

# Carlos A. Trejo, CFRE

he/him/el

## BIOGRAPHY



*[Image Description: Carlos, a man with a medium complexion and black hair, smiles in front of an indoor mural. He wears thick, brown and blue-rimmed glasses, a light blue button-down shirt, and a dark blue jacket.]*

Carlos is a fund development professional and racial equity advocate in the nonprofit sector. With over a decade of experience, his career has centered on the alignment of values and interests between people and the causes they care about. He excels at establishing sustainable fundraising practices within organizations and is a leader in the sector's efforts to make the fundraising profession more diverse and inclusive.

He brings his strengths in communication, visioning, and analysis to his role as Director of Development at the [Surge Institute](#), an education leadership accelerator with a mission to develop and elevate leaders of color who create transformative change for children, families, and communities. He joined Surge in 2021 and works to manage and enhance individual giving through fundraising campaigns and donor engagement opportunities.

His nonprofit career began as a student at DePaul University, where he took on multiple internships at various organizations. Today, Carlos is an active member of the nonprofit community, committed to the fundraising profession and helping others grow. In December 2022, he achieved the Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) credential. He has been a member of the Association of Fundraising Professionals since 2012 and joined the Chicago Chapter's Board of Directors in 2019. He served as Vice President of Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access in 2020, as Secretary in 2022, and currently serves as President-Elect.

In his free time, Carlos enjoys traveling, hiking, and spending time with loved ones. A lifelong Chicagoan, he was raised on the city's southwest side, which he continues to call home.