Congratulations on 30 years!

Together, providing a pathway to affordable and successful home ownership.

Great strength. More heart.
October 26, 2017

Welcome to Housing Action Illinois’ 2017 Housing Matters! Conference. This year, we’re excited to finish out our 30th anniversary year by celebrating with all of you. Three decades ago, 46 nonprofits that saw the critical need for a united voice for affordable housing in Illinois joined together as the Statewide Housing Action Coalition. Since then, Housing Action Illinois has grown into a powerful, wide-reaching coalition of more than 160 member organizations and the thousands of housing professionals, counselors, developers, and advocates who work for them.

Our history—and the many successes we’ve had as a coalition—strengthens our belief that we can do even more to protect and expand good homes for all, in spite of the uncertainties and challenges that may lie ahead. This conference is our time to come together to support and learn from each other. We know that we can build a better future, and in the coming two days, we will explore the building blocks that will lead us there.

That’s why we’re kicking off with a keynote address by Dr. Megan Sandel from Children’s HealthWatch; Dr. Sandel will talk about how good homes are essential for healthy lives and communities. We’ll also hear from Audra Hamernik, Executive Director of the Illinois Housing Development Authority, at our annual membership meeting and luncheon. On Friday, we’ve arranged for an additional interactive plenary session that explores implicit bias with Carlee Beth Hawkins from Project Implicit. We’ll close out with remarks from the Executive Director of the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability, Ralph Martire, who will help us understand the future of the state budget and its affect on our work to build a stronger Illinois.

In addition to our plenary sessions, we’ve planned five separate workshop tracks, each specifically designed for different sectors within the broader affordable housing and homelessness prevention field. We’re pleased to continue our Current & Emerging Leaders track through the generous support of Midland States Bank.

A conference like this requires an enormous amount of planning and support, and it would not be possible without the assistance of many people and organizations, including the speakers and presenters who donate their time and expertise. Thanks also go to Laurie Peterson from PNC, a Housing Action Illinois Board member and our Conference Planning Chairperson, as well as the members of our Resource Development Committee. Finally, we want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of our sponsors for their generous support, especially our Platinum and Gold Sponsors: Midland States Bank, Chase, and State Farm. Together, we can create thriving communities across Illinois by ensuring that everyone has a safe, affordable, and accessible place to call home.

Sincerely,

Sharon K. Legenza
Executive Director
Housing Action Illinois
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# SCHEDULE

## THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>REGISTRATION &amp; CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST</strong>&lt;br&gt;Breakfast sponsored by Hometown Community Banks</td>
<td>PRE-FUNCTION AREA</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>WELCOME &amp; KEYNOTE ADDRESS</strong>&lt;br&gt;The Value of Homes for Health&lt;br&gt;Dr. Megan Sandel, Children's HealthWatch</td>
<td>BRICKYARD I, II &amp; III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 a.m.</td>
<td><strong>ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING &amp; LUNCHEON</strong>&lt;br&gt;Remarks from Audra Hamernik, Executive Director&lt;br&gt;Illinois Housing Development Authority&lt;br&gt;Lunch sponsored by Applegate &amp; Thorne-Thomsen</td>
<td>BRICKYARD I, II &amp; III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>WORKSHOP SESSION I</strong>&lt;br&gt;- Here Comes the Sun: Solar Energy&lt;br&gt;- Protecting the Affordable Care Act&lt;br&gt;- Underwriting &amp; the Secondary Mortgage Market&lt;br&gt;- Moving from Concept to Implementation</td>
<td>BRICKYARD VI, BRICKYARD IV, BRICKYARD V, BROOKRIDGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:45 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>WORKSHOP SESSION II</strong>&lt;br&gt;- Disrupting the Mortgage Delivery System&lt;br&gt;- Coordinating Entry into Supportive Housing for the Most Vulnerable&lt;br&gt;- Immigration 101: Updates &amp; Resources&lt;br&gt;- Building Strong Budgets</td>
<td>BRICKYARD VI, BRICKYARD IV, BRICKYARD V, BROOKRIDGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:15 p.m.</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>WORKSHOP SESSION III</strong>&lt;br&gt;- Ensuring Access &amp; Opportunity for People with Disabilities&lt;br&gt;- Building Opportunities with Public Housing Authorities&lt;br&gt;- Rent Reporting for Credit Building&lt;br&gt;- Building Strong Funder Relationships</td>
<td>BRICKYARD VI, BRICKYARD V, BRICKYARD IV, BROOKRIDGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30–7:30 p.m.</td>
<td><strong>BIRTHDAY PARTY &amp; RECEPTION</strong>&lt;br&gt;6:00 p.m. – Champagne toast &amp; birthday cupcakes&lt;br&gt;6:45 p.m. – 50/50 raffle winner announced</td>
<td>PRE-FUNCTION AREA</td>
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8:00 a.m.  REGISTRATION & CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST  
Breakfast sponsored by Fifth Third Bank  
PRE-FUNCTION AREA

