

### Updates from CRN

#### Join CRN for an Evening of Conversation and Celebration in March

On Wednesday, March 20, CRN and our partners will convene to discuss the year ahead and honor our recent Community Development and Empowerment Series graduates. We are excited to announce that Congressman Jesús "Chuy" García has been invited to join us as a guest



speaker. Drinks and appetizers will be provided by our hosts, BMO Harris.



Wednesday, March 20, 2019 | 4-7pm BMO Harris Executive Dining Room | 115 S. LaSalle St. *Please bring identification.* 



# Register Today for the 2019 Community Development and Empowerment Series

This April, CRN's Community Development and Empowerment Series will return for its 24th year! Learn to be a leader in improving the quality of life in your community. The Empowerment February 20, 2019



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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

Series uses practical tools and real-world knowledge of practitioners to teach you how to effect positive change in communities through housing development and is designed for staff and board members of community-based affordable housing development organizations, government employees, community bankers, small neighborhood developers, and elected officials and their staff.

You can sign up for individual classes or take all eight. Participants who attend the entire series receive a certificate of completion that is well-known and respected by community development and affordable housing practitioners and advocates.

One two-day workshop is held every month, April-July and September-December, 9:00 am-4:30 pm at CRN's training facility, 140 S. Dearborn, Suite 1420 (unless otherwise noted).

## Explore workshops and register on our brand-new website!

# POAH Vice President Bill Eager Joins Board

CRN is pleased to announce that <u>Preservation of Affordable Housing, Inc.</u> Chicago Area Vice President Bill Eager will be joining our Board of Directors.

With more than 20 years of experience in economic development, affordable housing development, and municipal finance, Bill oversees all multifamily development activity for POAH's regional office and leads the company's implementation of a



\$30.5 million Choice Neighborhoods Initiative in the Woodlawn Community. He supervises project managers in the development process from acquisition to completion of construction and leaseup including, financial analysis, design and construction, on-time and on-budget closings and full lease-up. Prior to joining POAH in 2011, he served as Managing Deputy Commissioner for Chicago's Department of Housing and Economic Development's Housing Bureau. POAH became a CRN member in 2018. Welcome aboard, Bill! 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.

### DONATE TODAY!

CRN thanks our generous supporters:



The Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust

### Save the Date

**Deadline for Submitting a NOF Application is March 5th** The Neighborhood Opportunity Fund generates revenue from development downtown to provide resources for development in West, Southwest and South Side commercial corridors, including grocery stores, restaurants, service providers, cultural facilities and uses that address other neighborhood needs. The deadline to apply is March 5th at 4pm. Learn more and apply <u>here</u>.

# Preservation Compact Workshop: Creating Affordability in High Cost Markets

Recent research demonstrates the importance of housing location to a person's life outcomes. The new \$36.5 million Opportunity Investment Fund (OIF) is a low cost financing incentive to create and preserve affordable units in higher cost neighborhoods with proximity to vital amenities and opportunities. The Preservation Compact's workshop will cover target properties that fit the program, the OIF borrowing process, and the options to meet the affordability requirements. Learn more and register <u>here</u>.

> Tuesday, March 5, 2019 | 9-10:30am University Center | 525 S. State St.

### In the News

#### **Capital Bill Fact Sheet**

Our partners at the Illinois Housing Council have released a fact sheet outlining a request for \$1 billion for affordable housing at the state level. With \$1 billion of support for affordable housing in Illinois, we could:

- Build 10,000 affordable rental homes for working families, seniors, veterans and people who need supportive housing
- Create 16,000 blue, white and green collar jobs in the first year alone
- Generate \$755 million in taxes and other revenue for local governments and \$3.9 billion in local income for businesses and workers over the course of 15 years

Read the fact sheet <u>here</u>. An <u>Appropriations Committee hearing</u> is scheduled for Thursday, February 21.



### **Immigrant Tenant Protection Act**

With the rights of both documented and undocumented immigrants under threat, CRN stands with our partners advocating for the Immigrant Tenant Protection Act. <u>Illinois SB1290</u> aims to protect renters from harassment, inadequate maintenance, and eviction based on citizenship status. A <u>fact sheet</u> from the Latino Policy Forum, Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, and the Shriver Center breaks down the bill.

### Measure Proposes Affordable Housing Tax Credit

State Representative Sara Feigenholtz is chief sponsor of a measure that would allow a building's property valuation to be reduced in exchange for an increase in affordable rental units. The

measure would go into effect immediately in Cook County, but counties throughout the state could choose to opt in. Read the full article from NPR <u>here</u>.

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