September Action Plan 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. September'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.

- **Coordinated Entry System (CES):** National CSH consultants hosted a Coordinated Entry System Refinement Lab Status Report on Sept. 6 with 81 stakeholders. They highlighted progress on CES solutions that were suggested at the Coordinated Entry Refinement Lab in March. Review the status report here to find out about their progress.

- **Employment/Income:** This month, the SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) Internship Program kicked off with 3 Master of Social Work interns starting at Deborah’s Place, Featherfist, and Franciscan Outreach. Coordinated by the SOAR Collaborations and Sustainability Workgroup and All Chicago, the SOAR Internship Program is a pilot that aims to assist eligible households from the Coordinated Entry One List obtain Social Security disability benefits using the SOAR method. In Oct., two interns will join Trilogy Behavioral Health and Heartland Health Outreach.

- **Youth:** The Youth Diversion Program Design (PD) and the Youth Data Workgroups have started to meet. The Youth Diversion PD Workgroup’s goal is to develop a youth diversion model for Chicago. To inform the conversation, they plan to conduct peer to peer meetings with other communities. The Youth Data Workgroup is refining the youth system dashboard and with research partner Chapin Hall they plan to design a youth typology. HMIS and Chapin Hall have an agreement in place to share de-identified data.

- **System Performance, Data, and Research:** The Peer to Peer Provider Workgroup developed a survey that will guide decisions about how to incorporate peer review or other forms of support into Chicago’s homeless system, so that staff will be able to share resources, knowledge, and practices with one another. All levels of staff are encouraged to complete the Peer to Peer Provider Support Survey. If you’re interested in joining the workgroup, email Jennifer Fabbrini.

- **Pipeline Expansion:** The Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) was awarded 89 units of HUD 811 rental assistance, designed to serve households with a disability who are between 18-62 and their families. The goal is to coordinate with health and human services, like Medicaid, to provide community-based services. CHA partnered with state and local agencies, including the Action Agenda and Cook County Health and Hospital Systems, to focus on people experiencing chronic homelessness. These resources are expected to come online in late 2018, with more details to come. The Pipeline line of work plans to meet with CHA to discuss aligning the units with the Action Agenda.

- **System Funding:** As Collaborative Applicant for the Chicago CoC, All Chicago submitted the FY18 HUD CoC Program Competition Application on
Sept. 17. The final CoC application, CoC application attachments, and Priority Listing are available on the All Chicago website. Thank you to HUD CoC funded partners, the Project Prioritization Workgroup, DFSS, the CoC Board, Collaborative Applicant Committee and other stakeholders who assisted with this effort!

Meet the Newest Project Managers

As the work of the Action Agenda has grown, additional Project Managers have been brought in to help move projects forward. Check out the updated full list of Project Managers here and meet the newest Project Managers below:

**Crisis System Transition**

*Co-Project Manager: Lynette Barnes, Emergency Fund Senior Program Manager, All Chicago*

Lynette joined All Chicago’s Emergency Fund team in March 2007. Prior to joining All Chicago, Lynette worked with economically disadvantaged, unemployed, and underemployed clients and students at the Chicago Urban League (CUL) Employment, Counseling, and Training Department for 22 years. As Co-Project Manager through the Action Agenda, Lynette works with the Crisis System Transition’s Diversion Workgroup.

**Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)**

*Co-Project Manager: Kimberly Schmitt, Director of Data and Analytics, All Chicago*

Kimberly joined the HMIS Team at All Chicago when it was comprised of only two members. The team and HMIS capabilities have grown during her tenure as Kimberly has focused on building the data framework for the Ending Veteran Homeless Initiative (EVHI) and the Coordinated Entry System. Kimberly has created a means of entering assessment data, connecting participants to housing, assessing their progress, and examining movement towards permanent housing all in HMIS.

**Veterans**

*Co-Project Manager: Jessica Smith, Senior Program Manager, CSH*

Jessica has a background in program management and over 15 years of experience serving populations impacted by poverty and homelessness. Prior to joining CSH in 2017, she was the Senior Director of the True North Project for Veterans with VOA of IL, where she actively participated in the implementation of the Ending Veteran Homelessness Initiative (EVHI). Through the Action Agenda, Jessica works to address the needs of Veterans within the Coordinated Entry System.

*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.

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