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This is what change in Chicago looks like

The Obama Foundation [info@obama.org]

Sent: Friday, August 14, 2020 12:04 PM

To: Steve Johnston



Hi there,

Chicago is defined by its neighborhood pride.

With the help of photographer Tye Moores and artists Myra Rivera and Kingstone Lorenzo, we were able to highlight three unstoppable young people on the West and South Sides of Chicago who have risen up against racial injustice, channeled their anguish into action, and embodied what it means to lead in our hometown.

Get to know leaders [Kemdah Stroud](#), [Antonio Davis](#), and [Asiaha Butler](#) below, [then learn more about the artists who brought this series to life.](#)

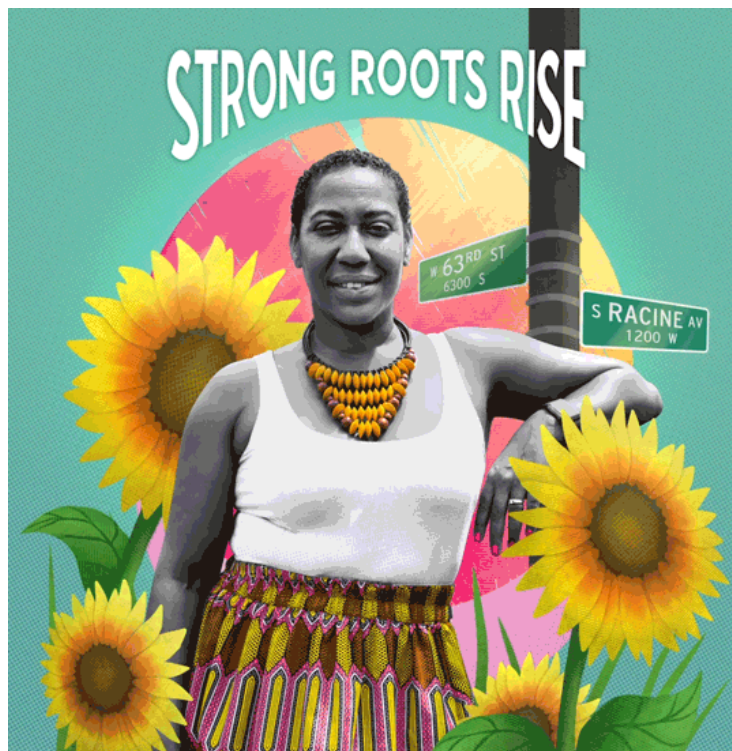


As a neuroscience student in Chicago, Kemdah Stroud knows that joy can heal. Her organization, Thankful For Chicago, focuses on creating positive social experiences to decrease anxiety and depression. Drawing on scientific evidence, Kemdah provides resources, distanced and virtual social gatherings, and other spaces to unite Chicagoans through joy and psychological healing. Recently, that's involved handing out meals and essential items in the Garfield Park neighborhood on the West Side of Chicago when families

needed access to food following the protests for racial justice.



After his pastor spoke up for him, Antonio Davis dedicated his life to using his voice for others. Through his organization, Paving The Way, Antonio serves Chicago's South Side by providing a series of educational forums to build up neighborhoods. It functions as an outreach program for violence prevention and intervention, bridging public service personnel with the public they serve. During the pandemic and ongoing protests, their work has expanded to provide South Siders with food packages and opportunities to participate in peaceful marches as a way to stop the violence following the killings of George Floyd, Ahmaud Aubrey, and Breonna Taylor.





Asiaha Butler—better known as Mrs. Englewood—grew up in Chicago’s Englewood neighborhood and stayed for a reason: If the neighborhood was going to change, it was going to take people like her who were part of it, who believed in it. That’s why Asiaha founded R.A.G.E., the Resident Association of Greater Englewood. It’s a grassroots organization that addresses community problems and creates block-by-block solutions. During the pandemic, Asiaha has used her platform to become a relief organizer, providing emergency food packages and masks for elders and residents of Englewood. She also organized community clean ups and food drives following the protests for racial justice in Chicago.

When it comes to using their voices for change, Kemdah, Antonio, and Asiaha are being heard throughout their neighborhoods—and the entire city of Chicago. [We hope you’ll take a moment to learn more about how artists Tye Moores, Myra Rivera, and Kingstone Lorenzo brought their incredible stories to life.](#)

—The Obama Foundation

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