

A man of great passion and vision, Pastor Harris has developed a notable international reputation and established several organizations. Recognizing the need for more “community-minded clergy,” and due to increasing violence in Chicago, in 2007, the **Progress Around the Schools (P.A.T.S. Program)** was born. Every first Saturday of the month, Pastor Harris, clergy, congregants and community members throughout the city, join together in prayer around Chicago Public Schools in order to combat the violence in the city and among youth. The success of the P.A.T.S. program led to the establishment of the **Bright Star Community Outreach** (a 501c3 non-profit organization) in October 2007. This organization is committed to creating collaborative partnership program models designed to provide educational enrichment programs, anti-violence prevention and intervention activities along with good student incentives. He is also the founder of the Bronzeville Family Festival where over 9000 community residents attend annually to receive free laptops, book bags, school supplies, health immunizations, food and so much more.

As a result of his vast community work, he was voted Chairman of the CPS Bronzeville Community Action Council whose sole focus is to make schools better in Chicago. He also serves as President of the 4th Ward Ministerial Alliance and is the Cook County Clergy Coalition President. Pastor Harris was appointed Senior Pastor of Bright Star C.O.G.I.C. on November 18, 1999. A shepherd of a rapidly growing congregation, Bright Star has experienced exponential growth under his leadership. Now pastoring 17 years, his church has increased to more than 1200 parishioners. Pastor Harris currently serves as the Asst. District Superintendent of the W.H.B. North Shore District with Superintendent Clarence Cranford under Bishop W. H. Bonner, Prelate of the Sixth Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of Illinois. One of the youngest pastors to hold this prestigious position in the C.O.G.I.C. organization in Illinois. Of all of his accomplishments, Pastor Harris’ greatest joy comes from his family.



Pastor Chris Harris, Sr.

Follow [@ChrisHarrisSr](https://twitter.com/ChrisHarrisSr)
on Twitter