



Kanu Iheukumere
Chicago Urban League

During Kanu's tenure at the Chicago Urban League he has served in various capacities, including: Policy and Research Consultant, Senior Policy Advisor, Chief of Staff, Acting Director of the League's Initiatives for African American Males, Acting Director of Workforce Development, and Director of the League's Juvenile Justice campaign. In his multitude of roles, Kanu has served as a senior strategist and has acted on behalf of the Chief Executive Officer and Executive Vice President, leading efforts to improve operational and programmatic performance.

Kanu came to the League as a Senior Policy Advisor in 2007. Prior to the joining the League, Kanu served as a tax increment financing /economic development consultant to the City of Chicago and Hanley Wood, a real estate consulting and market research firm. Kanu's multi-faceted management career includes tenure at the Illinois Department of Human Services, the Chicago Housing Authority, the Illinois Department of Human Rights, A La Carte Entertainment and several community-based organizations.

Kanu is co-author of the League's June 2007 research study that takes an in-depth look at the economic impact the 2016 Olympics can have on Chicago's African American workforce and business community. He also co-authored the League's February 2008 study that examines the economic future of Chicago's African American's over the next decade. Kanu is also a contributing editor to *Strategies*, the Chicago Urban League's policy newsletter.

Kanu holds a graduate degree in Urban Planning and Policy from the University of Illinois, where he specialized in economic development and physical planning.

Kanu is the nephew of the late Eugene Parks one of Madison prominent politicians and he is a past recipient of at Women in Focus Scholarship.