

JESUS SALAZAR

Senior Field Manager at the Metropolitan Peace Academy

Jesus Salazar is a Senior Field Manager for the Metropolitan Peace Academy (MPA), the Metropolitan Peace Initiatives' (MPI) multi-disciplinary training platform designed to professionalize and strengthen the fields of street outreach and community violence intervention.

A lifelong resident of the Little Village community of Chicago, Salazar has a background and education in nonprofit work, violence prevention and organizing throughout the Little Village community.

He started his work with Cure Violence in 2011 and graduated from the Metropolitan Peace Academy in 2018.

He has created programs like the Graffiti to Mural Project where the focus was to engage young men and women in covering gang graffiti in areas of conflict; and Barrio Scholars, a program focused on enrolling young people into college. Salazar was also part of the Erase the Gang database campaign and worked to end environmental racism in Little Village.

Salazar has worked in bilingual communities as a Field Manager and transitioned to Senior Field Manager of the Metropolitan Peace Academy in 2023, where he facilitates and teaches curricula aimed at helping others become professional outreach workers.