



# University Community Service Center

bridging campus and city

**U**CSC engages students with communities and partners to build a more just Chicago.

Founded in 1996 by First Lady Michelle Obama and part of the Office of Civic Engagement, UCSC prepares students to become productive, thoughtful citizens and effective, inspiring leaders in their communities and professions by providing them with service opportunities that complement a rigorous academic experience.

UCSC encourages students to explore Chicago, to make meaningful connections with diverse communities throughout the city, to develop friendships with other civic-minded students, and to apply classroom learning to understanding and addressing social issues.

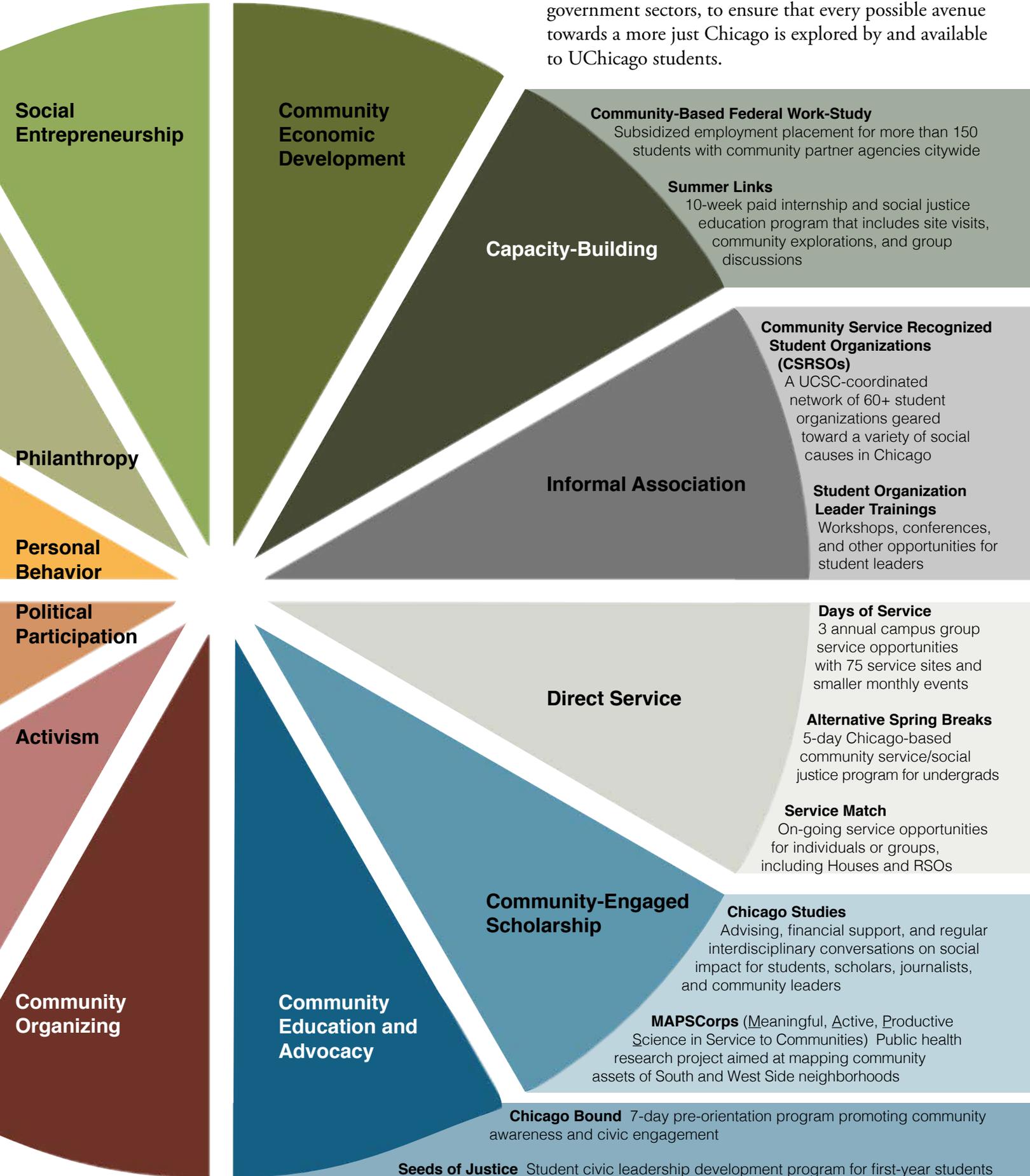
Each year, more than 2,000 students participate in UCSC programs and events in partnership with more than 250 organizations throughout Chicago.



# Collaborating to Create Social Change in Chicago

UCSC programming represents only some dimensions of the broader range of possible efforts to effect social change.

We collaborate with our many partners, both on and off-campus, and from the private, non-profit, and government sectors, to ensure that every possible avenue towards a more just Chicago is explored by and available to UChicago students.

