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## How to Get Involved in the CoC Action Agenda

A key component of the CoC Action Agenda is to create [an infrastructure of working groups](#) focused on actions that advance the goals of Plan 2.0. After the Action Agenda was approved at the Dec. 7 All CoC Meeting, a team of Action Agenda project managers met weekly to begin implementing a work structure based on [12 lines of work](#). To see a summary of work the CoC will take on in 2018 and how it will advance the goals of Plan 2.0, [download this document](#). For a refresher on the Action Agenda, go to [the Action Agenda page](#) on the CoC website.

Both new and old workgroups and committees will meet in the coming weeks and months, depending on when there's work to get done. That means some groups may meet every week for a few months, while other groups may meet once a month throughout the year. A critical part of the Action Agenda is connecting people to the groups where they can lend their particular expertise. As this phase of the Action Agenda begins, workgroups and committees won't need to stick to a prescribed slate. **We encourage you to review the list of workgroups and committees below and find the place where you can provide your expertise. People of lived experience are welcome at every group.**

### What's Next?

The Action Agenda is still evolving, so we appreciate your flexibility as we implement this new way of getting work done. If you don't see a group listed below, that doesn't mean it won't meet this year. **Additional workgroups will be convened throughout the year as work needs to get done.** [Check the calendar](#) to get the latest updates on workgroup and committee meetings. Once groups start meeting, they will formulate action plans, which will get posted to [the website](#) on a monthly basis.

[Sign up for Action Agenda Alerts](#) to get the latest updates on the Action Agenda. **Have questions or concerns?** Contact [Maura McCauley](#) or [Dave Thomas](#).

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## Workgroups and Committees

### Coordinated Entry System

Contact [Renee Crolius](#) or [Stephanie Sideman](#) with questions about the Coordinated Entry System line of work.

#### Coordinated Entry Rapid Rehousing Provider Workgroup

The CE Rapid Rehousing (RRH) Provider workgroup will meet as needed to find solutions to challenges impacting Rapid Rehousing programs with any type of funding, including Continuum of Care, Emergency Solutions Grant, and Supportive Services for Veteran Families. This solution-focused workgroup will work to standardize and streamline RRH processes by crafting and testing strategies related to Coordinated Entry. Topics may include prioritization and matching, connecting participants with RRH programs, supporting RRH participants working to improve their income, and more.

**Expertise needed:** Workgroup members should be current RRH staff with either

direct line experience or managers who can make project policy changes.

**Meeting details:** This group does not have an ongoing meeting time since this workgroup will meet to solve specific challenges when necessary. If you're interested, sign-up [here](#) to be notified when this group meets.

### **Coordinated Entry Permanent Supportive Housing Provider Workgroup**

The CE Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Provider workgroup will meet as needed to find solutions to challenges impacting permanent supportive housing programs with any type of rental funding, including HUD, Low Income Housing Trust Fund, Chicago Housing Authority, Housing for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA), and any type of service funding to provide ongoing voluntary supports. Participants will work to standardize and streamline PSH processes. The workgroup may be asked to test strategies to improve Coordinated Entry related processes. Topics may relate to matching people facing chronic homelessness, cross-sector collaboration, including discharge planning from emergency systems of care into permanent supportive housing, transferring from one supportive housing program to another, and other topics.

**Expertise needed:** Workgroup members should be current PSH staff with either direct line experience or managers who can make project policy changes.

**Meeting details:** This group does not have an ongoing meeting time since this workgroup will meet to solve specific challenges when necessary. If you're interested, sign-up [here](#) to be notified when this group meets.

## **Crisis System Transition**

Contact [Christine Riley](#) with questions about the Crisis System Transition line of work.

### **Right-sizing Workgroup**

This group will look at temporary bed projections, temporary bed-right-sizing and crisis services transition. The goal of the workgroup is to efficiently identify the necessary shelter bed resources, capacity needs, and provide appropriate resources to organizations within the CoC, as well as define the vision for a crisis response system.

**Expertise needed:** Stakeholders with knowledge of shelter system program models (emergency and transitional), funding requirements, and capacity building.

**Meeting details:** Stay tuned for details. Contact Christine Riley at [christine.riley@cityofchicago.org](mailto:christine.riley@cityofchicago.org), 312-746-8727 for more information.

### **Diversion Workgroup**

This group will be active in diversion design and implementation. Working with the Coordinated Entry System (CES), they will provide a roadmap for effective and appropriate diversion activities, which will connect individuals and families with alternate housing arrangements and services.

