

CoC Orientation & Annual Meeting

MAY 30, 2019



Agenda

- I. Overview of CoC – *Jennifer Hill, Executive Director of the Alliance to End Homelessness*
- II. Role of Cook County Government in CoC Process – *Ericka Branch, Cook County Bureau of Economic Development*
- III. HUD Homeless Assistance Grants – *Kimberly Danna, HUD Community Planning & Development*
- IV. 2019 Annual CoC NOFA Process – *Kurt Runge, CoC Program Director at the Alliance*
- V. Project Review and Ranking – *Khen Nickle, Chair of Alliance Project Prioritization Committee*
- VI. How to Apply – *Kurt Runge, CoC Program Director at the Alliance*
- VII. Questions and Answers

Homelessness in Suburban Cook County

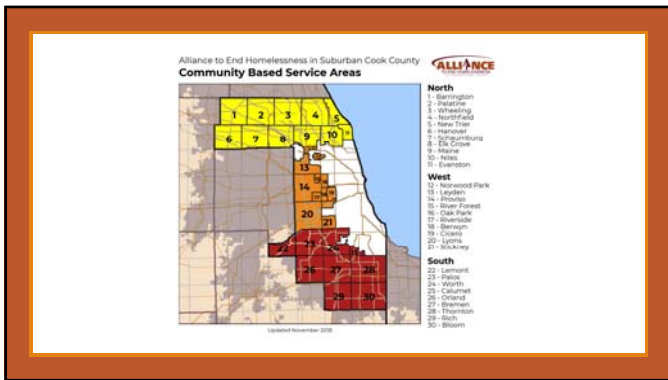
2019 PIT Count

- 897 homeless persons
- 792 sheltered, 105 unsheltered
- 15% chronically homeless
- 5% veterans
- 36% households with children

2018-2019 Comparison

- 3% increase in homelessness
- 6% increase in chronic homelessness
- 14% decrease in veteran homelessness
- 8% increase in homeless families

What is a Continuum of Care (CoC)?



Alliance to End Homelessness

- Serves as the lead agency of the Cook County Continuum of Care
- Coordinates homeless services of over 30 agencies across 30 suburban townships, 131 municipalities, 573 square miles and 2.5 million residents
- Plans for the effective use of over \$13 million of federal funds by suburban Cook agencies
- Measures performance and uses data to improve our effectiveness
- Manages an information management system (HMIS) that agencies use to collect data on the clients they serve and the services they provide
- Provides training and technical assistance to prevention and homeless assistance providers on a range of best practice issues
- Advocates for the needs of homeless and at-risk households in the region and the implementation of proven and promising solutions

Alliance Staff

- Jennifer Hill – Executive Director
- Sharon King – Office Manager & Bookkeeper
- Peggy Troyer – Director of Information Systems
- Jeremy Heyboer – Data Quality Manager & Lead Trainer
- Lynn Suchwalko – HMIS Support Specialist
- Erin Matheny – HMIS Support Specialist
- Kurt Runge – CoC Program Director
- Kathryn Primas – Program Coordinator
- Rachel Contos – Community Liaison
- Scott Washington – AmeriCorps VISTA
- Katie Spoden – Special Projects Associate/Stevenson Center Fellow

Accomplishments

- Participated in a 100 Day Challenge on youth homelessness where we housed 111 people in 100 days
- Decreased Veteran homelessness by 14%
- Established a Youth Action Board made up of currently homeless youth who are working together to end youth homelessness
- Received funding from HUD for 3 new projects, totaling an increase of over \$1.3 million
- Helped pass Just Housing Amendment in Cook County
- Helped pass HB3331 to expand IL Homeless Prevention Program
- Housed almost 700 people in permanent housing



Guiding Principles

Systems Orientation
All stakeholders, programs and organizations work in coordination.

Data Driven
System investments are driven by results and maximizing resources.

