Dear community,

I hope you and your loved ones are remaining safe and together in solidarity during these challenging times.

We’re grateful that with a great deal of sacrifice and precaution, we successfully launched our 5-week hybrid *Summer Village* program with the generous support of the BASE; employing 45 youth and engaging over 15 community members and professionals as facilitators this summer.

I congratulate our dedicated staff who have courageously stepped into leadership; sharing their gifts and vision to empower the next generation of young leaders at Chica Project (CP). Learn more about our staff, programming, and ways of getting involved below.

As we approach our 10th anniversary, please join us to celebrate and kickoff our programming year with our *FALLabration* fundraiser. We truly can’t do it without your help, it’s a celebration you don't want to miss!

“And I think about all the things we could be if we were never told our bodies were not built for them.”

-Elizabeth Acevedo

In solidarity,

Erika Rodriguez
*Executive Director*

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**Save the Date: FALLabration**

**October 22nd | 6-7 PM**

**Melania Luisa Marte**, a Black poet and speaker from New York living in the Dominican Republic, will be leading a discussion with CP youth on the new normal of education and youth leadership.

This event will only be on Instagram Live! Tune in then by following our page below:
The first 25 people to make a $50 donation will receive a shirt!

Summer Village

We launched our first ever Summer Village this past August, a 5-week hybrid program that met both in-person and virtually to support the social and emotional growth of inner city Youth of Color from Boston and other parts of MA. As a result of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic challenges, we saw an even greater need to support our youth; equipping them with tools to deal with their mental health and focusing on the power of community building. Through the generous support from the Charles Hayden Foundation, Boston After School & Beyond, and the Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Foundation, we were able to provide stipends to our 45 participants.

¡Muchísimas gracias!

A special thank you to the BASE, one of our partners, who offered their amazing space to provide in-person programming while closely abiding Covid-19 guidelines.

A shoutout full of gratitude to our powerful Summer Village facilitators: Felicité Cesaire, Anaise Louis, Isis Rivera, Windry Figueroa, Natalie Garcia, Megan Florestal, and Melissa Florestal.

Thank you to our guest speakers who shared their wisdom with our participants: Thomas Washington, Tania DeBarros, Carmen Fuentes-Smith, Norah Justin, Zuhaly Ramon, Mikayla Martinez, and Jessica Torres.

Meet Our Team

Associate Director

Lina Maria Cañon was born and raised in Bogotá, Colombia. Her passion for engaging in social change efforts was born through her time as an undergrad at Suffolk University. Since then, she has managed, enhanced, and created programs focused on a variety of topics including homelessness, civic engagement, education, and youth advocacy. Lina is actively involved in her community and is currently pursuing her MBA from Boston University’s Questrom.
Fellows

Marketing and Social Media Fellow
Fabiola (Fabi) Michel

AmeriCorps (AOM) Fellow
Windry Figueroa

Network and Research Fellow
Jessica (Jess) Torres

Project Managers & Interns

Programming and Evaluation Manager
Erika (Elo) Lozano

Program Development Manager
Serena Glynn

Operations Intern
Elizabeth (Lizzie) Etienne

Marketing and Social Media Intern
Jamie Phan

Development Intern
Samantha Casas

Marketing and Social Media Intern
Lisaidy Zabala

Programming
CP has pivoted its 2020-2021 programming to meet the increasing need in our community, while simultaneously ensuring their safety and well being.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>CP Peer Leader Program</th>
<th>CP Mentor Program</th>
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<td>Our <em>CP Peer Leader</em> program is the newest initiative towards embodying one of our foundational core program components which is to deepen leadership development opportunities for our youth. Utilizing a train-the-trainer model, we're offering our second and third year youth the opportunity to strengthen their leadership skills by facilitating CP's curriculum for our incoming participants. Peer leaders will undergo the necessary professional training in order to master public speaking and community building skills, while driving conversations regarding identity, culture, and confidence.</td>
<td>Our <em>CP Mentor</em> program is designed to intentionally engage our participating mentors in a virtual setting while providing them with guidance as they contribute to the growth and success of our community. We have developed three mentor committees focusing on youth leadership development, public relations, and their professional network. Applications are due today, click on the link below for more information:</td>
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**Submit Your Application!**

*Due to high demand, any application submitted after midnight will be placed on our waitlist.*

### WEBSITE

![Chica Project](https://www.chicaproject.org)

### OUR TEAM

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Telephone: 617-922-7445

### CONTACT US

Email: [info@chicaproject.org](mailto:info@chicaproject.org)

### DONATE!

[Donate!](http://www.chicaproject.org)