



## 2018 Accomplishments

After a year of testing and experimentation, the Action Agenda has helped the CoC become more responsive, collaborative, and action-oriented in our work ending homelessness. Over the past year, the CoC has:

1. **Housed 3,058 people experiencing homelessness**
2. **Secured commitments of 1,700 units and applied for 430 units for the homeless system**
3. **Raised an additional \$1.67 million to support Chicago's efforts to end homelessness**

Learn more about the CoC's accomplishments below (based on the Action Agenda's four key strategies), and read the sections **bolded in red** to find out how funding and unit commitments were secured.

**Organize.** *Create an infrastructure of working groups focused on actions that advance the goals of Plan 2.0 and include everyone's voice at the table.*

- Implemented an infrastructure based on [twelve lines of work](#), which led to more effective project management, problem-solving, and internal communication.
  - Project Managers accomplished goals with workgroups and brought problems to weekly 90-minute meetings with all Project Managers, improving collaboration across lines of work.
    - For example, the Coordinated Entry & Youth lines of work implemented a Youth Transitional Housing (TH) System Integration Team that meets weekly to match youth to TH. This effort has significantly reduced youth TH vacancies.
- New workgroups convened as system needs arose:
  - Monitoring, Peer-to-Peer Provider, Diversion, Right-sizing, Outreach, Pipeline Expansion, Supported Employment, Youth Diversion, Youth Employment, and Program Models Chart
- More than 350 unique individuals from over 60 organizations participated in workgroups; this includes 23 people with the lived experience of homelessness.
- System needs were addressed quickly through the more nimble infrastructure:
  - The Diversion Workgroup launched a pilot program to provide eviction diversion services at the Cook County Eviction Court.
  - The Street Response line of work initiated a low-barrier shelter pilot to address encampments. **DFSS has secured \$850,000 for low-barrier shelter for encampments and overnight outreach.**
  - **Private funders invested \$170,000 to support the Youth line of work for HUD's Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project (YHDP)**, which led to implementation of a new [Youth System Blueprint](#) to guide stakeholders in ending youth homelessness.
  - Due to system needs identified in the Coordinated Entry line of work, **DFSS allotted \$397,815 to support skilled assessors and housing navigation for youth and adults.**

**Empower.** *Empower All Chicago as the backbone organization leading the CoC to achieve Plan 2.0 goals.*

- All Chicago staff led nine lines of work and co-led the Action Agenda.
- All Chicago and CSH led the Coordinated Entry System Refinement Lab with nearly 90 partners in April to gather feedback; they held a follow-up in September to [review progress based on suggestions](#).
  - Based on community feedback, CSH applied to expand a HUD Supportive Services Only grant to fund nine full-time Skilled Assessors, including at the Homelessness Prevention Call Center.
- Through HMIS's Dashboard to End Homelessness, new System Goals Dashboard, and other data requests to HMIS, workgroups used data to drive their decision-making.



- All Chicago entered into data-sharing partnerships with the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA), Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership, Cook County Health and Hospital System, and Cook County Jail to better understand how homelessness touches these systems.
- All Chicago sent monthly [Action Agenda Alert emails](#) with updates from each line of work, posted action plans, and sent emails after CoC Board meetings to keep the community up-to-date on progress.

**Elevate.** *The CoC Board approves policies recommended by working groups and aligns the resources and activities to support policies.*

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- The [new CoC Board](#), which includes decision-makers from government, business, philanthropy, service provider organizations, and the Lived Experience Commission, started to meet in April.
- Leaders from the Mayor's Office, DFSS, Chicago Housing Authority (CHA), Chicago Dept. of Planning and Development, and Chicago Dept. of Public Health were able to align resources and set policies.
  - **Thanks in part to the Pipeline Expansion Workgroup's unit projections, Mayor Emanuel committed to generating 1,600 new units of supportive housing through the Department of Planning and Development's five-year housing plan.**
  - For the first time, CHA is data matching with HMIS to verify homelessness. The CoC worked with CHA to develop a strategy for this data match to implement their homeless preference.
- The Board adopted [CoC System Goals](#), which were developed by workgroups in the System Performance, Data, and Research line of work. These goals sparked the System Goals Dashboard.
- The Board approved the HUD CoC funding competition priority ranking put forth by the Project Prioritization Workgroup.

**Amplify.** *Build political will to align leadership, set concrete targets, and expand housing inventory.*

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- **CHA was awarded 22 units of HUD 811 rental assistance for people experiencing homelessness**—the result of a new partnership with CHA and state and local agencies, including the CoC and Cook County Health and Hospital Systems, to focus on people experiencing chronic homelessness.
- **The CoC applied for 430 additional units through the FY 2018 HUD CoC NOFA.**
- The CoC collaborated with leaders from other sectors:
  - Led by CSH, the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless, CPS, and DFSS, the Families in Transition program has provided permanent housing with additional support services to 100 families of CPS students experiencing homelessness this year.
  - **The CoC worked with DCFS and CHA to bring in 78 Family Unification Vouchers (FUP)** that will be accessed through Coordinated Entry. FUP will connect DCFS involved families and youth who have aged out of foster care to permanent housing.
  - Launched this year, the Flexible Housing Pool (FHP) will provide intensive case management and housing subsidies to people experiencing chronic homelessness. The FHP is a partnership between the Center for Housing and Health, CSH, CHA, DFSS, the Chicago Dept. of Public Health, and the Chicago Dept. of Planning and Development.
- CoC workgroups and stakeholders contributed to draft ordinance language for the Bring Chicago Home Campaign, which would bring millions of dollars into the system. The project is led by the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless, and the CoC will continue to partner with them on the initiative.
- **DFSS secured \$250,000 for services to youth and families** housed with CHA Project Rental assistance vouchers.