



COAL is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Donations are tax-deductible.

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UIC Male Forum / Chicago Good Health Group

February 1, 2026

COAL 2026 Fundraising Drive

Dear Supporter,

At the start of 2026, we are in a political climate where our civil rights are being rolled back, voting access is under attack, economic progress is slowing for many across our communities, and the way forward for our next generations is not clear - therefore the voices of Black communities must be stronger, more courageous and more strategic. We must move beyond the dialogue to real action that creates real and sustainable positive change for Black people.

Those that came before us did not fight for us to lose momentum now. They paved the way so that we could stand taller, build smarter, dream bigger, and move further than they were ever allowed to.

When you invest in the Coalition of African American Leaders (COAL), you are investing in a Black-led organization that understands the challenges before us and is committed to fighting to improve the quality of life for all of our people.

An organization that will:

- Inform, update, and educate the community on items of critical importance and interest to the well-being of Black people;
- Challenge the systems that do not prioritize the needs and concerns of Black people, our youth, our elderly, our families, that devalue our community institutions, and that do not listen to the voices of our community;
- Strive to hold our elected and appointed representatives accountable to delivering on an agenda for Black people;
- Support and take actions that defend and protect our community, its people, organizations and institutions toward strengthening our community and us as a people;
- Build relationships and networks towards building the capacity required to take on new and intractable issues plaguing our community; and
- Promote and foster self-awareness, self-reliance and self-accountability, community-resilience, ownership of solving our complex problems and ownership of building a brighter future for our next generations.

This is the moment to act. Your investment fuels the work and allows us to build stronger foundations for our communities, protect our rights, and make long-term gains that accrue to our next generations.

Please support the work of COAL today. If you're able, COAL is asking you to make a donation in support of our work — whether it's \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100, or whatever feels

right. Every contribution sustains our mission to improve the quality of life for our community, across every part of the community, and to continue to build and protect our civic, political and economic power. **Please make a donation today to help us reach our goal of raising \$25,000 for 2026 activities and projects.** You can make your donation [Here](#), or **Zelle russell.spillman@gmail.com** (COAL will show as the recipient), or use the **QR CODE**, or **make a check out to COAL** and mail to: **4356 S. Greenwood Ave., Chicago. Illinois 60653-3702.**



Thank you for being a part of this movement. Thank you for supporting the COAL 2026 Fundraising Drive. Your care, your voice, and your belief in what is possible are what gives this work its strength.

Sincerely

Lance Gough

Lance Gough
Chairman

CR Wimberly

Craig K. Wimberly
President