Our Mission: Illinois
Building healthier lives, free of cardiovascular diseases and stroke.

Saving Lives
Over the past decade, death rates from heart disease and stroke dropped by about 38% and 34%, respectively. The American Heart Association’s advocacy, quality and research efforts played a major role in this stunning decrease.

CPR and First Aid
We trained more than 12.4 million potential lifesavers nationwide, including more than 520,000 Illinois residents. You can learn the two steps to save a life at handsonlycpr.org.

Groundbreaking Research
Since 1949, the American Heart Association has invested more than $3.3 billion in research nationwide. We are currently providing more than $17.7 million to fund 167 studies at Illinois research institutions.

Healthy Communities
We successfully advocated to pass Lauren’s Law, ensuring that all Illinois high school students learn CPR before graduation. We’re working to change the legal age to purchase tobacco products from 18 to 21, and we continue to push for daily, quality PE for all Illinois kids. You can join our grassroots efforts at yourethecure.org.

Quality Health Care
We are leading a metropolitan Chicago collaborative composed of 27 hospitals to improve acute stroke care, supported by a generous grant from Genentech.

Multicultural Initiatives
We are improving high blood pressure control among African Americans and Hispanic/Latinos through our Target BP program and healthy food and beverage toolkit. Our signature events, such as the Most Powerful Voices Gospel Tour and Go Red Por Tu Corazon Mother’s Day Celebration, educate and empower at-risk communities.

Valeria is why.
Valeria was born with several critical congenital heart defects, and thanks to the American Heart Association, surgeons were able to repair her heart. Now a healthy 6-year-old, Valeria and her family helped advocate for pulse oximetry screening for all newborns.

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