



**CeaseFire™**  
The Campaign to STOP the Shooting

**DON'T SHOOT.**  
I want to grow up.



**Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I., Archbishop of Chicago  
and  
The Chicago Project for Violence Prevention**

**Welcome You to the Eighth Annual CeaseFire Awards Breakfast  
Celebrating the 13<sup>th</sup> Year of the Chicago Project and the 8<sup>th</sup> Year of  
CeaseFire: The Campaign to STOP the Shooting**

**January 29, 2008**

**Charles Thomas, Master of Ceremonies**

9:00 a.m. - Opening Prayer	Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I., Archbishop of Chicago
9:05 a.m. – Welcome	B. Joseph White President, University of Illinois at Chicago
9:15 a.m. – Opening Remarks	Gary Slutkin, M.D., Executive Director, The Chicago Project for Violence Prevention
9:20 a.m. – Awards Presentation	Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I. Gary Slutkin, M.D., Chicago Project Board Members, former honorees, friends and staff Recognition of those who have made special contributions to CeaseFire efforts in 2007
10:00 a.m. – Special Awards Presentation	Legislators who make a difference
10:10 a.m. – Impact Presentation	
10:15 a.m. – Opportunity for Remarks from Guests (as time permits)	
10:45 a.m. – Closing Remarks	Reverend Calvin Morris, Ph.D. Chair, Chicago Project for Violence Prevention Board of Directors



### **Main Accomplishments — First 13 years**

- Increased attention to killings in Chicago and Illinois; helped convey the idea that the situation of violence and killings in the neighborhoods could be changed.
- Developed infrastructure (Board, Steering Committee, Partnerships) consisting of government, police, community and leading Chicago funders for new approach to reducing violence based on public health, behavior change, changing thinking.
- Five years of research and strategy based on best practices in behavior change, violence intervention, and international behavior change models; 8 point plan with law enforcement and community partners; new intervention (CeaseFire).
- Pilot testing of Ceasefire intervention in West Garfield Park led to replication in 25 communities.
- Added violence interrupters in 2005.
- Planned, developed and implemented a CeaseFire violence interruption, outreach worker and coordinator training curriculum, now being delivered nationally.
- Local, national media treatment of violence as a behavior, an epidemic, and a disease that yields results and saves taxpayers money.
- U.S. Department of Justice National Award for Community Approach to Public Safety; State of the Community Summit Award for Best Public Safety Model in the State; Cook County State's Attorney's Office Victim Service Award; First Place Volvo National Safety Award.

### **CeaseFire — First 8 years**

- More than 1,300 conflicts and possible shootings interrupted.
- More than 35,000 home visits made to > 3,300 high-risk clients.
- More than 1,600 high-risk clients placed in jobs or returned to school.
- 20% - 82% drop in shootings in 14 Chicago neighborhoods.
- 55% fewer shootings, 70% fewer killings in Maywood.
- CeaseFire initiated in eight other cities in Illinois – Aurora, Cicero, Decatur, East St. Louis, Maywood, North Chicago, Rockford, and Waukegan.
- Estimated more than \$50 million taxpayer's money saved in health care, criminal justice costs
- In close partnership with Chicago Police Department, leading faith-based leaders and community partners, Chicago's killings fell to lowest level in 40 years, a joint achievement of all community groups, faith-based leaders and law enforcement.
- Drafted blueprint and training curriculum for adapting CeaseFire to other communities, cities.



## CeaseFire: The Campaign to STOP Shooting

---

- Baltimore, MD, Newark, NJ, and Kansas City, MO. Have initiated CeaseFire programs. Planning continues with several other cities.
- Working with Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and other partners to develop National CeaseFire Partnership.

