



An Update to Our Community: Hilton Labor Negotiations

Dear CFW Community,

As we prepare for Chicago Foundation for Women's 41st Annual Luncheon this October, we are closely following the ongoing contract negotiations between this year's venue, Hilton Chicago, and UNITE HERE Local 1, a union that represents more than 15,000 hospitality workers, including employees at the hotel. While a strike has not been called, one could be announced at any point as negotiations continue. We remain hopeful that Hilton Chicago and Local 1 will reach a fair resolution.

We want to be clear: if hotel workers at Hilton Chicago go on strike, CFW will not cross a picket line. If a strike is underway and a picket line is in place, we will honor it and will not ask our staff, guests, speakers, partners, vendors, or community members to cross it. Guided by our values of equity, community-led power, collective action, and intersectionality, CFW is committed to making decisions that reflect both the work we support and how we operate as an organization.

This decision is especially important to us because hospitality work is deeply connected to the lives and labor of women, caregivers, immigrants, and working families. Their labor makes gatherings like ours possible, and their leadership reflects the care, courage, and collective action at the heart of CFW's values. We respect workers' right to exercise their power through the collective bargaining process, and we hope Hilton Chicago and Local 1 reach a fair agreement.

At this time, we are continuing to monitor the situation and preparing for multiple possibilities.

If the labor situation requires a change to the Luncheon venue, we will communicate clearly and quickly. The broader CFW community, including registered guests, sponsors, speakers, partners, vendors, donors, grantee partners, and other stakeholders, will hear directly from us as soon as we make decisions. Our priority will be to make sure our community understands what is changing and what to expect next.

Thank you for being part of the CFW community and for standing with us as we work to ensure that our values are reflected in both what we say and how we show up.

With gratitude,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keenya Lambert". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "K" and "L".

Keenya Lambert

President and CEO, Chicago Foundation for Women