9:00 a.m.  OPENING PLENARY SESSION  
Mind Bugs: The Ordinary Origins of Bias  
Dr. Carlee Beth Hawkins  
University of Illinois Springfield & Project Implicit  
BRICKYARD I & II

10:30 a.m.  BREAK

10:45 a.m.  WORKSHOP SESSION IV  
The High Cost of Appraisal Bias  
Moving On from Supportive Housing  
Our Homes, Our Votes  
Housing Discrimination in Your Community  
Beyond Lip Service: Equity in Leadership  
BRICKYARD III  
BRICKYARD IV  
BROOKRIDGE  
BRICKYARD V  
BRICKYARD VI

12:15 a.m.  LUNCH  
PRE-FUNCTION AREA

12:30–2:00 p.m.  CLOSING PLENARY SESSION  
State Budget Update: What’s Next for Illinois?  
Ralph Martire, Executive Director  
Center for Tax and Budget Accountability  
BRICKYARD I & II

TRACK KEY

• Affordable Housing Development  
• Ending Homelessness  
• Public Policy Advocacy  
• Housing Counseling  
• Current & Emerging Leaders
KEYNOTE ADDRESS
THURSDAY, 10:00–11:15 A.M.

Keynote Address: The Value of Homes for Health

Dr. Megan Sandel, Children’s HealthWatch

Where you live affects your entire life. When it’s hard to make ends meet, families face an impossible choice between paying rent and buying medicine or visiting the doctor. Being behind on mortgage payments can lead to chronic stress and depression, and living in a home with lead paint or cockroaches can lead to serious physical health concerns. Children are especially affected by where they live; having a good home is linked to their socio-emotional maturity, asthmatic symptoms, and long-term developmental delays.

While housing insecurity puts children and families at risk for a wide range of health and developmental complications, the foundation of a quality, stable, affordable home can act like a vaccine. Living near a park can make it easier to exercise, and having a grocery store nearby can make it easier to buy and cook fresh produce. During our keynote address, Dr. Megan Sandel will explore how good homes can be a powerful upstream intervention tool in creating healthy, thriving communities. She will use a framework of equity rather than equality to discuss long-lasting, effective changes that we need in housing and how these efforts are amplified when integrated with health, education, and criminal justice reform.

MEMBERSHIP LUNCHEON
THURSDAY, 11:30–12:45 P.M.

Housing Action Illinois Membership Meeting and Luncheon

Audra Hamernik, Illinois Housing Development Authority

During our annual members luncheon, Housing Action staff will give updates on our work from the past year and share our goals for the coming year. We will also welcome Audra Hamernik, Executive Director of the Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA), which finances the creation and preservation of affordable housing in Illinois. During her address, Audra will reflect on all that IHDA has accomplished during its 50 years of connecting people with financing programs for their homes, discuss the current state of affordable housing development in Illinois, and talk about what IHDA hopes to accomplish in the future, often in partnership with those attending this conference.
Here Comes the Sun: Solar Energy
Kate Brown, University of Illinois; John Clancy, Godfrey Kahn
Could the installation of solar power be a wise investment for your affordable housing property? With the cost of solar panels decreasing every year, now may be the right time. Join us to learn more about solar energy and hear examples of how public housing authorities and Native American tribes have turned to solar power to better serve their residents and their bottom line.

Protecting the Affordable Care Act
Nadeen Israel, EverThrive Illinois; Dan Rabbit, Heartland Alliance
In the past year, there have been massive efforts to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The proposals have included eliminating Medicaid expansion—or transitioning to a block grant or per-capita funding formula—which would dramatically reduce resources that help people maintain their housing and are essential to many people ending their homelessness. Join a discussion with members from Protect Our Care Illinois, a statewide coalition devoted to preventing the repeal of the ACA, to learn more about protecting and expanding access to quality affordable health care in Illinois and across the nation.