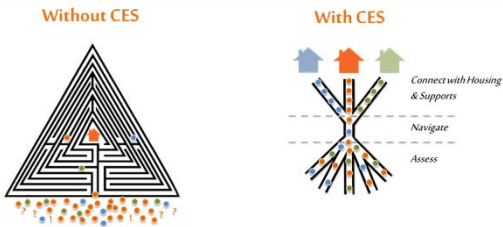
Housing First
System partners address people's housing needs first and foremost.

Client Centered
Individuals experiencing homelessness are at the core of the system.

Key Components of a CoC



Coordinated Entry System (CES)



Coordinated Entry

Online: myentrypoint.org

Call: 1-877-426-6515

In-Person:

- North: Northwest Compass (Mt. Prospect)
- West: Housing Forward (Oak Park)
- South: Together We Cope (Tinley Park) AND Respond Now (Chicago Heights)
- Veterans: Edward Hines Jr. VA Hospital (Hines)



Hines VA Resource List

- Healthcare for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) Program
 - Outreach
 - Resources and Referral
 - Case Management
 - HUD/VA Supported Housing
- Direct Line for Veteran Inquiry and HUD/VASH: 708-202-4961
- HCHV Supervisor: 708-202-2110
- See Alliance website, <http://www.suburbancook.org/nofa>, for Hines VA Resource List PDF

2019 – 2022 Strategic Plan

STRATEGIC DIRECTION



Focus Area #1 PREVENT, DIVERT, CONNECT

- Use systemwide diversion and prevention to reduce entries into homelessness
- Use street outreach and Coordinated Entry to streamline system access for highest need households



Focus Area #2 INTERIM HOUSING

- Create shelter and crisis housing options for families with children and youth age 18-24
- Build capacity of shelter systems to support rapid exit to permanent housing



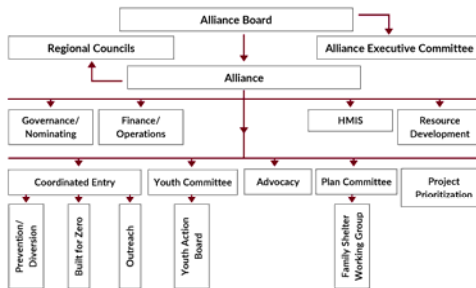
Focus Area #3 EXITS TO PERMANENT HOUSING

- Develop partnerships and collaboration to sustain housing and prevent returns to homelessness
- Expand access to PRH for all populations
- Increase PRH capacity and continue prioritizing PRH for chronically homeless people
- Expand access to housing rental market for people experiencing homelessness



Focus Area #4 SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE

- Build Continuum of Care capacity for systems change
- Develop Continuum of Care data collection and analysis capacity
- Build Continuum of Care data collection and analysis capacity



How to get involved?

- Become a member
- Join a committee and local council (<http://www.suburbancook.org/calendar>)
- Advocate on the local, state, and federal level for solutions to homelessness
- Help recruit new members

Role of Cook County in CoC Process

ERICKA BRANCH, COOK COUNTY BUREAU OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Cook County and the Continuum of Care



Toni Preckwinkle, President
Cook County Board of Commissioners

Prepared by Cook County Department of Planning and Development
May 2019

Cook County HUD Grants

- Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) Program
- HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)
- The Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program



Planning for Progress

➤ **LAST YEAR!!!!!!!**

- Strategic planning process which set priorities for funding allocations, uses, and partnerships over the next five years (2015-2019)
- Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) provided the technical assistance
- Encompasses two strategic plans:
 - Consolidated Plan – was due to HUD in August 2015 – governs CDBG, ESG, and HOME dollars – restricted to suburban Cook County
 - Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDs) – was due to EDA in February 2015 – may be used to apply for economic development funds – includes the City of Chicago and Suburban Cook County



Planning for Progress

- Planning for Progress completed (public report) January 2015
<http://blog.cookcountyll.gov/economicdevelopment/planning-for-progress/>
- Priorities: Infrastructure, Workforce Development, Business Development, Affordable Housing Development, Social Services and Capacity Building.
- Related Policies and Strategies
 - Infrastructure and Public Facilities
 - Business and Workforce Development
 - Housing Development and Services
 - Non-housing Services
 - Planning and Administration



Planning for Progress

- 3.1 Preserve and create affordable housing in more affluent job- and transit-rich areas of Cook County.
- 3.2 Preserve the housing stock in disinvested areas of Cook County.
- 3.5 Prioritize projects and programs that link with services.
- 3.6 Expand access to the County's supply of housing through tenant-based rental assistance.
- 4.3 Continue to participate in the regional dialogue around the need for a comprehensive referral system.



