

2025



MONTHLY PROGRAMMING GUIDE

Chicago United



ELEVATED PROGRAMMING

Chicago United’s signature programming supports our Member Companies and their employees to advance and sustain an inclusive culture throughout their company.

Chicago United’s 2025 Programming Includes:

Business Leaders of Color (BLC) Series: This series supports Chicago United’s Business Leaders of Color with a lineup of topics that provides innovations and ideas that support BLCs to become prime candidates for Corporate Board service.

Corporate Inclusion Institute (CII): Established in 2019, this premier nine-month talent and leadership development program supports companies across all industries in building high-performing teams that create an inclusive business culture.

C-Suite Sessions (formerly the CEO Roundtable Series): Chicago United’s C-Suite Sessions offer CEO Council Members the exclusive opportunity to engage in confidential, highly interactive peer-level discussions on topics essential to maintaining a positive corporate culture, which ultimately leads to greater employee engagement and business growth. This series of four panel discussions are led by CEOs or senior leaders who are implementing innovative strategies within their respective industry.

Diversity Officer Roundtable Series: Peer-to-peer learning sessions, facilitated by executives responsible for their organization’s inclusion strategies, that investigate current trends and leading practices for less common challenges.

Emerging Leader Series: Focused on the advancement of young professionals, this series features insight and guidance from executives on navigating corporate culture toward career growth.

Employee Resource Group Symposiums: A prime opportunity to learn best practices from experts on creating models for highly effective resource groups that advance business imperatives.

Mid-level Manager Series: Programming developed to equip managers with the leadership skills to establish collaborative, inclusive and effective teams while building a solid foundation for career growth.

Minority Business Partnership Program including The Five Forward Initiative™: Through this program, Chicago United collaborates with strategic partners to provide Minority Business Enterprises programming and workshops that connect MBEs with opportunities and strategic alliances. This program engages the corporate community through collaboration to develop a customized plan that supports the business’ inclusion goals.

Chicago United

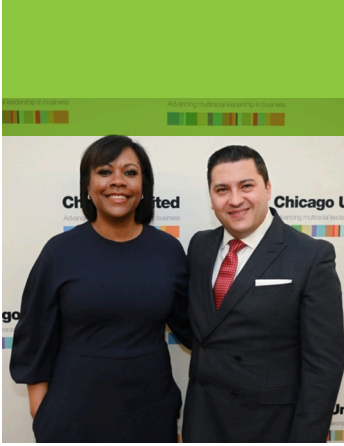


About Chicago United

Chicago United is the premier thought leader in advancing inclusion. Our nearly 100 member companies include Fortune 500, large, mid- and small-sized businesses, minority-owned businesses, as well as civic and nonprofit institutions.

Our Vision

A Chicago region that is the most inclusive business ecosystem in the nation.



Tiffany Hamel Johnson
President & CEO



2025-2026 CHICAGO UNITED BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Chief Human Resources Officer
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois

Laura Thonn
Chicago Office Managing Partner
PwC



2025 PROGRAMMING CALENDAR

MARCH

Corporate Inclusion Institute (CII-VIII)

Opening Session
📅 March 7

Chicago United Annual Meeting

📅 March 26

APRIL

Corporate Inclusion Institute (CII-VIII)

Building a Culture of Collaboration
Navigating Organizational Culture

C-Suite Sessions: Inclusion=IMPACT

Nonprofit & Civic Organizations

Business Leader of Color Series

Corporate Governance

Diversity Officer Roundtable

Sharing Best Practices

Emerging Leader Series

Collaborating Across Generations

Minority Business Partnership Program, including The Five Forward Initiative™

Annual Kick-off Meeting (Virtual)

MAY

Corporate Inclusion Institute (CII-VIII)

Emotional Intelligence

Employee Resource Group Symposium

Leveraging Your ERG Leadership
For Career Advancement

Diversity Officer Roundtable

Sharing Best Practices

Mid-level Manager Series

Social Emotional Intelligence Workshop

Minority Business Partnership Program, including the Five Forward Initiative™

The Changing Climate and Legal
Implications On Supplier Diversity

JUNE

Corporate Inclusion Institute (CII-VIII)

Cross-Cultural Communication
Receiving Feedback/Coping with Setbacks

C-Suite Sessions: Inclusion=IMPACT

Higher Education: Addressing the
Pipeline Gaps

Business Leader of Color Series

Corporate Bio: Defining Your Brand

Mid-level Manager Series

Leading from the Middle

Minority Business Partnership Program, including the Five Forward Initiative™

Access to Capital: Banks, Government,
and Non-Profit Resources

JULY

Corporate Inclusion Institute (CII-VIII)

Subtleties of Inclusion and Exclusion
Peer-to-Peer Roundtable

Emerging Leader Series:

Emotional Agility in the Workplace

AUG.