Underwriting and the Secondary Mortgage Market
Workshop sponsored by Boston Community Capital
David Young, Housing Action Illinois
What is the secondary mortgage market, exactly? How did it come to be, and why does it have such an impact on residential loan underwriting and home purchases? During this session, we’ll talk about the history of the secondary mortgage market, which only began to take shape after the federal government created the Federal Housing Administration in 1934 but is a huge part of our mortgage system today. We’ll explore how decisions in the market’s infancy affected our nation’s housing policy and how the crash of the market connected with the foreclosure crisis. We will also discuss how redlining has affected the market and continues to plague neighborhoods throughout the U.S.

Moving from Concept to Implementation
Brian Hollenback, Rock Island Economic Growth Corporation (GROWTH)
How did a small housing organization from Rock Island grow into a national leader in developing innovative housing projects? Join us in a discussion about the costs, risks, and rewards of taking on a new project through the lens of a nonprofit that grew to utilize over $200 million in leveraged resources to stimulate affordable housing development, job creation, and economic growth in northwestern Illinois and beyond. We will examine everything from setting practical goals and building community partnerships to exploring diverse funding opportunities and putting together proposals that work.
Disrupting the Mortgage Delivery System ●
Gabe del Rio, Nationwide Mortgage Collaborative
For too many first-time home buyers, access to mortgage credit remains an unattainable goal. The Nationwide Mortgage Collaborative (NMC) intends to change this by shaking up the mortgage delivery system. Learn how their fee for service model reflects the diversity of market needs across the nation and allows nonprofits to generate revenue while providing wealth building opportunities to low-income communities. Local housing nonprofits provide the education and counseling, initial processing and document collection, while the NMC provides a marketplace platform for banks and investors to offer their CRA products. By aggregating loan originations, the NMC will be able to ensure consistency of loan quality, standardize loan processing and underwriting, and bundle loans for CRA lenders or for sale to the secondary market.

Coordinating Entry into Supportive Housing for the Most Vulnerable ●
Stephanie Sideman, Corporation for Supportive Housing; Sarah Ciampi, U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development
With scarce resources, it is critical that every Continuum of Care in Illinois use effective targeting practices and policies to ensure supportive housing offers are made to those who need it most. Come and play a life-size game of Chutes and Ladders that will demonstrate how to build and improve upon a coordinated entry system that accounts for the diversity of needs of people. We will think through how chutes that cause people to take steps backwards can be eliminated or turned into uplifting ladders.

Immigration 101: Resources and Updates ●
Dagmara Avelar, Illinois Coalition for Immigrant & Refugee Rights; Charlotte Alvarez, The Immigration Project
In the current hotbed of fiercely debated immigration policies and practices, how can we work to protect and provide resources for immigrant communities? This session will be particularly useful for participants who are new to immigrant issues and need a primer on the legal status issues that their community members may face. Join us for an explanation of the basic immigration system, including different legal statuses, methods of entry, and bars to immigrating. We will also discuss current issues and legislation affecting immigrants on state and federal levels, such as Immigrant Integration Programs, the TRUST Act, Know Your Rights with Immigration, and immigrant eligibility for federal programs.

Building Strong Budgets ●
Andreason Brown, Forefront/Impact Consulting LLC
With the right process, organizations can create financial models that combine attainable fundraising goals, realistic and manageable expense expectations, and contingency plans to fully fund core programs and activities. In this session, we will dissect nonprofit budgeting and explore effective tools and strategies that promote active participation in the planning and financial reporting processes, including key questions to ask throughout.
Ensuring Access & Opportunity for People with Disabilities

Lore Baker, Illinois Department of Human Services; Eric Brown, RAMP CIL; Ken Walden, Access Living

Federal fair housing law requires housing providers to grant tenant requests for reasonable accommodations and modifications needed due to a disability. But what is reasonable? What is the difference between accommodations and modifications? Join us to explore the respective responsibilities of housing providers and tenants and talk about troubleshooting difficult situations.

Building Opportunities with Public Housing Authorities

Rich Monocchio, Housing Authority of Cook County

How are public housing authorities trying to expand housing and employment opportunities for their residents? How can community-based organizations establish more successful partnerships with their local PHA to assist efforts to end homelessness and meet with needs of people significant housing challenges? What public policy changes would help? Come to this session with your ideas, questions, and reflections on PHA programs and engage in a discussion with the Executive Director of the second largest housing authority in Illinois.

