



Send Relief
Chicago





Contact Information

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Chicago Ministry Center Coordinator

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Meeting Needs, Changing Lives

Send Relief works with churches and volunteers to meet needs and change lives in communities within the U.S. and around the world.

By offering help and hope to the most vulnerable in collaboration with missionaries, local ministries and churches, your gifts and efforts through Send Relief have a long-term impact.

With Send Relief's help, churches and partners like you receive resources and training to be the hands and feet of Jesus to communities in crisis, refugees, human trafficking survivors, those affected by natural disasters and vulnerable children and families.



Ministry Centers

Send Relief ministry centers deliver compassion ministry within local communities while providing mission trips and training opportunities for churches all over the country. The goal of ministry centers is twofold: serve communities well and encourage others to do the same.

All over North America, Send Relief ministry centers actively assess community needs, develop ministry strategies, deliver ministry and provide opportunities for others to go on mission.

Community Snapshot

Chicago Ministry Center | Chicago West Bible Church

Chicago has all the offerings of a major city: world-class museums, delicious cuisine, vibrant shopping districts and more.

For five years in a row, Chicago was voted the best big city to visit. Architects built Chicago around a park system, and it is home to 570 parks.

Its most prominent park is Lincoln Park, which is 1,000 acres larger than Central Park in New York City.

Chicago is community-driven. It has 77 distinct neighborhoods that function like small cities.

Like most big cities, it showcases the extremes of wealth alongside extreme poverty, poor education and illiteracy.

The Chicago Ministry Center focuses its efforts in low-income, underserved areas of the city, suburbs and neighborhoods.

The goal is to strategically work in unreached and underserved neighborhoods so they can meet needs, share the gospel, and see communities transformed.

The location of the Center is in the Austin neighborhood, the largest in the city with about 100,000 people.

Austin is the last area before leaving the west side of Chicago, making it a prime location for gang violence, drugs and chronic disparity in police response for protection, especially in the multi-diverse areas of the community.

According to a 2016 analysis by the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, **99,711** people and **32,277 households** resided in the area.

- The racial makeup of the area was **4.20%** White, **84.20%** African American, **0.50%** Asian, **0.80%** from other races.
- Hispanic or Latinx of any race were **10.30%** of the population.
- In 2019, Chicago had a population of **2.69M** people with a median age of **35**.
- The five largest ethnic groups in Chicago are White (Non-Hispanic) (33.5%), Black or African American (Non-Hispanic) (28.5%), White (Hispanic) (17.3%), Other (Hispanic) (9.36%), and Asian (6.86%).

- **35.4%** of the households in Chicago speak a non-English language at home as their primary language.
- **89.7%** of the residents in Chicago are U.S. citizens.

In 2019, the median property value in Chicago was **\$275,200**, and the homeownership rate was **44.2%**. Most people in Chicago, IL, drove alone to work, and the average commute time was 33.1 minutes.

- The average car ownership in Chicago, IL, was one car per household.
- The most common foreign languages spoken in Chicago are Spanish (596,765 speakers), Chinese (53,111 speakers) and Polish (39,758 speakers).
- In 2019, the most common birthplace for the foreign-born residents of Illinois was Mexico, the natal country of **599,327** Illinois residents, followed by India with **156,360** and Poland with **120,839**.

Chicago Ministry Center Snapshot

Ministries

Current Ministry

Strengthen Communities

- Trauma Counseling
- Youth Camps and Sports Leagues

Care for Refugees

- Training for partners
- Resource distribution
- Advocacy

Mobilization Opportunities



"We are focusing our efforts here in three areas: the city of Chicago, the suburbs and in neighborhoods with predominantly non-English speakers."

— Jason Stuckey

Chicago Ministry Center Partnerships

From establishing church-based ministry to partnering with those already on mission in Chicago, the Chicago Ministry Center hopes they can make a difference.

