

2023

Dr. Aleta Clark

COMMUNITY ACTIVIST / PHILANTHROPIST

Press Kit

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[Link to Video](#)



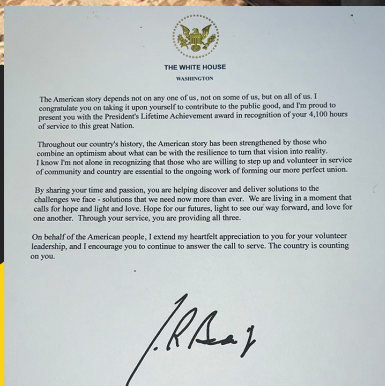
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Meet Our Leader **Dr. Aleta Clark**

In 2015, Aleta laid her mother to rest due to her heroin drug overdose. Although she did not raise Aleta, she made it a point to stay aware of her mother's whereabouts. Unfortunately, Aleta found her when she was 18 in Englewood, standing outside of the local McDonald's restaurant on 63rd and Ashland high, nodding off. Aleta was only able to bond with her for seven years before she died. Losing her was extremely difficult for Aleta. Aleta did not have closure and just was not ready to say goodbye.

Two weeks later, a 9-year-old boy was lured into an alley and murdered. Normally, things like that do not catch Aleta's attention, because unfortunately, kids getting killed in her city happens often. But that little boy stood out to her! Aleta does not understand how much hate someone would have to have in their heart to lure a baby into an alley and shoot them point-blank in the head. At that moment, not only was Aleta confused, but she was heartbroken. As a mother to her son, she cannot imagine losing her very own son because he was at the park innocently playing basketball at the wrong time. The passing of Tyshawn Lee broke a lot of people's hearts. There was no talk about finding possible solutions to this problem that many are experiencing daily. That is when Aleta knew she could not be like them. Aleta knew right then and there that she would at least have to try to do something. Aleta did not care that she did not have money, she just knew that there was something she could do to create an impact, a change.

Each act of kindness and selflessness made Aleta feel uplifted and happy, feelings she strives to experience. Hence, Aleta started trying to reach out to everyone in need. Aleta has used money raised to host events where kids can come out, have a great time, and be safe amongst others in a safe community. Aleta has hosted back-to-school events where kids can get hair-cuts, hairstyling uniforms, teeth-cleaning services, loaded book bags, and entertainment. Aleta is a mentor at several schools, she feeds the people living under the viaduct the entire winter 7 days a week for 210 days out of the year. Aleta held a GED program in a local community church, she has opened several COVID-19 relief centers throughout the city that provide free groceries and free personal protective equipment to the community twice a week, every week.



Presidential Letter



Presidential Pin

Aka “Englewood Barbie”

My whole life I have been a survivor. From the time I was 18 months old, I was bounced around from orphan group homes to foster homes to residential homes. At the age of 9, I was sexually abused in my adoptive home (and then again by group home staff at 16), which really affected me and isolated me emotionally. After being kicked out of grammar school in 7th grade for fighting, I was sent to a psych ward and then later placed in a behavioral school. I had to undergo heavy counseling just to survive. Many would have written me off. But I survived. I transferred to a mainstream school and even graduated high school a year early.

Through all that, I didn't have an opportunity to think about what I wanted to be when I grew up. I just wanted to grow up. Being grown meant that I could have control over what happened to me in my life. I didn't know who I'd be, but I hoped I'd become everything I needed as a child.

When I was 18, I found my biological mom...and buried her when I was 25 after her drug overdose. Just two weeks later, 9-year-old Tyshawn Lee was killed in Chicago. That changed something for me. Tyshawn never got the chance to grow up. That kid made me want to be not only a better parent but also an asset to my community and city. That's when I started Hugsnoslugs. Year after year, Hugsnoslugs has grown and evolved since its inception in 2015. From t-shirts to talent shows, from back-to-school giveaways to basketball games, and from Club 51 to national news, I do all I can to help others not only survive but thrive.



The Viaduct, A Home For The Friends

When feeding My Friends that live under the viaduct I've adopted the responsibility of making sure they have a hot full course meal every-night for the entire winter. I reconnect them with their families and help them rehabilitate themselves.

Recently we had a supporter's efforts of giving The Friends housing for a month unravel when a hotel/Hyatt House refused them entry after being paid in full, \$16,000+! I never want them to ever feel disrespected, discouraged or hurt like that again. In efforts to help make sure the aforementioned doesn't happen I'm going to stand in solidarity with The Friends and sleep under the viaduct with them until I raise a million dollars to get a shelter.

HugsNoSlugs moves in memory of all the people in Chicago whom have lost their lives due to gun violence, and we strive to work as hard as possible to prevent such tragedy from continuing to occur. We have to put the love back where there is no hope so we aim to reach everyone we can.. as a unit as a community and as the people. Together we can do it! So many people have begun to get involved, HugsNoSlugs appreciates all the support past and present.

Join Me and HugsNoSlugs as we move toward love and safety for our City. We can't do it alone. Please help us reach our goal!

