COINS, COPS & COMMUNITIES

a toolkit with activities and supplemental materials for exploring the costs of policing in Chicago and what real community safety could look like beyond policing

Designed by interns with the American Friends Service Committee
with support from Debbie Southorn and Melisa Stephen

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# Table of Contents

## Introduction
1

## Activities

- Imagine An Ideal Community ................................................................. 3
- A City Budget in Pennies ................................................................. 4
- Safety for Whom? ............................................................................. 6
- Seattle: A Case Study ........................................................................ 7
- Grassroots Resistance + Action Steps .............................................. 9
- Additional Resources ....................................................................... 12

## Appendix

1. The Grassroots Collaborative .......................................................... 14
2. Black Youth Project 100 ................................................................. 15
3. Reparations for Chicago Police Torture Survivors ..................... 16
4. #FreedomSquare ............................................................................ 17
5. Breakdown of Chicago Budget ...................................................... 18
6. DIY Chicago City Operating Budget Info Strips ....................... 21
In the fall of 2015, youth activists and their supporters with We Charge Genocide called attention to the reality that the City of Chicago spends **more than $4 million per day on the Chicago Police Department**, nearly 40% of the city’s operating budget. They unfurled a banner more than twenty feet long, depicting the budget breakdown, and asking passersby on the street about their spending priorities. The desire to continue educating people of all ages about Chicago’s out of line spending priorities and what real community safety looks like lived on after the formal “sunset” of We Charge Genocide in 2016. This toolkit is part of that legacy.

**Coins, Cops, & Communities: A Toolkit** was created by young people who participated in an arts, media, and activism internship with the American Friends Service Committee during the summer of 2016. With support from AFSC Peacebuilding program staff, youth interns developed knowledge via political education as well as skills in photography, videography, and graphic design that they put into practice to build this toolkit. In addition to creating the beautiful cover design and developing the curriculum itself, they also filmed and edited two supplementary videos to accompany this toolkit: 1) “What Do You Know About Chicago Spending on Police?” and 2) “Let’s Talk About Community Safety.”

In this toolkit, you will find activities and supplementary material that aim to facilitate popular education about spending on policing in Chicago, conversation about what communities really need to stay safe, and action steps to support grassroots work being done to defund the police and militarization in Chicago. We hope this toolkit can serve as a resource to youth workers, educators, organizers, and young people themselves who want to empower their community to challenge militarization and city spending on policing.

#FundBlackFutures #HumanizeNotMilitarize

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American Friends Service Committee
ACTIVITIES
Imagine An Ideal Community

Objective: To help participants start thinking creatively about community safety and what resources and services a city needs in order for its people to thrive. The ideas brought up in this brainstorm can then be used as a reference for creating budget categories in the following “A City Budget in Pennies” activity.

Activity Time: 5-8 minutes

Materials:
• Large presentation paper OR dry-erase board
• Markers/dry-erase markers

Directions:
Introductions (names and pronouns)

In a large group, brainstorm what an ideal community looks like. Ask participants to think of resources, services, structures, etc. that are necessary to their ideal community. Write down their ideas on a dry-erase board or piece of presentation paper.

Questions/prompts for this exercise:
- What programs/services do you utilize in your current city/community?
- What could be improved? How?
- What needs are not being met?
- What is currently missing from your city?
- What buildings do you see/visit often?
- What do you need to feel safe?
- What do you need to survive/thrive?

Keep the finished product on display so that folks can see and reference it throughout the following activities.
A CITY BUDGET IN PENNIES

Directions:

Budgeting in Pairs (15 min)

1. Divide participants into groups of two (count off or have folks pair up with the person next to them).
2. Distribute paper, markers, scissors, and one ziploc bag containing 100 pennies to each pair. Explain that each pair has been given 100 pennies, with each penny representing 1% of the city budget.
3. Ask participants to think about the city’s budget. Looking at the elements of an ideal community, what things would the city budget need to fund? Each team should come up with their own budget categories and write down each category onto a slip of paper (use scissors). Encourage participants to use ideas formulated during the “Imagine An Ideal Community” brainstorm activity as a reference.
4. Keeping in mind that each penny represents 1% of the city budget, each group should place pennies by each piece of paper (budget category) according to their ideal community’s priorities. Which categories need more funding than others? (Participants should feel free to continue to cut pieces of paper to add more budget categories throughout the exercise).

