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THE CHICAGO COMMUNITY TRUST INVITES CHICAGOLAND RESIDENTS TO TAKE ACTION WITH NEW “ACTING UP” AWARDS

Following On the Table, participants are encouraged to submit videos outlining their ideas for community action and impact

CHICAGO – April 27, 2016 – On May 10, tens of thousands of Chicagoland residents will participate in The Chicago Community Trust’s third [On the Table](#) initiative, gathering in small groups to share a meal and discuss the challenges and opportunities we face as a city and region. These conversations will inspire new ideas for ways we can work together to make our communities stronger, safer and more dynamic. In an effort to help some of those ideas come to fruition, the Trust announces a new program called the *Acting Up* awards.

“Each year following *On the Table*, we hear from excited and passionate community members about the conversations they had and the ways in which they want to make a difference on a local level,” said Terry Mazany, president and CEO of The Chicago Community Trust. “The *Acting Up* awards will allow us to identify and invest in some of these new, actionable ideas and approaches that will encourage collaboration and yield significant benefit to our community.”

The *Acting Up* awards will provide \$1,000 awards to *On the Table* participants who have actionable ideas for community impact coming out of their *On the Table* conversations. The awards could be used to implement ideas all of kinds – from planting a community vegetable garden to buying school supplies for a classroom in need; from cleaning up a local playground to supplying dinner for a week at a local soup kitchen. The charge is simply to encourage people to work together and take action for the public good. Winners will be chosen based on brief video submissions.



On the Table participants are invited to submit a brief video of no more than two minutes, outlining their planned activity. Video entries will be accepted online between May 11 and 31 at www.onthetable.com. A selection committee of diverse regional representatives will select up to 50 winners based on creativity, level of community engagement and potential impact of the ideas. All *Acting Up* winners will be announced on June 28. For additional rules and regulations, please visit www.onthetable.com/acting-up-awards/.

To learn more or to sign up to host an *On the Table* conversation, visit www.onthetable.com or call 866-737-6951. Join the conversation on social media using the hashtag #OnTheTable2016 and #ChiTrustActingUp.

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About The Chicago Community Trust

[The Chicago Community Trust](#), our region’s community foundation, partners with donors to leverage their philanthropy in ways that transform lives and communities. For the past century, we have connected the generosity of donors with community needs by making grants to nonprofit organizations working to improve metropolitan Chicago. Since our founding in 1915, the Trust has awarded approximately \$1.8 billion in grant funding to more than 11,000 local nonprofit organizations – including more than \$198 million in 2015. Our region is home to people passionate about their neighborhoods. People committed to making a difference. People divided by a legacy of segregation, separated by lines of class and race and opportunity – but there is much more that unites us than divides us. As the Trust begins our next century of service, we pledge to bridge these divisions and to champion the common good, creating a place where no one is left behind.