

My Leadership in Action (LiA) experience took place in Chicago, USA with Urban Rivers. The non-profit organisation specialises in transforming urban waterways into vibrant wildlife sanctuaries and ecological habitats.

PRIMARY OBJECTIVES

Research Chicago municipal funding and grants to support Urban River's expansion of the Wild Mile.

Synthesize research into clear, visual posters to support future litigation and legal action.

Manage daily operations, including kayak river cleanups, public tours, and invasive plant removal on floating riverbeds across UR's numerous sites.

SPECIFIC MEASURABLE ACHIEVABLE RELEVANT TIME-BOUND

Briefed with supervisor to gain a baseline overview of Chicago's legal landscape.

W1

Refined research scope to focus on OSIF funding and categorised grant research into federal, state and local tiers.

W2

Consulted with NeighborSpace regarding their previously approved OSIF funds, most recently in 2024.

W3

Continued research into OSIF ordinance and grant mechanisms, while submitting FOIA request to state agencies.

W4

Compiled multi-page research into two accessible, visually structured posters for presentation.

W5

W6



Working with Urban Rivers to manifest their overall mission to clean up the rivers of Chicago and transform the city's urban waterways.



Researching funding and grant frameworks to facilitate prospective state investment in future Urban River projects on the water.

LEADERSHIP AND CHARACTER

- People: build team communication and teamwork.
- Performance: enhanced critical thinking through data analysis and research.

CAPACITIES

- Collaboration: reaching out to agencies and organisations independently
- Drive: remaining committed each week to delivering my final outputs

CHARACTER

- Curious: delving into foreign politics and law naturally piqued my interest
- Brave: applied strong initiative and independence with minimal supervision

CHANGE-MAKER VALUES