Objective: To empower young people to think creatively about what a city budget that reflects their values can look like and to learn about the city of Chicago’s current spending priorities.

Activity Time: 30 minutes

Materials:
- Ziploc bags with 100 pennies each, one bag per team of 2
- Markers
- Paper
- Scissors
- Chicago Operating Budget Informational Strips

PUBLIC
CHILDCARE

COMMUNITY
HEALERS

LOW-INCOME
HOUSING

MENTAL HEALTH
FACILITIES

PARKS!
**Gallery Walk and Debrief (10 minutes)**

1. Perform a gallery walk (3-5 minutes): Ask participants to walk around and view the work of their peers. Ask them to take note of similarities, differences, and things that stand out to them.
2. Bring everyone back to a large group to debrief their process and discuss their findings from the gallery walk.

Questions/prompts:
- What are some interesting budget categories you saw in the gallery walk?
- How did your budget decisions compare to the other groups?
- How did your team decide on budget categories and allocation of funds? Was it difficult?
- Did anyone include police in their budget? Why/why not?

**BIG REVEAL (5 minutes)**

Distribute Chicago Operating Budget informational strips. Leave room for reactions, and discuss:
- How does the city’s spending on police compare to spending on other services?
- Is the disproportionate amount of spending on police surprising to anyone?
- Compare and contrast the city’s current budget priorities with those of the the group.
- What impact does the information from the handout have on your sense of safety?
- How does police spending affect our communities?

Be sure to emphasize that increased police presence is both an effect of and made more dangerous by militarization. Exorbitant spending on police means less resources channelled towards other foundational aspects of community safety.

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The City of Chicago will spend around **$1.5 billion** next year on the Chicago Police Department. That means that more than **$4 million** of taxpayers’ money goes to the police every single day. That’s more than we spend on:

- 5 months of Mental Health Services ($9,402,939 per year)
- 18 months of Subsistence Abuse Treatment ($2,581,272 per year)
- 32 months of Violence Prevention programs ($1,498,219 per year)

...for the entire city.
Objective: To discuss how we can maintain community safety without police and understand others’ views when it comes to their own safety.

Activity Time: 15 minutes

Materials:
- “Community Safety Looks Like...” zines
- OR View the Images at: http://communitysafetychicago.tumblr.com

Instructions:
Building on the two previous exercises, begin a discussion about the many foundational elements that contribute to real community safety (healthcare, access to quality food and clean water, public transportation, job training, housing, mental health, accessibility services, education, etc.).

Refer to the “Imagine an Ideal Community” display and the participants' budget categories to segue into a discussion about the limitations of the group's ideal communities.
- What are some categories that were not mentioned? (LGBT Healthcare, Youth Housing, Disability services, Immigrant services, etc.). Why might we have not thought of them?
- Who is disproportionately affected by increased police spending and how does that affect other services in their communities?

Distribute the “Community Safety Looks Like...” zines. Ask participants to read through and select 1-3 images that they like. Once everyone is finished, ask them to share their images and go into detail about why they chose one of them. Invite them to talk about how their communities do or do not reflect the image they chose.
SEATTLE: A CASE STUDY

**Objective:** For participants to learn about a concrete example of a shift in resources from police to community needs.

In Seattle, organized communities, along with a progressive city council are on the verge of shifting resources away from a police station into affordable housing construction. Participants will be invited to read an Op-Ed in favor of this proposal, discuss it with other participants, and develop their own Op-Ed for a budget trade-off proposal of their own.

**Instructions:**
*Read Seattle Op-Ed (10 minutes)*

Introduce the activity by informing participants that we are going to now look at a real-time effort to shift money away from a new police station, and into a community need. This is an actual project in Seattle, Washington — these ideas are not impossible. This is just one example. Distribute copies of Kshama Sawant’s Op-Ed (Page 8), and invite participants to read it silently.