Rent Reporting for Credit Building

Carmina Lass, Credit Builders Alliance

Rent Reporting for Credit Building (RRCB) is a powerful strategy for organizations who want to help clients strengthen their financial capability and resiliency. When clients regularly report tenant rent payments to at least one major consumer credit bureau for inclusion on consumer credit reports, it helps them build credit histories and offers a positive incentive for on-time rent payment. The pairing of rent reporting with financial education and asset building programs can make financial goals much more attainable. Join us to discuss the benefits and opportunities for bringing RRCB to residents of affordable and public housing.

Building Strong Funder Relationships

James Gilliam, Fifth Third Bank; Cornell Lurry, First Midwest Bank; Robert Mueller, Hometown Community Banks; David Noble, Midland States Bank; Amelia Vega, U.S. Bank

Interested in increasing your funding, but not sure where to start? Curious about the best ways to pitch your programs and services to banks? Join this interactive session where representatives from national, regional, and community banks will evaluate program ideas through a series of one-on-one practice conversations. Hear directly from funders as they discuss tips for successful proposals and pet peeves to avoid when presenting your ideas.
BIRTHDAY PARTY RECEPTION

THURSDAY, 5:30–7:30 P.M.

Celebrate 30 Years of Housing Justice

Join us to celebrate our 30th anniversary! During this birthday celebration, we’ll give a champagne toast to our founding members and everyone who has helped us work to expand affordable housing throughout the past thirty years. We’ll have cupcakes and appetizers, listen to hits from the ‘80s, and mix and mingle. We’ll also announce the winner of our 50/50 raffle, who will get half of the raffle the proceeds, while the remaining half will support Housing Action’s work to make sure everyone in our state has a good home.

Thank You Midland States Bank for your generous multiyear support of our Current & Emerging Leaders Workshop Track

Housing Action is the proud recipient of the 2017 Community First® Award from the Federal Home Loan Bank of Chicago for this nonprofit capacity-building initiative.

Housing Action Illinois and Midland States Bank launched the organizational development workshops and scholarships three years ago with the goal of bringing together housing leaders from around the state to build skills, network, and get inspired at our annual conference.
PLANNING TO BUY A HOME?
- Learn about down-payment assistance programs
- Receive your credit report on-the-spot
- Receive one-on-one pre-purchase counseling
- Speak with lending institution representatives, plus insurance and real estate agents

HAVING TROUBLE PAYING YOUR MORTGAGE?
- Meet with housing counselors about mortgage modifications
- See if you qualify for mortgage payment assistance programs
- Speak with a Cook County tax assessor representatives about property tax exemptions you may qualify for

WHEN? Saturday November 11th, 10am - 2pm
WHERE? Malcom X College Conference Center, 1900 W. Jackson Blvd. Chicago, IL - Free garage parking with validation
QUESTIONS? Call Northwest Side Housing Center (773) 283-3888
RSVP: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ChicagoHousingFair

Habitat for Humanity of Champaign County salutes Housing Action Illinois for thirty years of work...

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FRIDAY OPENING PLENARY
FRIDAY, 9:00–10:30 A.M.

**Mind Bugs: The Ordinary Origins of Bias**
*Dr. Carlee Beth Hawkins, Project Implicit & University of Illinois Springfield*

We make snap judgements about other people all the time. Often, we don’t even realize we’re making them—or where they’re coming from. Much of our perception, thinking, and action is shaped by implicit cognition: mental activity that occurs outside of conscious awareness or conscious control. Because of this, our judgments and actions can be unintentionally influenced by factors that we do not recognize and may not fully appreciate.

During this plenary session, Dr. Carlee Beth Hawkins, Assistant Professor of Psychology at the University of Illinois Springfield and Director of Training at Project Implicit, will help us begin to understand our own implicit biases. Dr. Hawkins will share examples of ways in which we don’t have complete access to or control over our own minds, and we will explore how this translates to social judgment of ourselves and others, particularly when it comes to perceptions of race, physical and mental abilities, or gender and sexual orientation. We will also discuss ways to manage our implicit bias and how we can use this knowledge to inform our organizational cultures.

WORKSHOP IV
FRIDAY, 10:45–12:15 P.M.

**The High Cost of Appraisal Bias**
*Jason Richardson, National Community Reinvestment Coalition*

Ever wonder why appraisals for similar houses can vary widely between neighborhoods? Come join a discussion on the concept of structural barriers in the marketplace. We will explain the role that over- and under- appraisals play in the mortgage market and how they can literally lift or sink a neighborhood’s fortunes, as well as what can be done to combat appraisal bias.

