

Mrs. Tracey “Amaka” Stelly is a proud educator for 31 years and a humanitarian. She participated in a year-long Distinguished leadership program with Columbia University in New York as a CAHN Fellow. She has served as principal in Chicago Public Schools for 11 years at the Mildred I. Lavizzo School. She has since then served as a school counselor, senior manager over the International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program (IBMYP) program, an assistant principal, and principal. With a history of academic success, she has worked collaboratively with the school community to make Lavizzo a high academic performing school. Because of her persistence and collaborative leadership style, Lavizzo has become the first IBMYP School in the Roseland Community in Chicago.

She is the founder of Between Friends Global Network foundation. Between Friends Global Network is a nonprofit organization established to provide educational literacy services and health services for students within the inner city of Chicago, Illinois, and the foreign country of Lagos, Nigeria. Amaka promotes literacy with our Links to Literacy approach by providing portable reading units to assist school-aged students. She seeks to improve the delivery of goods and services of education and health resources. To provide donated educational and hygiene items that will promote safe and healthy environments. Amaka’s corporation is organized and operated exclusively for charitable, literary, health, and wellness purposes. Amaka proudly serves as the secretary of the African Diaspora Sixth Region of Illinois.