**Expertise needed:** Diversion policy and processes, vast knowledge of options and resources that can be used to divert eligible clients from shelter

**Meeting details:** Tues., Feb. 13 from 10 - 11am at DFSS, 1615 W. Chicago Ave., 5th Floor, Room 527. Contact Christine Riley at [christine.riley@cityofchicago.org](mailto:christine.riley@cityofchicago.org), 312-746-8727 to RSVP.

### **Outreach Workgroup**

This group will align outreach with CES targeting. They will work actively with CES to identify individuals who are disengaged from the system or are in need of higher levels of care. The group will identify outreach plans and resources to support targeted populations, as well as develop strategies for encampments.

**Expertise needed:** Knowledge of or experience with coordinating outreach procedures and processes, working with homeless populations that are transient, and having a vast knowledge of options and resources that can be used to assist clients.

**Meeting details:** Tues., Feb. 20 from 2 - 3pm at DFSS, 1615 W. Chicago Ave., 5th Floor, Room 527. Contact Christine Riley at [christine.riley@cityofchicago.org](mailto:christine.riley@cityofchicago.org), 312-746-8727 to RSVP.

## **Employment / Income**

Contact [Carrie Thomas](#) with questions about the Employment/ Income line of work.

### **Employment Task Force**

This group will increase meaningful and sustainable employment opportunities for people experiencing or most at risk of homelessness.

**Expertise needed:** Anyone with an interest in employment is welcome to attend.

**Meeting details:** The Employment Task Force meets the second Friday of each month from 9:30-11:30am at the Michael Barlow Center (2120 W. Warren Blvd.).

Contact Carrie Thomas at [carrie@cjc.net](mailto:carrie@cjc.net) for more information or Christophe Valcourt at [cvalcourt@allchicago.org](mailto:cvalcourt@allchicago.org) to get put on the email list.

## HMIS

Contact [Padma Thangaraj](#) with questions about the HMIS line of work.

### **Data Quality Steering Committee (DQSC)**

The DQSC meets every quarter to provide direction and guidance to the data quality process set forth in the Data Quality Plan (DQP). The data quality process is administered by the HMIS Lead Agency.

**Expertise needed:** Participation on this committee requires some knowledge of the HMIS system and its operations in Chicago, along with familiarity with the HMIS privacy and security policies and the DQP. Significant decisions on ongoing processes that impact data quality are made, so a commitment to attend all meetings is appreciated.

**Meeting details:** The next meeting will take place in March. Contact Christophe Valcourt at [cvalcourt@allchicago.org](mailto:cvalcourt@allchicago.org) for more information.

### **HMIS Committee**

The HMIS Committee ensures the HMIS scope aligns with the needs and requirements of agencies, HUD, and other stakeholder groups, and provides direction and guidance to the HMIS Lead on HMIS issues, including project participation, policies and procedures for participant privacy, data security, and data quality, and HMIS governance. They also hear grievances related to sanctions by the HMIS Lead Agency.

**Expertise needed:** Anyone looking to understand HMIS implementation in Chicago is welcome to attend.

**Meeting details:** The HMIS Committee meets bi-monthly on the 2nd Wednesday in the morning. Please email Christophe Valcourt at [cvalcourt@allchicago.org](mailto:cvalcourt@allchicago.org) if you plan to attend.

## Pipeline Expansion

Contact [Betsy Benito](#) or [Alisa Rodriguez](#) with questions about the Pipeline Expansion line of work.

### **Pipeline Expansion Working Group**

This working group will advance housing and service creation strategies to meet the needs of the Chicago CoC as informed through data. Committee members will affirm the scale and range of units and services, review and validate financial implications, take actions to secure development partnerships, financing commitments, policy changes and coordination strategies to achieve the pipeline goals. This working group will have dynamic interactions with other Action Agenda groups to achieve its goals.

**Expertise needed:** Group members should have or develop a working knowledge of supportive housing, rapid re-housing, and prevention programs, connection and/or oversight of affordable/supportive housing development activities with particular connection to community-based programs, represent service systems that have significant housing needs, and housing policies or systems.

**Meeting details:** Meetings will begin in early March, location TBD, and will meet in-person or via phone 1-2 times per month. Please email or call Betsy Benito at [betsy.benito@csh.org](mailto:betsy.benito@csh.org), 312.332.6690 ext. 2814 or Alisa Rodriguez at [alisa.rodriguez@cityofchicago.org](mailto:alisa.rodriguez@cityofchicago.org), 312-746-8610 for more information.

