May 2017 Update: News and Updates from the Chicago Rehab Network
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Register for CRN's Empowerment Series; Upcoming Proforma Development Class on June 15th

It's not too late to register for CRN's award-winning Empowerment Series classes, and learn the ins and outs of proforma development next month!

Seats are still available for both next month's class, and the rest of the 2017 Community Development + Empowerment Series. Join professionals from the nonprofit and for-profit development community as well as government and related agencies to learn the ropes of community development. With seven out of eight courses still remaining, it's not too late to build strong fundamentals or brush up on skills by registering for this comprehensive series! Please contact CRN for pricing and further information.
Students practice financial calculations during this month’s Finance Skills for Real Estate Class.

Save the Date: CRN Membership Meeting June 12th 9:00 AM, Details TBA
CRN leadership reviews board documents and prepares for a summer of impact for neighborhood development and affordable housing.

The State of Racial Justice in Chicago Report Published
UIC's Institute for Research on Race and Public Policy recently released a comprehensive report entitled: "A Tale of Three Cities: The State of Racial Justice in Chicago Report." Largely concerned with the experiences of blacks, Latinxs, and whites in regards to housing, health, education, economics, and justice, the report finds that "racial and ethnic inequities in Chicago remain pervasive, persistent, and consequential." Featuring extensive information on racial housing disparities and excellent data visualization tools, the full report is a must-read for Chicago housing professionals. Learn more here.

Contact Your Members of Congress to Oppose Trump's FY18 Budget

From the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC):

President Trump's 2018 leaked budget reflects a cruel indifference to the millions of low
income seniors, people with disabilities, families with children, veterans, and other vulnerable people who are struggling to keep a roof over their heads. It would slash federal investments in affordable housing at HUD by nearly 15% or $7.4 billion, compared to Fiscal Year (FY) 2017. The proposed cuts could mean more than 250,000 people could lose their housing vouchers. It would also impose punitive measures that would jeopardize family stability. Mr. Trump's budget would harm thousands of the lowest income families by taking away their housing assistance.

Call your members of Congress today and let them know that you oppose this unconscionable and unacceptable budget proposal.

View NLIHC's FY18 budget chart here. Additionally, in a Center on Budget and Policy Priorities article, available here, author Douglas Rice explains how Trump's proposed budget would increase homelessness and hardship in every state. Such drastic cuts would undermine community development programs that leverage so much public/private investment in our neighborhoods while providing stability for people to improve their lives and economic positions.

Attend a City Council Hearing on DPD's Q1 2017 Report

Chicago City Council Committee on Housing and Real Estate will once again hold a public hearing on the Department of Planning and Development's progress reports on Chicago's 5-year housing plan. As always, CRN invites you to read DPD's report here when it is released, look out for our forthcoming analysis thereof, and attend the hearing in person, which is tentatively scheduled for the morning of June 13th. Stay tuned for more updates!
Every year Housing Action Illinois recruits AmeriCorps VISTAs to serve at many of their member organizations, CRN included, and approximately 30 positions are opening this summer. From the HAI website:

AmeriCorps VISTA offers the following benefits: monthly living allowance, student-loan forbearance or deferment, choice of End of Service Stipend or Education Award that can be used to repay student loans or for future education expenses, childcare assistance if eligible, relocation allowance, professional development opportunities and non-competitive eligibility for federal jobs for one year beginning the day after you complete your service. As part of this program, members will also receive an opportunity to network and connect with professionals nationwide, and the chance to gain invaluable...
Thank You to CRN's Recent Supporters

Thanks to recent investments from our generous supporters, CRN is able to continue necessary programming that encourages development without displacement.

About the Chicago Rehab Network

For over 35 years, CRN has worked to train, coordinate and empower community-based organizations engaged in developing affordable housing across Chicago and the region. CRN's robust advocacy efforts also have resulted in numerous affordable housing policies and resources, including the Affordable Requirements Ordinance, the Tax Reactivation Program, State of Illinois Housing Trust Fund, various property tax reforms, 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.

www.chicagorehab.org
For 35 years, the Chicago Rehab Network has played a leadership role in bringing affordable housing to Chicago's most disinvested communities. Support our work building strong neighborhoods, strengthening capacity, and creating powerful leaders.