A TRADITION OF TEAMWORK.
A COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY.

THE STEANS FAMILY FOUNDATION
2005 ANNUAL REPORT
In 1869, the small, bustling railroad town of Crawford, Illinois was annexed by the ever-expanding City of Chicago, extending Chicago’s borders some two miles, from Western Avenue (2400 West) to Crawford Avenue (4000 West, now known as Pulaski Road).

This annexation was to be the chrysalis of a neighborhood which – 71 years later – would become North Lawndale. The community’s story can be told in population shifts, beginning with the settling of Russian Jewish immigrants and leading to its current 40,000+ African-American residents, many of whom descend from forefathers who – over the years – migrated from America’s South.

The neighborhood’s eastern gateway, breathtaking Douglas Park – inspired by the imagination of world-renowned landscape artist Jens Jensen – remains the garden spot, the picnic site, the playground, the nature conservatory and the retreat of neighborhood families. And the many stately greystones built decades ago stand proudly today as monuments to North Lawndale’s history.

In 1995, the Steans family, Harrison and Lois – along with daughters Heather, Jennifer and Robin – saw the great promise of North Lawndale’s infrastructure, strongly rooted leadership and community bond. That’s when they decided to mobilize the resources of the Steans Family Foundation, concentrating on further strengthening the neighborhood’s considerable assets as well as providing additional support to areas of greater need and helping residents face the greater challenges.

After working in concert with North Lawndale leaders and residents for 11 years, the family and Foundation staff continue to be encouraged that this focused approach is – year after year – demonstrating substantial progress in the seven revitalization programs embraced by the Foundation:

- Health & Human Services
- Family & Community Asset-Building
- Employment & Training
- Education & Youth Development
- Housing
- Economic Development
- Leadership & Capacity Building

In the pages that follow, you’ll learn about the breadth of these vital and dynamic efforts, as well as about the pathways to future programs, both short and long-term.

“Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced.”

– James A. Baldwin
Dear Friends,

For over a decade the Steans Family Foundation has had the tremendous opportunity to partner with North Lawndale community leaders, organizations, residents, and others interested in improving the neighborhood. We are excited about the positive change that is occurring in North Lawndale. For example, quality education options are expanding along with job training opportunities that will help residents achieve self-sufficiency. Previously vacant and distressed property is becoming site to new and rehabilitated affordable housing making home ownership possible for existing and new residents in North Lawndale.

We know that our investment would not be effective but for the hard work of people dedicated to making a difference for North Lawndale. We take this opportunity to applaud the many stakeholders who work to improve community and individual circumstances.

We see great possibility for North Lawndale. Thus, the Foundation is pleased to continue its commitment to investing time, dollars, and expertise to assist in the community’s revitalization efforts. We appreciate the contributions of the institutions and individuals who invest with us in this neighborhood and encourage continued support.

For more information about the Steans Family Foundation, including our community programs and a myriad of additional resources, please visit our web site at www.steansfamilyfoundation.org.

Sincerely,

Harrison I. Steans
President/CEO, Board of Trustees

Reginald Jones
Executive Director
Helping to build and sustain healthy, stable families has long been a goal of the Steans Family Foundation. To put that goal into practice, the Foundation supports the work of community-based organizations engaged in nurturing the wellness of both children and their parents.

One recent example is the project named Healthy Babies for Healthy Communities. Long committed to improving birth outcomes for North Lawndale’s youngest residents, the Foundation has spearheaded a public/private collaboration aimed at reducing the number of low-birth-weight infants born in the North Lawndale and Austin communities. This project partners with community providers such as the Westside Association for Community Action, the Westside Health Authority, Access Community Health Center, PCC Wellness Center, Lawndale Christian Health Center and Erie Family Health Center. High-risk women who are either pregnant or between pregnancies are offered a combination of outreach and intensive case management to improve their chances for a healthy delivery.

Along with the Foundation, the project’s partners also include the Illinois Department of Human Services, the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services, the Irving Harris Foundation and the Illinois Children’s Healthcare Foundation.

“I don’t know what the future may hold, but I know who holds the future.”
— Ralph Abernathy
The Steans Family Foundation – linked to the Family and Community Asset Building area – helps residents in reaching educational goals and in realizing home ownership through the Save-Up! Individual Development Account (IDA) Program.

