

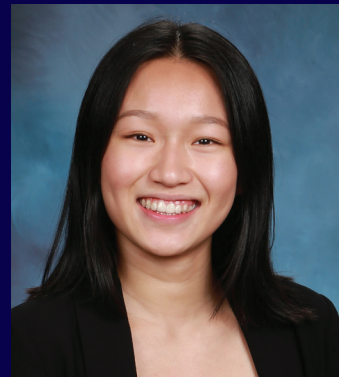
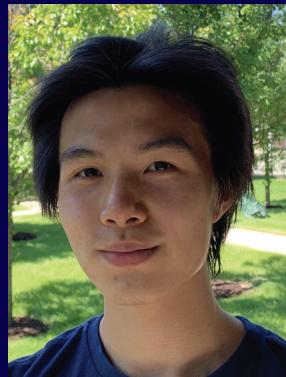


# Chicago Engineers' Foundation

of the Union League Club of Chicago

*Empowering Chicago's Future Engineers*

## 2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT





## Mission

To encourage and empower young people to become the next generation of engineers through scholarship opportunities, outreach to educational institutions, and promoting interest in engineering as a career.

## History & Programs

The Chicago Engineers' Foundation (CEF) evolved from the Chicago Engineers' Club, an organization established in 1903. In 1969, CEF began a student-centered focus with a scholarship program that has grown for more than 50 years. CEF programming now includes K-12 outreach to inspire young minds, merit-based scholarship awards to support students through their college studies, and career development activities to provide award recipients with the tools to achieve their engineering career goals.

## CEF 2019-2020 Leadership

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Erik Cempel \*

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*Second Vice President*  
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Michael Driscoll +

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\* Denotes  
CEF Alumni

+ Denotes CEF  
Committee Chair

# From the President

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On behalf of the Chicago Engineers Foundation (CEF) Scholars, thank you to everyone who gave their time, talents, and resources to enlighten students across Chicago to the value and excitement of engineering careers – and then supported nearly \$100,000 in Incentive Awards to help outstanding young people achieve their career goals. Our volunteers, donors, and friends make up an incredible community dedicated to providing K-12 STEM education, Incentive Awards, and career development opportunities for the future problem-solvers and innovators of Chicago.

This has been a year unlike any we have experienced. Fortunately, humans are highly adaptable, which is so important during uncertain times. When schools and businesses shut down earlier this year, CEF took steps to make all student programming virtual. These virtual programs will continue and expand, even when we can be together in person again, as a means to regularly communicate with our Scholars while they pursue their university studies.



Our successful move to virtual programming is due to the strength of the CEF community. So many individuals selflessly stepped up, and the results exceeded all expectations. With amazing support, CEF accomplished so much:

- When schools closed, our K-12 outreach transitioned to virtual presentations and panel discussions. Remarkably, CEF volunteers set a new outreach record for the 2019-2020 academic year, making more than 50 visits to schools, community organizations, and STEM events, impacting over 1,500 students.
- The Incentive Award program thrived this year. We added virtual workshops and new timelines for students when schools closed, and our donors responded generously to support our future engineers when they needed it the most. The results were a plethora of excellent applications from students across Chicago, and 76 high school and college students receiving nearly \$100,000 in awards this year.
- The Student Success career development program finished the year stronger and more important than ever given these challenging times. We developed an array of online resources when our students unexpectedly came home from school and many lost vital internship opportunities. Our career resources are now available online anytime, anywhere; we also offer monthly student/professional networking, a new LinkedIn group for all of our recipients and alumni, mentoring opportunities, resume evaluations and mock interview practice, as well as assistance finding internships and full-time positions.

As we all continue to navigate this unprecedented time, know that the Chicago Engineers Foundation will continue to be a resource, and a community. Chicago students can reach out to us anytime as they pursue their engineering career goals. Your support creates an incredible network for Chicago's future engineers. Thank you for your dedication to our mission and to inspiring young minds, encouraging students with scholarship awards, and empowering young people with career development opportunities. You are empowering our city's next generation of engineers when they need it the most. Together, we are creating opportunities for Chicago engineering students with remarkable potential and promising futures.

