Letter From Executive Director

It has been an amazing six months as Teamwork Englewood’s new Executive Director. I have spent much of the last few months learning more deeply about our impact in the community, where we have potential opportunities for more impact, and some of the new initiatives we have been able to build with the staff, the board, and community.

Our work of including and supporting residents and organizations from the community to be apart of creating the next steps for our community is something I continue to be proud of and will continue to support. The work happening with the Englewood Quality of Life Plan matches community wisdom, passion, and leadership with partner organizations and support for the implementation of innovative and impactful programs and initiatives.

Teamwork Englewood has secured funding for 2020 to expand our work in the Englewood Quality of Life Plan. We also raised more funding with the community for the Englewood Quality of Life Plan Impact Englewood fund.

Just in the last few weeks we were approved to begin implementation of our United States Department of Justice grant TIME 21:36 that works with residents and Chicago Police Department to create and implement community based strategies to reduce crime.

I am thankful for the opportunity I have to learn and grow the great work our organization is doing around youth development in the community, the work to serve and support returning citizens, and the work to support parent and community leadership in our local schools through our Parent Mentor program and Safety Passage initiative.

Thank you for all of our support and words of encouragement. We are grateful. Looking forward to the positive change 2020 has in store for our community.

Sincerely,

Cecile De Mello
Executive Director
Teamwork Englewood
Letter from the Executive Board

The core of Teamwork Englewood’s effort to ‘Connect, Convene and Impact’ the community is showcased through the components of the Englewood Quality of Life Plan (EQLP) – Housing and Public Spaces; Health and Wellness; Jobs and Economic Development; Education and Youth Development; and Public Safety. These, along with other vital programs – i.e. Re–Entry; Safe Passage; Parent Mentoring Program and new programs, such as T.I.M.E. 21:36, allows the collaboration of various community residents; local initiatives and supporting organization, which continues to make progress in achieving a quality of life for all residents, and a vibrant environment for the current and new businesses and institutions that compose the Greater Englewood Community of Chicago.

In 2019 our continuing effort to be a catalyst for positive community change, allowed Teamwork Englewood to appoint a new Executive Director, Mrs. Cecile De Mello, a seasoned community organizer, and community developer, her diverse experience working to uplift communities will be an excellent fit to maintain and build upon the successes realized by the retirement of our former Executive Director, Mr. Perry Gunn.

The efforts of the Teamwork Englewood team has been rewarded with continued financial and program growth, and new or expanding Fiscal Sponsorship. With a 2020 projected income and expenses exceeding $2 million, and the announced and anticipated new development and initiatives by the City of Chicago, which will greatly impact and change the face of our community, we are committed to growing our capacity and ability to serve our community is a key component of our current Strategic Planning process.

The needs of our community are many, but Teamwork Englewood is well positioned to continue to work with the many other key stakeholders, new and old, who envision a stable, sustained neighborhood which offers a place of success and hope for the young and old and all parts of the community.

Willard Payton
Chairman
Teamwork Englewood Executive Board
Year At A Glance

5,000+
PEOPLE HAVE WALKED THROUGH OUR DOORS

6,200
PEOPLE HAVE BEEN HELPED THROUGH OUR SERVICES

40+
ORGANIZATIONS HAVE RECEIVED PROJECT SUPPORT FUNDING

$2\text{M}
RECEIVED IN GRANTS

$150\text{K+}
AWARDED TO LOCAL COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS & SMALL BUSINESSES

16
HITS IN THE MEDIA

11
BUSINESSES FUNDED THROUGH THE ENGLEWOOD BUSINESS PLAN COMPETITION
The Business Plan Competition (BPC) was founded in 2016 via a conversation with then Co-CEO, Whole Foods, Walter Robb. The mission of the BPC is to assist Englewood residents, stakeholders and business owners with securing capital to grow and sustain their businesses. Since its inception, the BPC has provided $170,000 in capital to (42) entrepreneurs. This money has been used for opening retail locations, expanding operations, developing websites, hiring employees and other needed functions.

Participants of the BPC are required to submit a “Letter of Interest” to enter the contest. Once entered, they are provided with a series of workshops where they learn how to write a Business Plan, prepare financial proforma’s, standard operating procedures in running a business and many other viable topics. At the conclusion of these workshops, the participants are required to submit a business plan.

The business plans are reviewed and graded by a committee of entrepreneurs. Based on the grades received, the candidates move on to what is termed, Pitch Day. During Pitch Day, the competitors pitch their businesses to a panel of judges. Based on their pitches, ideas and sustainability of their businesses, they are awarded winnings anywhere from $1500 - $10,000.

