

December 20, 2016

In This Issue

[All CoC Meeting Survey & Presentation](#)

[CoC Community Conversation](#)

[Coordinated Entry Update](#)

[Point-in-Time Count CoC Orientation](#)

[App for Homeless Youth](#)

[Community Development Advisory Council](#)

[Mental Health Training](#)

[CSH Advocacy Program](#)

[Domestic Violence Report](#)

[State Homeless Prevention Funds](#)

[Rental Assistance Program](#)

[Illinois Hardest Hit Program](#)

[ITIN Expiration](#)

[Church Space Available](#)

[Wilson Men's Hotel Update](#)

[Employment Opportunities](#)

[Free Staples Group Membership](#)



All CoC Meeting Survey & Presentation

Thank you to everyone who participated in the All CoC Meeting last Thursday, December 15! To help us improve future meetings, please [take this survey](#).

If you missed the presentation, "Ending Homelessness in our City, State, & Nation: How are we doing? What is ahead?," you can [download the PowerPoint slides here](#).

Save the Date

The Business of Ending Homelessness: A Chicago Continuum of Care Community Conversation

Please join All Chicago and CSH in a facilitated conversation about its findings from focus groups and surveys with CoC members relating to the question of what would it be take for our Continuum to be even more effective at ending homelessness in the City of Chicago. If you are interested in participating, please email cocprograms@allchicago.org.

When:

Wednesday, January 25, 2017
9:30 am to 11:30 am

Where:

TBD

Coordinated Entry Update

Chicago's Coordinated Entry System is under development and will be rolled out in stages to the community in 2017. This effort is being undertaken by CSH, All Chicago, Catholic Charities, and Center for Housing and Health. Please direct questions on Coordinated Entry to Stephanie Sideman at Stephanie.sideman@csh.org.

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?

[Send us an email!](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

The Coordinated Entry System stages of implementation will begin with youth, followed by families, and concluding with single individuals. This will include finalizing the coordinated entry assessment, consent, and protocols along with identifying access points and skilled assessors. Training opportunities will be provided for assessors and housing providers.

Various projects have already signed on, such as those involved in the Ending Veteran Homeless Initiative, Chronic Homeless Pilot, Permanent Housing with Short Term Supports and two youth providers operating a new youth project. For all other providers, future communication will share a more detailed outline of the timeline and what this means for your organization. DFSS requests that all agencies select a delegate program staff that will be the point person on CE.

The Central Referral System remains in operation for non-Veterans until the Coordinated Entry System is operational for all populations.

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

Chicago's PIT Count will take place on **Thursday, January 26, 2017 from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m.** In order for Chicago to receive federal funding, Chicago must collect data on the number of people experiencing homelessness on one given night. This data 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.

For 2017, Chicago will be conducting a PIT street count and volunteers will be dispatched to canvass the city. **If you are interested in volunteering, please sign up by clicking [here](#).** If this is your first time volunteering, feel free to review the [PIT Volunteer FAQs](#).

We also encourage you to post and distribute the [2017 PIT Flyer](#) at your agency.

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 19th 2017, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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](#).

Resource App for Homeless Youth

StreetLight Chicago is the new Homeless Youth Resource App that provides young people experiencing homelessness in the Chicago area with up-to-date information on shelters, health clinics, emergency contacts, mental health services, and more.



iPhone users can download the app [here](#), and Android users can download it [here](#).

Applications Now Available for Community Development Advisory Council

The City of Chicago is looking for members to join the Community Development Advisory Council (CDAC)—a working advisory committee that represents low and moderate income communities supported by the Community Development Block Grant. The CDAC makes recommendations to the City's Budget Director regarding development, implementation, and evaluation of programs. The membership period lasts from April 1, 2017 to March 31 2019, and applications are due **Wednesday, December 28 at noon CST**. Find more information and application instructions [here](#).



Youth and Human Trafficking Training

The Salvation Army's Stop-It program, in partnership with the Department of Children and Family Services, will offer mental health providers a free two-day training called Human Trafficking of Youth in Care and Mental Health. The training will instruct providers in identifying, responding to, and working with youth survivors of human trafficking. To register, email Amanda Blowers at Amanda_Blowers@usc.salvationarmy.org or call 773-433-5738.

When: Jan. 20 and 27 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Where: [5045 W. 47th St., Chicago, IL 60638](#)

Please see [this flyer](#) and [invitation letter](#) for more information.

Training Opportunity for Previously Homeless

Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) is recruiting people

who have previously experienced homelessness for a training program called SpeakUp Illinois. This six-month program will help participants become advocates for supportive housing and will coach them in leadership, social policy, advocacy, and public speaking. For more information, check out the detailed [program description and registration instructions](#), and [download the flyer](#).