### CeaseFire Neighborhoods and Community Partners

Albany Park — [Albany Park Community Center](#) – Diane Yost  
Auburn Gresham — [TARGET Area Development Corp.](#) – Patricia Watkins  
Aurora — [Association of Individual Development \(AID\)](#) – Joanne Furnas  
Austin — [Youth Outreach Services](#) – Rick Velasquez  
Brighton Park — [The Peace and Education Coalition](#) – Bruce Wellums  
Cicero — [Corazon Community Services](#) – Adam Alonso  
Decatur — [Dove, Inc.](#) – Ray Batman  
East Garfield Park — [Agape Youth Dev. and Family Support Services](#) – Reverend Steve Stultz  
East St. Louis — [East St. Louis Township](#) – Robert Eastern, Jr.  
11th Police District (West Garfield Park, West Humboldt Park) — [CPVP](#)  
Englewood — [Teamwork Englewood](#) - Wanda White-Giles  
Grand Boulevard — [Grand Boulevard Federation](#) – Greg Washington  
Humboldt Park — [Alliance of Local Service Organizations \(ALSO\)](#) David Cassel  
Little Village — [Little Village Community Development Corp.](#) – Jesus Garcia  
Logan Square — [Alliance of Local Service Organizations \(ALSO\)](#) – David Cassel  
Maywood — [Village of Maywood](#) – Jacques Conway  
North Chicago and Waukegan — [Waukegan Township](#) – Patricia Jones  
North Lawndale — [Sankofa Safe Child Initiative](#) – Annetta Wilson  
Rockford — [Hands That Help, Inc.](#) – Rev. Ralph Hawthorne & Willie Ashford  
Rogers Park — [Organization of the Northeast \(ONE\)](#) – Jamiko Rose  
Roseland — [Genesis Urban Development](#) – Rev. Tyrone Crider  
Southwest Chicago (West Lawn, Chicago Lawn) — [Southwest Organizing Project \(SWOP\)](#) – Jeff Bartow  
Woodlawn — [The Woodlawn Organization](#) – Rev. Dr. Leon Finney



## Award Recipients

### University of Illinois at Chicago Stewardship

**Laura Barnett, Assistant Director, Payroll Services** – Ms. Barnett has served as a resource for, and is highly sensitive to the needs of our staff. She and her staff are diligent, respond quickly and apply best practice customer service principles to meet our needs without hesitation.

**Warren Chapman, Vice Chancellor for External Affairs** – Chancellor Chapman assisted in overall program steering through the course of some of CeaseFire's most serious challenges to ensure stability and growth. Chancellor Chapman has agreed to guide some of the next directions toward the strengthening of the local and national program.

**Heather Haberaecker, Executive Assistant Vice President for Business and Finance** – Ms. Haberaecker became personally involved with the Chicago Project and CeaseFire on matters regarding business and finance. She advocates for and maintains a steady course of professionalism and objectivity.

**Sherri McGinnis Gonzales, Associate Director, News Bureau** - Ms. McGinnis Gonzalez assists with the national, Chicago and Illinois press. Ms. McGinnis Gonzalez has provided direct help in explaining how the CeaseFire intervention works, its accomplishments, and its premise. Ms. McGinnis Gonzalez and Mark Rosati helped us facilitate a greater understanding to the public of how the intervention works, and helped clarify confusion caused by CeaseFire's position in the larger state budget fight.

**Vanessa Peoples, Director of Grants and Contracts** – Ms. Peoples worked in tandem with Heather Haberaecker greatly assisting the Chicago Project and CeaseFire on matters of business and finance and advocates for and maintains a steady course of professionalism and objectivity.

**Feryall Rahman, Specialist, Sponsored Projects Compliance** - Ms. Rahman has assisted the Chicago Project for Violence Prevention for many years with compliance requirements. Her attention to detail has aided us in complying with the policies and procedures of UIC as well as with funders. With very little notice Ms. Rahman has come to the Chicago Project's aid to handle various grant issues.

**Mark Rosati, Associate Chancellor, Public Affairs** – Chancellor Rosati helped us facilitate a greater understanding to the public of how the CeaseFire intervention works, its accomplishments, and its premise. Additionally, Mr. Rosati along with Ms. McGinnis Gonzalez helped clarify confusion caused by CeaseFire's position in the larger state budget fight.

**Katina Shepherd - Assistant Director, Cash and Receivables Management in OBFS - Grants & Contracts** - Ms. Shepherd has provided administrative support to the Finance Office staff of the Chicago Project for Violence Prevention during the past five years. She has consistently extended her efforts beyond the scope of her duties to respond to any inquiry, request or cry for help. She is always available, always responsive and always determined to solve the problem to its natural conclusion no matter the complexity.

**Lavitta Steward, Program Services Aide** – Lavitta Steward has continued assisting the Violence Interrupters with administrative help, even after leaving the Project. She takes time to answer questions and works with them to navigate UIC's online system, NESSIE, for personal information. "Vee" also gets involved with making appointments for them at the clinics and working with many CeaseFire staff to navigate the University systems. We honor Ms. Steward for her help, dedication and work ethic.



