

From 2012 to 2019, I lived in Reach Community Housing (Reach CDC) as a low income single parent. Because of a low income housing situation I was able to successfully raise my daughter in a healthy environment. My daughter is now a college graduate, she successfully completed Youth\$ave that teaches young children about how to handle their finances in the future. She is doing very well herself at present financially and in her present career. She graduated Cum Laude from Chicago University in Illinois in 2014. Through Reach CDC, I was able to not only educate myself, my daughter, but also others within the Reach Community about getting out of poverty and learning how to better handle one's finances in a steering committee that I help lead as a volunteer. Because of volunteering and assisting in meetings throughout this steering committee, I was sent to a public forum in Chicago where there was an alliance of other such programs (as Reach CDC), to expand on what other community programs are also doing. This was very deeply inspiring experience in terms of life direction. Through the kinds of programs Reach CDC had to offer and just being a resident and receiving low income benefits my livelihood and all those I helped through volunteer programs, my daughter, I have been the benefactor of. I would like to see these programs continue, not only for the above-stated reasons, but also for the MUCH NEEDED diversity that this city is starting to lose because of the price exploitation from outsiders. I want to see the kindness and the diversity this city once had come back through programs like these that allow others a healthy, sustainable livelihood regardless of income.