*Discuss (10 minutes)*

When participants have finished reading, invite them to discuss the Op-Ed with the people sitting near them. Here are some possible discussion questions:

a. How much money has Seattle set aside for expanding a police station?

b. How many affordable housing units could be built with the same amount of money?

c. Why does the author argue that the money should be spent on homes instead?

d. What do you think of this argument?

Share-out responses to these questions with the whole group, and continue discussing article as needed.

*Develop an Idea: Craft an Op-Ed (10 minutes)*

On a piece of paper, or in a journal, encourage participants to write an Op-Ed about an idea of their own for a way to shift money away from policing and into community needs. For example, in Chicago, what we could spend an additional $50 million per year on, instead of 1,000 new police officers? Once participants seem to be finished writing, invite 2-3 people to share what they’ve written with the larger group.

**Activity Time:** 30 minutes

**Materials:**
- Copies of Kshama Sawant’s Op-Ed
- Paper & pens (or another way to journal)

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**What is an Op-Ed?**

It’s an “Opinion Editorial.” It’s basically a part of a newspaper or online publication where someone who isn’t a journalist for that newspaper shares their opinion. Find some tips for writing a great Op-Ed on ‘theopedproject.org’
Op-Ed: Seattle should use $160 million on affordable housing, not fancy police station

By Kshama Sawant
Seattle Times - October 31, 2016
(http://www.seattletimes.com/)

"CONSTRUCTION cranes loom across Seattle's skyline as new apartments and condos are being erected at a breakneck pace. This past summer, Seattle had more cranes than any other city in the United States.

Yet for too many of us, these pristine new homes are unaffordable and out of reach. Housing costs are skyrocketing — the average rent for a two-bedroom apartment is now a staggering $2,400 in Seattle. Homelessness has shot up at an alarming rate. Working and middle-class families are increasingly being pushed out of the city. Many who have managed to retain a foothold are able to do so only tenuously.

Earlier this year, Seattle voters passed the new housing levy by a landslide. You know working people take something seriously when they vote to substantially increase their already heavy tax burden to address it. Now it’s time for the city’s elected representatives to show the same resolve on housing affordability.

A few months ago, Mayor Ed Murray, along with several of my fellow council members, made an impassioned case for allocating $160 million — using city bonds — to construct a new police station in the North Precinct. If built, it would have been the most expensive in the nation.

I opposed this proposal in light of the concerns raised by the growing Black Lives Matter movement. I also visited the current North Precinct and discovered it to be entirely serviceable, and that an expensive new building is not needed. Following the major public outcry and organizing by the Block the Bunker Coalition, that plan has been put on hold.

Many inquired if the $160 million could be put to a more socially beneficial use, particularly affordable housing. While state law precludes using this money directly to fund housing, the city could use this $160 million for other necessary planned projects, such as roads, freeing up an equal amount for affordable housing. Moreover, this practice is straightforward and has in fact been routinely employed by mayors in years past.

My office has proposed in the city budget to use this $160 million to build 1,000 affordable rental homes. Recognizing the urgency, affordable housing advocates, the faith community, labor unions, socialists and Democratic legislative districts have come together to back the plan. Hundreds of constituents have called or emailed my office, saying that while they may or may not agree with me on other issues, they want to see these 1,000 homes built.

The mayor, in a recent letter from his budget director to the City Council, argued that this plan is financially risky because it commits future city funds to pay for the housing. But this doesn’t add up. If a new and equally expensive North Precinct building was worth that same risk, how can affordable housing, in the midst of the current emergency, be somehow less compelling?

Some have asked, “Do we really need these 1,000 homes on top of the housing levy?” Unfortunately, too much of Seattle’s development has been leading to older rental buildings being torn down and steady losses in existing affordability. Neither the housing levy nor another 1,000 affordable homes would be sufficient in themselves, but both are crucial.

