



Action Agenda Highlights

Stay updated on the latest work coming out of the Continuum of Care (CoC) Action Agenda by checking out highlights from select lines of work below. May's Action Plans have also been posted to the [Action Agenda webpage](#). Please contact the Program Manager(s) for each of the lines of work, if you have any questions.

- [Coordinated Entry System \(CES\)](#): Since the start of Coordinated Entry (CE) in April 2017, the community has provided housing for 2,131 households. This is the number of people matched and housed through CE, which does not include people permanently housed without homeless dedicated resources. The Standardized Housing Assessment was updated to reflect the [new prioritization plan](#) in March, and skilled assessors have updated or completed new assessments with 1,752 households since this change went into effect. Thank you to all of the assessors for diligently updating assessments! Dedicated skilled assessors will begin in August 2019 and will be stationed at the Catholic Charities call center, access points, and large shelters. Agencies with skilled assessors will be contacted over the summer by the Center for Housing and Health (CHH) for your help downsizing the overall cohort of assessors to increase data quality.

On June 18, a Coordinated Entry Community Check-In call will take place from 1pm-2pm. These check-ins provide brief system updates. Active participation is encouraged! Please come with questions, challenges, solutions, etc. [Register here.](#)

- [Crisis System Transition/Diversion](#): The Center for Conflict Resolution (CCR), a new CoC partner, will support the CoC under a Homelessness Prevention Grant funded by the National Association for Community Mediation (NAFCM) and the JAMS Foundation. CCR is now able to support providing diversion training, conflict resolution skills training, and mediation referral training and opportunities.

On April 23, the Outreach Workgroup met with the HMIS team to develop a [workflow](#) for all CoC and PATH outreach projects and to standardize how data is collected in HMIS for clients who are unsheltered, and living on the street. Outreach teams are now able to document all encounters, engagements, and services in HMIS. These new data processes will strengthen our response to engage the unsheltered.

From October 1, 2018 to May 13, 2019, the Court Eviction Diversion Program provided homelessness prevention to 20 households to help them avoid eviction. The program continues to expand.

- [Employment & Income](#): After completing the Employment/Income refinement process, the Employment Task Force has been setting priorities and revising its workplans. The committee has created a new workgroup called the Systems Workgroup.

They have been tasked with: 1) creating an assessment to connect individuals experiencing homelessness to the workforce system; 2) developing and implementing the employment guidance process; 3) aligning workforce outcomes to incentivize workforce providers to serve individuals experiencing

homelessness, and 4) expanding existing low-barrier workforce models.

The Employment/Income line of work submitted a successful application to Heartland Alliance's Pathways Forward Challenge. Chicago is one of seven cities in this program working to increase employment opportunities for people experiencing homelessness. The first-ever data match between HMIS and the Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership is almost complete.

The SOAR Collaborations & Sustainability Workgroup is drafting an implementation vision of coordinated SOAR services for Chicagoans experiencing homelessness. The goal is to connect individuals experiencing homelessness to SOAR services through CE. On June 18, the SOAR Workgroups will host a SOAR System Coordination Presentation and Workshop to present and refine the vision for SOAR coordination. This event will include representatives from the National SOAR TA Center. Please contact [Margaret Smith](#) with questions.

- [Supporting Change](#): CoC leaders (All Chicago, DFSS, CSH) have begun conversations with the early childhood field (Ounce of Prevention, DFSS) to establish and strengthen our collaboration. One tentative project is developing and executing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the sectors. The MOU may, for instance, recommend regularly scheduled meetings between the sectors, trainings, improved referral processes, and data collection. We will be contacting CoC family housing providers and people with lived experience to help inform the MOU and look forward to sharing future updates.
- [System Performance, Data, and Research](#): Two VISTAs are joining All Chicago for 10 weeks this summer: a Monitoring and Technical Assistance Support Specialist and a CoC Data and Evaluation Coordinator. These positions will support CoC program monitoring.

The System Performance and Evaluation Committee (SPEC) & the System Operations and Performance (SOP) Committee have determined that the 2019 System Goals, approved at the April CoC Board meeting, should be examined on an ongoing basis. Going forward, at each CoC Board meeting, the SOP chair will present a "deep-dive" look into one or two of the goals. PMs will develop this data leading up to each board meeting, a process that includes multiple rounds of reviews and input by SPEC, SOP, the Project Managers (PMs), and applicable workgroups. The June board meeting will include an in-depth look at data on goals related to reducing the time people spend in homelessness and toward ensuring that projects use the CE system. During the August board meeting, we will examine the goal of reducing the number of people experiencing homelessness. Please contact [Doug Nichols](#) with any questions.

- [Youth](#): To advance the work of creating housing interventions envisioned in the Blueprint, the Chicago youth system is working with ICF, a global consulting services company. ICF is creating a draft program model based on feedback from a 2-day, in-person gathering in April of key stakeholders. There will be a special meeting of the Chicago Task Force on Homeless Youth on June 28 from 10am-noon at All Chicago to gather public feedback.

On May 15, on behalf of the Chicago CoC, All Chicago submitted the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) NOFA. YHDP is a nationwide competition where HUD awards anywhere from \$1 to \$15 million in new funding to 25 selected communities. [Here](#) is an FY2018 YHDP submission summary. HUD anticipates making funding announcements in August 2019, and we will notify you of the outcome.

The Youth line of work PMs met with a cohort for the upcoming 100-Day Challenge. So far, the communities that will form this cohort are Chicago, New Orleans, and Santa Clara. YAB members have renamed the Youth Advisory Board to Youth Action Board. YAB members also held a panel discussion at Austin Career Academy and are collaborating with Chicago Public Schools'

Students in Temporary Living Situations to present to high school students about homelessness and the YAB.

[View all May 2019 Workplans here.](#)

June 26: All CoC Meeting

Register for our All Continuum of Care (CoC) meeting on June 26, 2019! Don't miss the chance to network and hear from experts about topics that impact our community. This meeting will include **voting items, breakout sessions, and a resource fair.**

When: Wednesday, June 26, 2019 9am-1:45pm

Where: The Salvation Army Freedom Center (825 N. Christiana, Chicago, IL 60651)

Registration: [Register here](#) no later than June 19 to vote!

If you'd like to learn more about joining a committee or workgroup, visit the [Action Agenda webpage](#) and click on the links for each line of work. You can also [check the calendar](#) to find the latest meeting details.

Have questions or concerns? Contact [Maura McCauley](#) or [Dave Thomas](#).



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