

Introducing The Jacky Grimshaw Fellows Program

Creating a pipeline for women of color who will lead transportation into a sustainable and equitable future.

The Jacky Fellows Program

When well-trained women of color are at the table to make decisions about transportation, outcomes are better and more responsive to the needs of individuals, families, and communities. The Jacky Fellows Program will shape the next generation of transportation decision-makers. **Fellowships** and **Internships** will prepare early-career women of color to shape public policy and transportation programs.

This new program at the Center for Neighborhood Technology will contribute to a pipeline of trained and experienced professionals to diversify the leadership of the transportation field. Jacky Grimshaw, Vice President of Government Affairs, and other senior leaders at CNT, will train the Fellows and Interns. Jacky is an astute and experienced public policy strategist whose long career includes dozens of bold and award-winning accomplishments. She has been the sole woman of color working on many transportation and urban programs and her participation has made a huge difference! A central goal of the program is to ensure that her decades of experience, skills, strategic knowledge, and connections is passed on to the next generation of leaders.

The Fellows and Interns will contribute to the transportation work at CNT, which occupies a distinctive position in the field, influencing and implementing public policy and programs with a goal of incorporating community voices and achieving greater equity.

About Jacky Grimshaw

Over her 30+ year career at CNT, Jacky Grimshaw has brought creativity, public policy expertise, and mediation skills to leverage public resources for such ground-breaking programs as U-PASS, which makes public transportation accessible to college students; the formation of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), the award-winning metropolitan planning organization; and IGO, the first Chicago nonprofit carsharing service. She has been a tireless voice promoting transportation policies that equitably serve the needs of the disadvantaged and the neighborhoods in which they live. Prior to joining CNT, she was political advisor to Mayor Harold Washington and director of his Office of Intergovernmental Affairs.

Over the decades, Jacky had learned when and how to successfully work for change in the transportation sector, bringing her lived and professional experiences together and applying them to political, policy, and practical problems. She can recognize opportunities in technical public programs, and build them into innovative solutions for people. The next stage in her journey is to provide other exceptional women of color with the essential skills they need to lead transportation policy into an equitable future.

The Jacky Fellows Program launches in 2023. You are invited to be among its inaugural donors.

For more information, contact:

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The Jacky Fellows Fund will support two-year, full-time positions at CNT for Fellows who have completed a Master’s Degree and two annual year-long internships, one for an undergraduate and one for a graduate student. A third component of the program, scholarships for graduate education, may be added at a later date.

The Fellowship

CNT will hire an early-career professional each year who will serve for two years. She will be introduced to Jacky’s industry connections, learn to make change in the transportation field, and lead projects that advance equity in transportation – all under Jacky’s mentorship and the guidance of other transportation experts at CNT. A second Fellow will begin in the second year of the program. Following a two-year term, the Fellow will transition to another position at CNT or elsewhere in the sector.

The inaugural Fellow is expected to begin in fall 2023. A second will begin in 2024, enabling two Fellows to serve at the same time, starting in the second year, a total of four Fellows during the first four years of the program.

The Internship

CNT will employ one undergraduate and one graduate student each year for a year-long, half-time paid internship who will work on CNT transportation projects under the guidance of Jacky Grimshaw and other staff members. The interns will receive both mentorship and career development support during their time at CNT. As with the Fellowship, there will be one internship in the first year and two each in subsequent years, a total of 7 interns over a four-year period. Partnerships will be established with universities to identify strong candidates and to support their work.

The Need for a Fund

We are creating the Jacky Fellows Fund to support the Fellows Program over several years, and ideally in perpetuity, so that it becomes a stable, **long-term way to diversify the leadership of the transportation industry.**

We need \$100,000 per year to administer the program for an initial period of 4 years – a total of \$400,000. That will pay for four fellows and seven year-long interns, as well as the costs of mentorship and CNT program and administrative support.

How you can be involved

CNT is welcoming sponsors and donors at all levels to seed the Fund:

- Anchor contributions of \$50,000-\$100,000 will enable the program to start strong. Contributors will be recognized as “Jacky Fund Founders.”
- Contributions of \$10,000 and over will receive special recognition.
- Contributors at any amount in 2023 will be recognized as early Jacky Fund supporters.

CNT asks donors to help sustain the Fund by committing support for its first four years.



The Center for Neighborhood Technology, founded in 1978, is a nonprofit, 501c3 organization that delivers innovative analysis and solutions that support community-based organizations and local governments to create neighborhoods that are equitable, sustainable, and resilient.