A thousand new homes mean more housing for people working in low- and medium-wage jobs, families with school-aged children, fixed-income retirees, people with disabilities and the formerly homeless. It means taking real steps toward building an inclusive and welcoming city.

Between now and Nov. 21, the council will vote on a series of amendments to the city budget, including this amendment to build 1,000 affordable homes. I encourage you to get involved and help ensure this opportunity does not pass us by.”

Kshama Sawant is a member of the Seattle City Council representing District 3 (central Seattle).
GRASSROOTS RESISTANCE + ACTION STEPS!

Objective: To give participants an opportunity to research real-time efforts to challenge city spending practices in Chicago and/or defund the police. Participants will have the opportunity to give a short presentation about their research and create an action plan for supporting these efforts themselves!

Activity Time: 30 minutes

Materials:
- Print outs of Appendices 1-4
- Flip-chart paper
- Markers
- Print-outs of action steps (page 11), one per person

Efforts to Research:
The Grassroots Collaborative - See APPENDIX 1
Black Youth Project 100 - See APPENDIX 2
Chicago Torture Justice Memorials - See APPENDIX 3
Freedom Square - See APPENDIX 4

Instructions:
Split participants into four groups, and assign each group one of the grassroots efforts outlined in this toolkit (The Grassroots Collaborative, Black Youth Project 100, Chicago Torture Justice Memorials, #Freedom Square; see Appendices 1-4). These efforts are real-time campaigns and organizations working to change spending priorities and shift resources away from corporate greed and increasing militarization, and into human services and community needs.

Small group work (10 minutes):
Ask each group to read the provided write-up for their assigned grassroots effort and answer the five discussion questions on a piece of flipchart paper.
Each group should choose 1-2 representatives to present their research to the larger group.

Report back to larger group (5 minutes):
Have the designated speakers share their group’s findings with the larger group so that we can all learn about each of these efforts.

Discussion Questions:
- Who is a part of this effort and what are their goals?
- What victories have they won and for whom?
- How does their work change the narrative about what cities should be spending money on?
- How are they building power?
- What questions do you still have about this organization and/or effort?
Create an Action Plan! (15 minutes)

How will you contribute to the effort to defund the police and fund Black communities?

Hand out copies of the action steps checklist on the following page to the group. Ask them to work in pairs to read through the checklist and determine what step(s) they will take after today's workshop to contribute to the effort to defund the police/militarization in Chicago. Ask them to be prepared to share the following information with the larger group:

- What action steps are you committed to taking?
- By what date will you take this action?
- How will your partner know once you’ve done it? (Working with a partner helps us stay accountable to the goals we set and make sure we follow through!)

Be creative! Feel free to brainstorm other ideas that aren’t listed on the worksheet. Once you’ve had time in your pairs, we will come together as a big group and share out one of our commitments in the big circle.

(See Handout on Next Page)
DO ONE THING — to #DefundThePolice and #FundBlackFutures!

- Give away the “2016 City of Chicago Operating Budget” informational strip to a friend or stranger, and talk with them about spending on police & real community safety.
- Create a meme (using canva.com) that shows what you would spend $4 million per day on instead of the police.
- Tweet using the hashtag #FundBlackFutures
- Create a 11”x17” poster about defunding the police. (Hint: That’s the size of a CTA train or bus ad!)
- Ask your teacher if you can lead this workshop with your class or afterschool club.
- Ask a leader at your church/mosque/synagogue/place of faith if part of an offering or special collection can go to a grassroots community organization next month.
- Volunteer at Breathing Room, the #LetUsBreathe Collective’s healing & organizing hub for Black liberation on Chicago’s south side.
- Call your Alderperson and make sure they know that you don’t support any additional funding for police and hope that they support progressive taxation and community services. (Find out who your Alderperson is here: https://webapps1.cityofchicago.org/ezbuy/geoWardLookup.do)
- Make a short video about what you would spend $4 million per day on (instead of the police).
- Create a banner and drop it somewhere visible in public to encourage others to rethink our spending priorities.
- Come up with a chant about defunding the police and share it on social media via the hashtags #FundBlackFutures and #HumanizeNotMilitarize

By this date:  
(How much time do you need to do this, and do it well?)