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Erik Cempel'.

Erik Cempel, PE  
President & CEF Award Alum



I want to be an engineer because I want to make a difference in the community that has given me so many opportunities.  
-Ying, Junior

My goal is to change the world as an engineer. -Sam, Freshman

Studying engineering allows me to be the life-long learner I strive to become.  
-Vivian, Junior

Becoming an engineer will help satisfy my never-ending curiosity and give back to those who support my dreams.  
-Vladimir, Sophomore

Engineering will not be an easy path, but I know that with my life-long love of math, problem-solving and learning will help me succeed.  
-Christian, Freshman

I love engineering. It drives me to think creatively, act critically, and create efficiently.  
-Peter, Freshman

I believe that engineers are the ones who can guide us to a better future and my ultimate goal is to use the knowledge and experience I acquire in college to help others around the world.  
-Daisaq, Sophomore



As I become an engineer, I look forward to inspiring young girls of color to show them that they can pursue all of their hopes and dreams. -Jordyn, Freshman

I want to be an engineer because I want to make advancements in medical technology.  
-Max, Freshman

I want to be an engineer because I want to help improve the standard of living for every person. -Uchenna, Senior

Engineering allows me to utilize my analytical mind to solve problems and ultimately improve people's lives.  
-Erika, Senior

Engineering helps me look at things in different ways and create solutions.  
-Kim, Junior

Engineering teaches you how to solve problems with a practical yet creative approach and gives me the potential to create a big difference in the world. -Nora, Junior

Although some may want to be an engineers for the high pay, prestige or to please their parents, I want to be an engineer to try and leave this world a little better than I found it.  
-Pratik, Junior

Engineering is tangible: you design and build things to solve real problems. I want to create inventions to engage and improve life in a concrete way. -Ilaisaane, Sophomore

I want to be an engineer to create and re-imagine products to improve people's lives.  
-Marc, Junior



# CEF Scholars: In Their Own Words

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## **Luria Tapia**

*Freshman, Case Western Reserve University*

When I was ten, I became fascinated with the idea of delivering a speech on Earth Day. I would practice each day in front of the bathroom mirror. As I got older; however, my dream of delivering a speech on Earth Day became just that — a dream. I felt defeated thinking I would have no way to change the world.

It was not until the summer of 2015, when I participated in the National Youth Leadership (NYL): Explore STEM Forum that I felt I could foster change... as an Engineer. Through this program, I gained leadership skills and most importantly the opportunity to explore career opportunities otherwise unimaginable. Until now, I did not know about the STEM careers available to me.

The NYL Explore STEM program inspired me to explore the engineering field.

Eager to learn more about engineering, I signed up for “Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day”. A panel of women engineers shared that through engineering, they were able to change the lives of others. I am drawn to engineering because of the endless amount of opportunities to create, discover, and learn. I also joined the Research Apprentice Program (RAP) and explored how to turn biodegradable waste into energy. In addition, I was part of the ComEd Ambassadors program as an intern. From these programs, I was inspired to take the most challenging math and science classes at my school including AP Calculus and AP Physics to gauge whether engineering is a true fit. Working through difficult problems and deriving a solution is not only satisfying but uplifting. Engineering keeps me on my toes wondering what problem will arise next and how will I solve it. Pursuing a degree in engineering will allow me the opportunity to make my childhood dream a reality. One day, I will deliver an Earth Day speech as an engineer, announcing the newest system designed to collect and convert renewable energy into electrical energy. Becoming an engineer not only coincides with my future goals of changing lives but would also allow me to show other first-generation college students who are younger than me that they too are capable of changing the world.



## **Jorge Barrios**

*Senior, University of Illinois at Chicago*

I am in my final year of undergraduate study. For years, my life has centered around academics and bringing pride to my community, my family and myself. My nearing graduation is a cause for celebration, and behind my successes has been constant motivation from individuals and organizations like Chicago Engineers Foundation (CEF), who are supporting me in so many ways. Throughout my studies, CEF continues to encourage me to work hard, without fear of failure.

