



**March 27, 2024**  
News & Updates from the Chicago Rehab Network

## UPDATES FROM CRN

### Spots Open in the Empowerment Series

Learn to be a leader in improving the quality of life in your community! There are several spots open in upcoming Empowerment Series classes. CRN's Community Development & Empowerment Series uses practical tools and real-world knowledge of practitioners to teach you how to effect positive change in communities through housing development. Spots are first come, first serve. Contact [terrhonda@chicagorehab.org](mailto:terrhonda@chicagorehab.org) for more information.



Want to hear more from current students before signing up? We'll be spotlighting different students currently taking the Empowerment Series for the next couple months--below, read more about Noel's experience taking the class!

*"The Empowerment Series classes revealed so much information that I need in my day-to-day work. The skills I have, partnered with this information has given me a better understanding of the work I do every day."*

Noel Bowers  
HOME Project Coordinator  
Cook County Bureau of Economic Development



### RSVP for CRN's Spring Network Meeting

Join CRN and our members and partners from around the city for a conversation about our recent work as well as current issues in the housing field including City collaboration with CDCs, the new Five Year Housing Plan, and more. We will be joined by special guests DOH Commissioner Lissette Castañeda and DPD Commissioner Ciere Boatright. [RSVP today!](#)

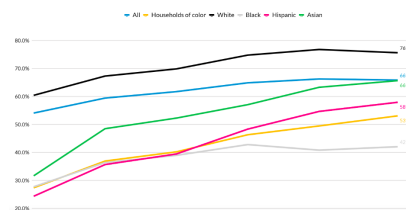


## NEWS & RESOURCES

### Market and Disparity Data Analysis Toolkit

Large gaps in homeownership rates persist between racial and ethnic groups, as households of color face significant disadvantages relative to white households in attaining and sustaining homeownership. These gaps have largely persisted since 1960 and in some cases are widening. The Urban Institute's Market and Disparity Data Analysis Toolkit allows you to take a deep dive into homeownership disparities. [Find out more.](#)

Homeownership Rate Gaps Persist and Are Even Widening  
Homeownership rates, by race or ethnicity, in Chicago, IL



### Ward 27 Affordable Housing Resource Fair

The Chicago Department of Housing and the Office of the 27th Ward Alderman are hosting an Affordable Housing Fair on Saturday, March 30th from 10:00am-2:00pm. The event will be at the Malcolm X College Gym (1900 W Jackson Blvd.). This event will include community resources, information on different options for affordable housing, including rental and homeownership, and how to access these types of housing. [Fill out this form to register.](#)

### LIHTC Awardees Announced

Mayor Brandon Johnson and the Chicago Department of Housing (DOH) have announced the selected thirteen Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) developments to be funded through the 2023 Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP). Released every two years, the QAP sets the rules for accessing federal LIHTC, a crucial funding source for affordable housing development. LIHTC operates as a public-private partnership, where investors provide equity for low-income rental properties in exchange for a federal tax credit over several decades. It remains the most significant resource for creating affordable housing in the United States today. [Find out more and see the list here.](#)

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

## Sweet Home Uptown

Voice of the People marks its 56th year by celebrating their history and progress at the "Sweet Home Uptown 2024" blues-themed fundraiser: Thursday, April 18 at the PALMHOUSE in Evanston, 6-9 pm. Don't miss this fun event with "Taste of Uptown" dining, Chicago Blues from the [Sweet Home Allstars](#) and recognition of [Legacy Leaders and Community Development Heroes](#), including Angela Clay, affordable housing role model and alderwoman, Peter Levavi, superstar developer and innovator in affordable and public housing, and staff alum, Ed Jacob, Chicago's maven of social, financial and community development services. [Register today.](#)



## CRN Members Receive Yield Giving Donations

Author and philanthropist MacKenzie Scott, through her "Yield Giving" venture, announced \$640 million in donations to nonprofits across the country, including 19 Chicago-area organizations focusing on topics from housing to immigration and grassroots activism. Scott has donated \$16.5 billion of her fortune since divorcing Amazon founder Jeff Bezos in 2019. The most recent round of donations is part of Yield Giving's Open Call, which garnered more than 6,000 applications and selected 361 organizations as recipients. The gifts are meant to highlight "outstanding work advancing the voices and opportunities of individuals and families of meager or modest means, and groups who have met with discrimination and other systemic obstacles," according to the Open Call page on Yield Giving's website. CRN members Claretian Associates, Kenwood Oakland Community Organization, and Latino Policy Forum all received donations--each of the awardees represents the incredible diversity of organizations addressing difficult issues to make a difference in our region. Congratulations! [Read more.](#)

## H.O.M.E.'s Good Life Gala

Get ready for an unforgettable evening at H.O.M.E.'s 2nd annual Good Life Gala on Wednesday, May 1, 2024 at the iconic [Newberry Library](#)! This year's gala is extra special as we raise our glasses to the 30th anniversary of [Nathalie Salmon House](#)—Chicago's first intentionally-built intergenerational property for low-income seniors. Please join emcee [Steve Bynum](#), plus H.O.M.E. residents, staff, and supporters, on May 1 for an evening filled with fellowship and a commitment to improving the lives of older adults. [Find out more and register.](#)



***Want to be featured in our newsletter? If you have an event, announcement, or resource to share, let us know!***

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## About CRN

For over 45 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 and economic analysis related to housing needs and markets.



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