



# Auburn Gresham



**Target Area Development Corporation** is a community based organization that serves and empowers residents in the community. This community area is bordered by Stewart to the west, the Leavitt to the east, 75th to the north and 91st to the south.

**Auburn Gresham is a community of interest.** We are a predominantly African-American community served by the 79<sup>th</sup> Street business corridor and a strong community of churches and community organizations. Our residents are connected by a shared commitment to reducing violence, developing community-based public safety programs, preserving our current housing stock and improving our local schools.

**Auburn Gresham is currently split into many districts at all levels of government.** In 2000, our community was drawn into one congressional district (1), three state house districts (27, 31 and 36) and three state senate districts (14, 16, and 18) and three city wards (17, 18, and 21). This has made it more difficult for Auburn Gresham residents to have their voices heard, and needs met. **Auburn Gresham should be recognized as a community of interest, and should be kept together and drawn into as few districts as possible in the current redistricting process.**

**Target Area Development Corporation is a member of the United Congress of Community and Religious Organizations,** which is part of the Illinois Coalition for Accountable Redistricting and Draw the Line. We are committed to working with African-American, Latino, Asian, Arab and other communities to ensure the current redistricting process is transparent, equitable and engages communities.

**As a coalition, we call on the Senate Redistricting Committee and the General Assembly to do the following:**

- Present potential redistricting maps to the public at least a week before a vote so that communities can provide input.
- Ensure fair representation by protecting voting rights under the Federal Voting Rights Act and the new Illinois Voting Rights Act including influence, coalition and crossover districts.
- Recognize and respect communities of interest by keeping them together and not splitting them.

Thank You,

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