__________________________________________________________

How will others know how it went?

- I’ll share a photo online.
- I’ll email my partner/teacher, letting them know how it went.
- It will be on the news.
- Other: __________________________
ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Youth-produced Videos:

“Let’s Talk About Community Safety”
By: Alexandra Marie

This youth-produced video features on the street interviews with passersby in downtown Chicago, to see how much they think we currently spend on the police, and get their reactions on the actual numbers.
Running Time: 2 Minutes 57 Seconds
Link: https://youtu.be/l8efWcTkuDI

Great to use with “A City Budget in Pennies” Activity!

“What do you know about Chicago spending on Police?”
By: Nicole Trinidad

This youth-produced video features several queer and trans people of color in Chicago who share their perspectives on what community safety looks like, and how they create safety in their communities without the police.
Running Time: 3 Minutes 10 Seconds
Link: https://youtu.be/-83HS-MGq4Q

Great to use with the “Safety For Whom?” Activity!

Further Reading & Helpful Links:

A Community Compilation on Police Abolition
https://issuu.com/ftpzines/docs/gbnf_zine_all

Abolitionist Toolkit
http://criticalresistance.org/resources/the-abolitionist-toolkit/

Black and Blue: Stories of Police Violence
https://policeviolence.wordpress.com

Chain Reaction : Alternatives to Calling the Police on Young People
http://www.alternativestopolicing.com

Chicago Police History
http://wechargegenocide.org/chicago-police-history/

Imagine A World Without Police
http://aworldwithoutpolice.org

Project NIA
http://www.project-nia.org/resources.php

Tools on separating medical & health responses from policing.
http://criticalresistance.org/opphealthresources/
APPENDIX
The Grassroots Collaborative
http://grassrootscollaborative.org/
@GrassrootsChi

The Grassroots Collaborative unites eleven membership-based organizations in Illinois in order to create policy change on local and statewide levels. Our alliance spans diverse ethnicities and a variety of organizing networks; including low-wage service employees, the homeless, senior citizens, immigrants, peace activists, faith leaders, and residents of poor and working class neighborhoods. We are driven by the notion that disenfranchised people, despite their differences, have broad common interests and can come together to improve all of their lives. By bringing together organizations across movements, especially labor and community, we have built a broad and deep base necessary for fighting the corporate interests working against all of our constituencies.

Grassroots Collaborative conducts workshops on the economy, equity, and budgets for community members and organizations in Illinois. Working and middle-class communities face constant budget cuts, school closings, and threats of reducing wages and benefits, while the wealthy, corporations and big banks continue to reap record profits. Our interactive training provides vital information on who rigged the economy and how, and what everyday people can do to fight back.

IN THE NEWS:
From the Chicago Sun-Times – 7.29.16
(http://chicago.suntimes.com/politics/anti-violence-groups-condemn-states-toxic-swap-agreements/)

Standing in front of the Chase Bank at 3101 W. Cermak Rd. in Little Village, a few dozen Chicago residents urged Rauner to renew six letters of credit that would prevent the state from paying an additional $870 million in “toxic” interest rate swaps to Wall Street banks this November. Instead, they would like to see that money fund and expand anti-violence programs like After School Matters, Ceasefire, Teen Reach and summer jobs.

“Our communities are losing resources because money that should be going to successful anti-violence programs is instead being shipped off to Wall Street banks,” said Amisha Patel, executive director of the Grassroots Collaborative, which helped organize the protest.

Patel said the state’s budget impasse and a lack of resources for social services have caused an increase in violence throughout Chicago. She urged Rauner to end these interest-rate-swap agreements to invest in programs that could address the uptick in violence.

“I hope the governor will . . . do the right thing next week and renew these letters of credit so that money can stay in our neighborhoods and communities and not go into the hands of Wall Street banks,” she said.
BYP 100 is an activist member-based organization of Black 18-35 year olds, dedicated to creating justice and freedom for all Black people. We do this through building a collective focused on transformative leadership development, direct action organizing, advocacy and education.