### Media Activism

**Glenn Reedus, Managing Editor of the Chicago Defender** – Mr. Reedus' voice has been unbiased, analytical and compelling in reporting Chicago's violence epidemic. Mr. Reedus' understanding of this issue, the magnitude of violence and its impact on the communities he serves is of unparalleled importance.

### Faith-Based Leaders

**Pastor Ira Acree, Greater St. John Bible Church** – Pastor Acree opens his church to high-risk youths and CeaseFire Violence Interrupters as a safe haven to have open dialog sessions on how CeaseFire can help them to address sensitive issues. Pastor Acree has pledged to continue to support CeaseFire in 2008.

**Rev. Stanley L. Davis, Jr., President & CEO, Interfaith Connections, Inc.** – Rev. Davis has served as a board member of the Chicago Project. He continues to be a close adviser and guiding mentor to CeaseFire, reaching out to others on our behalf and helping propel the organization into new growth.

**Pastor Marshall Hatch, New Mt. Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church** – Pastor Hatch has been a strong CeaseFire supporter for many years and was instrumental in the success of the first CeaseFire zone in West Garfield Park in 2000 and for all these years since. He preaches peace from the pulpit on behalf of CeaseFire and advocates with media and elected officials. He has been a guest speaker on our behalf on many occasions and at many events.

**Father David Kelly, Chaplain at the Cook County Juvenile Detention Center, and at Precious Blood Ministries** - Father Kelly is a consistent force for peace in Chicago. Father Kelly knows many of the CeaseFire participants and has been instrumental in providing supportive services for them. His passion and commitment to working with youth and creating a more peaceful world is legendary.

**Shaykh Abdur Matthews, Al Haqqani Mosque and Community Center** - Shaykh Abdur Matthews has been instrumental in recruiting members of the Islamic community to be active with CeaseFire. Shaykh Matthews continually preaches the message of peace at the Mosque and advocates for CeaseFire in the media and streets.

**Father Tony Pizzo, St. Rita of Cascia Church** – Father Pizzo has been a strong voice for CeaseFire in the Southwest communities and citywide. Father Pizzo makes appearances and speaks at CeaseFire events and ensures the message of peace spreads throughout the Chicago area. Father Pizzo was one of the first clergy leaders with CeaseFire.

**Minister Stanley Ratliff, Lawndale Community Church** – Minister Ratliff was able to bring The House of Hope members to CeaseFire rallies and events. In late December, during the Twelve Days of CeaseFire, he recruited 100 community residents to participate in a community response in West Garfield Park.

**Rev. Paul Rutgers, Council of Religious Leaders of Metropolitan Chicago** – Rev. Rutgers' strong advocacy, leadership, religious and spiritual connection to CeaseFire and its cause is recognized with this award. Rev. Rutgers stepped up to ensure strong advocacy for CeaseFire with the Council and we thank him and the Council for their leadership in working to stop the killings.



## CeaseFire: The Campaign to STOP Shooting

---

**Father Nestor Saenz, Our Lady of Fatima** – Father Saenz always opens the doors of his church to the youth, showing his support and interest in their well being by making space available for job readiness training, community cook-outs, movie nights, and other events. He has presided over many prayer vigils, organized other clergy, and hosted events for local youth.

**Rabbi Joshua Salter, Beth Shalom** – Rabbi Salter continues his commitment with CeaseFire as a partner with the South West Organizing Project. He has advocated for CeaseFire in Chicago and Springfield, organized community residents and faith-based leaders at various CeaseFire events.

**Vida Abundante** clergy have been active faith-based partners with Cicero from the beginning. They have been present at all shooting responses and have led the prayer vigils. They have gotten their congregants to take part in CeaseFire activities such as marches, CeaseFire week and volunteering at various activities. More recently they have agreed to house the program at their church while Corazon Community Services works to secure long-term funding.

**Pastor James Walker, Church of the Living God** – Pastor Walker supported every community march or rally that Grand Boulevard Federation organized. Pastor Walker demonstrated an unwavering commitment to making a difference in the lives of our young people in the Grand Boulevard community. Pastor Walker participated in marches, night walks, the community coalition and hiring panel. He has also traveled to Springfield, facilitated our pastors' luncheon, supported our CeaseFire Week events and donated money to one of our homeless street volunteers.

**Rev. Dr. Yvonne Wilson, Roseland CeaseFire Board Chairperson** – Rev. Wilson participates in events and inspires other members of the Roseland community to do so as well. She is a constant figure at marches and prayer vigils, and was instrumental in the staging of the Roseland Gospel Fest during CeaseFire Week, encouraging other spiritual leaders in the community to participate.

