

RENEWAL

A POAH MIDWEST NEWSLETTER



POAH and Claretian Associates Create New South Chicago Community Center

In an exciting renewal of a threatened community asset, this summer witnessed the opening of The Salud Center, a new community center in a space formerly used by the South Chicago YMCA.

The renewal and reopening was made possible by a partnership between POAH and Claretian Associates, who together purchased the building in 2019. Claretian Associates, which for decades has provided services and advocacy for the South Chicago community, will provide recreation, education and business programs on the ground floor of the building, while POAH maintains the 101 senior apartments as affordable to low- and moderate-income residents.



The new 40,000-square-foot Salud Center — Salud is Spanish for “health” — at 3039 East 91st St. features an Innovation Lab, a classroom with 30 computers and free Wi-Fi to connect the community to youth and adult education resources.

One of the most exciting spaces is the gymnasium, which while providing ample room for sports, has already proven itself to be a great place for receptions, performances, and intra-mural sports competitions. Downstairs from the gym is the facility’s new fitness center and two exercise rooms, as well as a small business incubator and a teen drop-in space on the mezzanine level. In nearby offices are the Claretian Associates’ offices and several conference rooms.



One thing still to be done — restoration of the swimming pool. Aware of the great desire for this asset, POAH and Claretian Associates together are actively working to raise the needed funds in a campaign called “Help South Chicago Swim.” To donate visit: [Swimming Pool Campaign - Claretian Associates](#)

“We’re excited and proud of what we have developed,” says Claretian Associates Executive Director Angela Hurlock. “What’s made it possible is both the support of the community and the great partners that we’ve found in POAH.”

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