

**CoC Advocacy Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**January 4, 2017: 10am to 11:30am**  
**Ounce of Prevention – 33 E. Monroe**

- I. Welcome and Introductions
  - a. Members present in-person
    - i. Carie Bires (Ounce of Prevention), Barbara Shaw (IHDC), Chris O’Hara (LEC), Consuella Brown (All Chicago), Gail Schechter (All Chicago), Jenna Temkin (All Chicago)
  - b. Members present over the phone
    - i. Jennifer Nelson-Seals (The Blvd), Ericka Carozza (Baum Family Fund), Angela Hicks (Margaret’s Village), Tamela Milan (Access Community Health Network)
- II. Review and Approval of November, 2016 minutes: unanimously approved
- III. SPC Update
  - a. Jennifer Nelson-Seals provided a recap of the last SPC meeting and their plans to launch an advocacy group.
- IV. All Chicago staffing
  - a. Consuella Brown introduced Jenna Temkin, All Chicago’s CoC Communications Coordinator. Jenna will be responsible for sending out CoC notices, eNewsletters, and other communications materials. She will also staff and support the Advocacy Committee by tracking emerging policy issues that impact the CoC and sharing them with the committee. Consuella will attend the next few Advocacy Committee meetings, and Jenna will get gradually phased in.
  - b. Consuella also introduced Gail Schechter, All Chicago’s Director of Innovation and Impact. Gail is the former director of Open Communities, a former tenant organizer, and currently staffs the state housing appeals board. She will research national and statewide CoC best practices and implement trainings based on those findings.
- V. Policy Updates
  - a. Gail provided an overview of a legislators briefing she attended with Daniel Biss, Jan Schakowsky, Robyn Gabel, and Laura Fine. They discussed how social service groups can interface with legislators and advocate for community-based groups.
  - b. Chris O’Hara expressed concern about Price. All agreed
  - c. 1115 waiver update: Consuella said that organizations should provide comments if they can. But with the ACA in danger of being repealed and a new administration, people aren’t sure what will happen next.
  - d. Barbara Shaw offered to send around a guidebook for advocating in the Trump administration—“Indivisible: A Practical Guide for Resisting the Trump Agenda”
    - i. Barbara Shaw also introduced herself. She has 45 years of experience in antipoverty efforts and has worked on domestic violence, children’s mental health and supportive housing campaigns. She currently sits on the board of IHDC.
  - e. Consuella started a discussion about our policy priorities. She suggested that it would be best for the committee to determine five or six key policy items we can work on together—keeping in mind that our collective goal is to end homelessness
    - i. Jennifer noted that mental health issues were the number one issue CoC members wanted to address. She suggested joining with the AIDS Foundation.

- ii. Carie recommended taking a second look at the survey to see what macro, systems-level advocacy we could engage in
  - iii. Barbara recommended speaking to someone at Illinois Health Care and Family Services and do some stakeholder mapping; engage with Shriver Center, Chicago Coalition for the Homeless, BPI
  - iv. Gail suggested a messaging campaign, similar to the one in Evanston around building public will to address homelessness
  - v. Chris suggested meeting with the prevention constituency group, Legal Aid Foundation, or associate of Tom Dart that Chris knows
    - 1. Chris recommended focusing on weakening punitive license suspension policies
  - vi. Barbara said we need a diverse base of groups to join forces with
- VI. Leadership Nominations
  - a. Discussion of who should be the next co-chairs
    - i. Jennifer Nelson-Seals will remain on the committee, but will no longer be co-chair. Need clarification from Jim LoBianco about whether he wants to remain co-chair.
    - ii. Carie Bires and Barbara Shaw both offered to step in as potential co-chairs
    - iii. Chris offered to be a vice-chair
- VII. Committee Member Nominations
  - a. Lots of questions around what the makeup of the committee should be. Jenna/Consuella will send around a rubric to determine where we need seats filled. They will also figure out next steps for nominating co-chairs and set a planning meeting with them.
- VIII. Next meeting: Wednesday, Feb. 1 at 10am at Ounce of Prevention
- IX. Meeting adjourned at 11:16am