**Pastor Sally Youngquist, Living Water Church** – Pastor Youngquist is a consistent and strong partner who advocated tirelessly to restore CeaseFire funding and attempted to get CeaseFire in the city budget. She is a strong member in our coalition and continues to work hard to support its efforts.

## Community Activism and Achievement

**Calvin Buchanan** – Mr. Buchanan has been instrumental in keeping gun violence down on Chicago's west side. He has assisted in mediating numerous high-risk conflicts and participated in a CNN interview on behalf of CeaseFire. Calvin has not only been present at CeaseFire events, but also brought community residents along with him for support.

**David B. Cassel, Executive Director, Alliance of Local Service Organizations (ALSO)** – Mr. Cassel has been the executive director for ALSO for over two years. He is a committed executive director who truly believes in the CeaseFire Campaign and works hard to advocate for the cause. David goes far beyond his work to be involved in all aspects of the Campaign during and after work, often spending hours in the community at events and meetings promoting the Campaign. He has led ALSO to a new level of standing in the community, and has led a program that continues to make Logan Square and Humboldt Park safer.



## CeaseFire: The Campaign to STOP Shooting

---

**Manuel Feliciano** has volunteered for the last four years, being there whenever needed. He has participated in community events and helped outreach workers find clients jobs, even hiring some himself. Manuel uses his street contact to promote peace. Numerous times he joined interrupters during mediations. His commitment to peace has been a key tool to CeaseFire's success in Humboldt Park and Logan Square.

**Laurie R. Glenn, President, CEO, Thinkinc.** – One of the most cutting edge, progressive communications and strategy individuals in Chicago, Ms. Glenn is being recognized for her “come to the rescue” outreach to CeaseFire in its moment of greatest need during times of great confusion and unexpected events. Ms. Glenn provided assistance with media relations, organizing and strategizing community events. Everyone at CeaseFire across the whole state thank Laurie for her brilliant and incredibly meaningful help.

**Nereida Hernandez** lost her son Adam Lugo in April 2007. She immediately became involved with CeaseFire in Logan Square, volunteering and talking to high-risk youth about the consequences of violence. She has turned her grief into power for peace by educating youth on how parents suffer when they are lost to gangs and violence. She has attended every response, every meeting and every CeaseFire event possible and is always willing to help and speak positively and passionately about how CeaseFire works.

**Cyd Langston** is a Grand Boulevard community member who supported Ceasefire through his street knowledge and experience with the local gang population. Cyd is very instrumental in mobilizing the foot soldiers on the street in support of CeaseFire. In addition he is a very valuable member of our coalition team who shares a lot of his wisdom and knowledge.

**Cara Pacione** is the Director of Social Services at Mount Sinai Hospital and has served to open doors, ensure hospital access, and build a collaborative partnership between the social work staff of the Mt. Sinai and CeaseFire. She has assisted in orienting and training hospital staff on the purpose and importance of the partnership.

## Resource Activism

**Barbara Shaw, Director, Illinois Violence Prevention Authority** - Even before he returned to Chicago to work on the shooting epidemic, Dr. Slutkin was being told by people from all over the country that he needed to talk with Barbara Shaw, the founding director of the first state agency in the country dedicated to preventing violence. When they met, he knew why – Barbara is an expert and a strong advocate whose knowledge base and commitment to violence prevention afford her well deserved and the very highest respect in Illinois and across the whole country. She willingly shared her time and expertise with Dr. Slutkin as he thought through the framework for a comprehensive violence prevention intervention that addresses those at risk of shooting someone else or being shot themselves. She has been committed to the work of CeaseFire ever since – helping to form the initial Steering Committee, sitting on our advisory board and ensuring the work of our evaluation team through a grant from the IVPA.



### Law Enforcement

**Officer Jerry Buckley, 11<sup>th</sup> Police District** - The service that Officer Buckley has provided the Westside community is one of great integrity. He successfully works with community organizations and coalitions through information sharing and providing possible solutions. Officer Buckley understands the role of organizations and provides positive reinforcement in their work. He gets to know each of the organizations and is always willing to provide a helping hand in their efforts to reduce violence.

**Commander Jerry Chlada, Jr., Cicero Gang Tactical Unit Commander** - Commander Chlada has been the foundation for bridging a great working relationship between the Gang Tactical Unit, CeaseFire, and high-risk youth. Commander Chlada respects the work of the CeaseFire program and team in Cicero.