Goal : \$1,000,000

13%
Completed

361
Donators

\$127,600
Collected as of 03/03/23

DONATE



Woman organizing sleepout to raise awareness for Chicago's unhoused community



Initiatives 2 of 3

HUGS NO SLUGS

HugsNoSlugs is a 501c3 foundation in place to help the community. As a unit we service everyone from children to the ones living under the viaduct in the cold. A consistent love cycle is what's needed in Chicago. As a people we have to change the narrative that earning respect comes from hurting people when it should come from helping people all the time. When dealing with children I research all resources available & use them to create a consistent productive, positive, safe educational and recreational atmosphere for the youth.

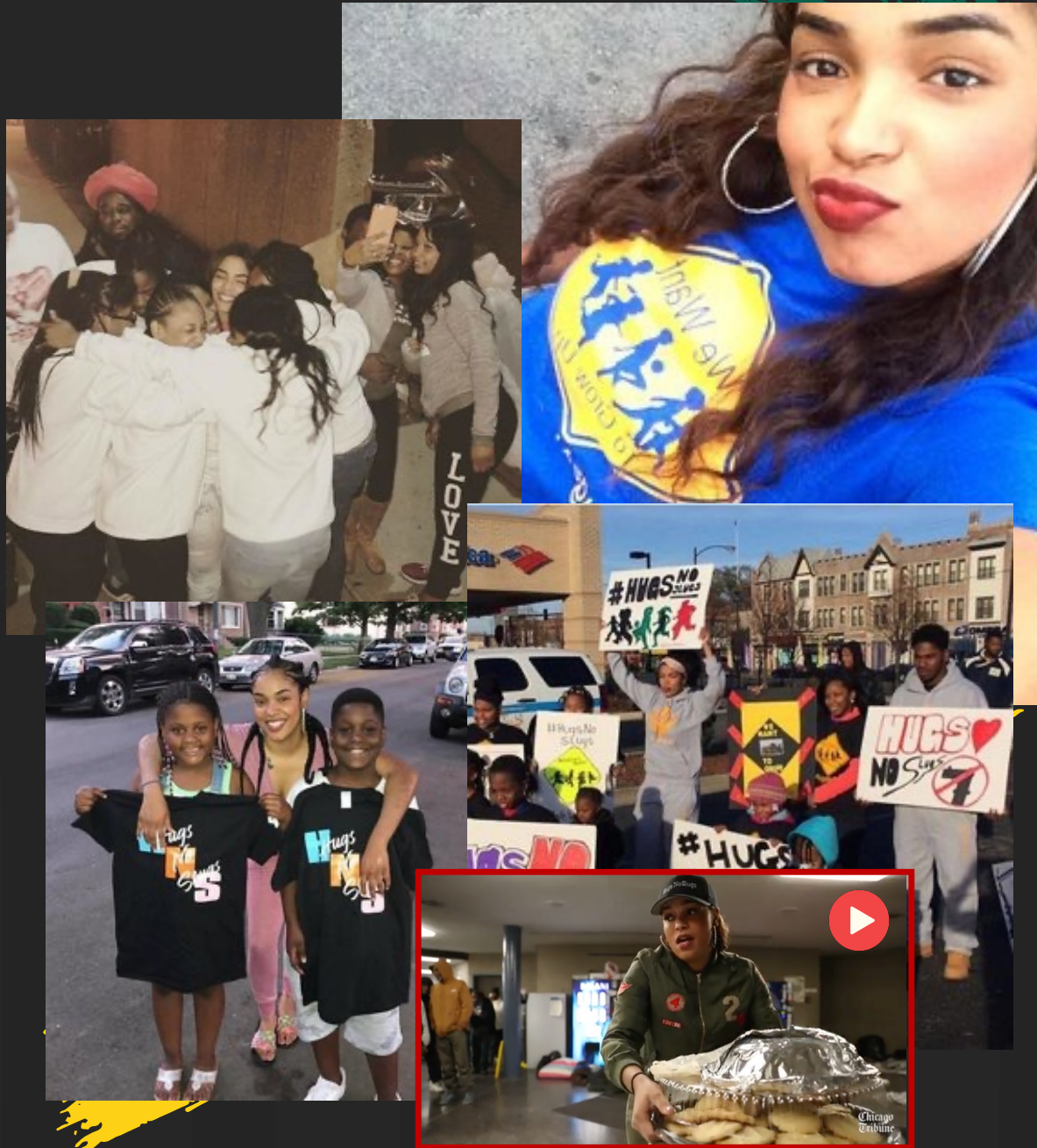
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"It takes a Village to raise a child and an even bigger one to keep them safe."

Join Me & HugsNoSlugs as we move toward love & safety for our City.

We can't do it alone.



Initiatives 3 of 3

Welcome to Club 51

Aleta Clark says she was 18 months old when her mom dropped her off at a South Side police station and walked off.

Nearly 30 years later, Clark walked into another station on the South Side in February to see a relative and noticed a lobby filled with people seeking shelter from the cold night.