- Currently, the ministry center is partnering with Moody Theological Seminary's counseling department to use the Ministry Center to house free and discounted counseling for residents of Austin and the Westside.
- They are also collaborating with local church planters and pastors to use the Ministry Center as a hub for mutual missional partnerships throughout the city.
- With a collaboration with Chicago Westside Sports, a faith-based sports league, they employ Chicago police officers to coach sports teams in the area. They allow other churches to serve as sponsors and various donors.
- The ministry center also collaborates with several non-profits throughout the city such as By the Hand Club for Kids, GRIP Outreach for Youth, World Relief, Together Chicago and Chicagoland Association. The ministry center collaborates with these non-profits to provide mentoring, training and community resources to vulnerable populations.



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—Jason Stuckey

History of the Chicago Ministry Center

In a building originally built in 1906, located on the westside of Chicago, the Chicago Ministry Center serves as a hub for training and missional opportunities.

In the 1960s, an influential African American Baptist church purchased the building, and over the past several years, the leaders of this church felt the calling to move to the suburbs. And while God was moving the leaders of that church to move out, He was raising a congregation to move in.

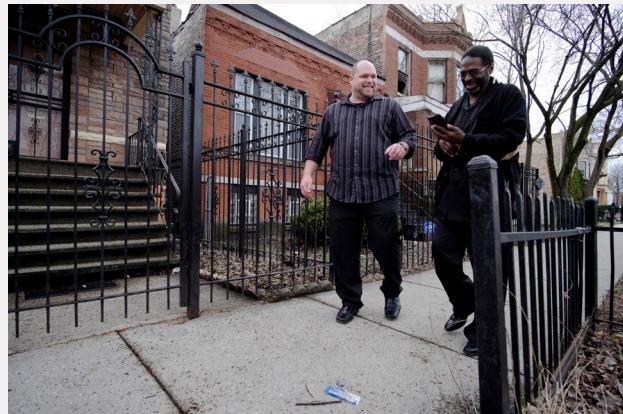
Since 2016, Chicago West Bible Church has shed light on the west side of Chicago, bringing the hope of the gospel through

tangibly loving and serving the community. In the beginning stages, they prayed for a building and waited on the Lord to provide. He did.

In the spring and summer of 2020, the pastors of Chicago West and Send Relief met. From these meetings, a big dream to start a Send Relief ministry center on the westside of Chicago grew into a reality. In God's kindness, the previous occupants of the church building agreed. In March 2021, Send Relief purchased this historic building, allowing Chicago West Bible Church to move in and partner in the formation of the Chicago Send Relief Ministry Center.

"We are focusing our efforts here in three areas: the city of Chicago, the suburbs and in neighborhoods with predominantly non-English speakers," Jason Stuckey, ministry center coordinator, says. "The hope is to see local churches engage in unreached and underserved neighborhoods so they can meet needs, share the good news, develop leaders and see communities transformed."

Jason believes change is possible, but it will require dedicated, passionate people who want to invest in others and make a difference in their communities





Chicago Ministries

Future Ministry Plans

- Expanding Strengthen Communities ministries

Vision

The Chicago Ministry Center's vision for the future is to continue doing the work that God has already started and find creative ways to reach out to the community.

"My dream is to see the ministry center become a resource hub in which local pastors and church planters can connect, collaborate and receive training and support resources that will aid them in more effectively serving their communities," Jason Stuckey explains. "Furthermore, my dream is to see The Chicago Ministry as a training center and launching pad for mission teams that will come to serve but leave equipped with a clear vision for how to serve their communities at home."



Get Involved

One of the most powerful ways to show the most vulnerable the love of Christ is by taking steps toward them. By helping churches be the hands and feet of Jesus, Send Relief supports and provides opportunities for those who desire to respond directly to these needs in lasting, meaningful ways while sharing the hope of the gospel.

Give

Your gift provides critical, immediate help to families and communities that need it most. Give today to provide practical care and share the love of Jesus.

[Click here or scan the QR code to give](#)



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Serve

Participate in various compassion opportunities by taking a mission trip and vision tour to a ministry center around North America. Mission trips can include apartment outreach, food pantry ministry, after-school programs, sports ministry, canvassing, prayer walking, homeless ministry, physical labor, serving at-risk families and university campus ministry. The trip also includes aspects of training and equipping so you can learn how to connect and serve the international and refugee communities in your cities.

[Click here to sign up](#)





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