

Form **990**  
Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

# Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)  
Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public  
Information about Form 990 and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990)

OMB No 1545-0047  
**2017**  
Open to Public Inspection

**A For the 2017 calendar year, or tax year beginning 01-01-2017, and ending 12-31-2017**

- B** Check if applicable  
 Address change  
 Name change  
 Initial return  
 Final return/terminated  
 Amended return  
 Application pending

**C** Name of organization  
ILLINOIS OPPORTUNITY PROJECT  
C/O MATTHEW BESLER

Doing business as

Number and street (or P O box if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite  
208 S LASALLE STREET SUITE 1670

City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code  
CHICAGO, IL 60604

**F** Name and address of principal officer  
MATTHEW BESLER  
208 S LASALLE STREET SUITE 1670  
CHICAGO, IL 60604

**D** Employer identification number  
27-3627386

**E** Telephone number  
(773) 294-4747

**G** Gross receipts \$ 3,114,332

**I** Tax-exempt status  501(c)(3)  501(c) ( 4 ) ◀ (insert no )  4947(a)(1) or  527

**J** Website: WWW ILLINOISOPPORTUNITY ORG

**H(a)** Is this a group return for subordinates?  Yes  No  
**H(b)** Are all subordinates included?  Yes  No  
If "No," attach a list (see instructions)  
**H(c)** Group exemption number ▶

**K** Form of organization  Corporation  Trust  Association  Other ▶

**L** Year of formation 2010 **M** State of legal domicile IL

**Part I Summary**

**1** Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities  
THE ILLINOIS OPPORTUNITY PROJECT IS AN ORGANIZATION THAT PARTICIPATES IN PUBLIC POLICY BY IDENTIFYING POLICIES DRIVEN BY LIBERTY AND FREE ENTERPRISE AND THEN EDUCATING THE PUBLIC ABOUT THOSE POLICY CHOICES AND ADVOCATING FOR THOSE POLICY CHOICES

**2** Check this box  if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its net assets

<b>3</b> Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a)	<b>3</b>	3
<b>4</b> Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	<b>4</b>	2
<b>5</b> Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2017 (Part V, line 2a)	<b>5</b>	16
<b>6</b> Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	<b>6</b>	0
<b>7a</b> Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12	<b>7a</b>	0
<b>b</b> Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34	<b>7b</b>	0

	Prior Year	Current Year
<b>8</b> Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	4,363,710	3,106,593
<b>9</b> Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	0	0
<b>10</b> Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d )	0	7,739
<b>11</b> Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	0	0
<b>12</b> Total revenue—add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	4,363,710	3,114,332
<b>13</b> Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1-3 )	1,351,600	176,296
<b>14</b> Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)	0	0
<b>15</b> Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5-10)	644,047	997,298
<b>16a</b> Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)	0	0
<b>b</b> Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) ▶4,171		
<b>17</b> Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a-11d, 11f-24e)	2,339,741	1,942,864
<b>18</b> Total expenses Add lines 13-17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	4,335,388	3,116,458
<b>19</b> Revenue less expenses Subtract line 18 from line 12	28,322	-2,126
	Beginning of Current Year	End of Year
<b>20</b> Total assets (Part X, line 16)	255,167	252,634
<b>21</b> Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	543	136
<b>22</b> Net assets or fund balances Subtract line 21 from line 20	254,624	252,498

**Part II Signature Block**

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge

**Sign Here**  
Signature of officer: \*\*\*\*\*  
Date: 2018-11-15  
MATTHEW BESLER PRESIDENT  
Type or print name and title

**Paid Preparer Use Only**  
Print/Type preparer's name: KIMBERLEY S FRITZSCHE  
Preparer's signature: KIMBERLEY S FRITZSCHE  
Date: 2018-11-15  
Check  if self-employed PTIN: P00232679  
Firm's name: WILLOW CPA GROUP LTD Firm's EIN: 47-2178213  
Firm's address: 1622 W COLONIAL PARKWAY SUITE 101 Inverness, IL 60067 Phone no: (847) 453-3950

**Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part III

**1** Briefly describe the organization's mission

THE ILLINOIS OPPORTUNITY PROJECT IS AN ORGANIZATION THAT PARTICIPATES IN PUBLIC POLICY BY IDENTIFYING POLICIES DRIVEN BY LIBERTY AND FREE ENTERPRISE AND THEN EDUCATING THE PUBLIC ABOUT THOSE POLICY CHOICES AND ADVOCATING FOR THOSE POLICY CHOICES

**2** Did the organization undertake any significant program services during the year which were not listed on the prior Form 990 or 990-EZ?  Yes  No

If "Yes," describe these new services on Schedule O

**3** Did the organization cease conducting, or make significant changes in how it conducts, any program services?  Yes  No

If "Yes," describe these changes on Schedule O

**4** Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations are required to report the amount of grants and allocations to others, the total expenses, and revenue, if any, for each program service reported

