

The View from The Boulevard

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"Once you choose **Hope,**
Anything is possible."

Quote from late actor/director Christopher Reeve

A Year Like No Other

So much has transpired over the last year at The Boulevard. We opened our arms to a new CEO and the opportunities she will bring. We added staff and restructured services to better meet clients' needs. We received a national award. And we responded quickly to the pandemic, determined to continue our work for ill and injured homeless adults. We could not have done this without *your* support. Thank you!

The View from the Boulevard is our new periodic newsletter to keep you informed, introduce you to our clients, team and supporters, and help you get involved. Thanks for joining us to take in the view.



Our Impact

 **10,000**
People Served
Since Inception

 **18,542**
Bed Nights Provided
FY20

 **169**
People Placed in
Stable Housing
FY20

Renita White Joins The Boulevard as New Chief Executive Officer



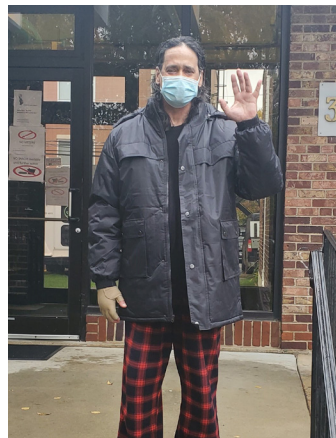
Renita White, AM, LSW, comes to The Boulevard with more than thirty-five years of experience in senior and executive leadership in major social service organizations in Chicago. Deeply rooted in mission, Renita has led many high-quality programs to national recognition. She has forged strong, effective partnerships with community providers and funders, bringing life-changing resources to at-risk populations.

Renita holds a master's degree from the University of Chicago's School of Social Service Administration in Public Policy and Administration and is a licensed social worker. She ensures agencies follow best practices through her service on the National Council on Accreditation, and supports social entrepreneurship projects as an ADESE Fellow.

Renita is a Chicago native from the Auburn Gresham neighborhood on Chicago's South Side, where her family owned and operated a thriving grocery business. During academic training to become a medical doctor, Renita was inspired to study social work. After so many years in the field, she is excited to raise the visibility of The Boulevard and its pioneering work in Medical Respite Care.

"The Boulevard is the best kept secret in Chicago when it comes to serving the ill and injured," says CEO Renita White.

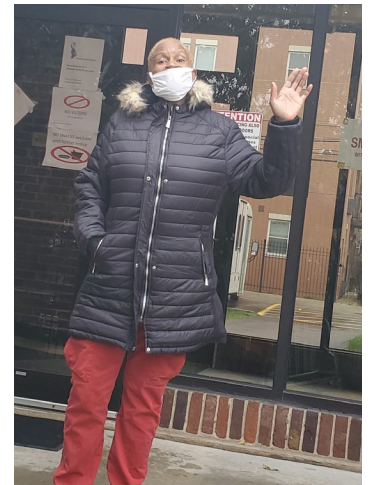
A Warm Donation from the Reva & David Logan Foundation



"I haven't had a new coat in a while. Thank you."

Special thanks to the Reva & David Logan Foundation for its gracious donation of coats and hoodies to help The Boulevard's residents deal with Chicago's long winters, as they venture out for medical and supportive services appointments.

For the past four years, the Chicago-based Logan Foundation has been one of The Boulevard's most generous supporters, funding ongoing programs, supporting our Diabetes Project, and making challenge grants at our annual Gala. The Foundation is always there for us in time of crisis and we are especially grateful for its special gift to help alleviate COVID-19 related costs. We extend our sincere appreciation to Richard Logan, Logan Foundation President, Crystal Logan, Director, and Jessie Mott, Program Officer, for their dedication to our clients.



"Love it! Thank you Logan Foundation!"



44,893
Meals Served
FY20

The Boulevard Wins Willie J. Mackey National Medical Respite Award

The Boulevard of Chicago has received the 2020 Willie J. Mackey National Medical Respite Award from the National



Health Care for the Homeless Council. The award recognizes our outstanding contributions to the field of medical respite care and our impact on improved health and quality of life for people experiencing homelessness.

