January News and Updates from the Chicago Rehab Network

Out Now: 2017 Third Quarter Housing Report

CRN brought our report analyzing DPD’s 2017 Third Quarter Progress Report to the Committee on Housing and Real Estate meeting on December 12. Highlighted were changes in city budget appropriations and CDBG funding. You can read the full report here, as well as DPD’s report here.

Save the Date

CRN Winter Members’ Meeting
Thursday, February 8 | 9:00 a.m.
CRN’s Office
140 S. Dearborn, Suite 1420

IL Governor’s Conference on Affordable Housing

More information here.

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About CRN

Who We Are:
For 40 years, CRN 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 create powerful leaders.

DONATE TODAY!

Stay Connected:
Tax Reform Bill Updates
Congratulations to the affordable housing community for demonstrating the importance of preserving resources for affordability! Thanks to the hard work of advocates and activists, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act retains the tax exemption for private activity bonds and preserves the 9% and 4% Low Income Housing Tax Credit.

This victory comes in the face of a larger challenge: the bill fails to include bipartisan reforms that would improve the LIHTC’s ability to serve extremely low income households and homeless individuals, while also failing to make adjustments that will offset the impact of the lowered corporate tax rate.

Mapping Displacement
The Institute for Housing Studies at DePaul has created an interactive mapping tool that allows users to explore areas where 1) house prices recently appreciated at levels above the city average and 2) a significant share of residents are vulnerable to displacement. Find the map here.

HUD Suspends Implementation of Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Rule
On January 5, HUD announced that it will delay implementation of the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH) Rule until October 2020 at the earliest. Issued in 2015 to provide clarity and guidance to the Fair Housing Act of 1968, which requires local governments to work toward desegregating communities, the AFFH rule is not changed by the delay in implementation. Learn more here.

Improving Health by Preventing Homelessness
Since 2015, the University of Illinois Hospital has provided housing for 26 homeless individuals it saw frequenting its emergency rooms. After seeing lowered medical costs and improvements in health, the hospital plans to expand the program, and other local hospitals including Swedish Covenant and Rush are following suit. Read more here.

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