**4a** (Code ) (Expenses \$ 2,587,108 including grants of \$ 176,296 ) (Revenue \$ )  
See Additional Data















**4b** (Code ) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$ ) (Revenue \$ )

**4c** (Code ) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$ ) (Revenue \$ )

**4d** Other program services (Describe in Schedule O )  
(Expenses \$ including grants of \$ ) (Revenue \$ )

**4e** Total program service expenses ▶ 2,587,108

**Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules**

	Yes	No
<b>1</b> Is the organization described in section 501(c)(3) or 4947(a)(1) (other than a private foundation)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule A</i> . . . . .		No
<b>2</b> Is the organization required to complete <i>Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors</i> (see instructions)?  . . . . .	Yes	
<b>3</b> Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I</i> . . . . .		No
<b>4 Section 501(c)(3) organizations.</b> Did the organization engage in lobbying activities, or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II</i> . . . . .		
<b>5</b> Is the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization that receives membership dues, assessments, or similar amounts as defined in Revenue Procedure 98-19? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III</i> . . . . .		No
<b>6</b> Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds or any similar funds or accounts for which donors have the right to provide advice on the distribution or investment of amounts in such funds or accounts? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part I</i>  . . . . .		No
<b>7</b> Did the organization receive or hold a conservation easement, including easements to preserve open space, the environment, historic land areas, or historic structures? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part II</i>  . . . . .		No
<b>8</b> Did the organization maintain collections of works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part III</i>  . . . . .		No
<b>9</b> Did the organization report an amount in Part X, line 21 for escrow or custodial account liability, serve as a custodian for amounts not listed in Part X, or provide credit counseling, debt management, credit repair, or debt negotiation services? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IV</i>  . . . . .		No
<b>10</b> Did the organization, directly or through a related organization, hold assets in temporarily restricted endowments, permanent endowments, or quasi-endowments? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part V</i>  . . . . .		No
<b>11</b> If the organization's answer to any of the following questions is "Yes," then complete Schedule D, Parts VI, VII, VIII, IX, or X as applicable		
<b>a</b> Did the organization report an amount for land, buildings, and equipment in Part X, line 10? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VI</i>  . . . . .	Yes	
<b>b</b> Did the organization report an amount for investments—other securities in Part X, line 12 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VII</i>  . . . . .		No
<b>c</b> Did the organization report an amount for investments—program related in Part X, line 13 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VIII</i>  . . . . .		No
<b>d</b> Did the organization report an amount for other assets in Part X, line 15 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IX</i>  . . . . .	Yes	
<b>e</b> Did the organization report an amount for other liabilities in Part X, line 25? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X</i>  . . . . .	Yes	
<b>f</b> Did the organization's separate or consolidated financial statements for the tax year include a footnote that addresses the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 (ASC 740)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X</i>  . . . . .		No
<b>12a</b> Did the organization obtain separate, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts XI and XII</i>  . . . . .		No
<b>b</b> Was the organization included in consolidated, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? <i>If "Yes," and if the organization answered "No" to line 12a, then completing Schedule D, Parts XI and XII is optional</i>  . . . . .		No
<b>13</b> Is the organization a school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule E</i> . . . . .		No
<b>14a</b> Did the organization maintain an office, employees, or agents outside of the United States? . . . . .		No
<b>b</b> Did the organization have aggregate revenues or expenses of more than \$10,000 from grantmaking, fundraising, business, investment, and program service activities outside the United States, or aggregate foreign investments valued at \$100,000 or more? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts I and IV</i> . . . . .		No
<b>15</b> Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for any foreign organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts II and IV</i> . . . . .		No
<b>16</b> Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of aggregate grants or other assistance to or for foreign individuals? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts III and IV</i> . . . . .		No
<b>17</b> Did the organization report a total of more than \$15,000 of expenses for professional fundraising services on Part IX, column (A), lines 6 and 11e? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part I</i> (see instructions) . . . . .		No
<b>18</b> Did the organization report more than \$15,000 total of fundraising event gross income and contributions on Part VIII, lines 1c and 8a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part II</i> . . . . .		No
<b>19</b> Did the organization report more than \$15,000 of gross income from gaming activities on Part VIII, line 9a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part III</i> . . . . .		No

**Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules** (continued)

	Yes	No
<b>20a</b> Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule H . . . . .</i>		No
<b>b</b> If "Yes" to line 20a, did the organization attach a copy of its audited financial statements to this return?		
<b>21</b> Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to any domestic organization or domestic government on Part IX, column (A), line 1? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and II . . . . .</i>	Yes	
<b>22</b> Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for domestic individuals on Part IX, column (A), line 2? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and III . . . . .</i>		No
<b>23</b> Did the organization answer "Yes" to Part VII, Section A, line 3, 4, or 5 about compensation of the organization's current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J . . . . .</i>	Yes	
<b>24a</b> Did the organization have a tax-exempt bond issue with an outstanding principal amount of more than \$100,000 as of the last day of the year, that was issued after December 31, 2002? <i>If "Yes," answer lines 24b through 24d and complete Schedule K. If "No," go to line 25a . . . . .</i>		No
<b>b</b> Did the organization invest any proceeds of tax-exempt bonds beyond a temporary period exception? . . . . .		
<b>c</b> Did the organization maintain an escrow account other than a refunding escrow at any time during the year to defease any tax-exempt bonds? . . . . .		
<b>d</b> Did the organization act as an "on behalf of" issuer for bonds outstanding at any time during the year? . . . . .		
<b>25a Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations.</b> Did the organization engage in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person during the year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I . . . . .</i>		No
<b>b</b> Is the organization aware that it engaged in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person in a prior year, and that the transaction has not been reported on any of the organization's prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I . . . . .</i>		No
<b>26</b> Did the organization report any amount on Part X, line 5, 6, or 22 for receivables from or payables to any current or former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, or disqualified persons? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II . . . . .</i>		No
<b>27</b> Did the organization provide a grant or other assistance to an officer, director, trustee, key employee, substantial contributor or employee thereof, a grant selection committee member, or to a 35% controlled entity or family member of any of these persons? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part III . . . . .</i>		No
<b>28</b> Was the organization a party to a business transaction with one of the following parties (see Schedule L, Part IV instructions for applicable filing thresholds, conditions, and exceptions)		
<b>a</b> A current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV . . . . .</i>		No
<b>b</b> A family member of a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV . . . . .</i>		No
<b>c</b> An entity of which a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee (or a family member thereof) was an officer, director, trustee, or direct or indirect owner? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV . . . . .</i>	Yes	
<b>29</b> Did the organization receive more than \$25,000 in non-cash contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M . . . . .</i>		No
<b>30</b> Did the organization receive contributions of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets, or qualified conservation contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M . . . . .</i>		No
<b>31</b> Did the organization liquidate, terminate, or dissolve and cease operations? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part I . . . . .</i>		No
<b>32</b> Did the organization sell, exchange, dispose of, or transfer more than 25% of its net assets? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part II . . . . .</i>		No
<b>33</b> Did the organization own 100% of an entity disregarded as separate from the organization under Regulations sections 301.7701-2 and 301.7701-3? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part I . . . . .</i>		No
<b>34</b> Was the organization related to any tax-exempt or taxable entity? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part II, III, or IV, and Part V, line 1 . . . . .</i>		No
<b>35a</b> Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?		No
<b>b</b> If "Yes" to line 35a, did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2 . . . . .</i>		
<b>36 Section 501(c)(3) organizations.</b> Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2 . . . . .</i>		
<b>37</b> Did the organization conduct more than 5% of its activities through an entity that is not a related organization and that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part VI . . . . .</i>		No
<b>38</b> Did the organization complete Schedule O and provide explanations in Schedule O for Part VI, lines 11b and 19? <b>Note.</b> All Form 990 filers are required to complete Schedule O . . . . .	Yes	

Part V Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part V [ ]

Table with columns for question ID, question text, and Yes/No response boxes. Includes sections for backup withholding, employee reporting, foreign accounts, prohibited tax shelter transactions, charitable contributions, and 501(c)(7), (12), and (29) organizations.

