

all Chicago

making homelessness history

January 17, 2017

In This Issue

[HUD Funding
Announcement](#)

[Point-in-Time Count](#)

[Youth Point-in-Time Count](#)

[Housing Inventory Count](#)

[CoC Orientation](#)

[New CoC Groups Seek
Members](#)

[Compliance Corner](#)

[In the News](#)

[SOAR TA Awarded](#)

[Chronic Homelessness
Training](#)

[Mental Health Training](#)

[State Homeless Prevention
Funds](#)

[Rental Assistance Program](#)

[All Chicago Welcomes New
Staff](#)

[Driver's License Survey](#)

[Computer User Support
Training](#)

[Nonviolence Workshop](#)

[Mentoring Program](#)

[Housing Affordability Group](#)

[Sign-On Letter](#)

[The Lorali Building Update](#)

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



CoC Updates

CoC Funding Announcement

On December 20, 2016, HUD announced the FY 2016 CoC grant awardees for Tier 1 and 2 projects. Chicago's CoC was awarded \$64,921,879 in new and renewed support. You can access the complete [list of Illinois' CoC grants here](#). Grants made to Chicago's CoC begin on page six.

Volunteer for the Point-in-Time (PIT) Count!

Chicago's PIT Count will take place on **Thursday, January 26 from 8pm to 2am**, and we are seeking volunteers to help canvass the city.

The PIT count provides a snapshot of Chicago's homeless population, which includes those in a homeless program and those on the street. The data gathered serves not only to raise public awareness about homelessness, but also is used for services and resources planning.

If you are interested in volunteering, please sign up [here](#). If this is your first time volunteering, review the [PIT Volunteer FAQs](#).

Youth Point-in-Time (PIT) Count

Developing capacity to address the needs of unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness requires credible estimates of their number. In an effort to count youth experiencing homelessness in the City of Chicago, we will be conducting a Youth Count in conjunction with the traditional Point-in-Time Count. The Youth Count will start at **3pm on January 26 and will continue until 7pm on January 27**. If your agency is interested in hosting an event promoting the Youth Count or have youth interested in participating as a volunteer interviewer, please email DFSS at Homelesscount@cityofchicago.org.

Housing Inventory Count (HIC) Training Webinar

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?

[Send us an email!](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Each year, All Chicago counts all dedicated housing inventory (beds and units) for individuals and families experiencing homelessness, regardless of funding. If your agency has an Emergency Shelter, Youth Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, Youth Transitional Housing, Interim Housing, Youth Interim Housing, Permanent Housing w/ Short Term Supports, Permanent Supportive Housing, Youth Permanent Supportive Housing, Other Permanent Housing, and Safe Haven program, please attend this training so you may complete an accurate HIC for your program(s). A separate training will be held for Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF), Transition in Place (TIP) and Rapid Re-Housing programs.

When: Thursday, January 19 from 2pm to 3:30pm

[Register for the webinar here.](#)

You must submit a HIC survey for each program no later than **5pm on Monday, January 30**. For further information, please contact Elizabeth Perez at eperez@allchicago.org

Chicago Continuum of Care Orientation

This orientation will provide an opportunity to learn more about the structure and committees of the Chicago Continuum of Care (CoC), as well as an overview of the HUD CoC funding process.

When: Thursday, January 19 from 2pm to 4pm

Where: Department of Family and Support Services (DFSS)
[1615 W. Chicago Ave., Room 155 \(1st Floor Conference Room\), Chicago, IL 60622](#)

If you are interested in attending, please register [here](#).

Newly Approved CoC Groups Seek Member Nominations

At the December Continuum of Care Board of Directors Meeting, the Board authorized the formation of the 2017 HEARTH Funding Opportunities Task Group and the New Projects Workgroup. The groups are integral to funding decisions made on behalf of the CoC.

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 Weds., January 25 at noon.**

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 and making recommendations to the CoC Board of Directors for funding. **To nominate a member, [submit this form](#) by Weds., January 25 at noon.**

[Go to the CoC website](#) for a complete description of each group, who is eligible to serve, and nomination instructions.

All Chicago's Compliance Corner

HUD Releases Final Rule Regarding Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act

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), which impacts all victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, regardless of sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation, and which must be applied consistent with all nondiscrimination and fair housing requirements.

These regulations are effective on December 16, 2016 and have important implication for HUD-funded programs. For further information, [visit the published Rule](#). Keep an eye out for a training from All Chicago on this important matter.

Chronic Homelessness Definition Flowchart

HUD recently posted new resources on the [HUD Exchange](#) on the Definition of Chronic Homelessness. Based on community feedback, All Chicago created [a more user-friendly flowchart](#) of HUD's Definition of Chronic Homelessness, and all are encouraged to use it!