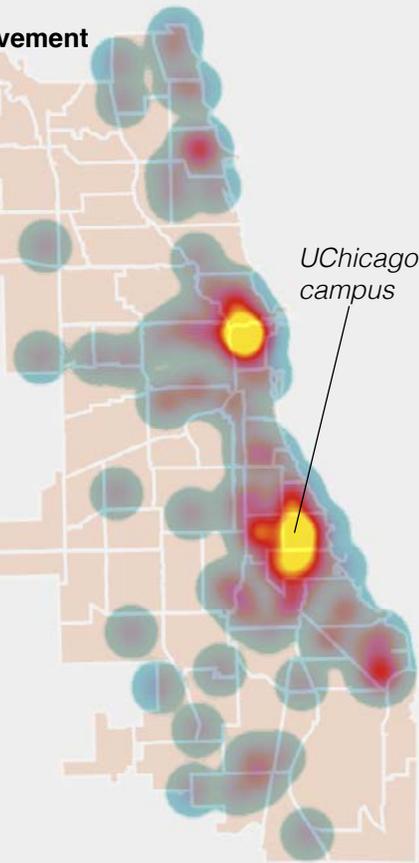




Day of Service Project at local elementary school

### Citywide UCSC Involvement

During the academic year, UCSC engages students with over 250 community organizations throughout Chicago. This map indicates the depth of this involvement in various areas of the city; yellow indicates the areas where the most students are engaged with the most community-based organization partners.



Sources: UCSC programs data; City of Chicago community areas; ArcGIS Online.



MAPSCorps community asset mapping project

# Student-led, Staff-supported

UCSC's work is supported by five professional staff, whose backgrounds include non-profit management, social services, leadership development, education, community development, philanthropy, and faith-based engagement. They bring extensive skills and experiences to support UCSC programs and community partnerships across the city of Chicago.



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In addition to the professional staff, we rely on the efforts of 15 undergraduate and graduate student interns who directly manage many of our programs and events throughout the year. UCSC internships offer our student staff a concrete experience of leadership, the chance to collaborate with like-minded peers, and opportunities for sustained mentorship and professional development.

## BY THE NUMBERS



**55** of 77 Chicago community areas were supported by UCSC efforts in 2015-2016



**250+** community organization partners



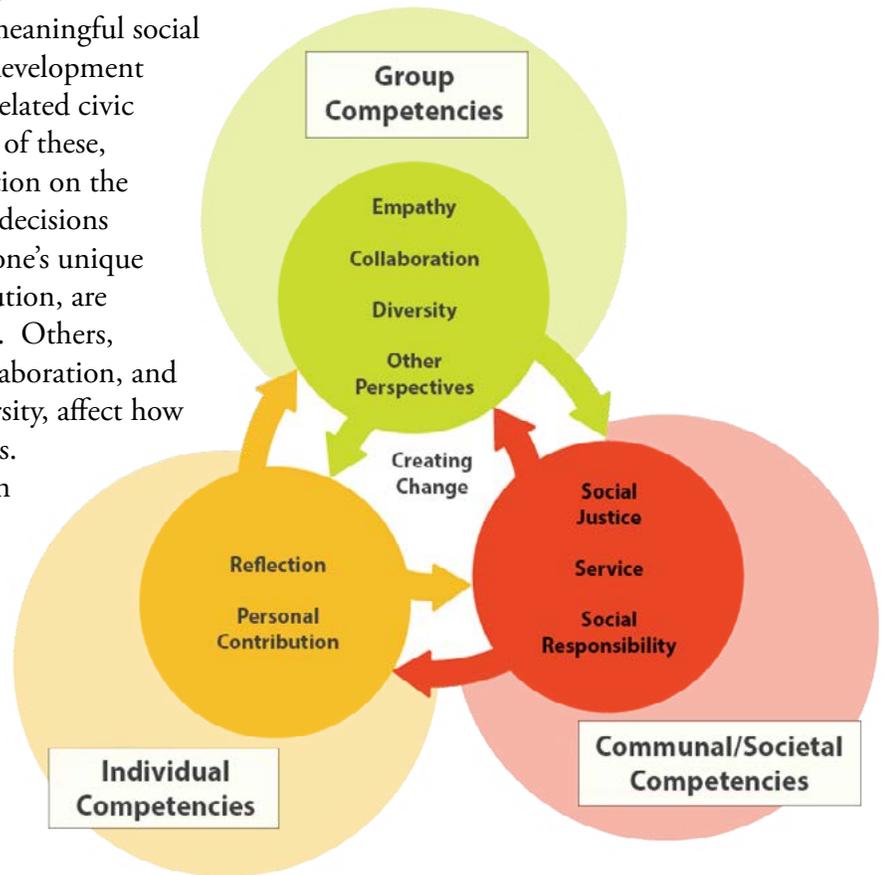
**2000+** students involved in one or more UCSC programs



**68** student-led community-service recognized student organizations (CSRSOs)

# Supporting Civic Leaders

The ability to effect meaningful social change involves the development of a number of interrelated civic competencies. Some of these, such as regular reflection on the implications of one's decisions and an awareness of one's unique potential for contribution, are highly individualized. Others, such as empathy, collaboration, and commitment to diversity, affect how one behaves in groups. Still others, such as an understanding of systemic issues of social injustice and a commitment to socially responsible action in the face of these, affect how one understands oneself as a member of a community and as an engaged citizen. UCSC programming helps students develop specific competencies in each of these domains, with the goal of supporting *all* our programs' participants in their holistic development as leaders in their communities and in their fields.



“My community service work is the best part of my week, and I always feel happier after. It has made me a more self-aware, considerate, helpful individual. I am a better person as a result of my involvement in many different UCSC programs.”

Second-year student - Seeds of Justice, CSRSOs, Days of Service

“Before college, I never even considered a career in social justice. Now it's the only option for me — I can't imagine working in an area that doesn't involve tackling systemic issues and raising awareness about the causes I care about.”

Fourth-year student - Chicago Bound 2013, Chicago Studies, OMSA, Institute of Politics, Pozen Center for Human Rights



LEARN MORE - GET INVOLVED

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