**Superintendent Anthony Iniquez, Cicero Superintendent of Police** - Superintendent Anthony Iniquez continues to display a high level of respect for all work that occurs on the street with high-risk youth. Due to his leadership, the rest of the community and the police department rapidly recognized and also respected the work behind the CeaseFire name.

**Commander Juan Rivera, 25<sup>th</sup> Police District** – Commander Rivera has been a tremendous champion in relationship building and violence reduction in his district. He has supported CeaseFire at every response within his district and has also been an active participant in various safety committees. Commander Rivera has held roll calls during responses in a show of commitment to the community. He also makes himself available to discuss issues related to violence and assigns his officers to provide safety whenever there is a CeaseFire event.

**Officer Arterio Sykes, Community Relations Division of the 2nd Police District** – Officer Sykes has a passion for helping people. He takes time to assist community groups and organizations plan different projects and programs and has done so with the Grand Boulevard CeaseFire campaign. Officer Sykes goes beyond the call of duty to help empower our young men and women on the streets.

**Commander Terence V. Williams, 5<sup>th</sup> Chicago Police District** is a valuable asset and supporter of Roseland CeaseFire. He ensures that Roseland CeaseFire is kept abreast of all shooting incidents in the District. He provides us with contact personnel for statistical and tactical information. Commander Williams most importantly makes sure that we receive appropriate police presence at all of our community functions.



### CeaseFire Outreach Staff and Violence Interrupters

**J. Minor Allen** – As a canvasser supervisor, J. Minor and his staff were responsible for distributing CeaseFire educational materials to the people of Roseland. For every scheduled march, J. Minor prepared flyers and distributed them door to door. He also prepared supplemental materials to carry forth the CeaseFire work. He attended every march and street event, taking the lead in chanting and motivating the crowd. He also continues to volunteer at Roseland Ceasefire. J. Minor is known for not only his hard work but for his sharp and strategic mind.

**Karl Bell** – Karl is an extraordinary outreach worker who has shown great dedication to the mission CeaseFire for several years. He has assisted CeaseFire through outreach, conflict mediation and also through helping with media and public relations when needed. Karl is one of the most critical “go-to” guys when there are serious conflicts on the West Side that need to be cooled down with logic and a cool mind.

**Karon Clark** - Karon has performed above and beyond her required duties as an outreach worker. She organized field trips and social events for her clients and even provided transportation when necessary. When one of her clients was the victim of a shooting, Karon was there for her, mentoring and guiding her through a difficult time in her young life. She also assisted in finding jobs for her clients and even provided transportation so that her clients could secure drivers’ licenses and get other services. Karon is also one of the Roseland workers who continued to volunteer her services after funding was interrupted and she still makes herself available to her clients.

**Eddie Lopez** - Eddie has demonstrated his commitment to serving older youth and young men and has been an inspiration to them and others on how it is possible to change your life. He has always been honest, caring and respectful of his clients. Eddie is never judgmental and exhibits great patience when dealing with people. These are key ingredients to his success with his clients.

**Jose Manteca** – Jose has fully dedicated himself to the issue of violence prevention in the Brighton Park community. With unwavering dedication to youth at risk, Jose has given back so much and to this day still works to bring peace to the community where he started off as an outreach worker before being promoted to supervisor. He continues to volunteer long hours to try and bring these young men to understand the consequences of violence.

**Guillermo Niño** – Guillermo Niño is an excellent worker, reliable, punctual, and committed to the cause, mobilizing large numbers of people on a regular basis. He has on numerous occasions volunteered for extra duties even though he had already gone above and beyond his normal assignments. Niño has on numerous occasions placed himself in hostile and dangerous situations so that he could intervene and disrupt some potentially violent behavior.

**Angela Ramos** - Angela Ramos has come a long way professionally, learning her job, sharpening her skills and changing young girls’ lives one at a time. She is a mother and a wife and is able to share her unique perspective with her clients. Often she has been able to relate and share with her clients true life experiences that help frame for the client a new way of thinking, a new way of perceiving their world and that change is possible.

**Rodolfo “Rudy” Sosa** - Not many people dedicate themselves to youth as completely as Rudy Sosa has. Even when funding was disrupted, Rudy never lost a day to reach out and work in a positive manner with high risk youth in the Little Village community. Even after getting shot, Rudy Sosa demonstrated the peaceful attitude he asked others to have. He was not vindictive and asked for calm. Rudy also began working with shooting victims and families of the deceased as soon as he himself was out of the hospital.



