

# all Chicago

making homelessness history

February 16, 2017

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**All Chicago** effectively combines immediate resources with long term strategies to address the complex issue of homelessness.

All Chicago's Program eNewsletter (including Continuum of Care news!) goes out on the 15th of each month.

Do you have news or updates to share in the eNewsletter?



## CoC Updates

### CoC Committees Seek New Members

The following groups are seeking members!

#### **HEARTH Funding Opportunities Task Group (FOTG)**

The HEARTH FOTG is responsible for the ranking process and determination for all HUD CoC-funded programs (renewals, and if applicable, reallocated and bonus projects) in the 2017 HUD CoC Program Competition Application-Notification of Funding Availability (NOFA). To nominate a member, [submit this form](#) by Thurs., February 23 at 5pm.

#### **New Projects Workgroup (NPW)**

The NPW will be responsible for developing processes, Requests for Proposal (RFPs), and/or Letters of Interest for funding opportunities identified by the Chicago CoC Board of Directors throughout 2017. In addition, the NPW will be responsible for receiving, reviewing, and scoring applications related to the RFPs and/or LOIs and making recommendations for funding to the CoC Board of Directors. To nominate a member, [submit this form](#) by Thurs., February 23 at 5pm.

#### **Stakeholders Needed!**

The [System Performance and Evaluation Committee \(SPEC\)](#), [Evaluation Tool Subcommittee](#) (scroll down), and [Plan Advisory Committee](#) are looking for stakeholders and at-large members. Stakeholders are representatives from any of the following groups (who are not receiving HUD-CoC funding): public agencies partnering closely with Plan 2.0 implementation; state agencies or major systems addressing physical or mental health care, jail/corrections, substance abuse treatment, child welfare or other systems essential for addressing homelessness; private funders; businesses; faith-based organizations; universities; etc. At-large members are people interested in ending homelessness in Chicago who do not represent other constituency groups, i.e. SPC, LEC, public agencies, major systems, etc.

[Send us an email!](#)

If you're interested in one of the above committees, please contact [CoCPrograms@allchicago.org](mailto:CoCPrograms@allchicago.org).

## Add Your Voice to a CoC Community Conversation

Join Our Mailing List!

Join All Chicago and Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) in a community conversation about building the CoC's capacity to end homelessness.

The conversation will include:

- Observations from key stakeholders (DFSS, funders, and All Chicago) about the significance of this community conversation and its connection to the ongoing work to end homelessness in the City of Chicago
- CSH will share some of their findings from stakeholder interviews and surveys
- A series of recommendations for how the Chicago CoC can collectively begin to recalibrate our shared focus on ending homelessness

### When:

Wednesday, March 8 from 9am to 11am

### Where:

Catholic Charities

[721 N. LaSalle, Chicago, IL](#)

Please [register here](#) by Wednesday, March 1.

## Early Childhood Self Assessment Tool for Supportive Housing

The Administration for Children and Families and the Corporation for Supportive Housing have recently released a guide to early childhood self-assessment for family supportive housing. This tool contains recommendations for making supportive housing safe and developmentally appropriate for children. [Read the full guide here.](#)



## Housing First, Harm Reduction, and Critical Time Intervention Implementation Workshop

This free workshop will cover the Housing First, Harm Reduction, and Critical Time Intervention models and provide tools for effective implementation. The session will include up-to-date research and data on each model's effectiveness, and detailed information on requirements for moving these successful practices forward. It builds on participants' existing knowledge base and will allow participants to understand and describe:

- Importance of the models and the benefits to providers and to the individuals and families served;
- Examples of how and why the models work; and
- Steps needed for an agency to implement the model.



[Piper Ehlen](#), the trainer, manages all Federal Program activity, including HUD funded technical assistance, for [HomeBase](#). HomeBase is a non-profit, public policy law firm based in San Francisco dedicated to building community capacity to end homelessness and reduce poverty.

**When:** Thursday, March 9 from 9am to 3:30pm

**Where:** All Chicago ([651 W. Washington Blvd., Suite 504](#))

[Register here.](#)

## Securing Housing, Securing Work: Partnerships in Ending Homelessness

Register for a two-day workshop on workforce services and strategies for people experiencing homelessness.

**When:** Tuesday, February 28 from 1:30pm to 5pm AND  
Tuesday, March 14 from 9am to 12:30pm

**(Participants must attend both sessions.)**

**Where:** All Chicago ([651 W. Washington Blvd., Ste 504](#))

[Register here.](#)

This workshop is designed for staff at housing programs who have limited familiarity with workforce development systems, strategies and organizations. In the workshop we will:

1. Bust myths about the "unemployability" of people experiencing homelessness;
2. Present tools and resources on workforce development; and
3. Discuss effective partnerships between housing and workforce organizations

The training is highly interactive. Participants are encouraged to bring specific challenges in helping people find employment.

Trainers include:

**Carrie Thomas:** Executive Director, [Chicago Jobs Council](#)

**Chris Warland:** Associate Director, Heartland

Alliance's [National Center on Employment and Homelessness](#)

**Carl Wiley:** Coordinator, Heartland Alliance's [National Center on Employment and Homelessness](#)

## Chronic Homelessness Definition Training

Join All Chicago for a training on HUD's Definition of Chronic Homeless. All HUD CoC-funded Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) programs are encouraged to attend. As a reminder, in 2016, the CoC mandated that all HUD CoC-funded PSH programs fill their turnover units with households experiencing chronic homelessness. Space is limited and previous trainings have filled up, so reserve your spot soon! Email [CoCPrograms@allchicago.org](mailto:CoCPrograms@allchicago.org) with any questions.

