

In this newsletter, we're sharing how JPMorgan Chase is using its expertise, data, resources and scale to help open new pathways to economic opportunity. We're working to advance inclusive growth in Chicago's communities by helping to support the expansion of affordable homeownership, investment in workforce development, and support for entrepreneurs to grow their businesses.

### **TOP STORIES**



# How JPMorgan Chase is Helping to Expand Affordable Homeownership in Chicago

Connecting Capital & Community (3C), supported by JPMorgan Chase, is working in several communities across the country. The Chicago Community Trust leads 3C in Chicago and is helping developers access additional capital from financial institutions to address the supply gap in affordable housing. In Chicago, 3C is focused on affordable homeownership through supply construction, financing, and systems improvements, focusing on the communities of Humboldt Park and Garfield Park.

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### New Affordable Housing and Renovated Retail Space Opens in Auburn Gresham

548 Capital, a branch of 548 Enterprise, opened its newest project at 1376 W. 79th Street, a once dilapidated building that was rehabilitated to create sustainable, affordable apartments on Chicago's South Side. 548 Enterprise is a recipient of an Entrepreneurs of Color Fund loan through the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) Chicago's program supported by JPMorgan Chase. 548 Enterprise aims to help build affordable housing using environmentally sustainable building techniques across the city.

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## **Celebrating the Launch of Community Desk Chicago**

Community Desk Chicago, a JPMorgan Chase grantee that launched as a 501(c)(3) organization in the fall of 2023, works with nonprofits, community developers, and entrepreneurs to assemble the necessary capital, expertise, and other resources to help increase real estate development along underinvested commercial corridors on Chicago's South and West sides.

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RECENT HIGHLIGHTS



### Brown Sugar Bakery Expands to Ashburn Neighborhood

Stephanie Hart, an Alumna of Ascend, a program supported by JPMorgan Chase, and founder of Brown Sugar Bakery, opened a new 10,000-square foot manufacturing facility in Ashburn, where she and 50 employees will craft cakes, chocolates, and treats for nationwide consumption. Local leaders, including Governor J.B. Pritzker and Deputy Mayor of Business Kenya Merritt attended the bakery's ribbon cutting, where Governor Pritzker expressed his hope about its potential to become a staple across the nation.

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HIRE360 and ComEd Partner to Create a Pre-Apprenticeship Program



#### New Grocery Business will Bring Fresh Food to Chicago Neighborhood

Liz Abunaw, founder of Forty Acres Fresh Market and Alumna of Ascend, a program supported by JPMorgan Chase, is working on improving the daily lives of Chicagoans living in the Austin neighborhood. Forty Acres, an independent grocery business run by Abunaw, officially broke ground in late September and anticipates opening to the public in the second half of 2024. In the interim, a produce delivery box service is available for customers in the area seeking fresh groceries.

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Joanna Trotter of JPMorgan Chase Discusses the

HIRE360, a JPMorgan Chase grantee that provides workforce development programs, has partnered with ComEd, Chicagoland's electric provider, on a preapprenticeship program called Take Charge, which helps equip jobseekers with workforce training to prepare for careers in the electric vehicle industry. Most of Take Charge's November graduates were from communities where investment in job training and economic development has historically been lacking.

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#### **Homeownership Gap**

Trotter, JPMorgan Chase's executive director / senior program officer for Global Philanthropy in Chicago and Minneapolis-St. Paul, was featured on The Chicago Community Trust's podcast, "Trust Talks," where she joined a discussion on the homeownership gap and the role of philanthropy in helping address these issues.

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