



ENGLEWOOD Women's Initiative

Providing Pathways to Economic Security

Dear Community Stakeholder:

EWI Collaborative

ACCION Chicago

www.accionchicago.org

Chicago Women in Trades

www.chicagowomenintrades2.org

Demoiselle 2 Femme

www.demoiselle2femme.org

Family Rescue

www.familyrescueinc.org

Jane Addams

Resource Corporation

www.jane-addams.org

Metropolitan Family Services

www.metrofamily.org

Teamwork Englewood

www.teamworkenglewood.org

Women's Business

Development Center

www.wbdc.org

As a recognized community stakeholder, Chicago Foundation for Women and Teamwork Englewood would like to invite you to help advance the **Englewood Women's Initiative (EWI)** as an Advisory Board member during its pilot year. Through this initiative, we aim to track 50 or more Englewood women toward manufacturing and construction careers or entrepreneurship opportunities that put them on a path to earning \$40,000 a year. Our primary goal is to increase the economic security of women, so that they can support their families, increasing their children's chances for success, and contribute to the economic stabilization of their neighborhoods and communities. We will achieve this through a collaboration of eight agencies providing a range of services –from financial coaching and job training to domestic violence counseling and legal aid– that take a holistic approach to addressing women's unique needs.

Actively engaging community stakeholders as accountability agents will not only increase the potential success rate of the program but will also redefine how a community of women can effectively collaborate to impact positive change. Advisory Board members have two responsibilities:

- A. Identify two or more eligible women to participate in the program;
- B. Be a "champion" for two women in the program by providing a monthly well-being call/check-in meeting to ensure they stay on-track to successfully meet their goals.

According to the Social Impact Research Center at Heartland Alliance, Englewood is home to more than 6,200 families, two-thirds of which are headed by single mothers and more than half all families are living below the federal poverty line. A staggering 85 percent of children in Englewood live at or below 185% of the poverty level. Nearly half of all households receive vouchers for food assistance and nearly two-thirds spend more than 30 percent of their income on housing. Residents also grapple with the challenges of community violence on a daily basis.

Yet, as demonstrated through the current Englewood Quality of Life Plan and numerous other initiatives, Englewood is a community with tremendous assets. It is home to resilient, experienced leaders, community members and institutions that share a deep commitment to improving outcomes for all residents. Women seeking new opportunities and solutions for their community account for a large number of these leaders and stakeholders.

Help us equip women with the skills and training to transform their lives and communities. Join our effort. Advisory Board members will receive recognition on our Teamwork Englewood webpage and all public notices. In addition, you will be invited to participate in recruitment and celebration events. The first recruitment effort will be held 10:00am-2:00pm, Wednesday, July 12 at Teamwork Englewood, 815 West 63rd Street, 2nd Floor, US Bank Building. We ask that you share the attached informational flier with your constituents. I will contact you to confirm your participation and answer any questions.

We thank you in advance for your participation and support.

Sincerely,

Deborah Crable,

Project Manager

Teamwork Englewood