ABOUT Metro IAF:

Metro Industrial Areas Foundation (Metro IAF) is affiliated with the Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF), the first and largest network of multi-faith, broad-based citizen organizations, which has seven decades of experience winning tough battles on housing, health care, education, living wages, immigration rights, and other issues in the US and abroad. Metro IAF’s 22 affiliates are in the East, Midwest, and Southeast United States (CT, DC, IL, MA, MD, NC, NJ, NY, OH, VA, WI).

GUN SAFETY

Won on gun safety nationally by moving President Obama to require Federal agencies, through their procurement power, to push gun manufacturers to produce a “smart gun,” guns that can only be fired by an authorized user. To date, 109 cities, counties and states have signed on to the DNSIB campaign to pressure gun manufacturers to develop safer, smarter guns.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

Moved forward criminal justice reforms and held police accountable in Baltimore, Cleveland, Durham, Boston, and the Chicago metropolitan area. In Cleveland, County Prosecutor O’Malley met demands by committing to reduce over-charging of low-level felonies by 7-15%. In Boston, an affiliate helped win license reinstatement for people with prior drug convictions.

JOBS

Secured living wage jobs for unemployed individuals and returning citizens in Baltimore, DC and DuPage County, IL, working with Johns Hopkins University, Under Armour/Sagamore Development, and small manufacturers in suburban IL. Negotiations with Under Armour/Sagamore Development delivered tens of thousands of jobs with a 30% mandate for local hiring and $25 million for workforce development in Baltimore. The Turnaround Tuesday jobs movement in Baltimore secured jobs for 208 individuals. In an agreement with DC Water, DC Mayor Bowser and the EPA, WIN affiliate won a 51% local hiring mandate of DC residents.
Mental Health
Demanded and received funding for Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) for Chicago metropolitan area county police officers to divert those with mental illness from jail cells. Relationships were built with the State’s Attorney, State Director of Public Safety, and county sheriffs. In Kane and Lake Counties, 544 officers were trained, with both counties seeking training certification. DuPage County committed to train 1,600 officers by the end of 2017. Affiliate organization Fox River Valley Initiative won a commitment of $40,000 from the budget of Kane County State’s Attorney, Joe McMahon, to train 120 officers in CIT Training.

Housing Conditions
Held the New York City Housing Authority and other landlords accountable for repairing thousands of dilapidated apartments across the East, Midwest, and South. Organizing in New York moved the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) to complete roughly half of the 1,700 repair requests demanded in over 500 apartments, the highest number of repairs made over the last few years.

Muslim Community Organizing
Organized with the Muslim community to combat Islamophobia in MA, DC, VA & IL. In Boston, 2,600 individuals, including Sen. Elizabeth Warren, stood in solidarity with the Muslim community against hate after the 2016 presidential election. 3,000 leaders in DuPage Co, IL held mosque days to get to know Muslim neighbors. In Virginia, leaders won a local campaign to secure a new school bus stop for Muslim students.

Affordable Housing
Built hundreds of new affordable homes and apartments in NYC, NJ, MD, DC, IL, WI, NC & VA. To date, 2,382 housing units have been preserved or improved through organizing efforts in Washington, DC. As of Summer 2016, more than 75 houses have been rehabbed and sold in Milwaukee’s Sherman Park neighborhood. In Orange Co, NC, won a $5 million bond to build or improve 1,000 units.

Voter Engagement
Engaged thousands of new and infrequent voters in low income & immigrant communities in MD, NC and OH to increase voter turnout on a non-partisan basis. From October to November, 14,155 doors were knocked and 5,059 conversations were exchanged in Cuyahoga County. In North Carolina, more than 1,000 Latino immigrants met with candidates for governor and senate and registered 30,643 Latino voters in partnership with other organizations as part of a GOTV effort.

Education
Won major education victories around school construction, hardware, technology repairs, millions of dollars in services for special needs students, after-school programs and safer walking routes to schools in Cleveland, NYC, Baltimore, Howard Co, MD and Montgomery Co, MD. Leaders in Howard Co, MD negotiated a $17 million deal to be paid by Howard Hughes Corp. to address the County’s school infrastructure crisis. In NY, won $22 million from the DOE to fund more services for special needs students.