In the News: Castro Releases Exit Memo

In preparation for a new administration, Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Julián Castro penned an exit memo that outlined his department's accomplishments and provided suggestions for the path ahead. Most notably, Castro highlighted the significant drop in veteran homelessness and urged Congress to learn from the success of that work. "I strongly encourage states and local communities to focus on the proven best practices that employ data-driven, collaborative efforts to reduce homelessness across the board. I hope that Congress will take the lessons learned from the extraordinary progress we've made reducing veteran homelessness, and make the same strategic and consistent investments for other populations," Castro said.

[Read the full memo here.](#)



CoC Awarded SOAR TA Center Help

In December, All Chicago submitted an application on behalf of the Chicago CoC for special technical assistance from the [SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery \(SOAR\) TA Center](#). The assistance was awarded and will help facilitate planning around enhanced SOAR services in our CoC, as well as structures to sustain SOAR. The award includes participation in the SOAR Leadership Academy and a one-day planning forum.

Training on Definition of Chronic Homelessness and Recordkeeping

In 2016, the CoC mandated that all HUD CoC-funded Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) programs fill their turnover units with households experiencing chronic homelessness. This mandate is effective as of January 2017. Therefore, All Chicago invites all HUD CoC-funded PSH Programs to attend a training on the Definition of Chronic Homelessness and Recordkeeping. Please register for one of the following trainings:

When: Thursday, February 9 or Thursday, February 16
3pm to 5pm

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

[Register for the training on Feb. 9 here](#), or [register for the training on Feb. 16 here](#).

Please email CoCPrograms@allchicago.org with any questions.

Mental Health First Aid Training

Mental Health First Aid is a free, eight-hour course that teaches you how to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance use disorders. Participants Learn:

- Risk factors and warning signs of mental health and substance use problems;
- Information on depression, anxiety, trauma, psychosis and substance use;
- A five-step action plan to help someone who is developing a mental health problem or in crisis; and
- Available evidence-based professional, peer and self-help resources.

All participants receive a three-year certificate and a Mental Health First Aid manual. The training will be conducted by [Sertoma Centre, Inc.](#)

[Register for the training here.](#)

When: Friday, February 17 from 9am to 5pm

Where: All Chicago, Learning Center Conference Room
[651 W. Washington Blvd., Ste 504, Chicago, IL](#)



State Homeless Prevention Program

After more than a year on hiatus, the State Homeless Prevention Funds program is running again and able to serve at-risk and homeless households.

The Homeless Prevention Program provides rental/mortgage assistance, security deposit assistance, utility assistance, approved case management, and approved supportive services to individuals and families who are Chicago residents in imminent danger of eviction, foreclosure or are currently homeless. Supportive services are provided in an effort to stabilize families in their existing homes, shorten the amount of time that individuals and families stay in shelters, and assist individuals and families with securing affordable housing. The households must document to the provider **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 which constitutes a hardship comparable to the other conditions enumerated 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 who provides housing or other services on behalf of an applicant for assistance.

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

Rental Assistance Program Resource

The Department of Family and Support Services (DFSS) Emergency Rental Assistance Program (RAP) provides financial assistance to Chicago residents directly related to the prevention of homelessness to eligible individuals and

families 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 crisis of 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.

Other Announcements

All Chicago Welcomes New Staff Members

Steven Gaydos, CPA - Chief Financial and Operations Officer

Steve joined All Chicago in January 2017, bringing a strong track record of effective financial management in the social service field. Prior to All Chicago, Steve served as the Director of Finance and Administration with Catholic Charities, Diocese of Joliet for five years. As a result of his financial and administrative leadership, Catholic Charities experienced a period of unprecedented growth in both net assets and organizational capacity. In recognition for his many achievements, the Daily Herald Business Ledger named Steve CFO of the Year in 2015.



Before his transition to the nonprofit sector, Steve was a principal for over 20 years with Professional Business Management, Inc., a healthcare consulting firm. Steve had also previously been the CFO with The Thrush Companies, a real estate development company in Chicago. He holds a B.S. in accountancy from the University of Illinois, and a master's degree in taxation from DePaul University. Steve is a certified public accountant and was awarded the prestigious Elijah Watts Sells award and the Illinois Bronze medal for his superior scores on the CPA exam.