I come from a low-income background and I am a first-generation college student pursuing an engineering degree. My family is incredibly supportive of my career dreams, but cannot provide financing for my college expenses, and I do not have benefit of previous generations to guide. CEF provides me with so many types of support, financially through my annual awards, and through encouragement and activities that provide insights, networks, and connections to build my professional presence in the engineering community.

Sometimes I feel intimidated at school, without people in my community who understand the rigors of college, especially my engineering path. With CEF, however, I have the resources and contacts that help me continue to achieve. Being a part of this program makes me feel proud of myself and my engineering goals. CEF provides the financial support to worry less about tuition, books and basics and focus more on my classes, school activities and building my professional network. They have also helped me establish connections with fellow students and engineers that will be essential as my career continues to develop.

I want to be an engineer because I want to use my problem-solving skills to improve the community and help solve the world's problems. I am currently debating graduate school and academic research as my next steps when I graduate, and I know my engineering education will serve me well no matter what I do. As a first-generation college student, I am already a trailblazer and I thank the Chicago Engineers' Foundation for helping me successfully navigate this journey and prepare for my future.

# 2020 Incentive Award Recipients

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## FRESHMAN CLASS

**Jordyn Bracey**  
*Florida A & M University*

**Abigail Chavez**  
*University of Wisconsin  
at Madison*

**Samuel Cooper**  
*University of Wisconsin  
at Madison*

**Mauz Durrani**  
*Illinois Institute  
of Technology*

**Maximelio Finch**  
*University of Iowa*

**Duaa Hussein**  
*University of Illinois  
at Chicago*

**Connor McNamara**  
*University of IL  
at Urbana-Champaign*

**Michael Nelligan**  
*Purdue University*

**Cristian Ortiz**  
*University of IL  
at Urbana-Champaign*

**Peter Pao-Huang**  
*University of IL  
at Urbana-Champaign*

**Giovanni Peat**  
*Marquette University*

**Elias Rivera-Vazquez**  
*Northwestern University*

**Luria Tapia**  
*Case Western  
Reserve University*

**Lauren Weaver**  
*University of Michigan*

**Molly Wehrenberg**  
*University of California,  
Los Angeles*

**Jackson Zhang**  
*Massachusetts Institute  
of Technology*

**SOPHOMORE CLASS**  
**Zachary Anderson**  
*University of Notre Dame*

**Raymond Bernardo**  
*University of IL  
at Urbana-Champaign*

**Henry Beuving**  
*University of IL  
at Urbana-Champaign*

**Frank Burke-Olson**  
*Northwestern University*

**Collin Butler**  
*Miami University of Ohio*

**Kellie Chu**  
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**Cameron Cole**  
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**Liam Coughlin**  
*Purdue University*