Interested candidates should be on the lookout for BPC 2020 by following the Englewood Quality of Life website under the Business Plan Competition tab.

This year’s winners are:
- **S.P.A.C.E Englewood, LLC** provides massage and yoga services in the community.
- **Roots & Vines Produce and Cafe Inc.** A Cashless Convenience Market Cafe’ for the community.
- **TCBL, LLC** Medicare paid Diabetes Prevention Program
- **Art of Fun Ultimate Fun Center** is a growing community leisure venue concept. The goal of the Center will be to provide fun experiences with games and food.
- **DMLS Elite Staffing** is a temporary staffing company for the greater Englewood community, with a specialty in people with criminal backgrounds.
- **LNL Foods** provides healthy gourmet sauces that can be used on anything.
- **Military Elite Landscaping (M.E.L)** seeks to beautify the Englewood community and train youth in landscaping services.
- **Word of Mouth Plumbing**, a local plumbing company looking to hire and train more residents in the plumbing industry.
- **Ouidie’s Flair Et cetera**, LLC is a high end vintage retail boutique with a social impact mission.
- **Almvghty Clothing** is a handmade streetwear designed to uplift the soul, spirit, and mind.
- **Egg Rolls, Etc.** is a local woman minority owned frozen food supplier of specialty flavored egg rolls.
“Laugh tonight . . . be serious tomorrow!”

That as the anthem for Friday night, October 4, 2019 as Teamwork Englewood brought “funny” to Englewood and showed the media an unseen side of the Englewood community.

Teamwork Englewood introduced its first annual fundraiser, “FUNNYraiser,” in October 2018. “FUNNYraiser” proved such a success that the second one – “FUNNYraiser: Let’s Do It Again!” – had to be repeated in October 2019.

The objective of this fundraiser is to build awareness and raise funds to support the organization’s programs. Both fundraisers provided funds that help support for the organization’s programs.

Laughter was not the only feature resonating that evening. Music was an entertaining part of the evening as well. Live jazz sounds provided by The Rodney Gipson Quartet greeted arriving guests who mingled with one another and enjoyed light appetizers provided by Kennedy-King College Washburne Culinary and Hospitality Institute.

Teamwork Englewood’s newly-appointed Executive Director Cecile De Mello welcomed the nearly 300 guests who filled Kennedy-King College Auditorium for a night of fun and laughter.

She kicked off the night by honoring the birthday of 91-year old Mrs. Ruby Miller, an Englewood resident since 1957, who has served as the longest tenured Block Club President. Mrs. Miller was presented with a belated birthday gift of movie passes and food vouchers courtesy of Studio Movie Grill at 87th & The Dan Ryan.

Acknowledgement and thanks were given to our supportive sponsors, ABC7 Chicago who served as the event’s media sponsor, the enthusiastic Englewood residents, and the engagingly hilarious comedian Damon Williams for making the event possible.

The Chicago-born and Englewood-bred Mr. Williams began his career at All Jokes Aside Comedy Club. His material is universal and offers something for all ages. His popularity has provided him the opportunity to work with some of the biggest stars in the business such as Aretha Franklin, Pattie Labelle, Luther Vandross, Ray Charles, Harry Belafonte, Chris Rock, James Brown, Jamie Foxx, Little Richard and even President Barack Obama.

Mr. Williams’ performance that night brought laughter and such rave reviews as:

“I thought Damon Williams was hilarious.”

“The Teamwork Englewood FUNNYraiser was a tremendous success. Great team, great venue, great event. I was proud to be a part of it and grateful for the supportive turnout from my hometown Chicago!!”

“Damon Williams killed it last night in Englewood. Congrats to Teamwork Englewood and Cecile De Mello on a style of event that I look forward to seeing more often in Englewood. FUNNYraiser to continue the good works being done.”

#morecomedynoviolence

Plans are currently underway for another successful FUNNYraiser in October 2020.
Re-Entry and Justice Programs

Employment
We developed our job placement model in May 2017 based on best evidence practices, and since that time we have placed over 900 people. The first year exclusively incorporated the reentry model—middle-aged returning citizens who have been released within 90 days. In 2019, we’ve had 11 orientations, averaging 50 attendees; we have placed more than half of them in employment positions, resulting in 300 people total.

In our second year we developed a control group of all returning citizens, who had been detached from the justice system for any length of time. We are now in the process of reviewing the results of the second year. In May of this year, our third year, we expanded our model to all citizens regardless of background.