She came back the next night, this time with food. And every night since then. Around 10:30 p.m., she pulls up to the Area Central police station at Wentworth Avenue and 51st Street with her SUV filled with meals and drinks and clothes.

The regulars have come to call the station Club 51.

"They are my friends, I break bread with them," said Clark, 28, known as an advocate for the homeless and an activist against violence. "I don't judge people. I would never refer to my friends as homeless."



Past Donations



Hyde Park Hospitality

Provided a \$27,745 donation that will provide meals for 30 "Friends" per night for 210 nights from October to April.

Raised : \$27,745

100%

[More Info](#)



Fashion designer Virgil Abloh and his sold-out Off-White

Virgil Abloh & Norte

The results for Notre's Off-White x Air Jordan 4 "Sail" charity raffle are in with a total of \$187,151.79 was raised in the span of two days.

Raised : \$187,151.79

100%

[More Info](#)



Mielle Organics

Supports and donated food for the friends for 20 consecutive weeks.



Strongest Supporters

Don C & Virgil Abloh



Chance the Rapper



Dwyane Wade



Ryan Henry of 9MAG



VIC MENSA



Yandy Smith



Korporate

Video Gallery

Click to play clips



Supports and donated food for the friends for 20 weeks.



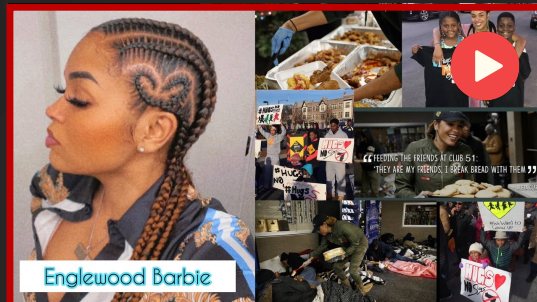
Aleta Clark | Chicagoans of the Year 2020



"Englewood Barbie" opens sixth safe house to help underserved communities



Flash It Forward- Hugs No Slugs | NBA on TNT Tuesday



Englewood Barbie | A Beautiful Soul From A Concrete Jungle



Aleta Clark aka Englewood Barbie on Later with Leon

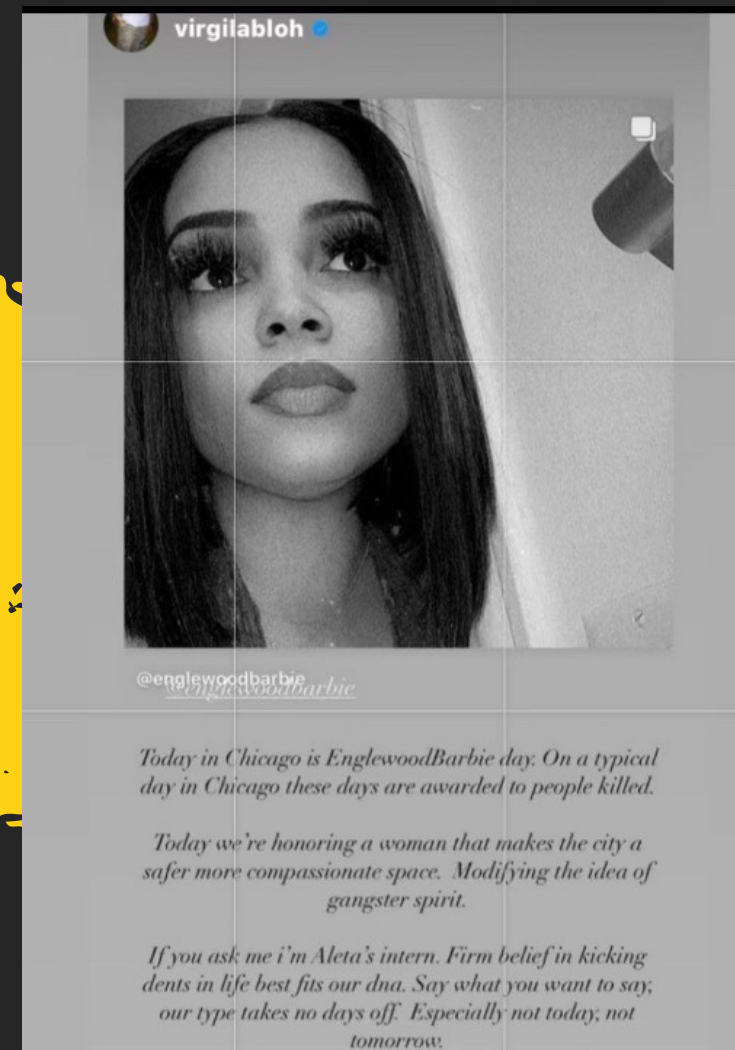


Englewood Barbie' helps provide free COVID-19 testing on South Side



HugsNoSlugs Interview with HotRod & Sundance

Honorable Shoutouts



Contact



Pamela Blackman



Phone

855.310.3000 ext 1
618.425.5100



Email

Pamela@joymanagementinc.com



**We can't do it alone.
Please help us reach our goal!**

www.HugsNoSlugs.info

