Grace Pai
Executive Director, Asian Americans Advancing Justice/Chicago
Grace Pai (she/her) is the Executive Director of Asian Americans Advancing Justice | Chicago, where she leads strategy for issue-based campaigns and power-building work. Most recently, she led a successful campaign to require Asian American history to be taught in all Illinois public schools. Grace has spent the last eight years organizing in Chicago toward racial, economic, and immigrant justice and has trained hundreds of organizers and community leaders across the country.

Maira Khwaja
Director of Public Strategy, Invisible Institute
As the director of public strategy at Invisible Institute, Maira Khwaja builds a more robust, informed constituency in Chicago. In addition to her work at Invisible Institute, Maira is the founder and co-organizer of Market Box, coordinating the distribution of grocery deliveries to Black and low-income residents of the South Side. She is also the founder of the podcast platform South Side Weekly Radio. She is centering the voices of those affected by police violence and police torture while enhancing the capacity of citizens to hold public institutions accountable.

Monica Lynne Haslip
Founder and Executive Director, Little Black Pearl
Monica Lynne Haslip is the founder and executive director of Little Black Pearl Art and Design Center and Academy. She encourages engagement in discovery and innovation as key elements of education. She has created a space in Bronzeville that functions outside of the traditional school model, encouraging an art-centric curriculum. Her vision is to demonstrate the power of art as a social justice tool, privileging observation, imagination and the critical role that the courage to transform plays in meeting the needs of communities.

Tony Alvarado-Rivera
Executive Director, Chicago Freedom School
Tony Alvarado-Rivera is the executive director of Chicago Freedom School. They are a multi-issue community organizer. In their role as Leadership Investment Program Officer at Field, Rodriguez (who does not capitalize their name) will be primarily responsible for managing Field’s signature Leaders for a New Chicago program, an innovative partnership between Field and MacArthur Foundations that recognizes past accomplishments and promotes leaders and their organizations, and whose influence informs decision-making in Chicago.