**Brother Earl C. Williams, Sr.** – Brother Earl Williams has performed his duties as outreach supervisor in an exemplary manner. He is always professional in his personal interaction with the CeaseFire staff and the public. He attends all CAPS and block club meetings, inspiring attendees to participate in our CeaseFire efforts. Earl also inspires our staff of outreach workers to perform above expectations. Earl has continued the CeaseFire mission today even after the funding was interrupted. He still attends neighborhood events and meetings as a representative of CeaseFire. He is always available when called upon to assist in conflict mediations and never hesitates to use his experience and resources to resolve gang conflicts.

**Ricardo Williams** - Ricardo has been an outstanding outreach worker and a critical go-to person for CeaseFire in Englewood. He has gone above and beyond to do all matter of CeaseFire work. We are fortunate to work with such a positive and bright community force.

**Bonita Wright, Canvasser** - Bonita has been with the Roseland CeaseFire office since its inception. She has also been instrumental in neighborhood canvassing and attending meetings when necessary. During CeaseFire Week, she coordinated our first Gospel Fest which was highly successful and well attended by community residents. After our funding was interrupted, she continued to report to the CeaseFire office daily, answering the telephone, preparing educational materials and distributing the materials throughout the community.

### Violence Interrupters

**Roger Cadena** – Roger has mediated 15 high-risk conflicts in the Southwest Community. He also provided crisis intervention services to Mount Sinai Hospital and Advocate Christ Medical Center, preventing retaliation from victims of gun violence and offering follow-up help.

**Orlando Cintron** – Orlando has on numerous occasions taken the lead in putting together community activities directly related to the CeaseFire cause. His insights into the target population have made him an invaluable resource when it comes to making sure that an event goes off without a hitch. His ability to gain support for peace efforts among gang members in our targeted areas is amazing.

**Oscar Contreras** – Oscar helped provide guidance to our Latino CeaseFire community sites. Oscar stepped up in the Brighton Park community to help recruit outreach workers and supervisors. Oscar continues to advocate for CeaseFire to elected officials, community groups, and high risk youth in the Latino community. On several occasions Oscar organized busloads of community residents to support CeaseFire.

**Ulysses "U.S." Floyd** - Over the years, U.S. Floyd has held several positions with CeaseFire, including violence interrupter, outreach worker and supervisor in Woodlawn. He has always exceeded standards, setting an example in several critical areas, including documenting service hours spent with clients, as well as education and employment referrals. Even as supervisor, he continues to maintain his client caseload. He has a solid reputation for being responsive and following up on all issues presented to him.

**Zale Hoddenbach** – Zale has shown tremendous proactivity, leadership and outstanding perseverance in putting the work of CeaseFire in the public spotlight. He takes initiative as an organizer and motivator and can bring diverse people together to take action. Zale's association with CeaseFire has been far above and beyond his day to day responsibilities as a violence interrupter.



## CeaseFire: The Campaign to STOP Shooting

---

**Harold Martinez** – Harold Martinez is a Violence Interrupter for the Logan Square/Humboldt Park community. Time and time again, Harold put his reputation on the line to help save a life. Harold meets with high risk young men on a daily basis and stays on top of every conflict in his area. Harold goes above and beyond to bring the right people together in order to diffuse volatile situations.

**Ameena Matthews** – Ameena Matthews is a Violence Interrupter for the West Englewood Community. In 2007, Ameena mediated 12 high-risk conflicts in the West Englewood community. Additionally, Ameena has provided ongoing support to Robeson High School and Julian High School in the area of conflict resolution. Ameena continues to demonstrate a solid commitment to helping reduce violence throughout all of Chicago, and has shown extraordinary leadership

**Janell Sails** – Janell Sails is one of CeaseFire's first female Violence Interrupters and the youngest Violence Interrupter. Janell has stepped up her work tremendously by mediating more than 14 high-risk conflicts in 2007. Janell takes pride in her work by following up on previous conflicts to ensure that everything is still peaceful.

**Timothy White** – Tim White is the 11<sup>th</sup> District Team Leader. In August 2007, Tim designed a 30-day strategic plan for Beat 1112, which led to no homicides or shootings for 30 days. Tim was promoted to team leader in the 11<sup>th</sup> District and continues to grow in the field of Violence Interruption work. Tim has made presentations at various schools, conferences, and community meetings on behalf of CeaseFire. Tim was also very instrumental in bringing together the African American community at Little Village High School when tensions were elevated there between Latinos and African Americans.