Part VI Governance, Management, and Disclosure For each "Yes" response to lines 2 through 7b below, and for a "No" response to lines 8a, 8b, or 10b below, describe the circumstances, processes, or changes in Schedule O See instructions

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VI [X]

Section A. Governing Body and Management

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows include: 1a Enter the number of voting members of the governing body at the end of the tax year (3); 1b Enter the number of voting members included in line 1a, above, who are independent (2); 2 Did any officer, director, trustee, or key employee have a family relationship or a business relationship with any other officer, director, trustee, or key employee? (No); 3 Did the organization delegate control over management duties customarily performed by or under the direct supervision of officers, directors or trustees, or key employees to a management company or other person? (No); 4 Did the organization make any significant changes to its governing documents since the prior Form 990 was filed? (No); 5 Did the organization become aware during the year of a significant diversion of the organization's assets? (No); 6 Did the organization have members or stockholders? (No); 7a Did the organization have members, stockholders, or other persons who had the power to elect or appoint one or more members of the governing body? (No); 7b Are any governance decisions of the organization reserved to (or subject to approval by) members, stockholders, or persons other than the governing body? (No); 8 Did the organization contemporaneously document the meetings held or written actions undertaken during the year by the following: a The governing body? (Yes); b Each committee with authority to act on behalf of the governing body? (Yes); 9 Is there any officer, director, trustee, or key employee listed in Part VII, Section A, who cannot be reached at the organization's mailing address? If "Yes," provide the names and addresses in Schedule O (No)

Section B. Policies (This Section B requests information about policies not required by the Internal Revenue Code.)

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows include: 10a Did the organization have local chapters, branches, or affiliates? (No); 10b If "Yes," did the organization have written policies and procedures governing the activities of such chapters, affiliates, and branches to ensure their operations are consistent with the organization's exempt purposes? (No); 11a Has the organization provided a complete copy of this Form 990 to all members of its governing body before filing the form? (Yes); 11b Describe in Schedule O the process, if any, used by the organization to review this Form 990; 12a Did the organization have a written conflict of interest policy? If "No," go to line 13 (Yes); 12b Were officers, directors, or trustees, and key employees required to disclose annually interests that could give rise to conflicts? (Yes); 12c Did the organization regularly and consistently monitor and enforce compliance with the policy? If "Yes," describe in Schedule O how this was done (Yes); 13 Did the organization have a written whistleblower policy? (Yes); 14 Did the organization have a written document retention and destruction policy? (Yes); 15 Did the process for determining compensation of the following persons include a review and approval by independent persons, comparability data, and contemporaneous substantiation of the deliberation and decision? a The organization's CEO, Executive Director, or top management official (Yes); b Other officers or key employees of the organization (Yes); If "Yes" to line 15a or 15b, describe the process in Schedule O (see instructions); 16a Did the organization invest in, contribute assets to, or participate in a joint venture or similar arrangement with a taxable entity during the year? (No); 16b If "Yes," did the organization follow a written policy or procedure requiring the organization to evaluate its participation in joint venture arrangements under applicable federal tax law, and take steps to safeguard the organization's exempt status with respect to such arrangements?

Section C. Disclosure

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows include: 17 List the States with which a copy of this Form 990 is required to be filed; 18 Section 6104 requires an organization to make its Form 1023 (or 1024 if applicable), 990, and 990-T (501(c)(3)s only) available for public inspection. Indicate how you made these available. Check all that apply: [ ] Own website, [X] Another's website, [X] Upon request, [ ] Other (explain in Schedule O); 19 Describe in Schedule O whether (and if so, how) the organization made its governing documents, conflict of interest policy, and financial statements available to the public during the tax year; 20 State the name, address, and telephone number of the person who possesses the organization's books and records: MATTHEW BESLER 208 S LASALLE STREET SUITE 1670 CHICAGO, IL 60604 (773) 294-4747





**Part VIII Statement of Revenue**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VIII

			(A) Total revenue	(B) Related or exempt function revenue	(C) Unrelated business revenue	(D) Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512-514	
<b>Contributions, Gifts, Grants and Other Similar Amounts</b>	<b>1a</b> Federated campaigns . . .	<b>1a</b>					
	<b>b</b> Membership dues . . .	<b>1b</b>					
	<b>c</b> Fundraising events . . .	<b>1c</b>					
	<b>d</b> Related organizations	<b>1d</b>					
	<b>e</b> Government grants (contributions)	<b>1e</b>					
	<b>f</b> All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above	<b>1f</b>	3,106,593				
	<b>g</b> Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f \$ _____						
	<b>h Total.</b> Add lines 1a-1f . . . . . ▶		3,106,593				
<b>Program Service Revenue</b>	<b>2a</b> _____	Business Code					
	<b>b</b> _____						
	<b>c</b> _____						
	<b>d</b> _____						
	<b>e</b> _____						
	<b>f</b> All other program service revenue						
	<b>g Total.</b> Add lines 2a-2f . . . . . ▶						
<b>Other Revenue</b>	<b>3</b> Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts) . . . . . ▶		7,739			7,739	
	<b>4</b> Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds . . . . . ▶						
	<b>5</b> Royalties . . . . . ▶						
	<b>6a</b> Gross rents	(i) Real	(ii) Personal				
		<b>b</b> Less rental expenses					
		<b>c</b> Rental income or (loss)					
		<b>d</b> Net rental income or (loss) . . . . . ▶					
	<b>7a</b> Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory	(i) Securities	(ii) Other				
		<b>b</b> Less cost or other basis and sales expenses					
		<b>c</b> Gain or (loss)					
		<b>d</b> Net gain or (loss) . . . . . ▶					
	<b>8a</b> Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ _____ of contributions reported on line 1c) See Part IV, line 18 . . . . . <b>a</b>						
		<b>b</b> Less direct expenses . . . . . <b>b</b>					
		<b>c</b> Net income or (loss) from fundraising events . . . . . ▶					
	<b>9a</b> Gross income from gaming activities See Part IV, line 19 . . . . . <b>a</b>						
<b>b</b> Less direct expenses . . . . . <b>b</b>							
<b>c</b> Net income or (loss) from gaming activities . . . . . ▶							
<b>10a</b> Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances . . . . . <b>a</b>							
	<b>b</b> Less cost of goods sold . . . . . <b>b</b>						
	<b>c</b> Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory . . . . . ▶						
Miscellaneous Revenue		Business Code					
<b>11a</b> _____							
	<b>b</b> _____						
	<b>c</b> _____						
	<b>d</b> All other revenue . . . . .						
<b>e Total.</b> Add lines 11a-11d . . . . . ▶							
<b>12 Total revenue.</b> See Instructions . . . . . ▶			3,114,332	0	0	7,739	

**Part IX Statement of Functional Expenses**

Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns. All other organizations must complete column (A).

