

all Chicago

making homelessness history

May 16, 2016

Chicago Continuum of Care

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Handbags for Homes

Handbags for Homes is a signature event for Chicago's professional women to network, enjoy cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, and have fun while helping to end homelessness in Chicago. Handbags for Homes will showcase a fabulous collection of designer purses, which guests can win by buying raffle tickets.

[Buy your tickets now!](#)

Proceeds for this event go directly to support All Chicago's work to prevent and end homelessness.



SAVE THE DATE: 2016 Workshops & TA

The Learning Center will host technical assistance trainings and workshops for those who are interested in learning more about key issues within our CoC. This list will be regularly updated. Register now!

- [Human Trafficking in the Homeless System- May 19](#)

Research and anecdotes from survivors tell us that they are engaging in systems such as homeless services, medical services, and public benefits but they are not being asked the appropriate questions to identify them as a survivor of human trafficking. As a result, they are not linked with comprehensive, specialized services to ensure their rights are protected and they receive the maximum

[Homeless Youth Policy](#)

[Performance Pilots](#)

[USICH Webinar](#)

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

The Chicago Continuum of Care eNewsletter 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!](#)

amount of services and resources available to them. The training will equip you with knowledge on human trafficking indicators, screening questions to ask, and next-steps if/when a survivor is identified.



CoC Membership Announcement

The CoC Finance Committee selected All Chicago as its 2016 fiscal agent to bill and collect dues. All dues will be deposited in a dedicated CoC bank account and used to partially fund the administrative support of the CoC, including but not limited to:

- Staff support for CoC committees
- Production of meeting materials
- Fees related to the CoC website portal and listservs

The following dues structure was approved by the CoC Board of Directors:

- Homeless or Formerly Homeless: **\$0**
- Government: **\$0**
- Student: **\$7**
- Individual: **\$30**
- Business/Organization- Under \$100,00: **\$50**
- Business/ Organization- \$100,000 - \$500,000: **\$100**
- Business/Organization- \$500,000 - \$1,000,000: **\$250**
- Business/Organization- \$1,000,000 - \$3,000,000: **\$350**
- Business/Organization- Over \$3,000,000: **\$500**

Please send your completed membership form and dues payment to:

Chicago Continuum of Care
c/o All Chicago
651 W. Washington, Suite 504
Chicago, IL 60661

If you wish to pay by credit card, please contact Bill Wallace of All Chicago at 312-379-0301 x18.

If you or your organization is experiencing financial hardship, a request for a full or partial waiver of membership dues should be made on agency letterhead and sent to the fiscal agent, All Chicago, at the above address to the attention of Bill Wallace, and it will be submitted to the CoC Finance Committee for approval.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Bobbi Ball, CoC Finance Committee Chair,

at bobbi@picbchicago.org or Bill Wallace,
at bwallace@allchicago.org.

Chicago Continuum of Care Membership

Are you committed to ending homelessness?

Do you want to be part of the efforts to ensure that everyone has a place to call home?

If so, WE NEED YOU to join the Chicago CoC!

The Chicago Continuum of Care (CoC) is inviting all stakeholders join via the membership application.

[You can complete the membership application here.](#)

If you are unable to complete the application online, please email CoCPrograms@allchicago.org to request a paper copy of the application.

HUD Tier 2 Awards Spotlight

Here is an excellent recap of what we are seeing across the country regarding the recent CoC Tier 2 awards. Tier 2 decisions were driven largely by CoC-wide performance- the Chicago CoC received all Tier 2 project funding.

Read more [here](#).

CoC Website Update

We are excited to announce the revamp of the Chicago CoC pages, which can be found [here](#). You will now be able to find updates and announcements, committee information, meeting materials, and more.

This is a work in progress and we would love to hear what else you would like to see included. Please contact, [Lydia Stazen Michael](#), Vice President of Development & Communications, with your comments and suggestions.

All CoC Meeting

The All CoC Meeting is an opportunity for all persons or groups interested in becoming or continuing on as members of the Chicago Continuum of Care. All stakeholders are encouraged to attend, including service providers, persons with lived experience of homelessness, funders, government representatives, and all other community partners working to end homelessness in the City of Chicago.

June 21, 2016

Deborah's Place Gym
(2822 W. Jackson)
9:00 - 11:30 a.m.

We look forward to your participation. This meeting is open to all, however, registration is required. You can register [HERE](#). For additional information about the meeting, please see the registration page.

