



Updates from CRN

September 6, 2019



Community Development and Empowerment Series students on a field visit to the Renaissance Collaborative's Senior Village.

Empowerment Series Continues This Month

Do you want to learn technical skills for affordable development from Chicago's community development leaders? **The Empowerment Series continues September 19-20** with Single Family Housing Development taught by Teresa Prim of Prim Lawrence Group and Linda Greene of Lucas Greene Associates. The process of developing single family housing will be discussed both in terms of the technical skills involved, and in terms of maximizing production to meet community needs. Assembling the development team, acquiring property, securing financing, and marketing will be examined in detail.

[REGISTER](#)

CRN Releases Property Tax Proposal for Neighborhood Stability

Following up our policy platform [Five Strategies Toward Housing Stability for All Chicagoans](#) released in 2018, CRN has developed a list of recommendations focused on equitable property tax policy to combat issues including loss of population, over-reliance on market forces, application of systemic racist practices against



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About CRN

Who We Are:

For 40 years, the Chicago Rehab Network has worked to train, coordinate, and empower community-based organizations developing affordable housing across Chicago and the region. CRN's advocacy has resulted in policies and resources including the Affordable Requirements Ordinance, the Tax Reactivation Program, the State of Illinois Housing Trust Fund, and the Illinois Affordable Housing Tax Credit. In addition to advocacy and training, CRN provides industry-wide thought leadership through regular policy updates, best practice case studies, and demographic

people of color, historic blight, and ongoing gentrification. Read [Housing Stability for All Chicagoans - Property Tax Policy](#) [here](#).

and economic analysis related to housing needs and markets.

Save the Date

NHS Home Buyer Education Classes



Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago has a series of home buyer education workshops coming this month. Learn about the home buying process including the basics of budgeting, improving credit, understanding the closing process, and down payment assistance programs. RSVP and find the full list of dates and locations [here](#).

Chicago Roof and Porch Repair Program

Each year, funds are available to income-eligible Chicago homeowners to make repairs on their roofs or porches. Interested parties must register in a lottery for a chance to apply for the funds. Registration does not guarantee automatic participation in the program. A lottery drawing will take place in October. Those selected will be formally notified by mail, and their addresses and confirmation numbers will be posted.

Registration for the 2020 Roof and Porch Program will take place from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., on Thursday, Sept. 12, 2019. Call 311 to sign up.

CCLF's Open House and \$100 Million Asset Milestone Celebration

Join the Chicago Community Loan Fund for an evening of music, food and engagement! CCLF's Open House and \$100 million asset milestone celebration will inaugurate their newly enhanced office space, designed to help better serve Chicagoland's communities. The celebration will be held Thursday, September 26 from 4:00 pm until 7:00 pm at 29 E. Madison Street, Suite 1700. [RSVP here](#).



Support our Mission:
With your help, we can build strong neighborhoods, strengthen capacity, and foster community leadership.

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In the News

City Looking for Input on New Budget

During September, the City of Chicago will hold Budget Town Halls to solicit input from the community about the upcoming budget for the City. The Town Halls will provide residents with an opportunity to give feedback and ask questions related to the City's 2020 budget. Mayor Lightfoot and the City's Budget Director, Susie Park, will welcome participants and provide a brief overview of how the City's budget functions and how funds are utilized. To guide the information covered in the Town Halls, the City is requesting residents' input.

Find dates for the meetings, read budget forecast summaries in multiple languages, and take the survey [here](#).

Prices Becoming Unaffordable for Residents Near Obama Center

A new study from the Voorhees Center at the University of Illinois at Chicago examines current housing in the area surrounding the proposed \$500 million Obama Center development. According to the study, prices have risen at a faster rate than the rest of Chicago since 2016 and the area has some of the highest eviction rates in the city. Read coverage from the Sun-Times [here](#) and the report from the Voorhees Center [here](#).



Rendering of proposed development. Image courtesy of the Obama Foundation.