CDBG: Eligible Activities

- Public Service activities include but are not limited to:
 - Housing Counseling activities
 - Services for senior citizens and disabled Persons
 - **Services for homeless persons**
 - Drug abuse counseling and treatment
- Public Services (570.201(e))
 - CDBG funds may be used to provide the Public Service activities so long as these activities meet the low and moderate income national objective.
 - Public Service activities must either be a new service or contain a quantifiable increase in the level of service provided over the past 12 months.



Public Service activities are subject to a 15% cap of the overall CDBG Program allocation

CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING PROJECT ELIGIBILITY IN MEETING THE NATIONAL OBJECTIVE

- Area Benefit Activities (available to all persons living in a service area, 51% of whom must be low and moderate income-Census Data required)
- Limited clientele (activities benefiting persons who are low and moderate income - *beneficiary income verification required*); some groups are presumed (homeless persons included) to be low and moderate income
- Housing Activities (rehabilitation of permanent housing, acquisition of property for permanent housing, conversion of nonresidential structures into permanent housing)
- Job Creation or Retention Activities (create or retain permanent jobs where at least 51% of the jobs (FTE) involves the employment of low and moderate income persons).



CDBG REQUIREMENTS (PUBLIC SERVICE ONLY)

- 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit serving moderate/low income/presumed low income in Cook County suburbs
- Continuum of Care participant
- \$10,000 minimum grant, \$100,000 maximum grant
- Must provide a new or increased level of service as a result of CDBG grant

Dominic Tocci, Deputy Director-Community Development at 312-603-1048 or dominic.tocci@cookcountyil.gov



HOME Investment Partnerships Program

The HOME Program is an affordable housing development program which can be utilized to support the following eligible activities:

- Single or Multifamily
- Ownership or Rental
- Acquisition, Rehabilitation and/or New Construction

Funds may be utilized to support development costs of permanent supportive housing projects.

For more information about the HOME program and to inquire about applying for HOME funding, contact **Karl Bradley, Deputy Director-Housing at 312-603-1009 or karl.bradley@cookcountyil.gov**



Overview of ESG Components

- Street Outreach (engagement, case management, transportation)
- Emergency Shelter (essential services and shelter operations)
- Homelessness Prevention (Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services, Rental Assistance, Other Financial Assistance)
- Rapid Re-Housing (Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services, Rental Assistance, Other Financial Assistance)
- Data Collection (HMIS) (Operation, administration and training)
- Administration (Reserved for Cook County use)



ESG REQUIREMENTS

- 501 (c) (3) not-for-profit serving homeless or at risk of homeless in Cook County suburbs
- HMIS (or parallel system for DV agencies) participant
- Continuum of Care participant
- \$ for \$ Match
- Homeless/formerly homeless involvement in decision-making
- \$10,000 minimum grant



County Coordination with Continuum

- Allocation of ESG funds
- Developing performance standards and evaluating outcomes
- Developing policies, and procedures for the administration and operation of the HMIS
- Coordinated intake and assessment
- Coordinated Entry



Call Center, Coordinated Intake

For rental, security/utility deposits, utility payments or moving assistance, call the Cook County Homelessness Prevention hotline at

877-4-COOK-15 (877-426-6515)

Centralized referral point/ "front door."