Richard's Story: On the Road to Success



In addition to caring for clients at its Chicago facility, The Boulevard serves residents of the Lake Street Studios, a supportive housing development on Chicago's Near West Side. Richard has resided at Lake Street Studios since its

opening in 2015. After losing his job, Richard worked with several temporary agencies until he was referred to The Boulevard in December 2019. While enrolled in our Employment Services Program, he greatly enhanced his job readiness skills. In a short time, Richard was ready to be referred to the Cara Chicago/Clean Slate Program where he excelled. Just a few months later, he was hired in Illinois Masonic Medical Center's Environmental Services Department. Now, Richard is thriving at home and at work – and expresses gratitude for the help he got from The Boulevard. We congratulate Richard for his hard work and perseverance.

Gary's Story: Finding Purpose in Retirement



After a successful career as a derivatives trader and business owner, Gary Tomal was in the perfect position to relax in retirement. Instead, he and his wife Gail spend their time helping others. Born and raised on the west side of Chicago, Gary never forgot his roots. When he discovered The Boulevard, he immediately saw the organization's impact in breaking the cycle of homelessness.



"The Boulevard helps people regain their lives. I love the emphasis on giving people the tools they need to make things right."

Gary now brings groups of students from Holy Family to prepare and share a meal with appreciative Boulevard residents. "You can see how happy the folks at 'the House' are when our young people come and chat with them," he says. Volunteers in the Share-A-Meal program make a real difference in our residents' healing.

Thanks to people like Gary, The Boulevard holds dozens of Share-A-Meals every year. To learn more about volunteering, please visit www.blvd.org/volunteers.

Jim's Story: From Resident to Board of Directors



Jim Sweeting, a former resident of The Boulevard, is a valued member of The Boulevard's Board, providing important on-the-ground perspective. Jim's Boulevard experience mirrored many of our clients. During his stay, staff created a medical and behavioral health plan; the wellness clinic helped him regain his strength; and the 24-hour resident life services team made his recuperation comfortable. During his stay, he attended sessions on emotional health and took part in job readiness programs. Eventually, he moved out with the encouragement of the staff, ready to take back control of his life.

Now, three years after leaving The Boulevard, Jim enjoys serving on the Board and looks forward to visiting the house post-pandemic. "I really miss visiting The Boulevard; I used to go twice a week. I would sit in the community meetings and be there to support the residents. It's important to share my gratitude by helping, by just being there."

Associate Board Seeks New Members

Our energetic Associate Board (AB) consists of young professionals who are passionate about philanthropy, volunteerism and making a difference for The Boulevard. AB members promote the organization within their networks, volunteer at the facility, coordinate fundraisers, and collaborate with the Board of Directors. If you are passionate about giving back, developing Board skills, and changing the narrative around homelessness, contact Sarah Vetrano at sarah.vetrano27@gmail.com.



A Word from Our Board President

I am excited about The Boulevard's journey as we enter this period of growth, change and discovery. On behalf of the entire Board of Directors, I welcome Renita White as our new CEO and leader to carry forward our mission, vision, and values. Thank you for taking this journey with us.



Jeremy Stump
Board President

How You Can Help: Our Annual Appeal

As the holiday season approaches, our annual year-end request for donations is about to get underway. Your generous support will ensure that homeless adults in need of medical respite can receive the support they need to break the cycle of homelessness, restore their health and rebuild their lives. Watch your mail, email, and social media as we launch the appeal later this month.

#GivingTuesdayNow

We are grateful to the donors who gave over \$2000 to the Boulevard during #GivingTuesdayNow, a one-day emergency response to COVID-19. Thank you!

For More Information

For more information on how to donate, contribute, or volunteer, please visit us at www.blvd.org



The Boulevard

The Road to Health and Home

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