Over the past 30 months, we have established partnerships with 8 different companies with jobs in a variety of sectors. We have referred numerous people to job training and certification programs: Chicago Urban League, Englewood Women's Initiative, CAPS, EDDR, the Teech Foundation, and Transitions Reentry Services

We regularly do outreach to TASC, the Geo Group, Cook County Sheriff, the Chatham and Englewood Parole Offices, numerous halfway houses, the Cook County Jail, and Sheraton Correctional Center. We are the only agency in the City of Chicago that can obtain movement from the Cook County Sheriff and the Illinois Department of Corrections on demand.

In the last three years we have given away more than 150 lightly-worn suits, donated by Men's Warehouse. Last month, we gave away more than 150 winter coats donated by the Chade Foundation.

Know Your Rights
In the past 11 months, we’ve reached more than 2500 people with Know Your Rights information. We’ve also worked with First Defense Legal Aid on our first “Training of Trainers,” as part of our initiative to employ Englewood community members to educate our community. They were trained on Know Your Rights when stopped by police and in custody, and how to access pro bono attorneys from FDLA. Since many members of the Englewood community do not know what resources they are able to access, we know that the spread of this information is vital. We have distributed more than 5,000 posters, door-knockers, and postcards throughout the 16th Ward to arm our community with knowledge that can bolster their success and safety within Englewood and beyond.

Get Cleared
We initiated the Get Cleared campaign with the Monroe Foundation in late 2018, which resulted in our filing over 50 petitions without the assistance of Cabrini Green Legal Aid. In April 2019 we were contacted by Cresco Labs, which resulted in our filing another 40 pro se expungement and sealing petitions. In June 2019, the County Clerk Dorothy Brown asked us to be satellite offices for her annual Expungement Summit, where we pre-screened and uploaded over 250 rap sheets.
2019 marked the sixth year of the Teamwork Englewood Safe Passage Program. It functions as a strong and stable core program.

Since we began our program in Englewood, there have been no incidents of shooting or other acts of violence against students during school hours. In 2019, Teamwork Englewood was asked again for the third year to provide Safe Passage services during the summer to support the Chicago Park District basketball program. This opportunity allows us to provide year-round safe passage services to Englewood youth and year-round employment opportunities for our Safe Passage staff.

2019 was a momentous year for the Teamwork Englewood Safe Passage Program. Through our collective effort, the Englewood Community won the highly competitive citywide bid to become the neighborhood chosen to receive a new high school. The new Englewood Stem High School opened in September 2019. Due to our record of excellent performance and immense community support, Teamwork Englewood was selected by the CPS Office of Safety and Security to be the Safe Passage vendor for the new Englewood Stem High School Shuttle services. Our staff assisted CPS in designing the safe passage route for the new high school.

At the close of 2019, the Teamwork Englewood Safe Passage Program will have provided services to 3 Englewood schools with a combined total student population of 1,184. These schools are Perkins Bass Elementary, Benjamin Mays Elementary and Englewood Stem High School. The boundaries of the Safe Passage routes covering these schools extend from 59th Street on the North, 71st on the South, Damen on the West and Martin Luther King Drive on the East. At full capacity, the combined total of Community Watchers required to cover the posts along these routes total 52. This number represents an increase of 16 additional staff positions over the 2018 school year.

The Teamwork Englewood Safe Passage Program is unique from other vendors across the city in that over 90% of the staff we hire are Englewood residents.

**Parent Mentor Program (PMP)**

The Teamwork Englewood Parent Mentor Program recruits and trains parents of elementary school students in grades K-3 to assist teachers inside the classroom and provide individual tutoring and attention to students who need extra help developing their reading comprehension and math skills. In addition to helping students, this program provides leadership training to parents who work in the program to aid them in reaching their personal and professional goals.

In 2019, our PMP program began its second year of operation. In the previous year, Teamwork Englewood was recruited by the South West Organizing Project (SWOP) to bring this nationally known and respected program to the Greater Englewood community. In our first year we had great success in serving the Bass and Mays elementary schools grades K-3. In the 2nd semester of year 1, we were able to expand our program by acquiring an additional school, Parker Elementary. Based on the outstanding performance of our mentors and staff, Teamwork Englewood was asked to expand our program even further with the addition of two new schools, Earle Elementary and Henderson Elementary. As the new year approaches we are already in the process of onboarding school administrators and parents into the Parent Mentor Program. We are anticipating another successful year.
Englewood Quality of Life Plan

Health and Wellness Task Force
The launch of the Health Navigator Program, a strategy out of the EQLP to connect residents to health resources is co-managed by the community organization Imagine Englewood If. The initiative has reached over 250 Englewood residents learning more about what are the barriers to healthcare in our community, while sharing resources about health programming with other healthcare providers and residents through the Englewood Health Hour. The health hour has brought more than 30 key stakeholders to the same table to set a common agenda, share best practices and better coordinate the health navigator pipeline around heart disease, asthma and mental health.