Corporate Inclusion Institute (CII-VIII)

Diversity Leadership
Negotiation/Conflict Management

Minority Business Partnership Program, including The Five Forward Initiative™

Artificial Intelligence (AI): Increase
Productivity And Minimize Security
Risks

SEPT.

Corporate Inclusion Institute (CII-VIII)

Managing Org. Change & Personal Transitions

C-Suite Sessions: Inclusion=IMPACT

Entrepreneurship

Business Leaders of Color Series

Get On A Board: Making Connections

Employee Resource Group Symposium

ERG and Community Impact Collaboration

Diversity Officer Roundtable

Sharing Best Practices

Emerging Leader Series

Network Your Way to Coaching, Mentorship,
and Sponsorship Opportunities

Minority Business Partnership Program, including the Five Forward Initiative™

Networking/Matchmaking Event

OCT.

Corporate Inclusion Institute (CII-VIII)

Closing Reception

C-Suite Sessions: Inclusion=IMPACT

Hot Topics

Business Leader of Color Series

Board Service: Private vs. Public Companies

Mid-level Manager Series

Preventing Burnout: Managing Time
and Stress

Diversity Officer Roundtable

Sharing Best Practices

Minority Business Partnership Program, including the Five Forward™ Initiative

Building Your Brand to Attract Corporate
Clients

NOV.

2025 Bridge Awards Celebration


Thursday, November 20, 2025
The Geraghty




CHICAGO UNITED MEMBER COMPANIES

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|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Abbott | Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago | RK Management Consultants, Inc. |
| Advanced Resources | Ferrara Candy Company | RME (Rubinos & Mesia Engineers, Inc.) |
| Advocate Health | Franczek P.C. | Robert R. McCormick Foundation |
| Alight | GoodWill Industries of S.E. Wisconsin | RUTH |
| American Backhoe Service & Excavating Co. | and Metro Chicago | SDI Presence LLC |
| Aon plc | Governors State University | Shapiro + Raj |
| Ariel Investments | Grant Law, LLC | Sidley Austin LLP |
| Baxter International Inc. | Illinois American Water | Slalom Consulting, LLC |
| Benford Protection Group | International Motors LLC. | Spaulding Ridge, LLC |
| Blue Cross Blue Shield of Illinois/
Health Care Service Corporation | Kairos Consulting Worldwide | T.A.S.C. |
| BMO Harris Bank N.A. | Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP | Trilogy |
| BP America Inc. | KPMG LLP | UL Solutions |
| Cabrera Capital Markets, LLC | The Kraft Heinz Company | University of Chicago |
| Campbell & Company | Laner Muchin Ltd. | University of Chicago Medicine |
| Caroline and Ora Smith Foundation | Lundbeck | University Of Illinois Chicago |
| The Chicago Community Trust | McDonald's Corporation | Valentine Austriaco & Bueschel, P.C. |
| The Chicago Urban League | Mesirow Financial | The Will Group |
| Clarity Partners, LLC | Morton Arboretum | Walgreens |
| ComEd, An Exelon Company | MZI Group Inc. | Wintrust Financial Corporation |
| Deloitte | Nash Brothers Construction Co., Inc. | WTTW |
| Delta Dental of Illinois | Nicor Gas | Wynndalco Enterprises, LLC |
| Diversified Technology, Inc. | Northern Trust | Zurich Insurance |
| DivIHN | Northwestern Medicine | |
| Dominican University Brennan
School of Business | OCC | |
| Executive Consultants United | Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas | |
| The Economic Club of Chicago | PNC Bank | |
| Ernst & Young LLP | Prado & Renteria CPAs Prof. Corp. | |
| | Primera Engineers, Ltd. | |
| | PwC LLP | |



 300 East Randolph Street
Suite 40.200
Chicago, IL 60601-5075

 (312) 977-3060

 www.Chicago-United.org

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