



## Updates from CRN

March 12, 2019

### Join us for an Evening of Conversation and Celebration!

Next week Wednesday, March 20, CRN and our partners will convene to discuss the year ahead, to explore opportunities for collaboration with new city leadership, and to honor our recent Affordable housing advocate and Congressman Jesús "Chuy" García will deliver the keynote address. Drinks and appetizers will be provided by our hosts, BMO Harris. All are welcome!



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RSVP

Wednesday, March 20, 2019 | 4-7pm  
BMO Harris Executive Dining Room | 115 S. LaSalle St.  
*Please bring an ID to enter the building.*

### 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 and economic analysis related to housing needs and markets.



### 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

*Support our Mission:*

the quality of life in your community. The Empowerment 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!](#)

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## Save the Date

### Register for a FHLBank Chicago 2019 AHP Learning Opportunity

Join FHLBank Chicago staff at a complimentary workshop to learn more about the 2019 [competitive Affordable Housing Program \(AHP\)](#). Topics covered include eligibility, project feasibility, and the 2019 scoring guidelines. Space is available on a first-come, first-served basis. Potential AHP project sponsors, FHLBank Chicago member institutions, and development consultants are encouraged to attend. [Register for a workshop.](#)

Additionally, FHLBank Chicago staff are hosting two webinars for those with previous AHP experience. These identical webinars focus on significant changes from 2018 to 2019. [Register for a webinar.](#)



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### Draft IHDA LIHTC Manual Out for Public Comment

IHDA has created a Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Manual for Owners and Agents of IHDA financed properties and is making the [draft](#) available for public comment for 30 calendar days. This manual is intended to:

- Clarify compliance requirements and facilitate their consistent application

With your help, we can build strong neighborhoods, strengthen capacity, and foster community leadership.

**DONATE TODAY!**

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*CRN thanks our generous supporters:*



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The Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust

- Streamline related processes and documents
- Promote a smart compliance approach

Members of the Illinois Housing Council (IHC) can [submit their comments by March 20 to IHC](#), who will submit a letter to IHDA on behalf of their membership. Additionally, anyone can submit comments directly to IHDA by contacting [kostberg@ihda.org](mailto:kostberg@ihda.org) by March 31.

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## In the News

### Prices Rising in Woodlawn

According to a recent Crain's article, two new homes in Woodlawn have sold for over \$700,000 in recent weeks. A year ago, a house that went for \$599,000 was the highest-priced sale in the neighborhood. The increased prices and growing real estate speculation following plans to build the Obama Presidential Center reflect the fears expressed by residents calling for a [community benefits agreement](#). Read the full article [here](#).

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### NPR Shares Stories from Housing Crisis



A new NPR Illinois project explores how communities and individuals across the state are affected by housing insecurity. Stories will cover topics including education and homelessness, the consequences of crime-free housing ordinances, and the potential of new tax credit programs. Currently, NPR is seeking to broaden their stories and is taking submissions from individuals who have questions or ideas about affordable housing where they live. Read more and share your thoughts [here](#).