



May 7, 2024

News & Updates from the Chicago Rehab Network

UPDATES FROM CRN

Congratulations to our First 2023-2024 Empowerment Series Cohort

Let's congratulate our 2023-2024 Empowerment Series Cohort 1! This is the first in-person class completed after the Empowerment Series switched to remote learning in 2020 due to COVID. The class has attendance from several local and statewide government agencies as well as private and nonprofit organizations. Join us as we commend them and look forward to seeing them use the skills and knowledge they've learn as they advance in their careers. Keep an eye out for more information about the 2024-2025 Series beginning in fall!!



RSVP for CRN's Spring Network Meeting

Join CRN and our members and partners from around the city for a conversation about our recent work as well as current issues in the housing field including City collaboration with CDCs, the new Five Year Housing Plan, and more. We will be joined by special guests DOH Commissioner Lissette Castañeda and DPD Commissioner Ciere Boatright. [RSVP today!](#)



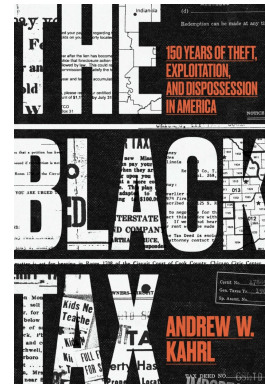
**Thursday, May 30
140 S Dearborn St. Floor 17
(Marquette Building)
9:00-11:00am**



NEWS & RESOURCES

Assessor's Office's Racial Equity and Real Estate Conversations: "The Black Tax" Book Talk

Join the Cook County Assessor's Office at the National Public Housing Museum for a discussion on the impact of race on real estate and property tax assessments. Cook County Assessor Fritz Kaegi will be in conversation with scholars and practitioners to unpack these issues and discuss solutions. Professor Andrew Karhl from the University of Virginia has released a new book called *The Black Tax: 150 Years of Theft, Exploitation, and Dispossession in America* that traces inequitable assessments and land takings from Black Americans to as far back as the Civil War and follows its legacy to predatory practices that impact communities today. Professor Chris Berry from the University of Chicago has done recent work looking specifically at Cook County's property tax system and has a new study on the progress that the Cook County Assessor's Office is making in correcting assessment bias. [Find out more and register.](#)



FHFA Announces Enterprise Reconsideration of Value Policies

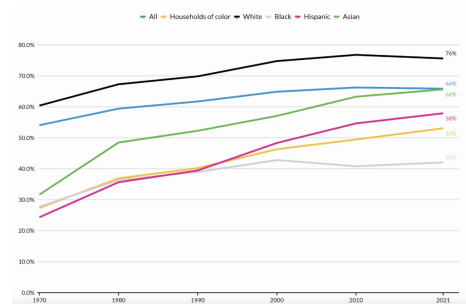
The Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) has announced that Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac (the Enterprises) published new Reconsideration of Value (ROV) policies after months of collaboration with FHFA and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Federal Housing Administration. A Reconsideration of Value is a request to an appraiser to re-assess the appraised value of a property due to potential appraisal reporting deficiencies or inappropriate selection of comparable properties, or based upon additional information the appraiser should consider. This has been one of the key recommendations made by the Appraisal Equity Campaign led by CRN and NHS. [Find out more about the new policies.](#)

Only Half Of Black Seniors Approved For Home Repair Or Refinance Loans To Age In Place

From Block Club: "Between 2018 and 2022, Black neighbors 62 and older were twice as likely to be denied home loans as their white counterparts in Chicago, an analysis of Home Mortgage Disclosure Act data by the Investigative Project on Race and Equity shows. Over that time, 48 percent of older Black residents across the city were denied a mortgage loan compared to 23 percent of white applicants, the data shows." [Read the full article here.](#)

Market and Disparity Data Analysis Toolkit

Large gaps in homeownership rates persist between racial and ethnic groups, as households of color face significant disadvantages relative to white households in attaining and sustaining homeownership. These gaps have largely persisted since 1960 and in some cases are widening. You can learn more about these disparities with the [Urban Institute's Market and Disparity Data Analysis Toolkit](#), which includes information about Chicago as well as other metro areas throughout the United States.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Pedro Albizu Campos Apartments Ribbon Cutting

Join Hispanic Housing Development Corporation for a ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating the new Pedro Albizu Campos Apartments on Paseo Boricua in Humboldt Park. The event will include a tour of the buildings, located at 1203 North California, and will be held at 11am on Friday, May 17. [RSVP here.](#)



Want to be featured in our newsletter? If you have an event, announcement, or resource to share,

About CRN

For over 45 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.

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