When: January to July, 2017

Where: [205 W. Randolph, 23rd Fl., Chicago, IL 60606](#)

New Report Measures Impact of Services Offered to Domestic Violence Survivors

The Chicago Metropolitan Battered Women's Network is proud to announce the release of the Final Report of our groundbreaking, first of its kind, Domestic Violence Outcome Measures Project. Through the strategic leadership and vision of The Network, our member programs were partnered with expert researchers to assess the long-term impact of our services to survivors across Chicagoland. The Final Report provides clear and compelling evidence that our core services are working and worth the investment. Immediate safety is no longer a primary concern for most survivors surveyed and they were very satisfied with the services they received. In addition, the results proved that with The Network in the lead, a multi-agency data gathering system that measures the long-term impact of services is possible.

You can find the full report and recommendations [here](#).



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 meeting 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.

Illinois Hardest Hit Program

Need help paying your mortgage? Experienced a drop in household income? If so, you may qualify for up to **\$35,000** in federal assistance at no cost to you. [See press release.](#)

The Illinois Hardest Hit Fund® program provides mortgage assistance to homeowners who have experienced at least a 15 percent income reduction due to a qualifying hardship event and who meet the eligibility criteria. The assistance allows eligible households to avoid foreclosure while they work to regain employment and financial stability.

Want to know more about qualifying for Illinois Hardest Hit assistance? See the [FAQs](#).

- **WARNING** - www.illinoishardesthit.org is the OFFICIAL

website for the Illinois Hardest Hit Fund Program. If you feel you have become a victim of mortgage assistance fraud, you may contact us at mortgagefraud@ihda.org or contact the US Department of Treasury's [Office of Financial Stability](#) Anti-Fraud Unit or the [SIGTARP Hotline](#).

Para la versión en español, [clic aquí](#).

Other Announcements

Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers May Expire in 2017

Around 9,000 households in Chicago may need to renew their [ITIN](#) by the end of this year due to a new federal law. The ITIN is a tax processing number provided by the IRS to individuals, regardless of immigration status, who are ineligible to get social security numbers. A new law will require people with certain ITINS to renew their numbers at the end of the year. The City's [Tax Prep Chicago](#) partners, Center for Economic Progress and Ladder Up, will offer free ITIN renewal assistance for families earning up to \$55,000 and individuals earning up to \$30,000 annually. Capacity is limited and appointments will be made on a first come, first served basis.

For information on how to get assistance, see these renewal flyers in [English](#), [Spanish](#), [Mandarin](#), and [Polish](#). For more information on ITIN's and the new law, see this [fact sheet](#) or go to taxprepchicago.org.

Space Available at Wellington Avenue Church

The Wellington Avenue United Church of Christ ([615 W. Wellington Avenue](#)) is looking for a new nonprofit community partner to take over a space in the building starting March 1, 2017. Formerly occupied by the Broadway Youth Center, the space includes four separate offices, a large classroom, and shared use of two classrooms and a community room/dining room with kitchen. For more information, contact the church's Facilities Manager, Kathy Engert, at 773-935-0642.

Changes at the Wilson Men's Hotel

The City of Chicago has received a Notice of Intent to Sell or Transfer Property for the Wilson Men's Hotel (1124-28 W. Wilson Ave.) The 180-day notice period will expire on June 28, 2017. For more information, contact Jay Bomberg at jaybomberg@yahoo.com or 847-875-4764.

Employment Opportunities

South Suburban PADS is hiring for an Executive Director. Learn more about the position and apply [here](#).

Chicago Public Schools and the **Chicago Park District** are looking for a Recreation Leader to support their Elementary School Sports Program. Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- At least 18 years old
- High school diploma or equivalent
- Love sports and children
- Be able to pass both a drug test and fingerprinting
- No indebtedness to the city of Chicago

See the full job posting [here](#), and see [this flyer](#) for more information.

Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) is seeking a Senior Program Manager for their Chicago office. Learn more about the position and apply [here](#).

Save Money with a Free Staples Group Membership to the Back Office Collaborative

All Chicago's partner agencies with a budget size of less than \$5 million are eligible for FREE Staples Group MEMBERSHIP in the [Back Office Cooperative](#) (BOC). BOC currently has 65 non-profit members that together create buying power and reduce back office expenses. Members save in categories like bank fees, cleaning services, energy/utilities, equipment maintenance, office supplies and much, much more.

For your free Staples Group membership, contact Linda Zager at 312-949-5690 or linda.zager@thebackofficecoop.org and mention that you are an All Chicago partner agency.