

THANK YOU
FOR KEEPING ME
ON MY PATHWAY
OUT OF POVERTY!



Dear Friend of Cara,

When I came to Cara last August, I wanted more for myself. I had spent several years in and out of the prison system and I was working unsteady jobs that didn't provide any real future. Through the trainings at Cara, I was able to take a step back and evaluate myself, and how the path I was on was not leading me toward a good place.

IF IT WASN'T FOR
THE SUPPORT OF CARA
AND PEOPLE LIKE YOU,
I WOULD BE ALONE...

That's when I knew I was ready for my new beginning.

With the help of the Cara team, I was soon able to find a job with one of their employment partners. I was so excited for this opportunity. I gave my all at my new job while also working with my Cara coach on how to save money and set goals for myself. Four months into my job, I got the keys to my very own apartment. This was a big accomplishment for me and I was so proud of this moment!

But just weeks later, the COVID-19 pandemic hit and I was one of the thousands in Chicago suddenly laid off. I was left sitting in an unfurnished apartment, with no income coming in and worrying about my future.

Through Cara's Emergency Fund, I was able to receive financial support to keep my apartment, but more than that, I was able to get the emotional and resource support of their staff. Cara was even able to refer me to the Chicago Furniture Bank so I could furnish my apartment and make it a home.

If it wasn't for the support of Cara and people like you, I would be alone, in an empty apartment, wondering when I will fall behind on rent. Thank you for giving me the stability to remain on my pathway out of poverty. In gratitude and friendship,

Sincerely,

Preston H.

EMPLOYED CARA PARTICIPANT

P.S. *We know this has likely been a difficult time for you and your loved ones, and we appreciate your consideration of an additional gift to Cara. Remember that Cara means friend, and please do not hesitate to reach out to us if you are in need of a friend or would like a live update of our work together.*

Thank you for supporting Cara's Emergency Fund!

Your donation ensures our community of job seekers directly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic have the resources and support needed to stay on their pathway out of poverty.

As Cara prepares to enter a new phase of crisis response and return to our campuses, we are asking for your help once again. Would you please consider a gift of any amount to help ensure the safety of our staff, participants, and interns? With your support, we hope to:

- \$28** Ensure the safe travel of essential workers
- \$50** Maintain the safety and cleanliness of our campuses
- \$100** Purchase ample PPE supplies for our community
- \$300** Keep participants and their families nourished, comfortable, and connected
- \$500** Increase availability of emergency rental assistance
- \$1,000** Continue to provide hazard pay for essential workers, even after the stay-at-home order is lifted

Thank you for your support!

Make your gift today at
www.carachicago.org/support

JOBS PLACED SINCE THE PANDEMIC

90
TOTAL JOBS

- 39** CARA CONNECTS ASSIGNMENTS
- 24** CLEANSLATE INTERNSHIPS
- 20** JOBS WITH CARA EMPLOYMENT PARTNERS
- 7** JOBS THROUGH INDEPENDENT JOB SEARCH



ABOUT OUR EMERGENCY FUND



140

PEOPLE CONTRIBUTED TO
CARA'S EMERGENCY FUND



119

REQUESTS FROM
CARA PARTICIPANTS FOR
EMERGENCY SUPPORT



\$49,000

TOTAL FUNDS REQUESTED

ABOUT OUR COMMUNITY

67

ACTIVE
CARA PARTICIPANTS
LAID OFF OR FURLOUGHED

119

NEW PARTICIPANTS
ACCEPTED
SINCE PANDEMIC



*When you give to Cara, you are investing in someone's new beginning. Since 1991, Cara has helped place **more than 6,800 people** experiencing poverty and homelessness into more than **10,600 quality jobs**. Thanks to your support, those individuals are now on their way to real and lasting success.*

Learn more about this work at
www.carachicago.org

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