To date, Save-Up! has provided more than 150 community residents with over $500,000 to attain their educational goals and purchase homes in North Lawndale; 72% for post-secondary educational expenses and 28% for first home ownership expenses. Over the past five years, 98% of the housing participants reached their savings goals and 86% of the education participants reached their savings goals.

“Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience and the passion to reach for the stars and change the world.”

— Harriet Tubman
The Foundation is deeply cognizant of the need to increase employment opportunities for community residents. Thus, the Foundation stands behind organizations such as North Lawndale Employment Network, Breaking Ground, the Chicago Christian Industrial League and the Sinai Community Institute in affording a wide array of supports including job readiness, education, skill-based training and post-placement services.

One such program is the North Lawndale Employment Network (NLEN). Supported by the Foundation, NLEN is the cornerstone of the community employment strategy. This network provides residents with tools and information that allow them to conduct a comprehensive employment search using Internet access, fax and photocopying machines, and voicemail boxes. Resource Center users also have access to skilled and knowledgeable staff members for assistance and guidance in every stage of their job searches. Financial literacy and basic computer/resume workshops supplement and support center activities.

Together, these institutions work with all community residents whether they are youth with limited work experience, ex-offenders re-entering the community or adults facing a period of unemployment or underemployment.

“Train your head and hands to do, your head and heart to dare.”

— Joseph Seamon Cotter Jr
The Steans Family Foundation advocates education as the strongest foundation of personal and community development. This is why the Foundation supports a host of educational activities aimed at reshaping the social framework that contributes to unemployment, poverty, and hopelessness. The Foundation knows that North Lawndale community members are deeply committed to high achievement, and the Steans Family Foundation works with key stakeholders to reinforce this vital commitment across the neighborhood.

Our grant-making priorities include:

- Support and retention of high quality principals and educators
- Fostering parental and community involvement in education
- Encouraging a culture of college and post-secondary options
- Providing youth enrichment activities through after-school programming, recreation, tutoring, the arts and leadership

The Foundation is dedicated to assisting in increasing the graduation rates of students in North Lawndale. Organizations like Umoja and North Lawndale College Prep are collectively sending and supporting record numbers of high school graduates to college from the community.

In addition, the Save-Up! Individual Development Account (IDA) Program has provided opportunities for community members to attend school. These students truly represent the future of North Lawndale.

“The question is not whether we can afford to invest in every child; it is whether we can afford not to.” — Marian Wright Edelman
It’s been the Steans Family Foundation’s experience that community cooperation trumps community stagnation every time. That’s why the Foundation, the Chicago Community Trust, Searle Funds at the Chicago Community Trust, the Chicago Botanic Garden, the Chicago Christian Industrial League/Aramark and the North Lawndale Employment Network formed a consortium called the Windy City Harvest NPF, a unique urban horticultural production business and transitional jobs training initiative based in North Lawndale. Also, the Windy City Harvest site will be situated on the Green Campus which will include a farmer’s market, community gardens, classes in wellness and nutrition, and youth programs.
SOCIAL ENTERPRISE PROJECT
Employing and training community residents, the project will be engaged in the growing of produce as well as selling it to wholesalers and retailers. To be headquartered on 7.4 acres beginning at Cermak Road and Kostner Avenue, the site will boast 3 greenhouses, 8 hoop houses and community garden space as well as office, classroom and community meeting spaces within the rehabbed former U.S. Armory building.

APpreciation of Real Estate Value
Through the Social Enterprise Project, under-utilized real estate will be improved, an added factor that can only further accrue to the community’s benefit. What’s more, it’s expected that – after phase two expansion – the organization will be self-sufficient, i.e. grant funding will no longer be necessary.

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING
Over the first 10 years, 450 hard-to-employ residents will be trained. Included in the program will be pre-employment and basic skills training, transitional work experience, job placement and case management. We anticipate, too, that a number of the participants – armed with newly acquired skills and knowledge – will be inspired and equipped to seek out new entrepreneurial opportunities.

PRODUCTION AND MARKETING
The projected output: 53,000 sq. ft. of lettuce and other vegetables in hoop houses and 21,600 sq. ft of tomatoes and bedding plants in greenhouses, ultimately selling 40% of all produce to retailers and 60% to restaurants and institutions.
The Foundation believes that the well being of residents is inextricably linked to their ability to access decent, affordable housing, adequate services and stable employment either within their community or within a reasonable distance of their community. The Foundation understands that achieving this goal relies on the collaboration of public and private resource providers all working toward the common good.

