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GAPA COALITION ANNOUNCES 2025-2026 AGENDA

GAPA Coalition partners launch new campaigns to educate the community and prepare for to grow the police accountability movement through the 2027 municipal elections.

CHICAGO, IL — Today, the Grassroots Alliance for Police Accountability (GAPA) announced a series of new campaign priorities designed to educate the community and reimagine what is possible for the future of police accountability in Chicago.

Additionally, with the 2027 municipal elections on the horizon, the GAPA coalition recognizes that it is more important than ever that community leaders understand the importance of ECPS, know how to get involved, and have the tools they need to be a part of the political process.

- Empowering Communities: ECPS Educational Campaign

GAPA will develop a curriculum and launch a citywide campaign to build awareness of the Community Commission and District Councils. This new curriculum will highlight the urgent need for community power as federal “tough on crime” rhetoric directly threatens the progress we have made as a City to hold police accountable. Through relational organizing, teach-ins, and storytelling, we will empower communities to harness the power of our civilian oversight system to shape public safety.

- Support for Alternative Responses to Policing Efforts

The communities represented by the GAPA Coalition understand that many of the roles the Chicago Police Department is tasked with would be better suited for other professionals and support transformative change. While the Community Commission and the District Councilors are tasked by ordinance to explore and expand alternative responses to policing and have begun that work, it is still in its very early stages. Over the next year, our efforts will focus on educating residents about their options for non-police response and advocating for the growth of alternative response models across Chicago.

- District Council Election Preparation

The next District Council election cycle begins in August 2026. Due to many factors, including lack of support and resources, there is concern that there will not be enough pro-accountability candidates interested in taking on this critical local public safety leadership role. This year, GAPA will identify candidates to step into leadership and strengthen civilian oversight of CPD. We will also engage communities across the city to ensure residents are informed, mobilized, and ready to vote for the future of police accountability.