If you have any questions, please contact:

[Audrey Thomas](#), Membership Committee Chair

[Loren Seeger](#), CoC Program Manager

Advocacy Survey

The Advocacy Committee of the Continuum of Care (CoC) is responsible for engaging our community in a robust plan that creates a path to securing a home for everyone in Chicago. More specifically, this Committee is responsible for coordinating, partnering and/or leading efforts to influence policy and resource allocation that affects the CoC.

In order to fulfill its mission and to be more responsive to the needs of the broader CoC community, the Advocacy Committee would like to better understand what policy issues are most important to you. In order to gather this information, the Committee is asking you to participate in a survey to express these advocacy concerns:

<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/2709466/Advocacy-Interest-Survey>

All surveys are due on Wednesday, May 18.

The Advocacy Committee will collect responses and all stakeholders will have the opportunity to vote on their top interests at the All Continuum of Care Meeting (see above in eNewsletter).

If you have any questions about the survey or the Advocacy Committee, please feel free to contact:

Jennifer Nelson Seals: j.nelson@interfaithhouse.org

Jim LoBianco: jlobianco@teenliving.org

Consuella Brown: cbrown@allchicago.org

Loren Seeger: lseeger@allchicago.org

Survey For Employment Providers

Employment is a featured strategic priority in Chicago's Plan 2.0. The Employment Taskforce of the Continuum of Care is working diligently to discover ways to increase meaningful and sustainable employment opportunities for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

The Taskforce is starting this work by assessing the current landscape of available services in order to make valuable policy and practice recommendations. By participating in this survey, your agency will advance collaboration between homeless assistance and employment systems. The data you provide will be kept confidential and only shared in the aggregate.

<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/2671454/Providers-Delivering-Employment-Services>

Please complete this survey by Friday, May 27.

If you have any questions, please contact:

[Loren Seeger](#), CoC Program Manager

HIC/PIT Update

On behalf of the City of Chicago, All Chicago has submitted the 2016 Housing Inventory (HIC) and Point-in-Time (PIT) count data to HUD on May 2, 2016. All Chicago and the Department of Family and Support Services will be creating a 2016 HIC & PIT Report that will be shared publicly. Please stay tuned for the release of this report. On behalf of All Chicago and DFSS, thank you for your participation in the 2016 HIC and PIT!

CoC Program Changes with 2015 Grants

Over the past several months, a few changes have been made in how HUD implements the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program to help providers operate the programs more effectively and with less administrative burden. These changes include:

- Nonprofit organizations have permanent authority to administer rental assistance awarded through the CoC Program. Previously, this authority was included in the annual Appropriations Act and could have changed under any given Fiscal Year's funding.
- Program income can be counted as match for FY 2015 and FY 2016 CoC Program awards. Costs paid for by program income can be considered match for grants awarded in the FY 2015 and FY 2016 CoC Program Competition so long as the funds are expended on eligible CoC Program costs that supplement the recipient's project.
- Tenant-based leasing projects are no longer subject to Section 58.5. In units where the program participant chooses the location of the unit, recipients will now use the [Exempt/CENST form](#) to cover those units. Previously, tenant-based leasing projects were subject to a higher level of review. Step-by-step guidance on environmental reviews can be found on the [environmental review flow chart page](#).

Only one [Exempt/CENST form](#) needs to be filled out per project.

Previously, projects were required to complete this form for each individual unit. This form is completed by projects or activities that are determined to be exempt or categorically excluded from Section 58.5 (e.g., tenant-based leasing or rental assistance, or supportive services only (SSO) projects).



Check back soon for more information!

Partner News

Comment Period for Federal Funding

HUD's Secretary Castro announced that a comment period on the federal homeless funding formula will be reopening no later than June 21, 2016.

Rep. Scott Peters has been working since 2013 to bring greater equity to the geographic distribution of homeless funding. His own district includes San Diego, which has the 5th highest level of homelessness in the country, only receives only the 23rd highest amount. The National Homeless Information Project has reported results of its analysis which shows large geographic variances in funding when compared to reported one-day homeless prevalence.

[Click here for the full press release.](#)

FY2016 Formula for Housing Trust Fund

HUD has published the FY 2016 formula allocation amounts for Housing Trust Fund (HTF) grantees, which include the 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the insular areas. [View the Federal Register Notice](#) that contains the awards. For further information, please visit the HTF homepage located on the HUD Exchange.