**Daisaq Cyrilla**  
*University of Illinois  
at Chicago*

**Maureen Davasce**  
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*University of Iowa*

**Michael Henze**  
*Clemson University*

**Thomas Hoos**  
*University of IL  
at Urbana-Champaign*

**Michael Kadus**  
*Purdue University*

**McKenna Kallianis**  
*University of  
Alabama*

**Vladimir Martinez**  
*University of Michigan*

**Joseph McCarey**  
*Harvard University*

**Diana Miller**  
*University of Michigan*

**Jack Ross**  
*Saint Louis University*

**Ciaran Sheridan**  
*University of IL  
at Urbana-Champaign*

**Ian Shimandle**  
*Northwestern University*

**Guadalupe Solis**  
*University of Illinois  
at Chicago*

**Ilaisaane Summers**  
*Massachusetts Institute  
of Technology*

**Andrew Thompson**  
*University of Wisconsin  
at Madison*

**Kevin Williams**  
*Engineering Pathways  
with UIUC*

**Daniel Wong**  
*University of IL  
at Urbana-Champaign*

**JUNIOR CLASS**  
**Vivian Auduong**  
*Stanford University*

**Stefan Borjan**  
*Massachusetts Institute  
of Technology*

**Nora Chambers**  
*Northwestern University*

**Joseph Henze**  
*Clemson University*

**Sophie Keller**  
*Cornell University*

**Joe Kresic**  
*The Ohio State University*

**Kimberly Lu**  
*Princeton University*

**Kyle McNamara**  
*University of IL  
at Urbana-Champaign*

**Nina Onyemeziem**  
*Princeton University*

**Pratik Patel**  
*Illinois Institute  
of Technology*

**Thomas Phelan**  
*The Ohio State University*

**Julian Robinson**  
*Case Western  
Reserve University*

**Chloe Zwolfer**  
*University of IL  
at Urbana-Champaign*



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### SENIOR CLASS

**Erika Anderson**

*Case Western  
Reserve University*

**Jorge Barrios**

*University of Illinois  
at Chicago*

**Brett Bittner**

*Valparaiso University*

**Michael Bump**

*Northwestern University*

**Sarah Coughlin**

*Northwestern University*

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**Alexander Marks**

*Purdue University*

**Max Mitchell**

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at Urbana-Champaign*

**Peter Motyka**

*University of IL  
at Urbana-Champaign*

**Weronika Myslak**

*University of Michigan*

**Uchenna Ngwe**

*University of IL  
at Urbana-Champaign*

**Karolina Rak**

*University of Michigan*

**Ava Sherry**

*Harvey Mudd College*

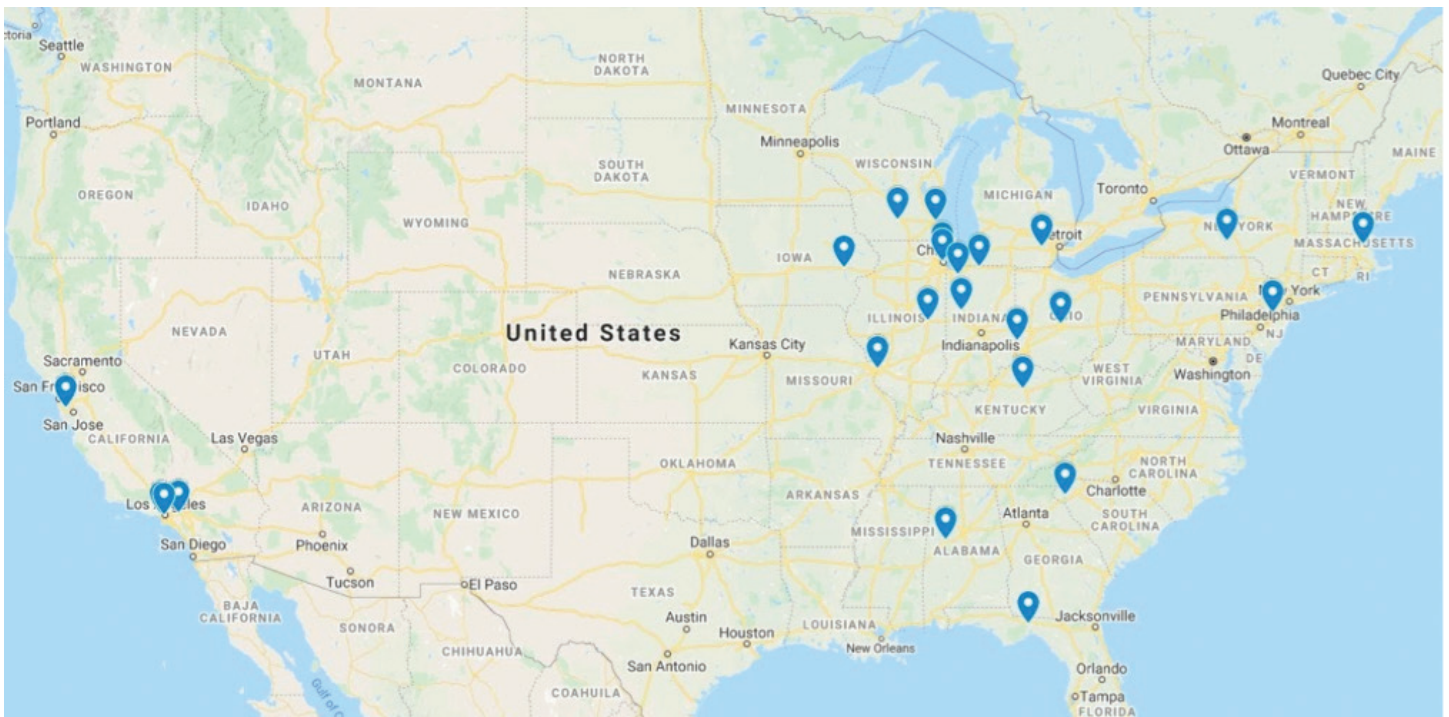
**Elizabeth Travnik**

*University of Notre Dame*

**Yesenia Ulloa**

*Stanford University*

## Award Recipients by University



Case Western Reserve University • Clemson University • Cornell University • Florida A & M University • Harvard University  