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX

**Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.**

	(A) Total expenses	(B) Program service expenses	(C) Management and general expenses	(D) Fundraising expenses
<b>1</b> Grants and other assistance to domestic organizations and domestic governments. See Part IV, line 21.	176,296	176,296		
<b>2</b> Grants and other assistance to domestic individuals. See Part IV, line 22.				
<b>3</b> Grants and other assistance to foreign organizations, foreign governments, and foreign individuals. See Part IV, line 15 and 16.				
<b>4</b> Benefits paid to or for members.				
<b>5</b> Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees.	322,200	209,430	112,770	
<b>6</b> Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B).				
<b>7</b> Other salaries and wages.	553,160	411,113	142,047	
<b>8</b> Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401 (k) and 403(b) employer contributions).				
<b>9</b> Other employee benefits.	66,977	47,480	19,497	
<b>10</b> Payroll taxes.	54,961	38,962	15,999	
<b>11</b> Fees for services (non-employees):				
<b>a</b> Management.				
<b>b</b> Legal.	41,633	34,470	7,163	
<b>c</b> Accounting.	44,004		44,004	
<b>d</b> Lobbying.				
<b>e</b> Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17.				
<b>f</b> Investment management fees.				
<b>g</b> Other (If line 11g amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 11g expenses on Schedule O).				
<b>12</b> Advertising and promotion.				
<b>13</b> Office expenses.	25,179	10,587	14,592	
<b>14</b> Information technology.				
<b>15</b> Royalties.				
<b>16</b> Occupancy.	66,792		66,792	
<b>17</b> Travel.	13,671	13,671		
<b>18</b> Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials.				
<b>19</b> Conferences, conventions, and meetings.	3,012	3,012		
<b>20</b> Interest.	439		439	
<b>21</b> Payments to affiliates.				
<b>22</b> Depreciation, depletion, and amortization.	1,122		1,122	
<b>23</b> Insurance.	8,381		8,381	
<b>24</b> Other expenses. Itemize expenses not covered above (List miscellaneous expenses in line 24e. If line 24e amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 24e expenses on Schedule O):				
<b>a</b> CONSULTING	898,970	898,970		
<b>b</b> MEDIA	330,542	330,542		
<b>c</b> VIDEO PRODUCTION	138,608	138,608		
<b>d</b> VOTER DATABASE	84,760	84,760		
<b>e</b> All other expenses	285,751	189,207	92,373	4,171
<b>25</b> Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24e.	3,116,458	2,587,108	525,179	4,171
<b>26</b> Joint costs. Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720).				

**Part X Balance Sheet**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX

		(A) Beginning of year		(B) End of year
<b>Assets</b>	<b>1</b> Cash—non-interest-bearing . . . . .	52,331	<b>1</b>	191,690
	<b>2</b> Savings and temporary cash investments . . . . .		<b>2</b>	
	<b>3</b> Pledges and grants receivable, net . . . . .		<b>3</b>	
	<b>4</b> Accounts receivable, net . . . . .		<b>4</b>	
	<b>5</b> Loans and other receivables from current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees Complete Part II of Schedule L . . . . .		<b>5</b>	
	<b>6</b> Loans and other receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)), persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B), and contributing employers and sponsoring organizations of section 501(c)(9) voluntary employees' beneficiary organizations (see instructions) Complete Part II of Schedule L . . . . .		<b>6</b>	
	<b>7</b> Notes and loans receivable, net . . . . .	200,000	<b>7</b>	
	<b>8</b> Inventories for sale or use . . . . .		<b>8</b>	
	<b>9</b> Prepaid expenses and deferred charges . . . . .		<b>9</b>	
	<b>10a</b> Land, buildings, and equipment cost or other basis Complete Part VI of Schedule D	10,307		
	<b>b</b> Less accumulated depreciation	5,281		
		512	<b>10c</b>	5,026
	<b>11</b> Investments—publicly traded securities . . . . .		<b>11</b>	
	<b>12</b> Investments—other securities See Part IV, line 11 . . . . .		<b>12</b>	
	<b>13</b> Investments—program-related See Part IV, line 11 . . . . .		<b>13</b>	
	<b>14</b> Intangible assets . . . . .		<b>14</b>	
<b>15</b> Other assets See Part IV, line 11 . . . . .	2,324	<b>15</b>	55,918	
<b>16 Total assets.</b> Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34) . . . . .	255,167	<b>16</b>	252,634	
<b>Liabilities</b>	<b>17</b> Accounts payable and accrued expenses . . . . .		<b>17</b>	
	<b>18</b> Grants payable . . . . .		<b>18</b>	
	<b>19</b> Deferred revenue . . . . .		<b>19</b>	
	<b>20</b> Tax-exempt bond liabilities . . . . .		<b>20</b>	
	<b>21</b> Escrow or custodial account liability Complete Part IV of Schedule D		<b>21</b>	
	<b>22</b> Loans and other payables to current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, and disqualified persons Complete Part II of Schedule L . . . . .		<b>22</b>	
	<b>23</b> Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties . . . . .		<b>23</b>	
	<b>24</b> Unsecured notes and loans payable to unrelated third parties . . . . .		<b>24</b>	
<b>25</b> Other liabilities (including federal income tax, payables to related third parties, and other liabilities not included on lines 17-24) Complete Part X of Schedule D	543	<b>25</b>	136	
<b>26 Total liabilities.</b> Add lines 17 through 25 . . . . .	543	<b>26</b>	136	
<b>Net Assets or Fund Balances</b>	<b>27 Organizations that follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>and complete lines 27 through 29, and lines 33 and 34.</b> Unrestricted net assets	254,624	<b>27</b>	252,498
	<b>28</b> Temporarily restricted net assets . . . . .		<b>28</b>	
	<b>29</b> Permanently restricted net assets		<b>29</b>	
	<b>30 Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>and complete lines 30 through 34.</b> Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds . . . . .		<b>30</b>	
	<b>31</b> Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building or equipment fund . . . . .		<b>31</b>	
	<b>32</b> Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds		<b>32</b>	
	<b>33 Total net assets or fund balances . . . . .</b>	254,624	<b>33</b>	252,498
	<b>34 Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances . . . . .</b>	255,167	<b>34</b>	252,634

**Part XI Reconciliation of Net Assets**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XI

<b>1</b>	Total revenue (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12) . . . . .	<b>1</b>	3,114,332
<b>2</b>	Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25) . . . . .	<b>2</b>	3,116,458
<b>3</b>	Revenue less expenses Subtract line 2 from line 1 . . . . .	<b>3</b>	-2,126
<b>4</b>	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (must equal Part X, line 33, column (A)) . . . . .	<b>4</b>	254,624
<b>5</b>	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments . . . . .	<b>5</b>	
<b>6</b>	Donated services and use of facilities . . . . .	<b>6</b>	
<b>7</b>	Investment expenses . . . . .	<b>7</b>	
<b>8</b>	Prior period adjustments . . . . .	<b>8</b>	
<b>9</b>	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O) . . . . .	<b>9</b>	0
<b>10</b>	Net assets or fund balances at end of year Combine lines 3 through 9 (must equal Part X, line 33, column (B))	<b>10</b>	252,498

