



December 8, 2020
News & Updates from the Chicago Rehab Network

UPDATES FROM CRN

The Empowerment Series Continues in January with Single Family Housing

The Community Development and Empowerment Series will continue next month with four Single Family Housing workshops beginning January 20 taught by Teresa Prim of the [Prim Lawrence Group](#) and Linda Greene of [Neighborhood Housing Services](#). The process of developing single family housing will be discussed both in terms of the technical skills involved, and in terms of maximizing production to meet community needs. Assembling the development team, acquiring property, securing financing, and marketing will be examined in detail.

RESERVE YOUR SPOT NOW



Support Development Without Displacement in Your Year-End Giving

As we approach the end of a challenging year, we're thankful at CRN for our members, partners, and friends who have been with us as we work to make affordable housing a reality for every Chicagoan. Whether you joined our meetings, donated on Giving Tuesday, learned in our Empowerment Series, or read our newsletters along the way, your support has helped us adapt and grow during a time filled with so much uncertainty. From launching our 25th annual Empowerment Series virtually to publishing Affordable Housing Fact Sheets for all 102 Illinois counties, we've had an impactful year. In 2021, we will continue to build the capacity of the affordable housing field and advocate for housing justice through projects including Chicago Affordable Housing Fact Sheets and a campaign to renew the Illinois Affordable Housing Tax Credit--and we can't do it without your support. This year, we ask you to consider making a donation to support development without displacement during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.

MAKE A DONATION

EVENTS & RESOURCES

LCDC Virtual Lunchtime Gala and Year-End Celebration

Join Lawndale Christian Development Corporation Wednesday, December 16th at noon for a virtual celebration with an amazing keynote speaker, Michelle Morales, the President of the Woods Funds Chicago. It has been a surprising and resilient year. LCDC would like to thank those that have helped and will help in raising Lazarus Apartments from the dead!

Eviction Filings, Unemployment, and the Impact of COVID-19

On December 17 at 10am, join LCBH, Loyola University's Center for Urban Research and Learning (CURL), and community supporters as they unveil an update to their data portal, which uses statistical modeling of the historical relationship between unemployment and eviction filings to predict and estimate eviction filings in Chicago. This report will include eviction data from 2018 and 2019 and will address current concerns about a potential wave of eviction filings due to COVID-19. [Find out more and register.](#)

CHA Hiring Development Manager

The Chicago Housing Authority is hiring a new Development Manager. The Development Manager I is responsible for coordinating the implementation of major community development plans for specific projects in compliance with city, state and federal policies and in accordance with finance, land use, environmental and transportation best practices. This includes but is not limited to managing mixed finance developments and coordinating the comprehensive revitalization of CHA development areas. It comprises of residential, commercial, institutional, recreational and educational development activities. [Find out more and apply.](#)



Two New Programs Offered by IHDA

Governor Pritzker announced the creation of two new programs in November: SmartBuy and Opening Doors. Offered by IHDA, the programs are designed to aid communities of color who have historically faced barriers in the path to homeownership. Both programs launched December 1, 2020 and will continue until funding is exhausted. Read the press release [here](#).

Applications Re-Open for COVID-19 Resident Cash Assistance Program

Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle with the Cook County Bureau of Economic Development, Family Independence Initiative (FII) and other partners, announced an additional \$7 million in funding to expand and re-open the Cook County COVID-19 Recovery Resident Cash Assistance program to help suburban Cook County residents experiencing financial insecurity due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This is the 10th month of a national crisis that has continued hit residents and businesses particularly hard, namely people who work in the restaurant, retail, entertainment, and arts industries. Applications are open until December 11 at 11:59pm. [Apply here](#) or look at FAQs in [English](#) or [Spanish](#).