NAEH Conference

The National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH) is holding its annual conference July 26 - 28, 2016 in Washington DC. NAEH has established a Scholarship Program to assist individuals who are currently, or have formerly experienced homelessness and cannot afford to cover the full cost of participating in the conference, or travel and hotel costs associated with the conference. For more information on how to apply.

[Please click for more information on how to apply.](#)

Inspiration Corporation Training Services

Food Service Training Program:

Inspiration Corporation's Food Service Training Program assists low-income job seekers in attaining good, entry-level employment in the food service industry.

In the program, students learn knife skills, soups and sauces, baking and how to work with meats, poultry, fish, and vegetables. Most of the training is hands-on, in the kitchen of a real restaurant. During the thirteen week program, students should be prepared to train during brunch, lunch, dinner, and weekend shifts. All students test for food handlers certificates. The training begins with four weeks of employment preparation training, such as writing resumes and interviewing.

Orientations are held every Tuesday at 1 p.m. at Inspiration Kitchens-Garfield Park, 3504 W. Lake Street

For further information about the program, call/email: Arneice Edwards 773-940-1637 ext. 19; aedwards@inspirationcorp.org

Employment Services:

Inspiration Corporation helps people who need assistance finding employment. Services begin with a 4 week workshop to help develop tools and support.

Orientation is every Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. at 4554 N. Broadway, 2nd Floor.

For further information, call 773.878.0981 ext. 237

Ventra Report

Collectively, social service providers in Chicago spend over \$1,000,000 on Ventra cards and tickets every month to offer transit assistance to their program participants. But Ventra is costly and burdensome to providers. That's why Chicago Jobs Council has spent more than two years working with our members to make sure that the Ventra system meets their needs.

You can [read the report](#) and share recommendations on social media.

Mainstream Benefits & ACA Trainings

As part of the Collaborative Agreements to Benefit Homeless Individuals for States - Enhancement (CABHI State-Enhancement) and in partnership with the DuPage Federation on Human Services Reform, two webinars will be offered to assist providers working with ACA/Medicaid (eligibility/reimbursement) and Medical documentation needs of individuals seeking mainstream benefits.

[For more information, click here.](#)

Early Learning Education for Youth Children

The Child Homelessness Work Group of the All Families Served Subcommittee is conducting a survey to identify ways to support homeless service providers serving children birth to five. They would like to learn more about what is working well and what is challenging for current programs who are working with young children in order to better identify opportunities for collaboration between early learning and homeless services.

They are looking for survey participants who work in the homeless service system. The survey will close on **Monday, May 23rd** and link to the survey is listed below.

<http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/2756457/AFS-Homelessness-Work-Group>

New Policy for Homeless Children & Youth

The Chicago Board of Education voted to adopt a new Education of Homeless Children and Youth Policy, which will help ensure every homeless student in CPS has full access to a high-quality education. The policy adopted today replaces a previous policy that was adopted by the Board in 1996 and provides schools with better clarity on how services are to be administered to students in temporary living situations (STLS).

[Read the full policy here.](#)

Performance Pilots for Disconnected Youth

In October 2015, the Department of Education announced the [first round](#) of nine pilots on behalf of all the participating agencies. From supporting youth moms and their young children with a two-generation approach to helping foster care youth transition successfully from high school to college and career, these pilots will serve a total of roughly 10,000 disconnected youth. This [second round](#) of pilots offers up to 10 communities the opportunity to propose bold new ideas for how they would use P3 flexibility to transform the way they deliver services and improve outcomes for their disconnected youth.

Stakeholders on the front lines of service delivery have let us know that flexibility, such as better aligning the multiple systems that serve youth, is sometimes needed to achieve powerful outcomes. P3 responds directly to these challenges by offering broad new flexibility in exchange for better outcomes.

You can read more information [here](#).

Strategies for Connecting People to

Benefits

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Income (SSDI) can provide an important source of income for people who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness and have a mental illness, medical condition, and/or a co-occurring substance use disorder.

In this webinar on Thursday, May 19, speakers from SSA, SAMSHA, VA, PRA, Inc.'s SOAR TA Center, and USICH will present a set of strategies for connecting people experiencing homelessness to SSI and SSDI benefits by improving practices and collaboration among SSA field offices, VA Medical Center staff, organizations and agencies that provide services to people experiencing homelessness, and other community-based partners.

Register [here](#).