

PLAN 2.0

A Home for Everyone

DISCUSSION GUIDE

FALL 2012

This Discussion Guide was developed by the Plan Advisory Committee in order to promote conversation throughout the community about Plan 2.0 and what it means to you. The Guide is a good place to start, but feel free to focus your discussion on the strategic priorities and questions that are most important to you and your work.

Committees, constituency groups, commissions, organizations, and boards are encouraged to use this Guide to begin talking about Plan 2.0 and for ongoing reflection on the Plan's implementation. It would be helpful to be familiar with Plan 2.0 prior to your discussion. Copies of Plan 2.0 are available at www.thechicagoalliance.org.

The Chicago Alliance to End Homelessness and the Chicago Department of Family and Support Services will provide regular updates to the community on Plan 2.0 implementation via semi-annual reports and Continuum of Care meetings. Contact [Nicole Amling](#) at (312) 379-0301, ext. 31 if you need additional information or would like to volunteer for a Plan 2.0 committee.

Summary of Plan 2.0

Plan 2.0 is an updated and refined approach to preventing and ending homelessness in Chicago, driven by community need and input. Plan 2.0 is divided into seven strategic priorities that represent the most cutting edge thinking from around the county and in our own backyard, as well as lessons learned from implementing the first Plan. The vision of Chicago's Plan 2.0 is that, in our community, everyone has a home. When every Chicagoan has access to a safe, decent, and affordable home – homelessness ends in Chicago.

1. **The Crisis Response System:** Create an effective crisis response system that prevents homelessness whenever possible and rapidly returns people who experience homelessness to stable housing.
2. **Access to Stable and Affordable Housing:** Create and maintain stable and affordable housing for households who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness.
3. **Youth Homelessness:** Create a comprehensive, developmentally appropriate menu of services for youth who experience homelessness in order to prevent homeless youth from becoming the next generation of homeless adults.

4. **Employment:** Increase meaningful and sustainable employment opportunities for people experiencing or most at risk of homelessness.
5. **Advocacy and Civic Engagement:** Engage all of Chicago in a robust plan that creates a path to securing a home for everyone in our community.
6. **Cross-Systems Integration:** Work across public and private systems of care to ensure ending homelessness is a shared priority.
7. **Capacity Building:** Ensure a strong homeless assistance system capable of implementing Plan 2.0 goals and HEARTH Act performance standards.

Recommended Discussion Questions

1. Which strategic priorities are particularly important to you? And why?
2. Where does your organization/program type/population you serve fit into Plan 2.0?
3. What opportunities does Plan 2.0 provide for your organization? Your program type? The population you serve?
4. As Plan 2.0 is implemented, how might your services/program type look different?
5. How does Plan 2.0 align with your organization's mission and strategic plan?
6. How do you think Plan 2.0 relates to other community initiatives and priorities?
7. How can our group (committee/constituency group/commission/organization/board) participate fully in Plan 2.0 implementation?

Opportunities to Get Involved

- Familiarize yourself with the seven strategic priorities and 80 action items of Plan 2.0.
- Educate your colleagues and board about what Plan 2.0 means for your organization.
- Assign a Plan 2.0 point person for your agency.
- Encourage the consumers you work with to participate in Plan 2.0 implementation.
- Help us share Plan 2.0 with the broader community: put a link on your website; spread the word via social media; and forward it to others who are not already engaged in our work.
- Talk to your funders about what opportunities Plan 2.0 might bring to your organization.
- Attend Continuum of Care meetings.
- Join a specialized committee working on Plan 2.0 priorities.