Fannie Mae Launches Housing & Partnerships Articles

In this year of considerable change, the Sustainable Communities team at Fannie Mae has focused their work to create and preserve sustainable communities, as this is more important than ever. Today, the Sustainable Communities Initiative launched the Housing & article series, a three-part series exploring the housing-related impacts of COVID-19 on communities of color, underscoring the importance of addressing this crisis holistically and through a community lens. [Read the first part here.](#)

IN THE NEWS

New Executive Director at KOCO

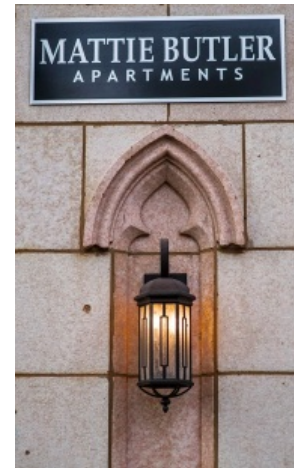
From Kenwood Oakland Community Organization Board Chairman Jitu Brown:

"On behalf of KOCO's Board of Directors, I am pleased to share the news of the exciting leadership transition within the organization. Jawanza Malone, who served as Executive Director for the past 8 years, finalized his tenure on November 30, 2020. Shannon Bennett, who has served in multiple capacities at KOCO since 1991 – most recently as Deputy Director – now serves as KOCO's next Executive Director.

KOCO welcomes Shannon Bennett into this executive role where he will lead the organization forward into its next phase of its journey. Shannon brings deep experience as a seasoned organizer, strategist and trainer, and has worked behind the scenes of many of KOCO's most successful organizing campaigns. At an historic Movement building moment—a global pandemic, an economic crisis and uprising against systemic racism – powerful organizing is needed now more than ever." CRN congratulates Jawanza Malone on his appointment as the new executive director of the Wieboldt Foundation! [Read the full note from KOCO here.](#)

POAH Honors CRN Board Member Mattie Butler

Twenty-five plus years after Mattie Butler developed the Johnson and Butler Linden Apartments in East Woodlawn to help low-income residents find safe, affordable housing in the changing community, POAH has renamed the buildings in her honor. The dedication of the Mattie Butler Apartments, with buildings at 6146 South Kenwood and 6230 South Dorchester, coincided with the completion their full exterior and interior renewal. "Mattie Butler is a force of nature," said Bill Eager, Senior Vice President, POAH Midwest. "Legendary in her commitment and accomplishment, she has led this community's fight to ensure access to great housing, jobs, transportation and schools for decades. In honor of Mattie Butler's and POAH's shared commitment to the ongoing preservation and expansion of affordable housing opportunities for the residents of Woodlawn, we're proud to enshrine Mattie's name on these two apartment buildings." [Read more.](#)



The Resurrection Project and Partners Win Advancing Cities Competition

The Resurrection Project (TRP) and partners have won JPMorgan Chase's Advancing Cities Challenge, part of the firm's \$500 million, five-year initiative to drive inclusive growth and create greater economic opportunity in cities. TRP has been selected as one of two organizations in the Midwest who earned this prestigious philanthropic investment. Led by TRP, a collaborative of Chicago organizations are receiving \$7.2 million over three years to boost homeownership through innovative new modular home construction, financial products, and financial coaching in South and West side neighborhoods, including Back of the Yards, North Lawndale, and Chicago Lawn. [Read more.](#)

Sign On to Keep Families Housed

Join NLIHC and advocates from across the nation by signing your organization onto a national [letter](#) urging the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to prevent a catastrophic wave of evictions this winter by extending, improving, and enforcing the federal eviction moratorium. When the moratorium expires on December 31, tens of millions of low-income renters will be at risk of losing their home and, with it, their ability to keep themselves and their families safe and healthy. The consequences would be devastating – for children and families, for communities, and for our country's ability to contain the pandemic.

The CDC must act immediately to extend the eviction moratorium and ensure there is not a gap in protections before President-elect Biden and Congress can reach a deal on a comprehensive relief package that includes a broad moratorium on evictions and at least \$100 billion in emergency rental assistance. [Sign the letter here.](#)

For over 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.



Support our Mission

With your help, we can build strong neighborhoods, strengthen capacity, and foster community leadership.

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