Harvey Mudd College • Illinois Institute of Technology • Marquette University • Massachusetts Institute of Technology • Miami University  
Northwestern University • Princeton University • Purdue University • Saint Louis University • Stanford University  
The Ohio State University • University of Alabama • University of California • University of Illinois at Chicago  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign • University of Iowa • University of Kentucky • University of Michigan  
University of Notre Dame • University of Southern California • University of Wisconsin at Madison • Valparaiso University



# CEF Programs and Events



CEF President Erik Cempel appeared on a Comcast Newsmakers segment to talk about CEF student programs.



Members of the 2019-2020 CEF leadership at the 2019 Annual Meeting.



CEF volunteers, who served as judges, with the winners of the Union League Boys and Girls Club Science Fair.



CEF Associate Jenny Kuether (Right) works on a resume evaluation with Incentive Award recipient Erika at the 2019 Student Success Workshop.



CISCO engineers with Alcott College Prep students at one of 15 engineering presentations CEF volunteers facilitated during National Engineers Week 2020.



CEF Alum and NSBE co-founder George Smith (top left) facilitates a virtual workshop entitled Black Engineers, Inventors and Scientists in American History for Chicago students and educators.



Chicago Public Schools Scholarship Manager Michele Howard (top left) partnered with CEF leaders to host a scholarship workshop for high school students.



CEF award recipients, alumni & professionals participate in a new, monthly virtual networking night.

**VOLUNTEERS  
MADE MORE THAN  
50 OUTREACH  
VISITS**



CEF Scholars take a tour of Microsoft at the 2020 Student/Professional Networking Event.



CEF President Erik Cempel and Executive Director Debbie Birrell discussed CEF programs and National Engineers Week activities on a Tech Scene Chicago radio broadcast



CEF Alum George Smith talks about engineering with students at Howe Elementary

**OUTREACH  
IMPACTED  
1,500  
K-12 STUDENTS**



Primera Engineers leaders (from Left) Joe Avram, Erin Inman, and Matt Dvorak, and CEF President Erik Cempel and Director Paul Barter with a special presentation to start Primera's multi-year partnership supporting Chicago engineering students.



CEF Director Paul Barter (3rd from Left) and Advisor/Alum Pat Maloney (2nd from Right) with friends at CEF's first Happy Hour at ULCC.



CEF partnered with Union League Club of Chicago to host a Black History Month presentation led by CEF Alum and NSBE co-founder George A. Smith.





