October Action Agenda Highlights

Stay up-to-date on the latest work coming out of the Continuum of Care (CoC) Action Agenda by checking out highlights from select lines of work below. October’s Action Plans have also been posted to the Action Agenda webpage. Click on the link for each line of work to see the corresponding Action Plan.

- **Homeless Management Information System (HMIS):** University of Chicago Urban Labs, the Cook County Sheriff’s Office, All Chicago, and the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) recently started working together to explore how people move between Chicago’s homeless system, emergency rooms, and jails. Urban Labs is working with Smart Policy Works to link and match data from all three systems. In October, stakeholders met to look at data from HMIS and Cook County Corrections to explore the overlap between people who are experiencing homelessness and recently released from jail. In the coming months, this data set will be integrated with IDPH data that would further inform this analysis.

- **Youth:** The Youth Diversion Workgroup has had peer-to-peer conversations with three communities in different parts of the country to learn more about how they conduct youth diversion and to help develop a youth diversion model for Chicago. The Youth Advisory Board is also accepting applications for new members. Download the application and instructions here and submit by Nov. 21!

- **Pipeline Expansion:** The Pipeline Expansion Workgroup is working on a plan to roll out a Coordinated Funding Pre-application in 2019. They will convene focus groups to refine the process and will test out the pre-application with existing projects later this year.

- **System Performance, Data, and Research:** The Evaluation Tool Subcommittee has reworked the Evaluation Tool process for HUD CoC-funded projects to include one phase starting in January called "Intent to Renew." The second phase, the Local Evaluation Process, will start in April. The Program Models Chart Workgroup has been revising and updating the Program Models Chart and will be ready to present recommendations to the CoC Board in December.

- **Coordinated Entry System (CES):** CES has simplified the process for supportive housing providers to link clients with a Housing System Navigator if they are engaged and require support following through or with a Bridge unit if the single individual is facing chronic homelessness, unsheltered, and enrolled without an immediate unit available. PSH providers can simply update the HMIS Referral Needs Status of the client facing chronic homelessness and matched to their program to link households with additional supports as they make their way into permanent housing.

- **Employment & Income and Coordinated Entry System:** Inspiration Corporation released a research report that provides a detailed look at the employment needs of people experiencing homelessness. Based on interviews with 91 people assessed through CES, the study found that the majority of
respondents had work experience, education, and ability to look for work, but faced many obstacles to securing employment. Action Agenda Project Managers have reviewed the report’s recommendations to inform their future work plans.

Upcoming Events: CoC Board Meeting and All CoC Meeting

The CoC Board of Directors meeting is this Weds., November 7 from 2 - 4pm at City Hall (121 N. LaSalle), Room 501A.

Register now for the All CoC Meeting on Tues., December 11 from 9am - 1pm at Malcolm X College. Don’t miss the chance to network, hear community updates, and vote* on the CoC Action Agenda.

*Only CoC members in good standing two weeks prior to the All CoC Meeting are eligible to vote. See the list of current members here and become a member here.

Email Jenna Temkin with any membership questions.

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.

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

Learn more at allchicago.org

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