To that end, the Foundation has partnered with the City of Chicago, local residents and North Lawndale leaders to create a plan for affordable housing in the North Lawndale community. The hope is that with increased housing opportunities, additional Foundation resources can be leveraged to bring more economic opportunities to North Lawndale.

“Opportunity follows struggle. It follows effort. It follows hard work. It doesn’t come before.”

— Shelby Steele
LEADERSHIP & CAPACITY BUILDING

The Steans Family Foundation regards leadership as the lantern that leads people to progress. And so we are engaged in a two-pronged initiative directed at spurring the continuing evolution of excellence in community leadership:

FUND FOR YOUTH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT:
In the quest to encourage and support students who – at a very early age – have taken on leadership roles and have demonstrated a commitment to others, the Foundation provides funding that bridges the gap between the cost of their training and the limited financial resources of North Lawndale youth and the agencies serving them.

Eleven-year-old LEARN Charter School student Tyrell Kirk was chosen to represent his school, community, and state as a student leader at the 2005 World Leadership Forum held in Washington D.C.

The forum combined small-group discussion, presentation and workshops with fun and challenging social, recreational, and educational experiences to cultivate leadership skills ranging from setting specific goals, working with other students from other countries, building character, communication skills, and problem solving abilities.

“Given the opportunity to participate in this conference, to read and discuss ideas with others doing similar work, will provide me with a living laboratory to energize and prepare me to come back to my community and help facilitate a platform for social change and youth empowerment.”

- Billy Brooks, Westside Association for Community Action

FUND FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:
As community leadership continues to strengthen, the Foundation continues to support initiatives aimed at further raising the leadership and management skills of the professionals who staff the various nonprofit agencies throughout North Lawndale – and in doing so, boosting the day-to-day effectiveness of agency functions.

The National Dare to Be King Conference prepares educators, social workers, clergy and community leaders to be able to engage African American males in issues related to anger, aggression, and problem solving. The training provided includes youth development strategies designed to promote alternatives to violence.
Through its Foundation grants program, the Steans Family Foundation oversees a broad range of beneficial endeavors. Here are just a few examples:

**GADS HILL CENTER CHILD CARE FACILITY**

Gads Hill Center Child Care Facility, a family resource center established in 1898, partners with the community to develop the assets of children, youth, adults, and families. Gads Hill Center was one of Chicago’s original settlement houses, and has operated a site in the North Lawndale community since 2002.

In collaboration with the members of their community and other organizations, Gads Hill Center develops programs that support and empower the economically and educationally disadvantaged residents of the North Lawndale neighborhood. Their Child Development Center at the Sinai Community Institute’s Center for Families and Neighbors exemplifies that commitment.

In 2005, Gads Hill Center won the Alford-Axelson Award for Nonprofit Managerial Excellence. The Center was honored for its clear, compelling and well-communicated mission and vision, organizational strategy that aligns programs and services to mission and goals, diversified funding model, and well-developed fundraising and external relations program.

Gads Hill’s Family Support Services component provides comprehensive strengths and needs assessment plans and follow-up for individual family members and children — many of whom have diagnosed behavioral, learning, and/or developmental disabilities. The assessments cover health-related services such as immunizations, dental exams, physicals, TB and lead screening as well as hearing and vision test and also provide referrals for social services for parents such as G.E.D. completion, domestic violence counseling and job training.

**THE CRIB COLLECTIVE**

“We have witnessed a team of eight young leaders — none of whom knew what ‘philanthropy’ meant before they began — teach their peers how to complete a grant application that they created. As a result, twelve youth-led programs, focused on directly impacting issues that affect the lives of local youth, received the support they needed to bring their ideas to life.”

— Aquil Charlton, Executive Director, The Crib Collective

In line with their mission of nurturing youth-led social entrepreneurship, The Crib Collective has launched its Youth Grant-making Team. Foundation funds are granted to this group of local youth who then seek out and direct funds to various worthy youth-led activities. These young philanthropists also provide technical assistance and supervision for the projects that are supported by their small grants.

The grantee list for 2005 encompasses such initiatives as a teen dance performance project, a police/community relations documentary video production, graphics-arts training, responsible-choices mentoring, a Raising Male Achievement undertaking, a professional development/college prep venture, an international book exchange, barber/beautician apprenticeships, a fashion enterprise, and many other community-based activities.

