



## Updates from CRN

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November 5, 2019



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### Empowerment Series Continues in December

Do you want to learn technical skills for affordable development from Chicago's community development leaders? The **Empowerment Series** continues December 5-6 with Property and Asset Management taught by Eleazar Vazquez of Hispanic Housing Development Corporation. This course will review the key aspects of the property management of subsidized housing. Focus will be given to marketing and lease up, accounting, asset management, fair housing laws, maintenance, capital improvements, and resident services.

[REGISTER](#)

### 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.

### Fall Meeting Recap

On October 22nd, members and partners from around the city joined CRN at First Baptist Congregational Church on the Near West Side to share updates, strategies, and our visions for Chicago. John McConnell from Assessor Kaegi's office spoke to attendees about assessment and property tax developments, while the dynamic group discussion touched on issues including the Chicago Community Land Trust, property taxes driving gentrification, and concerns over TIF usage. Thank you to all who joined us--feel free to reach out with further questions or concerns!



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**Support our Mission:**  
With your help, we can build strong neighborhoods, strengthen capacity, and foster community leadership.

**DONATE TODAY!**

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**CRN thanks our generous supporters:**



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## Save the Date: Support Development Without Displacement on Giving Tuesday

# #ILGIVE

On December 3rd, you can help support CRN's mission of *development without displacement* by making a donation for Giving

Tuesday. Across Illinois and the United States, individuals will give back to their communities by supporting non-profits addressing the issues they care about--this year, we ask that you include CRN in your giving. As we come to the end of another year of affordable housing advocacy and capacity-building, we are excited about the opportunities that 2020 will bring, from training a new cohort through our [Community Development and Empowerment Series](#) to continuing to build the capacity of housing cooperatives in Chicago through the Center for Shared Ownership. **Our work is possible because of our friends and partners. Please join us in helping make Chicago more affordable for every household!**

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## Save the Date

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### **Film Screening: *The Color Tax***

On Tuesday, November 5, *The Color Tax* will be screened at Chicago Beyond as part of the *Shame of Chicago* film series, which examines Chicago's history of segregation. The film addresses questions about the history and legacy of inequity in Chicago. How did so many of Chicago's Black communities fall into disrepair while surrounding white areas created middle class wealth that continues to compound today? As developers, landlords, lawyers, financiers, philanthropists, and organizers, what is the real story we enter into? Learn more and RSVP [here](#).

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### **DPD and DOH Budget Hearings**

Budget hearings for the Department of Planning and Development and the Department of Housing will be held on Thursday, November 7 beginning at 9:00am. Each department will present and answer questions before the City Council. Find the full schedule of budget hearings [here](#).

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### **Reparations Hearing**

On Saturday, November 9, the Committee on Health and Human Relations will meet at Malcolm X College from 1:00 to 4:00pm to discuss reparations to "ensure equity, equality, and parity for citizens of African descent in poverty and to consider what forms of redress may be taken." Find out more [here](#).

## **In the News**

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### **Senate Bill will Provide Additional Investments for Housing**

By a vote of 84-9, the Senate passed a four-bill spending package for 2020 that provides additional funding for affordable

housing, as well as community development at HUD and USDA. HUD programs will receive \$11.9 billion above the President's request and \$2.3 billion above FY 2019 levels. Read the full update from NLIHC [here](#).



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### **Lawmakers Call for Real Estate Transfer Tax to Address Homelessness**

Nine Chicago-area Democratic state lawmakers say they will not vote for Mayor Lightfoot's proposed real estate transfer tax unless a significant portion of the revenue goes toward addressing homelessness. The legislators want to see 60% of the proceeds from the transfer tax--which the City expects would raise \$50 million in 2020--to go to homelessness prevention and alleviation programs. Read the full article by Jamie Munks in the [Chicago Tribune](#).