



center for nonprofit
advancement

CHIEF EXECUTIVE LEADERS ASCEND PROGRAM

COHORT 3

Funded By:

JPMORGAN CHASE & CO.





What is CELAP?

The Chief Executive Leaders Ascend Program (CELAP) strengthens nonprofit executives and their organizations through leadership development, capacity building, financial empowerment, and wellness support.

Key Program Components

Grantmaking

Provides targeted funding to strengthen organizational stability, support key milestones, and advance long-term sustainability.

Wellness & Mental Health

Supports the leader's well-being through structured programming that addresses burnout and strengthens resilience.

Capacity Building

Strengthens organizational infrastructure through technical assistance in governance, fundraising, and operations.

Financial Wellness *NEW*

Advances leaders' financial health through tools and education focused on personal budgeting, credit, savings, and long-term financial stability.

Introducing Cohort 3



10 Black Women Nonprofit Leaders

- Akua Tay, Connected to Culture
- Nel-Sylvia Guzman, The Safe Sisters Circle
- Reginia Summes, Never Black Down
- Jasmine Goodman, T.R.A.P.P with Love
- Angela Jones, Youth Guidance - DC
- Ebony Gibson, Mothers On Purpose
- Jeanine Henderson-Arnet, Crowned in Resilience
- K'La Jackson - Obatala's Children
- Cordelia Cranshow - Acts of Random Kindness
- Niesha Slaughter - The Difference Society



Cohort 3 Overview

Mission Statement

To empower Black women leaders by providing leadership development, capacity-building opportunities, wellness support, and fostering collaborative networks that amplify their impact within the nonprofit sector.

Launch: March 2026

Kickoff: April 9, 2026 UDC - Congress Heights

Funders: JPMorgan Chase, Jane Bancroft
Robinson Foundation, CareFirst BlueCross
BlueShield



Program Timeline

MARCH 2026 - FEBRUARY 2027



March-April 2026

Kickoff, cohort alignment, and initial assessments

Spring/Summer 2026

Core trainings in fundraising, financial management, and operations

Summer/Fall 2026

Ongoing wellness sessions and application of organizational strategies

Winter 2027

Final evaluations, leadership reflection, and next-phase planning



Our Partner's

The Center's CELAP program is supported by JPMorgan Chase, Jane Bancroft Robinson Foundation, and CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield.

JPMorgan Chase continues its multi-year investment through its Mid-Atlantic Regional Director and Corporate Responsibility team, while the Jane Bancroft Robinson Foundation and CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield provide critical philanthropic support aligned with advancing leadership and community impact. Together, these partners share the Center's commitment to strengthening Black women nonprofit leaders in DC's Wards 7 and 8 and advancing long term organizational sustainability and transformative leadership across the sector.

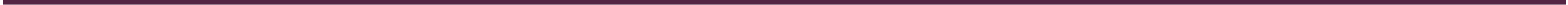
CELAP Alumni



Cohort 1



Cohort 2



What's Next for CELAP?

- Deepen long-term tracking of alumni outcomes to measure sustained leadership and organizational impact
- Expand investment to reach more leaders, with an increased focus on wellness and financial stability
- Strengthen capacity building offerings to support organizational growth, infrastructure, and scalability

Call-to-Action



Support the continued growth and impact of Black women nonprofit leaders advancing communities in DC's Wards 7 and 8.

Partner with the Center to invest in leadership, strengthen organizations, and drive long-term community impact.

Learn more and explore partnership opportunities:

www.nonprofitadvancement.org/partnerships/chief-executive-leaders-ascend-program-celap/

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