

FORMER CHICAGO BEAR ISRAEL IDONIJE BREAKS GROUND ON CHICAGO'S FIRST INNOVATION-FOCUSED PHILANTHROPY CENTER

FBRK Impact House Will Serve and Support Family Foundations, Grant Makers and Impact Investors Committed to Social Change

NOVEMBER 13, 2019 - CHICAGO, IL - Israel Idonije, entrepreneur, humanitarian and former NFL player, broke ground on the [FBRK Impact House](#) at 200 W. Madison Street in Chicago. Set to open in March 2020, the 45,000 square-foot space will be the city's first innovation-focused philanthropy center dedicated to serving and supporting grant makers, family foundations and impact investors.

Local foundations, media and Chicagoans attended the groundbreaking event, which revealed design plans, reinforced the need for the facility and further discussed the vision for the new space. The event featured remarks from Idonije, as well as Candace Moore, Chief Equity Officer for the City of Chicago and Angelique Power, President, The Field Foundation.

FBRK Impact House, founded by Israel Idonije is the result of a shared vision between FBRK, The Field Foundation, Woods Fund, United States Artists and Forefront, with the core desire to unify Chicago's Impact Community, break down silos, encourage collaboration and provide greater access to opportunities.

FBRK Impact House will serve as a membership-based work club with a thoughtfully designed ecosystem to provide a balance of private offices, work space, meeting and conference rooms where impact organizations can work together, collaborate and operate with greater efficiency.

"Chicago is filled with wonderful people who are committed to making our city better," said Idonije. "FBRK Impact House will offer an inviting, transparent environment to foster relationships among organizations — a framework in which the philanthropic community will thrive."

According to the most recent Giving in Illinois report, there are more than 5,200 grant-making institutions in the state, managing more than \$39 billion in assets. Together, these organizations have reached a giving record of \$4.6 billion in 2016 - collectively nearly tripling the amount of giving since 2006.

Despite this, challenges for grant-making institutions often include working in isolation, having laborious application and review practices and being intimidating to approach. FBRK Impact House will provide a creative and safe space for these organizations to meet, ideate and collaborate. The FBRK Impact House will be the first space of its kind in the country.

"Our vision is to create an open, loving community where it is easy to interact with philanthropy," commented Angelique Power, president of The Field Foundation, an anchor tenant of FBRK Impact House. "We've created different spaces in the facility to connect - a restaurant, conference

rooms, podcast rooms, as well as are offering Forefront programming. We are providing various opportunities to exchange ideas, learn from and with each other and to share backend costs.”

FBRK Impact House will occupy three floors of the 200 W. Madison building owned by Multi-Employer Property Trust (MEPT) advised by BentallGreenOak. It will include a public worklounge and restaurant on the street-level first floor, with membership access to the offices, lounges and amenities on the second and third floors.

FBRK Impact House is partnered with Leopardo for construction, BOX Studio for architecture and design, The Fifty/50 Restaurant Group, as well as tenant advisors Larry Serota, Cece Conway and Holly Bailey of Transwestern.

With a commitment to working together more transparently and collaboratively to bring more benefit to Chicago and beyond, FBRK Impact House will open its doors in March 2020 with many prestigious organizations in its inaugural community. In addition to the anchor tenants, FBRK Impact House will be the new home for A Better Chicago, Chicago Public Library Foundation, Children First Fund, Pillars Fund and Knight Family Foundation. Grant makers, family foundations and impact investors will also be able to join the FBRK Impact House community and take advantage of the numerous amenities and opportunities through an annual Access Membership.

To learn more about FBRK Impact House and Access Membership, please visit: www.thefbrk.com

About FBRK Impact House: FBRK Impact House is Chicago’s first innovation-focused philanthropy center dedicated to serving and supporting grant makers, family foundations and impact investors. FBRK Impact House is a division of FBRK, LLC, based in Chicago, IL. For more information visit www.theFBRK.com.