



The Church with a Heart for God's People!

May 2, 2022

Greetings,

I hope this letter finds you well. As pastor of Greater St. John Bible Church and the CEO of the Austin Empowerment Coalition, I am excited to extend the invitation to join us in supporting our GSJ-AEC Scholarship. Awardees will be announced Friday, August 12, 2022, at 7 p.m. This year we will regather after two years of being isolated, locked down and shut-in during this pandemic, to celebrate our youth and do our part in making significant strides in paving the way for positive change.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been devastating in the Black and brown communities; revealing grave inequities and disparities in healthcare, food resources, housing and most importantly education. The Austin community is Chicago's largest demographic and populated of the seventy-seven neighborhoods that make up the nation's third largest city. Unfortunately like many cities across the country, the Austin community has been in a state of despair and decline for too many years. COVID-19 further accelerated and revealed such disparities as we continue to witness violence and crime exceeding all-time highs; and a record number of students who were left behind dropping out due to lack of educational resources to fully equip and support them through the biggest healthcare crisis in over a century.

Witnessing the widening of the learning gap; we are, nevertheless, committed to be a part of the solution. Our goal is to continue promoting education, combatting urban violence, and disparities in urban communities. We seek your financial support. Please consider helping us reach our goal and bring about equity and change.

For over 21 years, we have raised nearly a half million dollars for scholarships that were awarded to financially challenged community youth. These scholarships have helped to empower young lives, enhancing their potential. This school year, graduating high school seniors and current college students returned to the classrooms making the best of a difficult situation. These individuals have shown responsibility, humility, creativity, and kept a positive outlook in the face of diversity.

The Austin Empowerment Coalition, a 501c3 organization in youth and family programming, is co-hosting this event. We hope that you will donate to this event and assist us in giving scholarships. It will not be a success without your help. Your sponsorship will help assure the success of our youth. Enclosed please find additional information on this event and its sponsorship levels. We ask that you provide us with a financial commitment on or before July 1st. All commitments will be due no later than August 1st. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns. We are committed to making a difference. With partners like you investing in a "Better Austin," we will significantly impact youth, families, and all of Chicago for decades to come.

Sincerely,
Rev. Ira J. Acree
Senior Pastor

GREATER ST. JOHN BIBLE CHURCH
1256 North Waller, Chicago, IL 60651
Phone: 773-378-3300
Website: gsjbchurch.org

2022 GSJ-AEC Scholarship Fundraiser

"Inspiring peace, love and change in our community!"

Date: _____

Company / Individual Name: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Please send your art/logo as a pdf or jpeg file (in 300 resolution) to: info@empoweringthefamily.org

– Please indicate your selection below– **SPONSORSHIP DEADLINE: August 1, 2022**

Check Sponsor Level

	Community Leader	\$10,000
	Community Builder	\$7,500
	Community Partner	\$5,000
	Coalition Friend	\$2,500
	Empowerment Friend	\$1,000
	Scholarship Fund	\$500
	Monthly Sustaining Friend – 12 months	\$25/month

Authorized by: _____ Total Payment: \$ _____

Method of Payment: _____ Cash _____ P.O. # _____ Check enclosed: _____

Credit card type: Amex _____ Master Card _____ Visa _____ Other: _____

Credit card number: _____ Expiration date: _____

CHECKS SHOULD BE PAYABLE TO:

Greater St John Bible Church

PLEASE MAIL PAYMENTS BEFORE August 1, 2022

TO:

Greater St. John Bible Church
1256 N. Waller, Chicago, IL 6065

2022 GSJ-AEC Scholarship Fundraiser

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SPONSOR LEVELS and BENEFITS

Benefits of Sponsorship	Community Leader \$10,000	Community Builder \$7,500	Community Partner \$5,000	Coalition Friend \$2,500	Empowerment Friend \$1,000	Scholarship Fund \$500
Most prominent name/logo on all printed materials related to the event	X					
Youth Violence Prevention school year sponsor – logo and mention through the 2021/22 school year promotional materials, and host sponsor for scholarship awards	X					
Prominent name/logo on all press releases and interviews related to marketing the event	X					
Name/logo placement on event banners/signage	X	X				
Logo placement and business link on AEC website	X	X	X			
Name/Business name listed on AEC website			X	X	X	X
Preferred event placement for business/vendor table	X	X	X	X	X	
Photo opportunities with celebrity guests	X	X	X	X	X	
Logo or Business name on event staff and volunteer t-shirts	X	X	X	X		
Logo placement on Step & Repeat banners, that will serve as backdrop in all press photo opportunities	X	X	X	X		
Opportunities for Sponsor logo placement in PSA's related to event, newspaper ads, community newsletters	X	X	X	X		X
Sponsor name/logo mention in all post event recognition ads, email, acknowledgement letters	X	X	X	X	X	X
Permanent signage/name/logo inside the future Community Center	X	X	X	X	X	
Naming rights for various Community Rooms/public areas, etc.	X					
Screen time – Displaying Logo	X	X	X	X	X	X