**Part XII Financial Statements and Reporting**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XII

		Yes	No
<p><b>1</b> Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990 <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Accrual <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>MODIFIED CASH</u>                      If the organization changed its method of accounting from a prior year or checked "Other," explain in Schedule O</p>			
<p><b>2a</b> Were the organization's financial statements compiled or reviewed by an independent accountant?                      If 'Yes,' check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were compiled or reviewed on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both  <input type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis</p>	<b>2a</b>		No
<p><b>b</b> Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant?                      If 'Yes,' check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were audited on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both  <input type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis</p>	<b>2b</b>		No
<p><b>c</b> If "Yes," to line 2a or 2b, does the organization have a committee that assumes responsibility for oversight of the audit, review, or compilation of its financial statements and selection of an independent accountant?                      If the organization changed either its oversight process or selection process during the tax year, explain in Schedule O</p>	<b>2c</b>		
<p><b>3a</b> As a result of a federal award, was the organization required to undergo an audit or audits as set forth in the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133?</p>	<b>3a</b>		No
<p><b>b</b> If "Yes," did the organization undergo the required audit or audits? If the organization did not undergo the required audit or audits, explain why in Schedule O and describe any steps taken to undergo such audits</p>	<b>3b</b>		

## Additional Data

**Software ID:**

**Software Version:**

**EIN:** 27-3627386

**Name:** ILLINOIS OPPORTUNITY PROJECT  
C/O MATTHEW BESLER

Form 990 (2017)

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### Form 990, Part III, Line 4a:

PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC POLICY BY IDENTIFYING POLICIES DRIVEN BY LIBERTY AND FREE ENTERPRISE AND THEN EDUCATING THE PUBLIC ABOUT THOSE POLICY CHOICES AND ADVOCATING FOR THOSE POLICY CHOICES, INCLUDING ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS USED TO EDUCATE INDIVIDUALS AS WELL AS URGING THEM TO TAKE ACTION BY CONTACTING THEIR LEGISLATOR

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**SCHEDULE D**  
(Form 990)  
  
Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

**Supplemental Financial Statements**  
▶ Complete if the organization answered "Yes," on Form 990, Part IV, line 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e, 11f, 12a, or 12b.  
▶ Attach to Form 990.  
**Information about Schedule D (Form 990) and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990).**

OMB No 1545-0047  
**2017**  
**Open to Public Inspection**

**Name of the organization**  
ILLINOIS OPPORTUNITY PROJECT  
C/O MATTHEW BESLER

**Employer identification number**  
27-3627386

**Part I Organizations Maintaining Donor Advised Funds or Other Similar Funds or Accounts.**  
Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 6.

	(a) Donor advised funds	(b) Funds and other accounts
<b>1</b> Total number at end of year		
<b>2</b> Aggregate value of contributions to (during year)		
<b>3</b> Aggregate value of grants from (during year)		
<b>4</b> Aggregate value at end of year		
<b>5</b> Did the organization inform all donors and donor advisors in writing that the assets held in donor advised funds are the organization's property, subject to the organization's exclusive legal control?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
<b>6</b> Did the organization inform all grantees, donors, and donor advisors in writing that grant funds can be used only for charitable purposes and not for the benefit of the donor or donor advisor, or for any other purpose conferring impermissible private benefit?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

**Part II Conservation Easements.** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 7.

**1** Purpose(s) of conservation easements held by the organization (check all that apply)

Preservation of land for public use (e g , recreation or education)       Preservation of an historically important land area

Protection of natural habitat       Preservation of a certified historic structure

Preservation of open space

**2** Complete lines 2a through 2d if the organization held a qualified conservation contribution in the form of a conservation easement on the last day of the tax year

	Held at the End of the Year	
<b>a</b> Total number of conservation easements	<b>2a</b>	
<b>b</b> Total acreage restricted by conservation easements	<b>2b</b>	
<b>c</b> Number of conservation easements on a certified historic structure included in (a)	<b>2c</b>	
<b>d</b> Number of conservation easements included in (c) acquired after 8/17/06, and not on a historic structure listed in the National Register	<b>2d</b>	

**3** Number of conservation easements modified, transferred, released, extinguished, or terminated by the organization during the tax year ▶ \_\_\_\_\_

**4** Number of states where property subject to conservation easement is located ▶ \_\_\_\_\_

**5** Does the organization have a written policy regarding the periodic monitoring, inspection, handling of violations, and enforcement of the conservation easements it holds?  Yes  No

**6** Staff and volunteer hours devoted to monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year ▶ \_\_\_\_\_

**7** Amount of expenses incurred in monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year ▶ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**8** Does each conservation easement reported on line 2(d) above satisfy the requirements of section 170(h)(4)(B)(i) and section 170(h)(4)(B)(ii)?  Yes  No

**9** In Part XIII, describe how the organization reports conservation easements in its revenue and expense statement, and balance sheet, and include, if applicable, the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that describes the organization's accounting for conservation easements

**Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets.**  
Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 8.

**1a** If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116 (ASC 958), not to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide, in Part XIII, the text of the footnote to its financial statements that describes these items

**b** If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116 (ASC 958), to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide the following amounts relating to these items

**(i)** Revenue included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1 ▶ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**(ii)** Assets included in Form 990, Part X ▶ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**2** If the organization received or held works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets for financial gain, provide the following amounts required to be reported under SFAS 116 (ASC 958) relating to these items

**a** Revenue included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1 ▶ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**b** Assets included in Form 990, Part X ▶ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets** *(continued)*

- 3** Using the organization's acquisition, accession, and other records, check any of the following that are a significant use of its collection items (check all that apply)
- a**  Public exhibition
  - b**  Scholarly research
  - c**  Preservation for future generations
  - d**  Loan or exchange programs
  - e**  Other
- 4** Provide a description of the organization's collections and explain how they further the organization's exempt purpose in Part XIII
- 5** During the year, did the organization solicit or receive donations of art, historical treasures or other similar assets to be sold to raise funds rather than to be maintained as part of the organization's collection?  Yes  No

**Part IV Escrow and Custodial Arrangements.**

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 9, or reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21.

- 1a** Is the organization an agent, trustee, custodian or other intermediary for contributions or other assets not included on Form 990, Part X?  Yes  No
- b** If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII and complete the following table
- |                                        | Amount |
|----------------------------------------|--------|
| <b>c</b> Beginning balance             |        |
| <b>d</b> Additions during the year     |        |
| <b>e</b> Distributions during the year |        |
| <b>f</b> Ending balance                |        |
- 2a** Did the organization include an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21, for escrow or custodial account liability?  Yes  No
- b** If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII Check here if the explanation has been provided in Part XIII . . . . .