**Discussion Questions:**

- Who is a part of this effort and what are their goals?
- What victories have they won and for whom?
- How does their work change the narrative about what cities should be spending money on?
- How are they building power?
- What questions do you still have about this organization and/or effort?

**Agenda to Build Black Futures:**

“Our communities deserve bold shifts in economic policy in order to acquire the resources needed to build healthy lives, strong families, and communities. The Agenda to Build Black Futures is a call for change.”

“**Divest and Eliminate Profit from Punishment**

Prisons, profit, policing, and poverty are intimately connected. Prisons are warehouses for the poor and policing is the gateway. And increasingly rich people and the multi-billion dollar security industry make money off of mass incarceration. The profit motive in the criminal injustice system is immoral and must be eliminated. Mass incarceration of Black people should never contribute to profit for corporations, government or any individuals. We must demand that all individuals and institutions divest immediately from racist and classist systems of punishment.

**Reduce police budgets and reallocate residual funds to the people’s vision of public safety.** Establishing participatory municipal and state budgets is an avenue that would allow the public to democratically decide how to allocate funds towards services and institutions critical to our survival and success.”

**IN THE NEWS:**

From Truth-out.org on 10.31.15 by youth interns, Kaleb Autman & A’mani Howard


“On Oct. 24, a number of activist groups came together to shut down the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) Conference in Chicago. The conference shutdown lasted over four hours, after which more than 66 protesters were arrested. The IACP conference, which took place at Chicago’s McCormick Place convention center, had more than 16,000 attendees, including police chiefs from all across the world.

Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Chicago Police Superintendent Garry McCarthy had the nerve to invite this conference to Chicago after they closed 50 public schools and half of our mental health centers. These officials have continuously showed us that they don’t care about Black lives and voices. They should have known we were going to do something about it.

Last weekend’s action was led by Black Youth Project 100 (BYP100), and a number of other organizations participated in coordinating it, including Assata’s Daughters, We Charge Genocide, Lifted Voices, #Not1More and Organized Communities Against Deportations. The action involved several simultaneous strategies: While a march and rally were going on, there were also five large groups of people assigned to shut down parts of the conference (a main hallway within the building, as well as street intersections outside). During this part of the action, protesters used tools like “lockboxes” (PVC pipes that people are locked into via chains, locks, and screws/bolts) to support the blockade.”
Reparations for Chicago Police Torture Survivors
Chicagotorture.org

Chicago Police Torture Under Commander Jon Burge
Between 1972 and 1991, then Chicago Police Department commander John Burge tortured more than 100 African American men and women on the Southside of Chicago in order to force confessions. It took decades of community organizing to expose his crimes.

Reparations Won
After months—and decades—of grassroots struggle, the Chicago City Council passed the reparations package for the Burge torture survivors and their family members on Wednesday, May 6, 2015!

The reparations package, based on the Reparations Ordinance introduced in October of 2013 by organizations including Chicago Torture Justice Memorials, Project NIA, We Charge Genocide, and Amnesty International, provides concrete redress to the torture survivors and their family members, which includes: a formal apology for the torture; specialized counseling services to the Burge torture survivors and their family members on the South Side; free enrollment and job training in City Colleges for survivors and family members (including grandchildren) as well as prioritized access to other City programs, including help with housing, transportation and senior care; a history lesson about the Burge torture cases taught in Chicago Public schools to 8th and 10th graders; the construction of a permanent public memorial to the survivors; and it sets aside $5.5 million for a Reparations Fund for Burge Torture Victims that will allow the Burge torture survivors with us today to receive financial compensation for the torture they endured.

Chicago is the first municipality in the history of the United States to ever provide reparations for racially motivated law enforcement violence. In doing so, the City of Chicago is agreeing to acknowledge the City’s responsibility for gross human rights violations and to commit significant resources to begin to help repair the harms inflicted on the torture survivors, their families and the communities they come from. The enactment of this legislation sends a strong message that activism and organizing matter in the ongoing struggle for human rights and social justice.