**When:** Thursday, February 23 from 3pm to 5pm

**Where:** All Chicago ([651 W. Washington Blvd., Ste 504](#))

[Register here.](#)

## Violence Against Women Act Training

The U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) recently published a final rule regarding the implementation of housing protections authorized in the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (VAWA). The rule will impact all victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, regardless of sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation. If you're interested in learning more about the final rule, join All Chicago for a training. Email [CoCPrograms@allchicago.org](mailto:CoCPrograms@allchicago.org) with any questions.

**When:** Thursday, March 30 from 3pm to 4:30pm

**Where:** All Chicago ([651 W. Washington Blvd., Ste 504](#))

[Register here.](#)



## State Homeless Prevention Program

The State Homeless Prevention Program provides assistance for rent/mortgages, security deposits, and utilities, as well as approved case management and supportive services for Chicago residents who are experiencing homeless or are in imminent danger of eviction or foreclosure. The households must document **a temporary economic crisis** beyond household control, by giving evidence of at least one of the following conditions:

- loss of employment
- medical disability or emergency
- loss or delay of some form of public benefit
- natural disaster
- substantial change in household composition
- victimization by criminal activity
- illegal action by a landlord
- displacement by a government or private action, or some other condition that constitutes a hardship comparable to the conditions described above.

The household must also be able to demonstrate an ability to meet prospective rental/utility obligations or mortgage payments after assistance has been granted based on current or anticipated income. Payments for Homeless Prevention services must be made to a landlord, utility company or other vendor that provides housing or other services on behalf of an applicant.

Individuals and families seeking assistance should **call "311" and ask for "short-term help"** to be assessed and referred to funds.

## Rental Assistance Program Resource

The Department of Family and Support Services (DFSS) Emergency Rental Assistance Program (RAP) provides financial assistance to Chicago residents who are in danger of eviction. The program is designed to stabilize individuals and families in their existing rental unit. Assistance may include payment of up to six months of rent arrears or rent. Application requirements include documentation of a crisis or emergency (such as a temporary loss of income statement from an employer or a court order to evacuate), proof of income, identification, and housing documentation.

Chicago residents can apply for this assistance at any of the [six DFSS Community Service Centers](#). Potential applicants should call the centers to schedule appointments and to learn more about the program.

## Employment Opportunities

**Facing Forward to End Homelessness** is hiring a Director of Development, Grants Communications Manager, and Development Associate/ Bookkeeper. For full job descriptions and application instructions, [go to their website](#).

## Take Action

### Tell Congress to Protect Funding for Affordable Housing Programs

The National Low Income Housing Coalition is seeking 3,000 agencies to sign onto a letter urging members of Congress to lift federal spending caps on affordable housing, community development, and transportation programs. The deadline to sign on is Friday, March 3. [Learn more about the letter here](#) and [sign on your organization with this form](#).

## Other Announcements

## Fundraiser for Homeless Youth-Serving Agencies



On February 24, Pride Action Tank, Aids Foundation of Chicago and others will host an all-night event to raise funds and awareness for youth homelessness. The second-annual Out in the Open Sleep In fundraiser will take place at 2nd Presbyterian

Church (1936 S. Michigan Ave.) from 6pm to 7am.

Participants can sign up to join a fundraising team for one of 13 organizations. Teams will sleep at the church, gym, or other spaces. [Learn more about the Sleep In here.](#)

## Network to End Family Homelessness Seeking Members

Fed up with family homelessness not being a priority? A new national network is forming! The National Network to End Family Homelessness is creating a strong voice for local providers to influence policy and share solutions at the federal, state, and local levels. Already many providers strong, the National Network is spearheaded by the Bassuk Center and Dr. Ellen Bassuk, renowned researcher and advocate on family homelessness.

[Go to the Bassuk Center website](#) to become a member. Questions? Contact Christine Achre at [cachre@primocenter.org](mailto:cachre@primocenter.org) or Nancy Radner at [nradner@primocenter.org](mailto:nradner@primocenter.org).

## Youth Drop-In Center Now Open

Covenant House's Drop-In Center for youth is now open at [30 W. Chicago Ave.](#) For more information on their hours and drop-in services, [check out their flyer.](#)

## Post-Election Mental Health Resources

Lurie Children's Hospital has released mental health resources for children who may be experiencing distress following the election. [Check out their website](#) for presentations, talking points, and other resources.

## Immigration Rights Resources Available

The Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights is offering "Train the Trainer" sessions on their Guide for Community Leaders called "Know Your Rights!" The presentation trains community leaders to ensure immigrant communities are aware of their rights and feel empowered to stand up for them. [Check out the presentation here](#) and [go to their website for more information.](#)

## Public Benefits for Non-Citizens Training

The DuPage Federation on Human Services Reform is offering a free, two-day training that will help service providers better

serve non-citizens as they navigate federal, state, and local public benefit programs. [Sign up for the training here.](#)

### Grant Opportunity for Small Nonprofits

The Illinois Office of the Treasurer is now accepting applications for their Charitable Trust grants program for nonprofits with operating budgets below \$1 million. They are interested in supporting programs that focus on Housing, Food, or Workforce Development. [Go to their website](#) for more information.

### Revised Notice of Expiration Date for Wilson Men's Hotel

The 180-day notice period for the Wilson Men's Hotel will now expire on May 27, 2017. The City of Chicago received a Notice of Intent to Sell or Transfer Property on November 30, 2016. For more information, contact Jay Bomberg at [jaybomberg@yahoo.com](mailto:jaybomberg@yahoo.com).

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