**Moving On from Supportive Housing**
*Betsy Benito, Corporation for Supportive Housing; Kenyatta Black & Frederick Maclin, Alexian Brothers Housing and Health Alliance; Sarah Ciampi, U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development*

It can be challenging to help residents who are able to succeed on their own move out of supportive housing. Join us to discuss and develop strategies for guiding residents into more affordable housing options when their service needs stabilize and decrease. This session will discuss formal strategies that have been tested to promote the concept of “moving on,” including lessons learned from providers who have made this support a regular part of their programming. We will also talk about how to approach affordable housing providers that have vacancies to refer tenants for leasing.
Our Homes, Our Votes
Joey Lindstrom, National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC); Jay Young, Common Cause Illinois
Next year, Illinois voters will face critical choices at the federal level for each congressional district and at the state level for governor and members of the General Assembly. It is crucial that people who need and support affordable homes show up at the polls in huge numbers to make sure our elected officials care about these issues too. We’ll hear from NLIHC about their Our Homes, Our Votes campaign, which focuses on voter registration, education and mobilization, and from the Just Democracy coalition about the implementation of Illinois’ new automatic registration law, which will make our voter rolls more accurate, equitable, and secure. Join the discussion about why it’s important that nonprofit organizations encourage people to participate in the electoral process and identify what resources are available to do this work.

Housing Discrimination in Your Community
Anne Houghtaling, HOPE Fair Housing
We want to ensure that everyone has the chance to live in the community, home or apartment of their choice, free from discrimination. Join us to discuss the history of redlining, modern day segregation, and what fair lending practices look like. We’ll talk about who is protected by the Fair Housing Act and what actions you can take to help end housing discrimination in your own community and throughout Illinois.

Beyond Lip Service: Equity in Leadership
Moderator: Alejandra L. Ibañez, Woods Fund Chicago
Panelists: Maria Ramos, The Resurrection Project; Adam Ballard, Access Living; Danielle Taylor, Community Investment Corporation
If we’re going to create a better future, we need truly diverse leadership. To build and support diverse leadership, we need to critically examine our own organizations, intentionally build welcoming spaces, and actively foster new talent. How do we ensure that leaders representing communities that are disproportionately impacted by housing and economic injustice are at the forefront of the movement for affordable housing? We’ll talk about challenges and will ask participants to share experiences, frustrations, ideas, and hopes related to fostering, finding, and becoming leaders in the world of affordable housing.

CLOSING PLENARY
FRIDAY, 12:30–2:00 P.M.

State Budget Update: What’s Next for Illinois?
Ralph Martire, Center for Tax and Budget Accountability
After a budget impasse that lasted more than two years, Illinois finally has a budget. But while the standoff is over, it will take a long time for our state to recover from the negative impacts of the crisis, which was devastating to many Illinoisans and nonprofits dedicated to providing safety net services. Far too many social service agencies working to end homelessness were forced to close their doors, lay off staff, or cut back on programming. During this closing plenary session, Ralph Martire from the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability will talk about the long-term effects of the impasse, break down the budget that our lawmakers did pass, and discuss what must come next if we are to restore Illinois to fiscal health.
GENERAL SESSION SPEAKERS

Dr. Megan Sandel, Children’s HealthWatch
Thursday Keynote Address

Megan Sandel, MD MPH, is the Associate Director of the GROW clinic at Boston Medical Center, a Principal Investigator with Children’s HealthWatch, and an Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the Boston University Schools of Medicine and Public Health. She is the former pediatric medical director of Boston Healthcare for the Homeless program, and is a nationally recognized expert on housing and child health. In 1998, with other doctors at Boston Medical Center, she published the DOC4Kids report, a national report on how housing affected child health, the first of its kind; over the course of her career, Dr. Sandel has written numerous peer reviewed scientific articles and papers on this subject. In 2001, she became the first medical director of the founding site for medical-legal partnerships, Medical-Legal Partnership-Boston, and from 2007-2016 she served as the Medical Director of the National Center for Medical-Legal Partnership. She has served as a Principal Investigator for numerous NIH, HUD and foundation grants, working with the Boston Public Health Commission and Massachusetts Department of Public Health to improve the health of vulnerable children, particularly with asthma. She has served on many national boards, including Enterprise Community Partners, and national advisory committees at American Academy of Pediatrics and CDC Advisory Committee for Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention.