## System Performance, Data, and Research

Contact [Karen Kowal](#) or [Adriana Camarda](#) with questions about the System Performance, Data, and Research line of work.

### **System Performance and Evaluation Committee (SPEC)**

Improve and refine the Program Models Chart, the NOFA Evaluation Tool, and performance monitoring protocols

**Expertise needed:** Participants may be involved in policy work at their agency, complete the ranking instrument, or have experience using data/reporting to drive their program offerings or set goals. Someone with an interest in system performance and improvement of systems & projects, as well as developing and implementing tools that enhance project performance and shape the local evaluation tool, would be a good fit.

**Meeting details:** SPEC meets the first Friday of each month from 10am - noon.

Contact [Jennifer Fabbrini](#) for more information about the meeting location.

### **Intervention Efficacy Workgroup**

This group will be involved in QI/QM work or program evaluation. Participants should have an understanding of HUD regulations and documentation, system performance, and Chicago CoC program models.

**Expertise needed:** Should have experience with monitoring and compliance reviews or site visits.

**Meeting details:** This group will begin to meet in March. Contact [Karen Kowal](#) for more information.

### **PIT Subcommittee**

With DFSS and the collaborative applicant, plan and implement a Point-in-Time Street count in accordance with HUD requirements.

**Expertise needed:** Participants should have some outreach experience.

Adriana.Camarda@cityofchicago.org to RSVP.

**Meeting details:** Feb. 20 at 1:30pm. Location TBD. Contact Adriana Camarda at [adriana.camarda@cityofchicago.org](mailto:adriana.camarda@cityofchicago.org) for more information.

### **Evaluation Tool Subcommittee**

This group develops and refines the annual local evaluation instrument.

**Expertise needed:** Participants may be involved in policy work at their agency, complete the ranking instrument, or have experience using data/reporting to drive their program offerings or set goals. Someone with an interest in system performance and improvement of systems & projects, as well as developing and implementing tools that enhance project performance and shape the local evaluation tool, would be a good fit.

**Meeting details:** Thurs., Feb. 15 from 10am -11:30am at 1111 N Wells, Suite 500, 5th floor conference room. Contact [kkowal@allchicago.org](mailto:kkowal@allchicago.org) for more information.

## **Veterans**

Contact [Maura McCauley](#) with questions about the Veterans line of work.

### **Ending Veteran Homelessness Initiative Community Team**

The Community Team is responsible for helping to shape the implementation of Chicago's Coordinated Entry System (CES), as well as to address systemic barriers identified by providers and Veterans that prevent Veterans from getting housed quickly and efficiently. Systemic barriers experienced by staff participating in the EVHI SIT meetings are brought to the Community Team for discussion and possible resolution.

**Expertise needed:** The EVHI Community Team is comprised of program management/leadership staff from the VA, emergency shelters, transitional housing, outreach, and all housing providers that serve Veterans.

**Meeting details:** The EVHI Community Team meets on the first Friday of each month from 9 -11a.m. at DFSS, 10 S. Kedzie, Room 205. Please contact Jessica Smith at CSH at [jessica.smith@csh.org](mailto:jessica.smith@csh.org) if interested in attending.

## **Youth**

Contact [Ceri Moy](#) or [Elizabeth Perez](#) with questions about the Youth line of work.

## Chicago Task Force on Homeless Youth

The Chicago Task Force on Homeless Youth is a network of city and state agency officials, youth providers and advocates, and homeless youth working to address the issue of youth homelessness in Chicago. The goal of the Task Force is to create a comprehensive, developmentally appropriate menu of services for youth who experience homelessness in order to prevent homeless youth from becoming the next generation of homeless adults.

**Expertise needed:** The Task Force is open to anyone interested in working to end homelessness for youth (age 24 and under). For questions about the youth line of work contact Ceri Moy at [Ceri.Moy@cityofchicago.org](mailto:Ceri.Moy@cityofchicago.org).

### Meeting details:

- February 1st - 3:30-5pm - DFSS 1651 W Chicago (room 155)
- May 3rd - 3:30-5pm - DFSS 1651 W Chicago (room 155)
- August 2nd - 3:30-5pm - TBD
- November 1st - 3:30-5pm - TBD



All Chicago prevents and ends homelessness through emergency financial assistance, community partnerships, data analytics, and training and research.

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