A LETTER FROM NONIE AND PETER

Dear Friends,

2015 was a momentous year for All Chicago. We made substantial progress towards our mission of preventing and ending homelessness in Chicago.

Most notably, huge strides in ending veteran homelessness were made through continuous communication, partner engagement, data, and city-wide collaboration. In 2015, more than 1,700 veterans were housed and more than 600 veterans are in the process to be housed. In 2016, we will continue to work in partnership with the community to guarantee that all Chicagoans have a safe and stable place to call home.

Despite our success, the need for support is still great. In 2015, Illinois faced serious state budget delays and cuts to social services that have impacted our work. For the past several years, All Chicago has administered over $1 million in State Homeless Prevention Funds, which have not been available since July 2015. We know that approximately 1,000 individuals and families went without this vital support. Our Emergency Fund program grows even more in importance, as it is often the last resource standing between Chicagoans and serious emergencies like homelessness. Increasing needs and shrinking resources create an even stronger need to build smart, strategic partnerships that use all our resources more effectively through our Chicago Alliance Program.

We’re thankful for our collaborators that make this vital work possible: Our Board of Directors; engaged volunteers committed to our mission and growth; the donors and funders who generously support our efforts; the Lived Experience Commission and Services Providers Commission who provide us with invaluable insight; and all of our community partners who share our passion for preventing and ending homelessness in Chicago. We look forward to continuing this work throughout 2016 and beyond, so that together, we will make homelessness history in Chicago.

Sincerely,

Michael Banghart
Executive Director, Renaissance Social Services

Jim Brandt
Retired

Amy Fahey
Retired, Chase Bank

Linda Kallas
Retired, Integrys Energy Company

Kathy Ragnar
Executive Director, Sarah’s Circle

Keith Richardson
Community Volunteer, Person of Lived Experience

Jim Santos
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Richard Sciortino
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Vivian Smith-Del Toro
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Ina Stewart-Murray
Executive Vice President, PNC Bank

Lisa Stone Pritzker
Community Volunteer

Gwendolyn Turner
Community Volunteer, Person of Lived Experience

John Vranas
Owner, Vranas Ventures Inc.

Nonie Brennan
Chief Executive Officer
EMILY’S JOURNEY HOME

Emily served in Afghanistan from January to September in 2012 and still drills with the National Guard. Once she completed her service in Afghanistan, she moved to Chicago with her two sons, where she unfortunately experienced domestic violence. To escape this situation, Emily and her children fled to a Safe Haven homeless shelter, an All Chicago partner.

Emily kept the spirits of sons up by continuing their normal activities such as taking them to the lake and visiting a local dog park. Creating a strong environment and keeping their lives stable was Emily’s main concern. Amazingly, she was able to keep them in their school the entire year that they were homeless, which is an incredible feat. They traveled more than an hour each way to school on public transportation. Moving to a new school can result in an educational setback of four to six months; switching schools multiple times in a single year can mean the equivalent of a year’s loss in education.

At the homeless shelter, Emily’s information was entered into All Chicago’s Homeless Information Management System (HMIS). Once the data was entered and her specific needs were assessed, Emily and her family were connected to All Chicago partner agency Featherfist where they received vital case management to ensure they were housed. Emily and her family are beyond proud and happy to be in their own home. “It’s ours,” beams Emily, “and it’s stunning, and it’s home.”

Now looking toward the future, Emily has planned, for the first time ever, to open a savings account. She has also become an active member of the Lived Experience Commission to help ensure that veterans’ voices are included when creating the strategies that ensure all Chicagoans have a stable place to call home.

“It’S OURS, AND IT’S STUNNING, AND IT’S HOME.”
- Emily

DATA-DRIVEN STRATEGY AND PARTNERSHIPS

Our Chicago Alliance program analyzes, recommends, and collaboratively implements sustainable housing solutions for Chicago. All Chicago serves on the six-agency Leadership Team of the Ending Veteran Homelessness Initiative to set strategy, identify problems, and develop solutions to overcome barriers. Quickly providing accurate and comprehensive data was a key role in housing veterans rapidly in 2015. All Chicago managed the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) database, which tracks all homeless veteran data for the city of Chicago; we trained our partners to accurately enter data in and pull reports from the HMIS database; and custom built and maintained a database process that ensures that each veteran is connected to the housing programs and services that best fit their particular need. We also staff and manage 18-20 committees that convene a variety of stakeholders that ensure that all voices are heard and develop performance goals and strategies that move our community forward.

