

CHICAGO ALLIANCE TO END HOMELESSNESS

Service Providers Commission

Charter

What is the Service Providers Commission?

- The Service Providers Commission (SPC) of the Chicago Alliance to End Homelessness (the Alliance) is a membership coalition of nearly 100 organizations providing homeless services and advocacy in Chicago and working to end homelessness.

What does the SPC do?

- Be a unified voice for the mission and vision of ending homelessness.
- Undertake advocacy around ending homelessness.
- Be involved in developing and implementing strategies to end homelessness, inclusive of Chicago's 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness.
- Give input on direction, funding priorities, issues, and programs around ending homelessness.
- Raise red flag concerns as identified.
- Contribute expertise and advice as needed.
- Identify service gaps and improve the homeless service system coordination.
- Nominate two people for the Alliance Board and six people for the Chicago Planning Council on Homelessness, ensuring that those nominated represent a diverse population of providers and consumers they serve.
- Serve as a check and balance for the Chicago Planning Council on Homelessness.
- Vote on major items affecting service providers, including ones with policy implications.
- Ratify new constituency groups/caucuses.

When does the Service Providers Commission meet?

- The Commission meets a minimum of four times a year and may call additional meetings as needed.
- At these meetings, the Commission will address major issues identified and elect its Executive Committee.

Who participates in the SPC?

- Agencies that become a member of the SPC.
- Agencies that provide services or advocacy to people or on behalf of people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness as a primary organizational function.
- Agencies that operate in Chicago.
- Agencies that support the mission of the Alliance and the SPC.
- Agencies that have a 501(c)(3) designation from the Internal Revenue Service.
- Agencies that identify one representative and an alternate to the SPC.
- It is expected that agencies will attend the four meetings of the Commission.
- Agencies that pay annual dues. Annual dues will be as follows:

<u>Agency Budget</u>	<u>Dues</u>
Over \$3M	\$500
\$1M-\$3M	\$250
\$500,000-\$1M	\$100
\$100,000-\$500,000	\$50
Under \$100,000	0

Dues forgiveness will be available for agencies that are unable to pay.

Why join?

Service providers decide to participate on the SPC because it is an opportunity:

- To participate in advocacy efforts focused on ending homelessness in Chicago.
- To help plan, coordinate and set priorities for Chicago's homeless system.
- To benefit from additional resources in the homeless service system.
- To provide advocacy for member agencies.
- To build relationships and network with colleagues.
- To share information with other service providers.
- To coordinate a unified voice at the Chicago Planning Council on Homelessness rather than representing numerous, individual voices.
- To provide a voice for the people and communities served by the Alliance.
- To receive up-to-date information.
- To receive TA.

What are the components of the SPC?

- The Commission as a whole.
- The Executive Committee of the SPC.
- The constituency groups/caucuses.
- Committees of the SPC.

Who makes up the Executive Committee of the SPC?

- 25 people make up the Executive Committee of the SPC: twelve individuals elected from the Commission and one representative of each service provider constituency group/caucus. The total number may expand to 30, if more constituency groups and/or caucuses are added.
- A process for nomination will be developed for the 12 individuals from the Commission.
- Executive Committee officers: 4 officers (2 yr term –all change in same year) elected by the Executive Committee itself (Chair, 2 vice-chairs, secretary)

What is the Executive Committee of the SPC responsible for?

- Leadership and coordination of the SPC.
- Creation of committees as needed to address specific issues.
- Planning the meetings of the SPC.
- Coordinating SPC response to major issues arising between regular SPC meetings.

When does the Executive Committee of the SPC meet?

- The Executive Committee will meet regularly every other month.

What is the relationship between the SPC and the constituency groups/caucuses?

- Currently there are 13 constituency groups/caucuses consisting of service providers. A formally established constituency group is one which represents an association of organizations or individuals who are Alliance stakeholders; holds regularly scheduled meetings to address homeless issues in the Chicago area; and has registered with the Alliance office or the former Chicago Continuum of Care.
 - 5 are organized by program type (Employment Services and Training, Homeless Prevention Services, Interim Housing Providers, Permanent Supportive Housing, Wrap-Around Services Constituency Group)
 - 8 are organized around a specific interest area (AIDS Housing Constituency Group, The Chicago Community Based Black Caucus, Chronic Homeless Constituency Group, Health Care for Homeless Constituency Group, Homeless Families Constituency Group, Homeless Youth Provider Constituency Group, Latino Caucus, Domestic Violence Constituency Group)
- Constituency groups/caucuses:
 - Provide input to the SPC from the perspective of their constituency.
 - Meet monthly.

- Develop annual goals and objectives for their constituency group/caucus in relation to the vision and priorities of the SPC.
- Elect a representative to the SPC Executive Committee.