The month of October is considered time dedicated to raise awareness and bring support to multiple audiences. It’s known as

- LGBT History Month
- National Bullying Prevention Month
- Breast Cancer Awareness Month
- Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Inequitable services and prominence of each of the aforementioned “awareness” areas exist within African-American communities. LGBTQ healthcare, joblessness, homelessness and other issues are inequitably higher in the Black community. The incidence of Bullying, Breast Cancer and Domestic Violence also are inequitably higher in the Black community. Ultimately, because South Side Help Center provides a myriad of services primarily to African-Americans throughout the city of Chicago, our agency provides services to people, and even partners with other agencies, to help address and negate inequity for the greater good of the people we engage and serve.

And yes, we too have been stretching to care for and provide services to our staff and community during the COVID crisis.

To those who have provided help...we greatly appreciate your support. To those we have served, we’re still here to provide hope and help.

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OUR LIVE VIRTUAL FORUMS HAVE BEEN HELD ON FACEBOOK LIVE EVERY THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH:

Each monthly session addresses an area of inequity of African-American people in Chicago, and provide facts and solutions that constituents can act upon to help our families and communities “Level Up” in establishing. And living better lives. Vanessa Smith, Executive Director, South Side Help Center and Creola Kizart-Hampton, President/Founder, GreaterWorks! Inc., moderate each virtual session.

Visit our Facebook page for each 90 minute forum.

The September Forum addressed lack of participation in The Census and challenges of voting in the upcoming elections, AND SSHC launched a 21-Day Voting Challenge.

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21 DAY PLAN YOUR VOTE CHALLENGE!

Please visit our FaceBook page each day for insight and information on registration, early voting, mail-in voting, in-person voting, and even what legislation and offices are on the ballot.

To see past forums visit us at www.facebook.com/SouthSideHelpCenter
**Upcoming LevelUp4Equity Topics:**

- Pharmaceutical Costs and Impact on Healthcare in Black Community
- Faith Based Community and its Influence on Black Healthcare Inequity

*Purposed to help people of all ages embrace a lifestyle of prevention against mental, physical and social ills by providing positive, healthy alternatives so that community residents can lead productive lives.*

Please contact us with your suggestions for topics covered in future Zoom/Facebook Live forums.
We are proud to announce that South Side Help Center has been named one of the 31 community-based organizations designated by The Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership (The Partnership) to hire individuals for Chicago’s COVID Contact Tracing Corps (Corps) under a two-year, $56M grant from the City of Chicago.

Vanessa Smith, South Side Help Center, Executive Director, commented, “We applied for the grant in our ongoing efforts to help people in our communities address physical and social needs so they can live productive lives. The COVID pandemic has made this an even greater challenge. Being selected as a grant recipient still requires that we invest resources of our organization in order to fulfill the goal of hiring people locally for healthcare sector jobs at a time when many residents are out of work, and to help our community fight the spread of the COVID pandemic.”

Through The Partnership and its collaborators, SSHC will hire and supervise contact tracers and supervisors earning $20 and $24 an hour respectively. The contact tracers ongoing professional development and “Earn and Learn” opportunities are designed with input from public health experts and private sector institutions. Through the Earn and Learn program, participants can gain credentials and permanent placement in allied health and adjacent occupations. Inquiries for positions should be emailed to jobs@southsidehelp.org.

YOUTH PROGRAMS
As children continue to be schooled at home, SSHC is hiring employees who can help them with understanding and completing assignments and provide mentoring and tutoring via Zoom and other online and in-person mediums, while guaranteeing safe social distancing.

BROTHERS IN THE LIFE
Our programs for Same Gender Loving Men are providing mental health and HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention services. Under the leadership of Charles Nelson, Director of MSM Services, SSHC is also looking for new staff persons to extend the depth and breadth of needed services.

Inquiries for positions should be emailed to: jobs@southsidehelp.org