Gail Schechter - Director of Innovation and Impact

Gail Schechter has been a city and suburban leader in fair and affordable housing policy advocacy and research, housing discrimination investigation, and tenant and community organizing since 1984. She is also a widely recognized thought leader in conceiving of and implementing creative grassroots strategies for fostering inclusive, just and diverse communities. From 1993 to 2016,



she served as Executive Director of Open Communities, the north suburban Chicago area's housing, economic and social justice organization. In 2012, she was appointed by Illinois Governor Pat Quinn to fill the "affordable housing advocate" seat on the newly constituted State Housing Appeals Board, the enforcement body for the Affordable Housing Planning and Appeal Act. She also serves

on the Board of Directors of Chicago Area Peace Action.

Most recently, she authored the definitive history of the North Shore Summer Project and its evolution to Open Communities for [The Chicago Freedom Movement: Martin Luther King Jr. and Civil Rights Activism in the North](#) (University of Kentucky Press, 2016). With several co-authors, she founded the newly launched Addie Wyatt Center for Nonviolence Training in Chicago. She is the recipient of numerous honors for her social justice advocacy including the "Champion of the Public Interest" award from Business and Professional People in the Public Interest (BPI). Ms. Schechter holds a B.A. with Honors in History from Oberlin College and an M.A. in Urban and Environmental Policy from Tufts University.

Illinois Suspended Driver's License Survey

The Chicago Jobs Council (CJC) is distributing a survey to better understand the impact of suspended driver's licenses on clients of social services, legal aid, and other community-based organizations. This information will assist in fighting against burdensome license suspensions that can create barriers for vulnerable populations. For more information on how to share the survey with your clients, [view the survey instructions](#) and links to both printable and online versions of the survey in English and Spanish. The deadline for this survey is **Friday, January 20**. For more information or other language options, please contact Eric Halvorson at eric@cjc.net or 312-252-0436.

Computer User Support Training

The Center for Changing Lives is now accepting applications for the Computer User Support Training Program, which is designed to help students begin or advance their career in the field of Information Technology as a Computer User Support Technician or HelpDesk Associate. The program consists of a 16-week digital literacy bridge program and a 16-week IT Ready CompTIA A+ exam prep course and certification. Applicants must be available 16-20 hours per week for 8 months starting when classes begin on Monday, February 13th. Download [the program flyer](#) and [the application timeline](#) for more information.

If you have any questions regarding the application and enrollment process, please contact Peter Escobar at peter@cclconnect.org or call 773-342-6210 x252.

Kingian Nonviolence Workshop

Sign up for a free "Introduction to Kingian Nonviolence" two-day workshop for those who, in turn, want to train and empower youth, particularly youth organizers, educators, and outreach workers. Veteran Kingian trainer [Kazu Haga, director of the East Point Peace Academy](#) in Oakland, will fly in to co-conduct the training. Please see [the workshop flyer](#) and [Facebook event](#) for more information. The Wyatt Center gives a certificate to those who complete the training.

When: Monday, January 23 & Tuesday, January 24 from 10am to 4pm

Where: [333 S. State St., Chicago, IL](#), Room 3A (3rd Floor)

Mentoring Program for Youth with Disabilities

Access Living is seeking mentors and mentees to apply for their Disability Justice Mentoring Collaborative (DJMC). The DJMC will help youth (ages 13-18) develop self-advocacy skills to fight discrimination, build self-confidence, and have a voice in decisions that impact them. [Download the flyer](#) for more information.

Interested youth can [download an application here](#), and interested mentors can [download an application here](#). [Email Elisha Nightingale](#) or call (312) 640-2131 with questions.

Housing Affordability and Residential Desegregation Interest Group

The League of Women Voters (LWV) of Cook County has initiated a Housing Affordability and Residential Desegregation interest group to better understand the housing landscape in the region and narrow down a specific focus for LWV study and advocacy. The group, which comprises women encompassing local Leagues, is especially interested in initiatives to create and sustain affordable housing without prompting gentrification on the one hand or racial and economic segregation on the other. For more information, email Gail Schechter at gschechter@allchicago.org.

Letter to Protect Federal Nutrition Programs

Consider signing onto a letter that urges the Illinois Congressional Delegation to avoid making cuts to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and other federal anti-hunger programs. You can add your organization's name by **Wednesday, January 18**.

[Read the full letter and sign on here.](#)

Changes at The Lorali Building

The City of Chicago has received a Notice of Intent to Sell or Transfer Property for The Lorali Building (1039 W. Lawrence). The 180-day notice period will expire on June 13, 2017. For more information, contact Nate Smiley at Nate@TheLorali.com or 773-561-1133.

All Chicago, 651 W. Washington, Suite 504, Chicago, IL 60661

SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}

[Forward email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by info@allchicago.org in collaboration with



Try it free today