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Active in the North Lawndale community since 1997, NHS has adhered to its mission of rekindling hope in the neighborhood’s future, restoring conventional and local investment in the community, and leaving a legacy of empowered, self-reliant residents. Over the past three years, NHS programs in the North Lawndale office have been successful in:

- Creating 95 new homeowners in North Lawndale through Homebuyer Education programs, NHS’s loan products, and partnerships with conventional lenders.
- Providing and leveraging nearly $14.5 million in loans to homebuyers in North Lawndale.
- 36 existing owners were assisted in repairing or keeping their homes. This investment and preservation of equity in North Lawndale totaled $3.67 million.
- 150 homeowners were assisted by NHS’s intervention and counseling to save their homes from foreclosure.
- 98 homeowners improved their homes through NHS’s administration of the Midwest TIF-NIP grant program and the provisions of technical assistance from NHS’s Construction Specialists, representing $1.18 million of reinvestment for existing owners in North Lawndale.
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In addition to continuing its current services, NHS is seeking to expand its operations in the North Lawndale office through the creation of the Historic Chicago Greystone Initiative. The objectives of the Greystone Initiative include:

- Utilizing the Greystone Initiative as a vehicle to build community pride in North Lawndale.
- Strengthening the neighborhood housing market by increasing home ownership and property appreciation.
- Positioning the historic greystone as a desirable housing choice for new buyers interested in renovating a historic building.
- Using the Greystone Initiative as a way to promote energy conservation and the use of green technology in the renovation of historic buildings.
- Preserving affordable rental housing in greystones.
- Involving as many existing homeowners as possible in the repair and renovation of their greystones.

“IT has been and continues to be a privilege for NHS of Chicago to help in revitalizing this nationally significant neighborhood, North Lawndale. The partnership with the Steans Family Foundation allows each of us to achieve the objective of a better, stronger North Lawndale for all its current residents.”

- Charles Leeks, Neighborhood Director, Neighborhood Housing Services
Statement of Financial Position**

### Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>December 31, 2005</th>
<th>December 31, 2004</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$223,462</td>
<td>$587,833</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>24,844,168</td>
<td>24,612,218</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fixed assets, net</td>
<td>305,331</td>
<td>300,743</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>22,901</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>25,374,461</strong></td>
<td><strong>25,523,695</strong></td>
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### Liabilities and Net Assets

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<tr>
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<th>December 31, 2005</th>
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<tr>
<td>Current Liabilities</td>
<td>113,561</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unrestricted net assets</td>
<td>25,260,900</td>
<td>25,523,695</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total liabilities and net assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>25,374,461</strong></td>
<td><strong>25,523,695</strong></td>
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### Program Grants

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Program Grants</th>
<th>December 31, 2005</th>
<th>December 31, 2004</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Steans Family Foundation</td>
<td>2,535,541</td>
<td>2,046,641</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution of funds from other foundations</td>
<td>276,202</td>
<td>405,770</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,811,743</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,452,411</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Includes $276,202 in distributions of funds from other foundations.

### 2005 Grants by Programs Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Area</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Economic Development</td>
<td>$96,284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Employment and Training</td>
<td>$409,109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Education and Youth Development</td>
<td>$955,671</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Family and Community Asset Building</td>
<td>$308,407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Health and Human Services</td>
<td>$252,239</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Housing</td>
<td>$354,083</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Leadership and Capacity Building</td>
<td>$172,015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H. Quality of Life</td>
<td>$61,151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Staff Small Grants, Non-Lawndale, Trustee Matching Grants</td>
<td>$192,784</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,811,743</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The pie chart illustrates the distribution of grants by program area, with Education and Youth Development receiving the largest share at 34%, followed by Employment and Training at 15%, and so on. The chart also includes a note indicating the inclusion of $276,202 in distributions of funds from other foundations. The financials and pie chart are represented as if reading naturally.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Harrison I. Steans  
President and CEO
Gregory Darnieder
Leonard A. Gail
James P. Kastenholz
Leo A. Smith
Heather A. Steans
Jennifer W. Steans
Lois M. Steans
Robin M. Steans

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Reginald Jones

ADMINISTRATION
Chindaly Griffith
Wendy Harvell
Suzanne Smith

PROGRAM OFFICERS
Alison Janus
Mariame Kaba
Angela Pace-Moody
Maurice Williams
“Hold fast to dreams, for if dreams die, life is a broken winged bird that cannot fly.”

— Langston Hughes