



NetworkNews

April 2018 News and Updates from the Chicago Rehab Network

Updates from CRN

4th Quarter 2017 Progress Report at the Committee on Housing and Real Estate

CRN will present our analysis of the Department of Planning and Development's [last quarterly report from 2017](#) at the Committee on Housing and Real Estate meeting April 6. We are excited to work with our members to ensure that the voices of community developers and housing advocates are heard as the City begins developing its next Five Year Housing Plan.

Friday, April 6 at 10:00 a.m. | City Hall Room 201A

Help Us Celebrate 40 Years of Development Without Displacement!

Join CRN and our members in kicking off our 40th year of advocacy and development at Revolution Brewing with beer and wine, networking, and conversation about our vision for affordable housing.



\$40 registration [online](#) or at the door
Thursday, May 31, 6-8 p.m.
2323 N Milwaukee Ave

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About CRN

Who We Are:

For 40 years, the Chicago Rehab Network has worked to train, coordinate, and empower community-based organizations developing affordable housing across Chicago and the region. CRN's advocacy has resulted in policies and resources including the Affordable Requirements Ordinance, the Tax Reactivation Program, the State of Illinois Housing Trust Fund, and the Illinois Affordable Housing Tax Credit. In addition to advocacy and training, CRN provides industry-wide thought leadership through regular policy updates, best practice case studies, and demographic and economic analysis related to housing needs and markets.

CHICAGO REHAB NETWORK
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT +
EMPOWERMENT SERIES 2018

Property taxes, high housing cost burden, gentrification, vacancy, abandonment, homelessness—all issues community developers work to overcome. Using a value-based approach to learning development fundamentals, you can be a leader in improving the quality of life in your community.

Community Development and Empowerment Series:

Support our Mission:

With your help, we can build

Community Building Workshop

CRN's Empowerment Series will resume May 3 and 4. Taught by Joy Aruguete of Bickerdike, the workshop will present the community assets perspective as a model for community planning. Through looking at strategies employed by community-based development organizations, we will discuss the elements beyond bricks and mortar that community building requires. Day two includes a tour of affordable housing developed and operated by CRN members. [Register](#) for Community Building and other workshops today! Class descriptions on CRN's [website](#).

Changes in City-Owned Land Since 2014

CRN has produced an [updated look at the amount of city-owned land in each ward](#), reflecting changes between 2014 and 2017. The report finds an overall decrease in both the total parcels and number of square feet throughout Chicago, while zoning has changed in a number of wards.

Save the Date

IL Department of Human Rights Fair Housing Seminar & Guidebook Release

The Illinois Department of Human Rights is holding a fair housing seminar in honor of the Illinois Bicentennial and the 50th anniversary of the Federal Fair Housing Act. The seminar, which will be held from 9:00-11:30 a.m. at John Marshall Law School, will feature the release of its new Guidebook for Housing Professionals on Reasonable Accommodations and Modifications and a plenary on the importance of accessibility in housing. [Register online](#).



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Learn About New Protections for Rent-to-Own Homebuyers

As of January 1, 2018, a new state law protects Housing Action Illinois from predatory rent-to-own contracts. Housing Action Illinois and LAF are hosting a free webinar to learn about the protections on Thursday, April 26 at 2:00 p.m. [Register online](#).

In the News

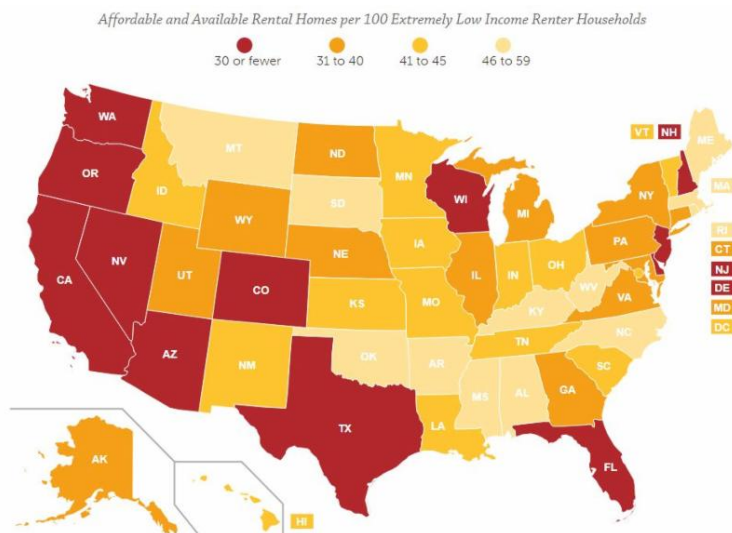
Prejudged: The Stigma of Eviction Court Records

A new report from Housing Action Illinois and Lawyers' Committee for Better Housing presents data from more than

100,000 residential eviction cases in Cook County. The analysis in *Prejudged: The Stigma of Eviction Court Records* reveals barriers that tenants face while fighting eviction cases, as well the challenges of renting after an eviction file. Read more [here](#).

NLHC: Shortage of 7.2 Million Affordable and Available Rental Homes

A report from the National Low Income Housing Coalition demonstrates the significant gap between the demand and supply of affordable homes to rent. Only 35 affordable and available rental homes exist for every 100 extremely low income renter households, and these households face a shortage in every state and major metropolitan area. Read more [here](#).



Funders for Housing and Opportunity

A new collaborative called Funders for Housing and Opportunity has launched to promote affordable housing. Made up of nine foundations, including the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Ford Foundation, FHO seeks to address the affordable rental housing shortage while also working to change the narrative and misconceptions about affordable housing. Learn more [here](#).

Better Government Association Announces New CEO

The nonpartisan civic watchdog organization announced in March that Chicago journalist David Greising will take over as CEO of BGA. A veteran of several high-profile news outlets, Greising is a Chicago native who has reported on stories including the aftermath of 9/11 and government investigations. Read more [here](#).