IN THE NEWS:
From Aljazeera America on 1.5.2016

“The city of Chicago has paid $5.5 million in reparations to 57 people whose claims that they were tortured by police decades ago were found to be credible. The money was paid Monday to victims of a police unit commanded by disgraced former police commander Jon Burge from the 1970s through the early 1990s, the Chicago Sun-Times reported.”
The text below is the #LetUsBreathe Collective’s initial call for support for their Freedom Square protest and occupation which lasted 41 days in the summer of 2016. Over this time, hundreds of people volunteered and participated in this collective experience of building an alternative and oppositional police-free community space.

“Join The #LetUsBreathe Collective at Freedom Square - a community block party and occupation to imagine a world without police. The Freedom Square block party continues the momentum of the “Black Lives Matter In Lawndale” march and civil disobedience at CPD’s Homan Square on Wednesday, 7/20. Show up and show love in North Lawndale - enjoy FREE food, FREE books, music, and political education from local resource providers.

In addition to serving the community, Freedom Square is a call to action. The occupation of the space will remain until Alderman Ed Burke and other councilmen on the City’s Public Safety Committee immediately recall a proposed ordinance that would make protesting police violence a hate crime, commonly known as “Blue Lives Matter”. The Collective also gathers in support of the newly introduced ordinance for a Civilian Police Accountability Council (CPAC)! We are honoring the 50th anniversary of Martin Luther King’s legacy and resistance living North Lawndale. Freedom Square continues the struggle for fair housing, employment as well as end to police brutality and all forms of structural racism in the city of Chicago and throughout black communities nationwide.

Come with tents, sleeping bags, food to throw on the grill, poems to perform, or resources to connect with North Lawndale residents! Strong communities don’t need police, so as we oppose expanded investment and protection for police, join us building a beloved community that doesn’t need them.”

Discussion Questions:
- Who is a part of this effort and what are their goals?
- What victories have they won and for whom?
- How does their work change the narrative about what cities should be spending money on?
- How are they building power?
- What questions do you still have about this organization and/or effort?
What Does the City of Chicago Spend Money On?
(Data taken from the City of Chicago Office of the Clerk 2016 Budget and 2014 Budget)

“Public Safety” - More than $2.3 Billion
Includes Police, Fire Department, and Emergency Management

- Chicago Police Department: $1,452,492,621
- Independent Police Review Authority: $8,439,687
- Police Board: $399,769

**Total Police Expenses: $1.6 Billion**

Community Services - $580 Million
Includes the majority of social services, including mental health treatment, substance abuse, support for youth, elderly, and people with disabilities.

- Decrease of $4 million since last year

What does this mean?
- The City of Chicago spends more than $4 Million Dollars on the Police per day.
- The City of Chicago spends nearly 3x as much on the Police as it does on all Community Services combined!

What’s the difference between $1 Million and $1 Billion?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ONE YEAR of city spending on</th>
<th>Equivalent of city spending on police in...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employment Services for People with Disabilities $303,070  <em>Decrease of $120,000 since 2014</em></td>
<td>Less than 2 Hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Substance Abuse $2,581,272  <em>Decrease of over $1 Million since 2014</em></td>
<td>1/2 of a day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workforce Services (Assistance with finding jobs for the unemployed) $8,169,820</td>
<td>2 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health Services: $9,402,939  <em>Decrease of $100,000 since 2014</em></td>
<td>just over 2 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street Operations (primarily parking enforcement): $17,050,786  <em>An increase of nearly $2 million since 2014</em></td>
<td>just over 4 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Service Programs (services for elderly people): $31,460,929  <em>Decrease of nearly $5 million since 2014</em></td>
<td>just over a week</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Services: $39,111,889  <em>Includes After School Programs</em></td>
<td>8 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Services (primarily support for individuals experiencing homelessness): $72,212,015  <em>Decrease of $1.4 Million since 2014</em></td>
<td>18 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago Public Libraries: $75,789,291 (2016)</td>
<td>19 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing (ensure affordable housing in the City, among other responsibilities): $122,449,018  <em>A decrease of more than $10 million since 2014</em></td>
<td>One month</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EDUCATION is harder to calculate, because the majority of funding comes from property taxes and the state of Illinois - not the city of Chicago. In 2015, only $20 million of the total $5.6 billion budget came from the City of Chicago’s TIF surplus (which is basically a pot of extra money that they are sitting on, and spend to make downtown look fancy, but which COULD and SHOULD be used to fund community needs). Over 13,000 teachers and school employees are serving over 300,000 students via Chicago Public Schools.