**Part V Endowment Funds.** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 10.

	(a) Current year	(b) Prior year	(c) Two years back	(d) Three years back	(e) Four years back
<b>1a</b> Beginning of year balance . . . . .					
<b>b</b> Contributions . . . . .					
<b>c</b> Net investment earnings, gains, and losses					
<b>d</b> Grants or scholarships . . . . .					
<b>e</b> Other expenditures for facilities and programs . . . . .					
<b>f</b> Administrative expenses . . . . .					
<b>g</b> End of year balance . . . . .					

- 2** Provide the estimated percentage of the current year end balance (line 1g, column (a)) held as
- a** Board designated or quasi-endowment ▶
  - b** Permanent endowment ▶
  - c** Temporarily restricted endowment ▶
- The percentages on lines 2a, 2b, and 2c should equal 100%
- 3a** Are there endowment funds not in the possession of the organization that are held and administered for the organization by
- |                                                                                                        | Yes           | No |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|----|
| <b>(i)</b> unrelated organizations . . . . .                                                           | <b>3a(i)</b>  |    |
| <b>(ii)</b> related organizations . . . . .                                                            | <b>3a(ii)</b> |    |
| <b>b</b> If "Yes" on 3a(ii), are the related organizations listed as required on Schedule R? . . . . . | <b>3b</b>     |    |
- 4** Describe in Part XIII the intended uses of the organization's endowment funds

**Part VI Land, Buildings, and Equipment.**

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11a. See Form 990, Part X, line 10.

Description of property	(a) Cost or other basis (investment)	(b) Cost or other basis (other)	(c) Accumulated depreciation	(d) Book value
<b>1a</b> Land . . . . .				
<b>b</b> Buildings . . . . .				
<b>c</b> Leasehold improvements				
<b>d</b> Equipment . . . . .				
<b>e</b> Other . . . . .		10,307	5,281	5,026
<b>Total.</b> Add lines 1a through 1e (Column (d) must equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10(c)) . . . ▶				5,026

**Part VII Investments—Other Securities.** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11b. See Form 990, Part X, line 12.

(a) Description of security or category (including name of security)	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation Cost or end-of-year market value
(1) Financial derivatives . . . . .		
(2) Closely-held equity interests . . . . .		
(3) Other _____		
(A)		
(B)		
(C)		
(D)		
(E)		
(F)		
(G)		
(H)		
<b>Total.</b> (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 12 )		

**Part VIII Investments—Program Related.** Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 11c. See Form 990, Part X, line 13.

(a) Description of investment	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation Cost or end-of-year market value
(1)		
(2)		
(3)		
(4)		
(5)		
(6)		
(7)		
(8)		
(9)		
<b>Total.</b> (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 13 )		

**Part IX Other Assets.** Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 11d. See Form 990, Part X, line 15

(a) Description	(b) Book value
(1) SECURITY DEPOSIT	2,324
(2) DUE FROM CROWDSKOUT	53,594
(3)	
(4)	
(5)	
(6)	
(7)	
(8)	
(9)	
<b>Total.</b> (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 15 )	55,918

**Part X Other Liabilities.** Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 11e or 11f. See Form 990, Part X, line 25.

(a) Description of liability	(b) Book value
(1) Federal income taxes	
DUE TO LEADERSHIP CONSULTING	136
(2)	
(3)	
(4)	
(5)	
(6)	
(7)	
(8)	
(9)	
<b>Total.</b> (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 25 )	136

**2.** Liability for uncertain tax positions In Part XIII, provide the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that reports the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 (ASC 740) Check here if the text of the footnote has been provided in Part XIII

**Part XI Reconciliation of Revenue per Audited Financial Statements With Revenue per Return**

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

<b>1</b>	Total revenue, gains, and other support per audited financial statements . . . . .		<b>1</b>	
<b>2</b>	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12			
<b>a</b>	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments . . . . .	<b>2a</b>		
<b>b</b>	Donated services and use of facilities . . . . .	<b>2b</b>		
<b>c</b>	Recoveries of prior year grants . . . . .	<b>2c</b>		
<b>d</b>	Other (Describe in Part XIII ) . . . . .	<b>2d</b>		
<b>e</b>	Add lines <b>2a</b> through <b>2d</b> . . . . .		<b>2e</b>	
<b>3</b>	Subtract line <b>2e</b> from line <b>1</b> . . . . .		<b>3</b>	
<b>4</b>	Amounts included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, but not on line <b>1</b>			
<b>a</b>	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b . . . . .	<b>4a</b>		
<b>b</b>	Other (Describe in Part XIII ) . . . . .	<b>4b</b>		
<b>c</b>	Add lines <b>4a</b> and <b>4b</b> . . . . .		<b>4c</b>	
<b>5</b>	Total revenue Add lines <b>3</b> and <b>4c</b> . (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 12 ) . . . . .		<b>5</b>	

**Part XII Reconciliation of Expenses per Audited Financial Statements With Expenses per Return.**

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

<b>1</b>	Total expenses and losses per audited financial statements . . . . .		<b>1</b>	
<b>2</b>	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part IX, line 25			
<b>a</b>	Donated services and use of facilities . . . . .	<b>2a</b>		
<b>b</b>	Prior year adjustments . . . . .	<b>2b</b>		
<b>c</b>	Other losses . . . . .	<b>2c</b>		
<b>d</b>	Other (Describe in Part XIII ) . . . . .	<b>2d</b>		
<b>e</b>	Add lines <b>2a</b> through <b>2d</b> . . . . .		<b>2e</b>	
<b>3</b>	Subtract line <b>2e</b> from line <b>1</b> . . . . .		<b>3</b>	
<b>4</b>	Amounts included on Form 990, Part IX, line 25, but not on line <b>1</b> :			
<b>a</b>	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b . . . . .	<b>4a</b>		
<b>b</b>	Other (Describe in Part XIII ) . . . . .	<b>4b</b>		
<b>c</b>	Add lines <b>4a</b> and <b>4b</b> . . . . .		<b>4c</b>	
<b>5</b>	Total expenses Add lines <b>3</b> and <b>4c</b> . (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 18 ) . . . . .		<b>5</b>	

**Part XIII Supplemental Information**

Provide the descriptions required for Part II, lines 3, 5, and 9, Part III, lines 1a and 4, Part IV, lines 1b and 2b, Part V, line 4, Part X, line 2, Part XI, lines 2d and 4b, and Part XII, lines 2d and 4b Also complete this part to provide any additional information

Return Reference	Explanation	
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**Part XIII** **Supplemental Information (continued)**

Return Reference	Explanation
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**Schedule I  
(Form 990)**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

**Grants and Other Assistance to Organizations,  
Governments and Individuals in the United States**

Complete if the organization answered "Yes," on Form 990, Part IV, line 21 or 22.  
▶ Attach to Form 990.  
▶ Information about Schedule I (Form 990) and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990).

