UPDATES FROM CRN

Join CRN in Celebrating 45 Years
CRN is celebrating 45 years of development without displacement in May! Join us at Revolution Brewing as we reconnect, reflect on over four decades of work, and honor housing advocates.
RSVP
Take the Appraisal Incident Survey
Did you receive a home appraisal during the purchase, sale, or refinancing of your home that came in much lower than you expected? Did you encounter outright or subtle discrimination in the process of your home appraisal? You are not alone. Many families across the country have faced similar experiences, resulting in the significant devaluation of homes and neighborhoods of color.

CRN's Appraisal Equity Task Force is committed to establishing leadership and policies to address decades of undervaluation that have hindered wealth attainment in communities of color. Historically-redlined communities in Chicago have been systemically denied access to insurance, fair financing, and banking services which, in concert with biased appraisals, have resulted in a loss of household and community wealth and spending power. Our work is addressing improvements to protect consumers, reform of the appraisal system, and reparations for impacted neighborhoods and residents. Learn more
South Shore Condo/Co-Op Preservation Fund Launch
The Center for Shared Ownership is excited to announce the launch of the South Shore Condo Co-Op Preservation Fund! Developed in partnership with the Department of Housing, South Shore Works, and other community organizations, the program will provide grants and loans to building associations and owner-occupants for repairs and maintenance. Funds will come through the Housing Department's Troubled Buildings Initiative and the Chicago Community Loan Fund. Read the full feature in Crain's.

Black Homeowners Denied Twice as Often by Lenders in Illinois
Executive Director Kevin Jackson is featured in a recent article addressing discrimination in lending. From the Southland Journal: "Racial disparities in mortgage lending have led to a troubling gap in homeownership rates. Just 39% of Black families and 53% of Latino families own their homes, compared to 75% of White families in our state. As a result, the typical Black household has a net worth of just $17,000 compared to $171,000 for White families..."It's time for state and local leaders to take action and help close the racial homeownership gap that was exacerbated by this pandemic," said Kevin Jackson..."A targeted injection of public funds would allow our local nonprofit lenders and developers to correct these disparities that the private market is not addressing. Every day we don’t act, more families are slipping through the cracks." Read the full article.

DOH 2021 4th Quarter Report Released
The 2021 4th quarter progress report for the Department of Housing is out now. The report will be presented to the Committee on Housing and Real Estate Tuesday, April 19 at 10:00am. Stay tuned for CRN's analysis of the report!

Looking Back: CRN's 10th Anniversary
CRN is celebrating 45 years in 2022, but first, we're taking you back in time with us. In 1986, CRN celebrated our 10th anniversary with Network Fest, a gathering of community residents, housing developers, government officials, bankers, contractors, and advocates. Attendees "were treated to evening's highlights that included a rousing speech from Mayor Harold Washington, presentations of the first annual Jorge Hernandez 'Development Without Displacement' Award honoring community activists, the rejuvenating sounds of the Sonlight band and an abundance of food and drink." Most importantly, the event brought together residents and community developers, "not to look back and relax, but to look forward to the next ten years and prepare for the hard days ahead." Read the full article and find out what else CRN was up to in the November/December 1986 edition of the Network Builder.

NEWS & RESOURCES
Illinois Emergency Homeowner Assistance Fund
The Illinois Emergency Homeowner Assistance Fund (ILHAF) is now open. The application portal will remain open until 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, May 31, 2022. Households who are behind on their mortgage or related housing payments should not wait to prepare and are encouraged to learn about the
application process, gather their required documents, and connect with their mortgage servicer or a housing counselor as soon as possible. ILHAF program information, updates and a list of documents required to apply can be found at illinoishousinghelp.org.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Spanish Coalition for Housing Homebuyer Workshops
Spanish Coalition for Housing has homebuyer education virtual workshops coming up in April! The workshops will cover basics for prospective homebuyers and are available in both Spanish and English. Learn more and register.

Want to be featured in our newsletter? If your organization is a CRN member and you have an event, announcement, or resource to share, let us know!

About CRN
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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