since 1987. Through food distribution and financial assistance programs, CCF has made a real difference in the lives of hundreds of families by putting food on the table, providing clothing and helping them get back on the road to self-sufficiency.

Today, more than 40 programs provide vital assistance to over 4,000 individuals a year. They offer a wide array of programs and services, aimed at battling hunger, preventing eviction and homelessness, and providing needy families with basics such as furniture and clothing. Their food pantry, working in conjunction with the Greater Chicago Food Depository, has helped them become one of the largest food distribution centers in northern Cook County, with an annual hunger relief budget of more than \$1.5 million.

"An emergency loan fund that provides interest-free loans and a Job Link program that helps people find jobs are just some of the services we provide," said Rabbi Yossi Fuerst, COO of the Chicago Chesed Fund.



The food pantry at Chicago Chesed Fund is one of the largest food distribution centers in northern Cook County.

"People come to shop for whatever they need at no cost: clothing, furniture, housewares, baby supplies, medical equipment, toys and books," he said. "Staff members and volunteers are continually stocking the shelves. The warehouse is always busy with people, but we preserve people's dignity by only allowing one shopper at a time."

Starting at 1 p.m. on June 1, for 24 hours only, Chicago Chesed Fund will participate in the national SolveHungerToday campaign through the renowned fundraising

website, Charidy.com. Through this campaign, the organization has secured matching donations from those who have generously agreed to quadruple the donations to Chicago Chesed Fund and meet their \$500,000 fundraising goal. This fundraising campaign will give Chicago Chesed Fund the ability to support even more families in need within the community.

"This unique campaign gives us an opportunity to raise funds very quickly," said Rabbi Fuerst. "With community participation, we can meet our goal!" For more information, visit [www.Charidy.com/ccf](http://www.Charidy.com/ccf) or [chicagochesedfund.org](http://chicagochesedfund.org).

## HOPKINS from p. 1

the 115-acre Clybourn corridor, roughly bounded by Clybourn, the Chicago River, North and Southport avenues.

To do that, he explained, he'll first need to change the zoning from industrial to something more compatible with today's economic realities.

"This once thriving industrial area has suffered decline in recent years, but could be poised to be the economic engine of the city with the help of the right kind of zoning," he said. Hopkins wants to "remove the set of handcuffs that prevent it from reaching its full potential."

But to do that, he added, it will also be necessary to change some major streets and bridges to improve traffic flow.

Ald. Hopkins said he'd also like to see the zoning laws changed to allow "work/live" spaces and "a move from a car-centric to a human-centric plan."

Right now, "traffic congestion is a concern that's just off the charts," he said, adding that what

people are really calling for today is "development that meets the needs of the next generation of people – not the next generation of American entrepreneurship."

But any redevelopment must create connections between the original industrial area and its surrounding neighborhoods. And that includes upgraded streets and bridges, Ald. Hopkins said.

How much will all this cost for a city already overwhelmed by financial strains and schools that, due to decades of bad decisions and financial mismanagement, may not open in the Fall? "We don't know yet, but it will be a lot," he said. He was short on specifics as to where this money would come from for these big plans, nor say if he expected more borrowing at high-interest rates to accomplish it.

But in the end, he warned, it will cost a lot more not to spend that money.

"The cost of inaction will be far more than the cost of enactment," he warned.

## DEPAUL from p. 1

might avoid a place like Yankton, SD, or Chattanooga, TN, because they view it as not exciting enough," Boeckenstedt said.

The Office of Public Safety released their own statement informing the DePaul community of proper safety precautions.

Bob Wachowski, director of Public Safety, encouraged students to proactively monitor their surroundings. "When in the library or study areas, while walking or commuting, keep an eye on your electronic devices, backpacks, purses and other personal belongings."

While Public Safety works

closely with the Chicago Police Dept. to prevent and respond to crime, Wachowski noted students should comply with offenders.

"If someone approaches you and demands your property, giving it up increases your chances of staying safe," he said.

Wachowski reinforced Public Safety's emphasis on surveillance for crime. On both the Loop and Lincoln Park campuses, officers are on foot patrol and at fixed posts.

"We are here to assist students," he said. "Our office is open 24/7 and our Public Safety officers are trained to connect students with services they need."

# Cops round up North Side burglars

Chicago police have been on a roll lately, announcing several arrests after months of soaring burglary rates across the North Side.

• A South Shore man is facing multiple charges after he was found in possession of property that had been taken in a series of North Side burglaries, police said.

Ronnie Phipps, 18, was found with items that were allegedly taken from a 62-year-old man's car and home in the 4200 block of N. Greenview early on on May 25.

Phipps is charged with burglary, trespassing, and two counts of attempted burglary, according to police.

• Michael A Baird, 34, of Lincoln Square, is charged with burglary after he was identified through video surveillance as

the man who broke into an apartment building storage locker in the 400 block of W. Briar on May 15. Prosecutors say Baird broke the lock off of a storage locker and fled with several items. His bail is set at \$250,000.

• Jovany Flores of the Hermosa neighborhood is charged with burglary, aggravated battery of a police officer, and resisting arrest after being seen inside a vehicle that did not belong to him, according to police.

Off-duty officers detained Flores after the incident in the 2300 block of W. Wolfram around 11:30 p.m. on May 23. But Flores "became upset and irritated" and began to fight the two officers who suffered minor injuries, according to police.

Flores, 32, is being held in lieu of \$300,000 bail.

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