Our Neighborhood

The Park Forest/Richton Park Neighborhood Network was launched in June 2023 in partnership with Cook County through the Transforming Places Program, with support from Nicor Gas Foundation. OAI serves as the “community quarterback” for the Network. Over the next three years, OAI will build its coalition and refine its community vision for the Park Forest/Richton Park Neighborhood Network.

Park Forest was founded in 1948 as a planned community for veterans returning from World War II. It was the first post-war planned community, and its innovative design has been recognized and used as a model for towns throughout the world. Richton Park is located along the Sauk Trail, used by the Sauk and Pottawatomie tribes. The Illinois Central Railroad was developed in the area in 1852. Later, Richton Park was the last stop on the electrified line, which was established in 1926. Today, both communities support affordable housing developments, sustainable practices, and plentiful parks and recreation facilities to encourage growth.

BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES: A DUAL APPROACH IN PARK FOREST/RICHTON PARK

- Responding to Immediate Basic Needs of Park Forest/ Richton Park
- Building Neighborhood Systems Stronger and More Equitably in Park Forest/ Richton Park

LEAD AGENCY
OAI

COMMUNITY VISION
As a new Neighborhood Network in 2023, Park Forest/Richton Park is developing and refining its community vision over the next three years.
The Park Forest/Richton Park Neighborhood Network has promising plans and vision for strengthening their local community. Over the next three years, OAI will build its coalition and refine its community vision for the Network.

JOIN US! Together, we can build neighborhoods like Park Forest/Richton Park stronger and more equitably. Direct your United Way gift to “Neighborhood Networks” to be a part of this critical strategy.

Learn more at LIVEUNITEDchicago.org/neighborhood-networks

This investment in Park Forest/ Richton Park is an investment in our residents and in their future. The Neighborhood Network will help us to restore the residents of Park Forest and Richton Park with decision-making power and a voice to advocate for their specific needs and improve their neighborhoods and their livelihood.

CHERISE WILLIAMS
Park Forest/Richton Park Neighborhood Network Organizer, OAI