OMB No 1545-0047

**2017**

**Open to Public Inspection**

Name of the organization  
ILLINOIS OPPORTUNITY PROJECT  
C/O MATTHEW BESLER

**Employer identification number**  
27-3627386

**Part I General Information on Grants and Assistance**

- 1** Does the organization maintain records to substantiate the amount of the grants or assistance, the grantees' eligibility for the grants or assistance, and the selection criteria used to award the grants or assistance? . . . . .  **Yes**  **No**
- 2** Describe in Part IV the organization's procedures for monitoring the use of grant funds in the United States

**Part II Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Organizations and Domestic Governments.** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 21, for any recipient that received more than \$5,000. Part II can be duplicated if additional space is needed

(a) Name and address of organization or government	(b) EIN	(c) IRC section (if applicable)	(d) Amount of cash grant	(e) Amount of non-cash assistance	(f) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)	(g) Description of noncash assistance	(h) Purpose of grant or assistance
(1) See Additional Data							
(2)							
(3)							
(4)							
(5)							
(6)							
(7)							
(8)							
(9)							
(10)							
(11)							
(12)							

- 2** Enter total number of section 501(c)(3) and government organizations listed in the line 1 table . . . . . ▶ \_\_\_\_\_
- 3** Enter total number of other organizations listed in the line 1 table . . . . . ▶ \_\_\_\_\_

**Part III Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Individuals.** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 22

Part III can be duplicated if additional space is needed

(a) Type of grant or assistance	(b) Number of recipients	(c) Amount of cash grant	(d) Amount of noncash assistance	(e) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)	(f) Description of noncash assistance
(1)					
(2)					
(3)					
(4)					
(5)					
(6)					
(7)					

**Part IV Supplemental Information.** Provide the information required in Part I, line 2; Part III, column (b); and any other additional information.

Return Reference

Explanation

**Additional Data**

**Software ID:**  
**Software Version:**  
**EIN:** 27-3627386  
**Name:** ILLINOIS OPPORTUNITY PROJECT  
C/O MATTHEW BESLER

**Form 990, Schedule I, Part II, Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Organizations and Domestic Governments.**

<b>(a)</b> Name and address of organization or government	<b>(b)</b> EIN	<b>(c)</b> IRC section if applicable	<b>(d)</b> Amount of cash grant	<b>(e)</b> Amount of non-cash assistance	<b>(f)</b> Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)	<b>(g)</b> Description of non-cash assistance	<b>(h)</b> Purpose of grant or assistance
CITIZENS TO ELECT WILLIE PRESTON 8345 S ASHLAND PO BOX 20102 CHICAGO, IL 60620		COMMITTEE ID 32865	11,000		N/A	N/A	SUPPORT THE CANDIDACY OF WILLIE PRESTON
ILLINOIS LIBERTY PAC PO BOX 181 CHICAGO, IL 60690	45-2538742	527	22,200		N/A	N/A	SUPPORT CANDIDATES WHO EMBRACE PUBLIC POLICY ROOTED IN THE PRINCIPLES OF LIBERTY

**Form 990, Schedule I, Part II, Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Organizations and Domestic Governments.**

<b>(a)</b> Name and address of organization or government	<b>(b)</b> EIN	<b>(c)</b> IRC section if applicable	<b>(d)</b> Amount of cash grant	<b>(e)</b> Amount of non-cash assistance	<b>(f)</b> Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)	<b>(g)</b> Description of non-cash assistance	<b>(h)</b> Purpose of grant or assistance
JEFFREY COLEMAN 362 N CLARKE STREET CHICAGO, IL 60654			75,000		N/A	N/A	ISSUE ADVOCACY VIA BARBERSHOP NEWS NETWORK
LINCOLN DAY DINNER PO BOX 59207 SCHAUMBURG, IL 60159			1,800		N/A	N/A	REPUBLICAN FUND RAISE

**Form 990, Schedule I, Part II, Grants and Other Assistance to Domestic Organizations and Domestic Governments.**

<b>(a)</b> Name and address of organization or government	<b>(b)</b> EIN	<b>(c)</b> IRC section if applicable	<b>(d)</b> Amount of cash grant	<b>(e)</b> Amount of non-cash assistance	<b>(f)</b> Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)	<b>(g)</b> Description of non-cash assistance	<b>(h)</b> Purpose of grant or assistance
CUSTOMINK PO BOX 759439 BALTIMORE, MD 21275			6,296		N/A	N/A	T SHIRT COMPANY
IN FIELD STRATEGIES 970 SEACOAST DRIVE 7 IMPERIAL BEACH, CA 91932			60,000		N/A	N/A	DOOR TO DOOR OUTREACH-ILLINOIS HOUSE SEAT #82

**Schedule J**  
**(Form 990)**

# Compensation Information

OMB No 1545-0047

**For certain Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees**

- ▶ **Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 23.**
- ▶ **Attach to Form 990.**
- ▶ **Information about Schedule J (Form 990) and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990).**

# 2017

**Open to Public Inspection**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization  
ILLINOIS OPPORTUNITY PROJECT  
C/O MATTHEW BESLER

Employer identification number  
27-3627386

## Part I Questions Regarding Compensation

	Yes	No
<b>1a</b> Check the appropriate box(es) if the organization provided any of the following to or for a person listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a. Complete Part III to provide any relevant information regarding these items		
<input type="checkbox"/> First-class or charter travel <input type="checkbox"/> Travel for companions <input type="checkbox"/> Tax indemnification and gross-up payments <input type="checkbox"/> Discretionary spending account <input type="checkbox"/> Housing allowance or residence for personal use <input type="checkbox"/> Payments for business use of personal residence <input type="checkbox"/> Health or social club dues or initiation fees <input type="checkbox"/> Personal services (e.g., maid, chauffeur, chef)		
<b>b</b> If any of the boxes in line 1a are checked, did the organization follow a written policy regarding payment or reimbursement or provision of all of the expenses described above? If "No," complete Part III to explain	<b>1b</b>	
<b>2</b> Did the organization require substantiation prior to reimbursing or allowing expenses incurred by all directors, trustees, officers, including the CEO/Executive Director, regarding the items checked in line 1a?	<b>2</b>	
<b>3</b> Indicate which, if any, of the following the filing organization used to establish the compensation of the organization's CEO/Executive Director. Check all that apply. Do not check any boxes for methods used by a related organization to establish compensation of the CEO/Executive Director, but explain in Part III		
<input type="checkbox"/> Compensation committee <input type="checkbox"/> Independent compensation consultant <input type="checkbox"/> Form 990 of other organizations <input type="checkbox"/> Written employment contract <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compensation survey or study <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval by the board or compensation committee		
<b>4</b> During the year, did any person listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, with respect to the filing organization or a related organization		
<b>a</b> Receive a severance payment or change-of-control payment?	<b>4a</b>	No
<b>b</b> Participate in, or receive payment from, a supplemental nonqualified retirement plan?	<b>4b</b>	No
<b>c</b> Participate in, or receive payment from, an equity-based compensation arrangement? If "Yes" to any of lines 4a-c, list the persons and provide the applicable amounts for each item in Part III	<b>4c</b>	No
<b>Only 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations must complete lines 5-9.</b>		
<b>5</b> For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the revenues of		
<b>a</b> The organization?	<b>5a</b>	No
<b>b</b> Any related organization? If "Yes," on line 5a or 5b, describe in Part III	<b>5b</b>	No
<b>6</b> For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the net earnings of		
<b>a</b> The organization?	<b>6a</b>	No
<b>b</b> Any related organization? If "Yes," on line 6a or 6b, describe in Part III	<b>6b</b>	No
<b>7</b> For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization provide any nonfixed payments not described in lines 5 and 6? If "Yes," describe in Part III	<b>7</b>	No
<b>8</b> Were any amounts reported on Form 990, Part VII, paid or accrued pursuant to a contract that was subject to the initial contract exception described in Regulations section 53.4958-4(a)(3)? If "Yes," describe in Part III	<b>8</b>	No
<b>9</b> If "Yes" on line 8, did the organization also follow the rebuttable presumption procedure described in Regulations section 53.4958-6(c)?	<b>9</b>	