Contact Information

Ericka Branch, Administrative Analyst
Cook County—Department of Planning and
Development
ericka.branch@cookcountyil.gov
Phone—312-603-1057
Fax—312-603-9856



HUD Homeless Assistance Grants

KIMBERLY DANNA, HUD COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT,
CHICAGO FIELD OFFICE

2019 Annual CoC NOFA

- I. National and local competition
- II. Eligible new project types
 - Rapid Re-housing
 - Permanent Supportive Housing
 - Scattered site or new construction
 - HUD CPD Resources
 - Transitional Housing Rapid Re-Housing joint component



2019 Annual CoC NOFA

III. Target populations

- Chronic
- Veterans
- Youth (under 25)
- Families with children
- Survivors of DV
- Substance Use
- Mental Illness
- HIV/AIDS

IV. DV Bonus funding

V. Match requirements



2019 Project Review and Ranking Process

Options for Renewals

- Keep project the same
- Voluntary reallocation
- Consolidate multiple projects of the same type into one project (i.e. two PSH projects into one PSH project)

Options for New Projects

- Start a brand new project
- Expand an existing project
- Transition from one project type to another (i.e. TH to PSH)

Ranking Renewal and New Projects

Threshold requirements

Key themes:

- Meet needs of CoC
- Strengthening the CoC
- Data quality
- Performance Measures
- Coordinated Entry

How to Apply

New and renewal projects

- Complete Alliance application (<http://www.suburbancook.org/nofa>)
- Complete HUD application through Esnaps (<https://esnaps.hud.gov/>)

New projects only

- Participate in oral presentation

Home > Programs > CoC: Continuum of Care Program <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc>

Continuum of Care (CoC) Program

The Continuum of Care (CoC) Program is designed to promote communitywide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, and State and local governments to quickly rehouse homeless individuals and families while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused to homeless individuals, families, and communities by homelessness; promote access to and effect utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; and optimize self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

- Learn about CoC Program Eligibility Requirements
- View SNAPs in Focus
- View SNAPs-Shots
- View System Performance Measures Resources
- View CoC Program Laws, Regulations, and Notices
- View CoC Program Competition: FY 2018 Funding Availability
- View CoC Program Competition: e-snaps Resources

CoC Program Training Material and Resources

CoC Program Toolkit

This toolkit provides user guides, tools, webinars, and other resources on the following topics:

- Introduction to the CoC Program
- CoC Program Components and Eligible Costs
- CoC Responsibilities and Duties
- Grant Administration (Includes Recordkeeping and Financial)

CoC Program Application and Reporting Systems

- e-snaps: Homeless Assistance Application and Grants Management System
- HMIS: Homeless Management Information System
- HDX: Homelessness Data Exchange
- Sage: HMIS Reporting Repository

Learn About Homelessness Assistance Programs

- Join a Mailing List
- Contact a CoC
- View CoC FAQs
- Ask a CoC Program Question

Updating CoC and Project Applicant Information

Resources for updating Applicant Profiles, intended for organizations with funding, those that intend to apply for funding, and Collaborative Applicants.

CoC and Collaborative Applicant

Updating the Collaborative Applicant Organization and/or Primary Contacts: Instructions for when the Collaborative Applicant organization changes and when the Primary Contact changes (no organization change).

CoC Applicant Profile Navigational Guide: Instructions for accessing, updating, and completing the CoC Applicant Profile, which is available year-round.

Putting the Applicant Profile in Edit-Mode: Identifies the steps to access the CoC Applicant Profile in e-snaps and ensure it is in edit-mode.

Project Applicant and Funding Recipient

Project Applicant Authorized Representative Update: Instructions for when there is a change in the organization's Authorized Representative.

Project Applicant Profile Navigational Guide: Instructions for accessing, updating, and completing the Project Applicant Profile, which is available year-round.

Putting the Applicant Profile in Edit-Mode: Identifies the steps to access the Project Applicant Profile in e-snaps and ensure it is in edit-mode.

How to Complete the HUD Form 2880 in e-snaps: Instructions for completing the HUD Form 2880 in the Project Applicant Profile and the individual Project Applications.

DUNS Number and SAM Resource: This document provides instructions on how to obtain a DUNS Number and register with the System for Award Management.

Additional Resources

<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/e-snaps/>

Project Applicant Profile

Instructions on DUNS and SAM
