

CoC Advocacy Committee Meeting
March 1, 2017 – 10-11:30am
All Chicago – 651 W. Washington, Suite 504

- I. Welcome & Introductions
 - a. In-person: Barbara Shaw, Keith Richardson, Gail Schechter, Josh Brollier, Chris O'Hara, Megan Rose, Jenna Temkin
 - b. On phone: Jennifer Nelson-Seals, Angela Hicks, Aimee Navarro, Tamela Milan

- II. Review and Approve Minutes and Agenda: unanimously approved (with addition of Tamela Milan's name to minutes)

- III. Review Plan 2.0 (*Asterisked points are items committee wants to focus on moving forward*)
 - a. Plan 2.0 Plan Advisory Committee: get their input about advocacy priorities at their next meeting
 - b. *Employment*
 1. Newest version of the Coordinated Entry assessment asks about employment
 2. Are people who were formerly homeless and now employed used as peer coaches?
 - a. Keith- employers recruited at Mercy Housing; could that be replicated elsewhere?
 3. Employment Taskforce meeting at 9:30am next Friday- Gail will be presenting survey data on workforce development
 4. Advocacy committee should ask the taskforces and committees that they're on if they have any feedback on advocacy and policy; Gail to ask Employment task force for 20 minutes on agenda
 5. Chris will figure out when youth task force meets and get on their agenda
 6. Gail plans to create a committee (separate from CoC) for stakeholders interested in affordable housing
 7. Barbara and Jenna will create a list of questions to gauge committees' advocacy interests
 - c. Strategic Priority #2: *Access to stable and affordable housing*
 - d. Strategic Priority #5: *Advocacy*
 - e. Strategic Priority #6: Cross-systems integration
 - i. Health 2 Housing (H2H)
 - f. Strategic Priority #7: Capacity building
 - i. CSH Houston is working with the CoC on this
 - g. Get on All CoC meeting agenda for June
 - i. Advocacy presented at last years all CoC meeting; surveyed the group; Jenna will locate the results and send it to everyone

IV. Policy Advocacy Landscape

a. Federal

i. Addition: Housing as Infrastructure

1. Senate democrats allocated \$100 billion of \$1 trillion infrastructure plan to “revitalizing America’s Main Streets”; could include investments in solutions geared toward helping households that pay more than half of their income monthly on rent, including expanding tax incentives and other affordable housing federal programs
2. This was mentioned in a meeting Gail attended; lots of excitement from public housing community
3. Add CHA reserve to local policy issue

ii. Our priorities: Infrastructure, T+HUD funding

b. State

i. HFS has a staff person with housing as her area of expertise; let’s reach out to her to see if she can present for 10-15 mins. about 1115 waiver

1. A rep from Thresholds came into an advocacy committee meeting last year to talk about this

ii. Deleted diaper bill to narrow our scope

iii. Higher Ed Ban the Box: we should advocate for exceptions for convictions related to domestic violence, sex crimes, etc.

iv. Reach out to Suburban Cook and CCH to collaborate on state policy

v. Tamela: advocate for preferences that focus on pregnant and parenting mothers to improve maternal and child health outcomes; she will send Jenna a bill number

vi. Addition: HB 3060- birth certificate fee waiver for homeless families

vii. ****Youth mental health**** is a priority

viii. Addition: SB 1331- Amends the IL Human Rights Act to make source of income a protected class. Connections for the Homeless is working on this

c. Local

i. Addition: Chicago Jobs Council and Cabrini Green Legal Aid are working on making it easier for people to get their revoked licenses back, as long as it’s not a serious crime

ii. Mental health training question: is de-escalation training the same as mental training?

iii. Addition: Tax Incremental Financing (TIF) as sources for affordable housing

iv. Addition: Airbnb tax implantation; ensuring the 4% allocated is used appropriately how money be used; CCH’s HomeWorks is the lead on this

v. Alderman Cappleman introduced resolution in City Council calling for city and state to create incentives to reduce recidivism; calls for all levels of government to create a plan

vi. ****Just Housing Initiative**** is a priority

- V. Updates
 - a. Possible action- ONE Northside is having a rally in support of maintaining federal housing budget Tues., March 21 at 3:30pm spec focus on housing
 - b. Forefront had an advocacy vs lobbying presentation for nonprofits that were nervous about engaging in advocacy and maintaining 501c3 status; perhaps advocacy committee could sponsor something like this for members in the future

- VI. Advocacy committee members engaged in other groups
 - a. Megan—the Battered Women’s Network will be involved in Protect our Care initiative and Fight for 15
 - b. Josh—Thresholds also involved in Protect our Care

- VII. Follow-Up Items
 - a. Jenna will update advocacy landscape with additions (in yellow) and asterisk high priority items
 - b. Jenna will find CoC Board of Directors meeting dates and talk to Consuella about the process for getting the Board to ok advocacy goals
 - c. Investigate reaching out to Suburban CoCs
 - d. Jenna will locate results of last summer’s All CoC meeting advocacy survey
 - e. Potentially schedule a joint meeting with Employment Task Force
 - f. Gail will find out if the Just Housing Initiative covers CHA public housing vouchers

- VIII. Prioritization of Issues and Committee Membership

Both of these agenda items will be considered at the next meeting.

- IX. Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 5, 10-11:30am at Ounce of Prevention