TRAINING

Our Learning Center program researches leading practices and offers educational opportunities for all those working to end homelessness. The Learning Center program hosted two veteran specific workshops: ‘PTSD: Beyond the Basics’ and ‘Employment Resources for Veterans’, which were attended by a total of 67 individuals.

IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE

Our Emergency Fund program provides critical financial assistance to people experiencing an emergency that could lead to homelessness or other crises. Our Emergency Fund program managed and administered the City’s Veterans Rapid Re-Housing Program which provides short-term rental assistance and case management. We also worked with nearly 30 partner agencies who can refer veterans to the Emergency Fund for assistance with rent, utilities, job trainings, and more.

*Names have been changed to protect identities.
2015 PROGRAM OUTCOMES:

EMERGENCY FUND 2015 IMPACT

TOTAL AMOUNT DISTRIBUTED: $1,107,409

AVERAGE GRANT PER CLIENT: $366

NUMBER OF CHILDREN LIVING IN THOSE HOUSEHOLDS: 2,245

TOTAL HOUSEHOLDS SERVED: 3,029

BREAKDOWN OF AMOUNTS SPENT:

- Deposit, Mortgage Payment/ Rent Moving Costs: $727,531
- Utilities (Gas/Electricity/Water): $193,139
- Home Items: $60,989
- Transportation/Car Repairs: $38,075
- Personal (Adult Clothing/Child Care/Hygiene Items): $25,911
- Job Training: $20,104
- Documents: $14,825
- Food: $14,714
- Medical: $7,630
- Other: $4,491

TOTAL: $1,107,409

65%
2015 PROGRAM OUTCOMES:

STUDENT EMERGENCY FUND

Our Student Emergency Fund launched in May 2015. The funds cover a wide variety of basic needs, up to $500 per semester to low-income, first-generation college students experiencing a crisis or emergency that might cause them to drop out of school.

“THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR THE GIFT CARD! I WAS ABLE TO BUY FOOD FOR MY HOUSE AND ALL MY SCHOOL SUPPLIES. I AM SO THANKFUL I DON’T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT HOW I AM GOING TO EAT EVERY DAY AND NOT BEING PREPARED FOR SCHOOL.”
– Jeremy, Student

$24,339 AMOUNT DISTRIBUTED IN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

2.3 DAYS AVERAGE TURN-AROUND TIME TO DISTRIBUTE FUNDS

73 STUDENTS WERE ASSISTED

97% OF STUDENTS RECEIVING FUNDING STAYED ENROLLED

2015 PROGRAM OUTCOMES:

CHICAGO ALLIANCE

In 2015, we led a collaborative application that successfully brought more than $63 million in federal funding into Chicago, which is distributed directly to 147 housing and homeless services projects.

We provided technical assistance to agencies that requested assistance, and as a result, the agencies increased their scores in the next evaluation cycle by an average of 21%.

Since 2012, we have served as the lead agency to administer the HMIS database. We train and support more than 915 database users. This year, we worked with Pacific Garden Mission – the largest homeless shelter in Chicago – to customize and implement the database for their organization. As a result, thousands more people experiencing homelessness in Chicago were added to our city-wide data pool, giving us an even more comprehensive picture into our community’s needs.

“ALL CHICAGO IS A CRITICAL COMPONENT OF OUR CITY’S APPROACH TO PREVENTING AND ENDING HOMELESSNESS.”
– Lisa Morrison Butler
City of Chicago Commissioner of the Department of Family and Support Service
2015 PROGRAM OUTCOMES:

LEARNING CENTER

The Learning Center equips our community with tools and information to be more effective in addressing homelessness.

132 TRAININGS COMPLETED

2761 ATTENDEES COMPLETED TRAININGS

"BY ATTENDING THE TRAINING OFFERED AT THE LEARNING CENTER, I HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO A VARIETY OF RESOURCES, INFORMATION, AND CONCEPTS THAT HAVE HELPED ME BETTER ASSIST THE DEMOGRAPHIC I SERVE."

— Jeanette Hamilton
Near West Side CDC/ Doors to Opportunity

FINANCES

TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE:
$5,797,706

TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES:
$5,778,838

- Government $4,069,751
- Fundraising and Special Events $1,643,874
- All other $84,181

- Programs $4,987,953
- Management and general $500,348
- Fundraising $290,537
**DONORS: CORPORATIONS & FOUNDATIONS**

$100,000+

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Knight Family Foundation
The Chicago Community Trust

$50,000 – $99,000

Alan Stone Family Charitable Foundation
Eleanor Network at Chicago Foundation for Women

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