We are proud of our accomplishments in 2016

OAI worked tirelessly to accomplish our mission in 2016. Collaborating with hundreds of partners across the country, we impacted 3860 individuals and households through our collective efforts. We know that when we increase access to quality workforce education, training, and career opportunities, everyone wins. In 2016 and every year, we focus our efforts where the benefits to people, business, and society are greatest: individuals and communities affected by poverty or lacking necessary resources, companies facing a vanishing labor pool, and people for whom language or culture is a barrier to participation. This year, we launched a number of new initiatives with wide-reaching impacts including: the Strengthening Working Families in the Chicago Southland, the Young Manufacturers Association, and the Southworks Robotics and Engineering Olympics with 13 new High-School teams supported and mentored by local manufacturing companies. We also began new Commercial Driver’s License training with Olive Harvey College, offered Green Infrastructure training to enhance community resiliency and provided time-sensitive health and safety training in response to flooding in Louisiana. We work hard to earn trust and exceed expectations, and we actively seek opportunities to collaborate and increase our impact. We are already embarking on another successful year in 2017 and welcome the opportunity for new partnerships.

Everyone has the right to be safe, no matter what the job.

OAI’s Hazardous Waste Worker Training program provided OSHA related health & safety training to 3411 vulnerable workers in 19 states.

Everyone deserves the chance to get ahead, no matter where they’re starting from.

Together, OAI’s Environmental Career Worker Training and Greencorps Chicago programs enrolled 105 students and placed 71 graduates into employment.

Everyone succeeds when workers are skilled, engaged, and employed.

OAI’s Southland Manufacturing Career Training served over 100 employer partners in the Southland and placed 84 job seekers into employment.
Success Story
Ignacio Camacho

Chicago training graduate and Returning Citizen Ignacio Camacho described his experience in the 2016 Environmental Careers program as a second chance at life. He is now employed in the manufacturing field earning over $16 an hour.

“ I don’t party, and I don’t goof around. I just go to work and earn money to support my family.”

High Bridge is the Chicago Southland’s premier landscape design, installation, and maintenance firm. We specialize in low-cost, high-performance green infrastructure—landscapes that allow homes, businesses, and communities to capture rainfall and store it on site, reducing flooding in streets and basements and preventing polluted runoff from entering local waterways. We’re creating new jobs in a new sector, one that is drawing both public and private investment. And we take the profits from our projects—rain gardens, roadside bioswales, native plantings in parks or industrial sites—and turn them into more new jobs and more green infrastructure.

- Beautiful, restorative landscapes that pay for themselves
- Local jobs where they’re needed
- A natural environment that works the way it’s supposed to

“ I have gained a lot working with High Bridge, learning about plants and how they help to stop some of the flooding in our neighborhoods. This job helps my bank account, and that’s always a bonus.”

Tonarreo King,
Graduate of OAI workforce-training program.
High Bridge employee. Harvey, IL resident.

Financials
Public Support and Revenue FY16

77%
8%
7%
4%
2%
2%

Federal Grants
Local Grants
Foundation Grants
Contributions
Donated Services
Fee for Service and Program Income

TOTAL INCOME
$2,711,698
89%
of funding goes directly to programs

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