

# United Church of Christ buys \$5.3 million of medical debt in Chicago, launches national program

by [Hans Holznagel](#) in the [November 20, 2019](#) issue



Traci Blackmon speaks during a medical debt buyout celebration Sunday, Oct. 20, 2019, at Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago. (RNS photo by Emily McFarlan Miller)

Almost 6,000 families on the South Side of Chicago have had their medical debt forgiven through a collaborative effort of the United Church of Christ and other partners. UCC leaders announced October 20 that church donations have wiped out \$5.3 million in medical debt for 5,888 Chicago families. They invited participation in a similar national effort being planned for Giving Tuesday, December 3.

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