# Thank You

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On behalf of Chicago's future engineers, the leadership of the Chicago Engineers' Foundation extends its gratitude to the individuals, corporations and organizations who contributed to our efforts this year.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT OF OUR MISSION.**

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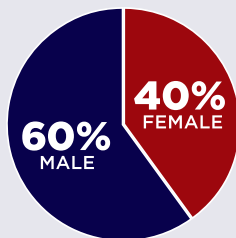
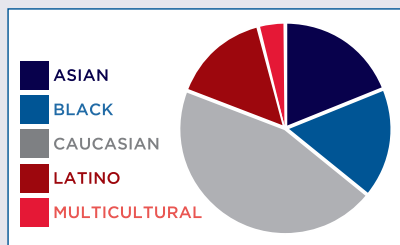
More than 1,500 ULCC members and individuals made small gifts to CEF throughout the calendar year. These donations, totaling more than \$70,000 annually, are vital to CEF's mission and we are grateful for each contribution. Our apologies we cannot recognize each of these friends individually due to space limitations.

*Our apologies for any omissions or inaccuracies. Please email any modifications to [info@chicagoengineersfoundation.org](mailto:info@chicagoengineersfoundation.org) and corrections will be made in future publications.*



# CEF's Impact: By the Numbers

## About Our Scholars



**MORE THAN 40%**  
ARE THE FIRST GENERATION IN THEIR FAMILY TO ATTEND COLLEGE

AVERAGE COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS  
**170!**

**3.6**  
AVERAGE GPA



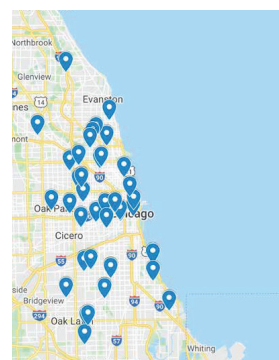
**90%**  
RETENTION RATE  
AMONG RETURNING COLLEGE STUDENTS

NEARLY  
**1,000**  
VOLUNTEER HOURS  
IN 2020



**100 HOURS**  
OF CAREER DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

## SCHOOLS AND ORGANIZATIONS SERVED 2019-2020



Air Force Academy High School  
Alcott High School  
Amundsen High School  
Bowen High School  
Brother Rice High School  
Budlong Elementary  
Chicago Academy High School  
Chicago Math & Science Academy  
Chicago Scholars  
Christ the King School  
Collins High School  
Crane High School  
DePaul College Prep

Fenwick High School  
Foreman High School  
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John Hancock College Prep High School  
Jones College Prep  
Kennedy High School  
Kenwood Academy High School  
Lane Tech College Prep  
Latin School of Chicago  
Lindblom Math & Science Academy  
Loyola Academy

Marist High School  
Mason Elementary  
Mather High School  
Mother McAuley High School  
Mount Carmel High School  
Muchin College Prep  
North Grand High School  
Northside College Prep  
Orr High School  
Pritzker College Prep  
Resurrection College Prep  
Schurz High School  
Smyth World School

Solorio High School  
St. Ignatius College Prep  
St. Laurence High School  
St. Rita of Cascia High School  
Taft High School  
Union League Boys & Girls Clubs  
Von Steuben Metropolitan Science Center  
Walter Payton College Prep  
Whitney M. Young High School



## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS OF JUNE 30, 2020 (UNAUDITED)

### ASSETS

#### CURRENT ASSETS

Accounts	\$85,460
Total Accounts Receivable	\$34,940

#### TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS

\$120,400

#### OTHER ASSETS

NT Investments	\$292,819
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#### TOTAL ASSETS

**\$413,219**

### LIABILITIES & EQUITIES

#### LIABILITIES

Total Accounts Payable	\$5,126
Total Current Liabilities	
Grant Commitments	\$95,000

#### TOTAL LIABILITIES

\$100,126

#### EQUITY

#### TOTAL PERM. RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

\$25,608

Unrestricted Net Assets	\$291,651
Net Revenue	-\$4,166

#### TOTAL EQUITY

**\$313,092**

#### TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY

**\$413,219**

**100+**  
ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS






CHICAGO ENGINEERS' FOUNDATION

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[ChicagoEngineersFoundation.org](http://ChicagoEngineersFoundation.org)

