

20th Anniversary Celebration

Northwest Center celebrated our 20th anniversary on June 7th with staff, program participants, supporters, and community members. The Celebrate Home event included local Belmont Cragin food vendors, raffle baskets, games, a character artist and DJs from Steinmetz College Prep, dancing, and connecting with the community!

Throughout the past months, NWC teams collected the history of their work throughout the past 20 years and highlighted their timelines during the event with presentations. The teams also worked to create baskets for our raffle fundraiser, filled with gift cards to Chicago staples, the latest fashion, local activities, and more!

This year's Celebrate Home was dedicated to Ruben Olivares, NWC Health Equity Program Manager who lost his life due to gun violence earlier this year. A coca cola toast in his honor was passed out to attendees as a moment to remember him and his work in the community with his favorite drink.

With our community's support, we raised over \$80,000 from the event. Northwest Center sends a warm thank you to everyone who joined us for this year's event and for helping make our anniversary celebration to remember!





Employee Spotlight



"I'm here for anyone who needs support in their roles or programs. My door is open and I want to create a safe space, especially during James' transition"

Michelle Izguerra
Director of Operations and Finance

Michelle Izguerra was recently hired as Northwest Center's Director of Operations and Finance. After looking for positions at local Latinx-focused organizations, Izguerra discovered Northwest Center and was immediately interested.

"I was looking last year at Northwest Center, but there were no open positions at the time," Izguerra said. "When I learned about the Director of Operations and Finance position, I applied and was excited to see what Northwest Center had to offer."

Once hired, Izguerra immediately stepped into her role at NWC, eager to lead the finance team.

"I have this amazing finance team," Izguerra said. "We're cross-training everyone and they're eager to learn more and get to the next level. I make sure everyone is receiving the support they need."

Northwest Center happily welcomes Izguerra to the team and are looking forward to the future.

"I'm excited to be back in the real world, I've been working from home since the pandemic," Izguerra said. "I'm an extrovert and I've spent the past 3 years at home with my dog and husband. When I saw things changing back a little bit, I knew it was time to get back into the world. I want to help us get our city back and introduce a new structure."

Playstreets

Northwest Center is proud to host Playstreets events this summer within our community. Join us for cookouts, sports, jump roping, giant Jenga, water fights, bean bag toss, jump-house and more.

We can't wait to see you there!

July 8 12-4pm
5506 W Drummond Place

August 12 12-4pm
2220 N Long Ave



Help reunite Francisco with his family!



We need your help! Francisco has been a Belmont Cragin community member for the past 18 years and is currently detained by ICE and facing deportation. However, our fight for Francisco's freedom will not end until he is free from detention, free from deportation, and reunited with his family. We are demanding that ICE Secretary Alejandro Mayorka halt the deportation of Francisco and release him from ICE detention immediately. Please help reunite him and his family by signing and sharing the petition that can be [found here](#) or through scanning the QR code above.

We're hiring!

Join the Northwest Center team and apply for our open positions today on our [website](#).

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | [Click here to read the job description](#)

Upcoming Events

For more information on events, visit our website at www.northwestcenterchicago.org/events



Zumba
Parent University*
Fridays
9-10 am



Hoops in the Hood
2318 N Lavergne Ave
Fridays
July 7, 14, 21, 28
3:30 - 5 pm



Belmont Cragin Club
Riis Park: on the corner
of Meade & Wrightwood
Thursdays
6 - 7:15 pm



Conoce tus derechos
Parent University*
Español
miércoles, 5 de julio
1 pm

*Parent University is located at 3030 N. Mobile Ave. Chicago, IL 60639