**Numbers from the 2015 Chicago Public Schools Budget:**
- Arts Education - $1,757,207
- Counseling & Post-Secondary Advising - $4,647,492
- Health & Wellness - $8,142,150
- Sports Department - $17,023,724
- Safety & Security - $99,487,488
  *This includes partnerships with the Chicago Police Department*
  *Over 1,000 security officers*
Chicago Operating Budget Informational Strip

This informational strip is one of the materials needed for the “A City Budget in Pennies” activity (page 4). In the case that we are not able to supply facilitators with copies of this handout, we’ve provided a DIY version of the strips here for facilitators to print, cut, and assemble themselves (or with participants).

**Instructions:**
1. Assemble Side A first. Use scissors to cut along the light blue dotted lines on the following pages (19-23).
2. Lay out all the cut out pieces according to the order shown in the image to the right. Each panel cut-out also includes a portion of the panels that precede and/or follow it to guide you in laying them out in the correct order.
3. Use glue or tape to secure the overlapping pieces to each other.
4. The end result will show six panels (A1-A6).
5. Glue or tape the pieces together on.
7. Use glue or tape to fasten the backs of Side A & Side B to each other.
8. Fold creases along the lines between each panel, accordion style, until you have something like a booklet, with A6 serving as the front cover and A1 serving as the back cover.

The dimensions of the info strip is 36” x 2.5” and is usually printed on glossy medium cardstock. If you happen to have access to a printer with this capacity and would like to print out your own version, feel free to reach out to us so we can send you the original file (email dsouthorn@afsc.org), or, if you are using the interactive pdf version of this toolkit, click on the hyperlink for each side below.

**Side A**

**Side B**
What would you do with $4 million a day?

A budget that would look different.

Real community safety.

Based on Mayor Rahm Emanuel’s 2016 Proposed Expenditures - Corporate Fund announced to the City of Chicago in October 2015. Percentages are taken directly from www.chicityclerk.com.
A budget that invested in real community safety would look different.

Based on Mayor Rahm Emanuel's 2016 Proposed Expenditures - Corporate Fund announced to the City of Chicago in October 2015. Percentages are taken directly from www.chicityclerk.com.

But we know that the police do not mean safety for many in Chicago. The Chicago Police Department has a demonstrated pattern of racist enforcement and operates with impunity. More money for CPD means less money for the things we really need to have safety in our communities.

The Chicago Police Department has a demonstrated pattern of racist enforcement and operates with impunity. More money for CPD means less money for the things we really need to have safety in our communities.

Transportation 2% Streets & Sanitation 5% Emergency Mgmt. & Communication 3%
Fleet & Facility Management 5% Finance, general 21%
All Other Departments 16%
Chicago Police Department 38%
The City of Chicago will spend around $1.5 billion next year on the Chicago Police Department that means that police every single day. That's more than we spend on:  

32 months of Violence Prevention programs ($1,498,219 per year)  
18 months of Substance Abuse Treatment ($2,581,272 per year)  
5 months of Mental Health Services ($9,402,939 per year)  

...for the entire city.

We Charge General Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Allocation %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Finance, general</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Mgmt. &amp; Communication</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Streets &amp; Sanitation</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fleet &amp; Facility Management</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Other Departments</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on Mayor Rahm Emanuel's 2016 Proposed Expenditures - Corporate Fund announced to the City of Chicago in October 2015. Percentages are taken directly from www.chicityclerk.com
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>2016 Expenditures</th>
<th>2015 Expenditures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chicago Police Department</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance, general Fire</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Other</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fleet &amp; Facility Management</td>
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