Jobs and Economic Development Task Force
The Short-term Licensing and Certification Program aka “Englewood Scholarship” is a joint effort of the Jobs and Economic Development taskforce and the Greater Englewood Chamber of Commerce looking to support residents moving into the fastest growing livable wage professions. Over 35 total residents have been put on the path for livable wage careers via the “Englewood Scholarship” totaling in over $700k in potential yearly wages in careers from Pharmacy technician to dispensary technician.

The Englewood Small Business Competition has continued into its fourth year. With over $200,000 invested in small businesses in the last four years.

Public Safety Task Force
The “TIME 21:36” initiative is a Department of Justice funded strategy to reduce crime in the community. The initiative focuses on the development of public safety strategies to decrease violence in the community while building better police-community relations.

After months of data collection and analysis of crime and violence, community interviews, focus groups, and surveys of residents and stakeholders a plan to support police beats 712 and 725 is beginning. Early this summer, in partnership with the community engagement partner, Residents Association for Greater Englewood, the initiative engaged hundreds of residents in the two police beats in community building activities. This past November potential leaders were engaged in a community meet and greet where residents and partners shared ideas and built together to start on a journey to address crime through community wisdom and resources.

Housing and Public Spaces Task Force
Partner organizations have been working to advocate and coordinate resources to increase and stabilize home ownership in the community. In this year the Buy the Block campaign led by Resident Association of Greater Englewood worked to coordinate local resources to support home ownership. Another housing partner is the Voices of West Englewood who has been mobilizing to capture the stories of West Englewood homeowners to create potential solutions to housing issues.
Youth Development

**Education and Youth Task Force**

An on-going effort of the Education and Youth taskforce is to support improved educational attainment in reading at benchmark grades. This year we wanted to focus efforts on supporting one elementary school. Task force members conducted a series of focus groups with parents, long form interviews with principals in partnership with the University of Chicago Educational Consortium. Taskforce members worked with new principal and administrators to determine opportunities to be most impactful for students in critical need of support and will be launching a new program in 2020 for intensive reading support using the data we collected and best practices.

Our Englewood Police Youth Baseball League saw a total of ninety-seven players this season. While there were many returning players from previous years, a majority of the participants were new to baseball or new to our league. Even so, we had an amazing year. The players had fun, were taught discipline and received mentorship. Englewood’s 007th District police, Officer Cox, was present at each event connecting with the youth. Each team’s coach dedicatedly taught the skills of the game and discipline while creating joyful and fun moments and memories.

On Thursday, August 15, we hosted the closing ceremony. All six teams played hard. The Sawyers were the seasonal champions while the play-off champs were the Washingtons. Congrats to each player and each team. We look forward to an even greater season in 2020.

Hoops in the Hood is a basketball league that offers mentorship, life skills and conflict resolution to youth ages 8-19. The program was developed as a response to the community’s desire to create a safe and peaceful space for young people. Hoops in the Hood recruits 100 youth participants each summer. Area youth are placed into three divisions, Pee-wee 8-10 years of age, Minor league 11-14 years of age, and Major league 15-19 years of age. The youth participate in an eight-week camp of drills and scrimmages before competing city-wide against other community leagues.

In addition to sports programming, Teamwork Englewood also implements after-school technology programs for local students in grades 6-12. We are partnered with Johnson College Prep, Earle STEM Elementary, Parker Community Academy and Benjamin E. Mays Elementary Academy. At each school, our instructors teach youth how to code, build mobile phone apps, webpages and game development. Youth enrolled in our coding programs also receive mentorship and are taken on various field trips that connect the program to careers in STEM.
T.I.M.E. 21:36 MEET & GREET

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8TH
6PM - 9PM
ENGLEWOOD BRANDED STORI
1546 WEST 63RD STREET
Why Englewood?

- 60% Residents working below poverty line
- $28,636.50 Average Median Income
- 66% Adult employment
- 34% Unemployment
Community Impact

- Over 20 partner organizations involved
- Dozens of residents helping to lead strategies
- $1M in investments have been leveraged
- 600 residents engaged in the EQLP planning and projects
- 900 residents have been engaged in job placement activities
- 355 youth were serviced in 2018-2019

Teamwork Englewood at work