**Part III** **Supplemental Information**

Provide the information, explanation, or descriptions required for Part I, lines 1a, 1b, 3, 4a, 4b, 4c, 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b, 7, and 8, and for Part II. Also complete this part for any additional information.

Return Reference	Explanation
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**Schedule L**  
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

**Transactions with Interested Persons**

OMB No 1545-0047

▶ **Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, lines 25a, 25b, 26, 27, 28a, 28b, or 28c, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 38a or 40b.**  
 ▶ **Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.**  
 ▶ **Information about Schedule L (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990).**

**2017**

**Open to Public Inspection**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization  
ILLINOIS OPPORTUNITY PROJECT  
C/O MATTHEW BESLER

Employer identification number  
27-3627386

**Part I Excess Benefit Transactions** (section 501(c)(3), section 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations only)  
 Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 25a or 25b, or Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 40b

1	(a) Name of disqualified person	(b) Relationship between disqualified person and organization	(c) Description of transaction	(d) Corrected?	
				Yes	No

2 Enter the amount of tax incurred by organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under section 4958 . . . . . ▶ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

3 Enter the amount of tax, if any, on line 2, above, reimbursed by the organization . . . . . ▶ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Part II Loans to and/or From Interested Persons.**  
 Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990-EZ, Part V, line 38a, or Form 990, Part IV, line 26, or if the organization reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 5, 6, or 22

(a) Name of interested person	(b) Relationship with organization	(c) Purpose of loan	(d) Loan to or from the organization?		(e) Original principal amount	(f) Balance due	(g) In default?		(h) Approved by board or committee?		(i) Written agreement?	
			To	From			Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No

Total . . . . . ▶ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Part III Grants or Assistance Benefiting Interested Persons.**  
 Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 27.

(a) Name of interested person	(b) Relationship between interested person and the organization	(c) Amount of assistance	(d) Type of assistance	(e) Purpose of assistance

**Part IV Business Transactions Involving Interested Persons.**

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 28a, 28b, or 28c.

(a) Name of interested person	(b) Relationship between interested person and the organization	(c) Amount of transaction	(d) Description of transaction	(e) Sharing of organization's revenues?	
				Yes	No
(1) UPSTREAM IDEAS LLC	PRESIDENT OF THE ORGANIZATION IS A 50% OWNER OF UPSTREAM IDEAS, LLC	158,530	PAYMENT FOR CONSULTING SERVICES		No

**Part V Supplemental Information**

Provide additional information for responses to questions on Schedule L (see instructions)

Return Reference	Explanation

**SCHEDULE O**  
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

**Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ**

OMB No 1545-0047

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

▶ Information about Schedule O (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990).

**2017**

**Open to Public Inspection**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization  
ILLINOIS OPPORTUNITY PROJECT  
C/O MATTHEW BESLER

Employer identification number

27-3627386

**990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information**

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990, PART III, LINE 4D	OTHER PROGRAM SERVICES INCLUDE ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS AND OTHER METHODS USED TO EDUCATE INDIVIDUALS ABOUT PUBLIC POLICY CHOICES

**990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information**

<b>Return Reference</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 11B	PRIOR TO SUBMISSION TO THE IRS, FORM 990 IS PROVIDED TO THE PRINCIPAL OFFICER AND GOVERNING BODY OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR REVIEW

## 990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 11B	PRIOR TO SUBMISSION TO THE IRS, FORM 990 IS PROVIDED TO THE BOARD FOR REVIEW

# 990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 12C	ALL ARE REQUIRED TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT TO BE BOUND BY THE PROVISIONS OF THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY FOR THE DURATION, AND INFORM THE ORGANIZATION OF ANY REPORTABLE CHANGES AS SOON AS THEY OCCUR IN ADDITION, THE ORGANIZATION MONITORS ALL TRANSACTIONS, CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS BY THE BOARD

**990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information**

<b>Return Reference</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 15	COMPENSATION OF CEO IS DETERMINED BY AN EXAMINATION OF COMPARABLE DATE FOR OTHER CEO'S IN THE INDUSTRY COUNTRYWIDE AND IN THE CHICAGOLAND AREA THE INFORMATION FROM THAT RESEARCH IS SHARED WITH THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WHO THEN APPROVE COMPENSATION FOR THE CEO NOTE THAT AN INDEPENDENT CONSULTANT IS NOT UTILIZED IN THE PROCESS FOR OTHER OFFICERS AND KEY EMPLOYEES, THE COMPENSATION PROCESS IS THE SAME WITH THE CEO HAVING FULL DISCRETION AS DELEGATED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## 990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION C, LINE 19	ALL GOVERNING DOCUMENTS, POLICIES, AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

**990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information**

<b>Return Reference</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
FORM 990, PART XII, LINE 1	OTHER METHOD OF ACCOUNTING THE ORGANIZATION USES THE MODIFIED CASH BASIS OF ACCOUNTING CERTAIN EXPENSES ARE RECOGNIZED WHEN RECEIVED RATHER THAN WHEN EARNED AND CERTAIN EXPENSES ARE RECOGNIZED WHEN PAID RATHER THAN WHEN THE OBLIGATION IS INCURRED

**990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information**

<b>Return Reference</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
FORM 990, PART XII, LINE 2C	THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN THE PROCESS SINCE THE PRIOR YEAR