CRN's Empowerment Series Begins this Week
In just a few days, the Community Development and Empowerment Series will return for its 24th year! We'll kick off the Series with Community Building, taught by Joy Aruguete of Bicherdike Redevelopment Corporation. This 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. The Community Building workshop will be held Thursday, April 25 and Friday, April 26.

Housing Solutions for Mayor-Elect Lightfoot and New City Council
CRN looks forward to working with the new mayoral administration and City Council during an exciting and challenging time for our city. As affordable housing becomes increasingly prominent in public discussion, we hope to serve as a resource to all who are committed to increasing affordability. As a coalition of nonprofit...
community development corporations in neighborhoods throughout the city, CRN has provided leadership in the city for inclusive development for over 40 years. Utilizing our experience, our network, and our strategies for preventing displacement, we are eager to collaborate toward building a more affordable Chicago.

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**Save the Date**

**Emmett Street Project Community Meeting**
On Wednesday, April 24 from 6:30-8:30pm, 35th Ward Alderman Carlos Rosa will host a community meeting in Logan Square to discuss Bickerdike’s 100% affordable housing Emmett Street project. Learn more and RSVP here. Can't make the meeting? Sign Bickerdike's petition.

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**Public Hearing on Consolidated Plan & Action Plan**
The public is invited to attend a hearing on April 29 to provide input on funding priorities for the proposed 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan and 2020 Action Plan. The Consolidated Plan is developed every five years and presents the City's priorities for housing and non-housing community needs, an analysis of housing and economic market conditions, and available resources that support the City's Community Development Block Grant, Emergency Solution Grant, Home Investment Partnerships Grant, and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS grant programs. Read the City's flyer in English, Spanish, Chinese, or Polish.

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**The Plunder of Black Wealth in Chicago**
On Thursday, May 30, the Federal Reserve Bank will host a symposium featuring the release of a study and documentary about the history of predatory housing contracts and their role in Chicago's racial wealth divide. RSVP by May 13 to
HUD Invites Comments on Opportunity Zones
HUD is reviewing its existing policies, practices, planned actions, regulations, and guidance regarding HUD-administered programs and laws to identify actions HUD can take to encourage beneficial investment, both public and private, in urban and economically distressed communities, including qualified Opportunity Zones. HUD seeks input and recommendations from the public regarding potential agency actions. Comments are due by June 17. Learn more here.

In the News

Proposed Rule Would Evict Undocumented Immigrants from Subsidized Housing
On April 17, the Trump administration proposed a rule that would prohibit undocumented immigrants from living in subsidized housing and would expand use of the Department of Homeland Security’s Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) to screen all residents under 62. Families with undocumented members could be evicted after 18 months. Read more from NLIHC.

CHA Residents are Working but Not Seeing Income Growth
Chicago’s public housing residents are required to hold jobs, but a recent study shows that many aren’t moving out of poverty. The average income of residents subject to the rule grew from $11,568 in 2010 to only $12,712 in 2017. Read the full report from WBEZ here.