Audra Hamernik, Illinois Housing Development Authority
Thursday Membership Meeting & Luncheon

Audra Hamernik is a longtime housing executive with more than 20 years of public and private industry experience. She was appointed Executive Director of the Illinois Housing Development Authority in February of 2016, and currently serves on the Board of Directors for the National Council of State Housing Agencies and the Federal Home Loan Bank of Chicago’s Community Investment Advisory Council. Prior to this, she was principal of A. Hamernik & Associates, a consulting firm where she advised nonprofit agencies on affordable housing development and funding strategies, and counseled local governments on affordable housing issues and administration of funds. Audra was also the Executive Director and founder of Bluestem Housing Partners, a nonprofit organization that developed affordable apartments for working families in both urban and rural locations. In each of these roles, she is credited with the coordination of complex investments that layered public and private funds to build quality, affordable homes throughout Illinois. Before founding Bluestem, she served as Assistant Community Development Director for the Village of Villa Park and as Senior Planner for DuPage County. She grew up in Johnson County in southern Illinois, and earned her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
Dr. Carlee Beth Hawkins, *Project Implicit & University of Illinois Springfield*

Friday Opening Plenary

Dr. Carlee Beth Hawkins is an Assistant Professor of Psychology at the University of Illinois Springfield. After completing her Ph.D. in social psychology at the University of Virginia in 2013, she was a post-doctoral researcher in the Center for Decision Research at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. Carlee is also the Director of Training at Project Implicit, a virtual laboratory for research and education of implicit cognition—thoughts and feelings outside of conscious awareness or control. Carlee has given lectures and led workshops on the impact of implicit cognition on institutional decision making and social interactions in the workplace to diverse groups including human resource professionals, senior executives, and physicians. Carlee’s research interests concern motivations and strategies for reducing the impact of bias on social and political judgment and behavior.

Ralph Martire, *Center for Tax and Budget Accountability*

Friday Closing Plenary

Ralph Martire is Executive Director of the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability, a bipartisan 501(c)(3) think tank committed to ensuring that state, federal and local workforce, education, fiscal, economic and budget policies are fair and just, and promote opportunity for all, regardless of race, ethnicity or income class. In February 2011, he was appointed to serve on the U.S. Department of Education Equity and Excellence Commission. He is a distinguished lecturer on public policy for Roosevelt University and has taught fiscal policy seminars for various universities and the International Fulbright Scholar Program. Ralph has received numerous awards for his work on education policy reform, including the 2007 Champion of Freedom Award, presented by the Rainbow PUSH Coalition to individuals whose professional work embodies Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s, commitment to equal educational opportunities, and the Ben C. Hubbard Leadership Award, given by Illinois State University to individuals who have greatly benefited education in Illinois. He was elected to serve on the School Board of River Forest District 90, where he still serves. Mr. Martire is also a regular columnist on education, fiscal and economic policy for the State Journal Register and Daily Herald. He received his B.A. in History with highest honors from Indiana University, and his J.D. from the University of Michigan.
ABOUT HOUSING ACTION ILLINOIS

We believe that everyone should have a quality, affordable place to call home.
As a statewide coalition, we unite organizations and individuals working to protect and expand the availability of quality, affordable housing throughout Illinois.

POLICY ADVOCACY

We advocate for legislation and policies that protect and expand affordable housing in Illinois and across the nation. In addition to meeting with legislators, we mobilize our members and allies to advocate for our collective public policy agenda, amplifying the influence of community-based organizations working to end homelessness, create affordable rental housing, and promote sustainable homeownership.

PUBLIC EDUCATION & ORGANIZING

We build awareness by sharing information and personal stories with policymakers, elected officials, nonprofit service providers, and the media. In addition to keeping our members informed about the latest developments in housing issues, we organize issue-specific working groups and an annual conference.

TRAINING & CONSULTING

We help housing counselors and developers build their skills and capacity. Our experts coordinate and teach regular workshops and offer one-on-one support to organizations. We want to make sure that agencies throughout Illinois can keep up with changing trends, new technology, and complicated regulations. We also support agencies in expanding their capacity by managing a network of AmeriCorps VISTAs placed with member organizations throughout the state.

join us! HOUSINGACTIONIL.ORG/MEMBERSHIPINFO

Thanks to our Supporters

In addition to our conference sponsors, Housing Action Illinois would like to recognize and thank the following institutions for their support this past year:

- Alphawood Foundation
- Associated Bank
- Corporation for National & Community Service
- First Midwest Bank
- Huntington Bank
- Illinois Attorney General
- Illinois Housing Development Authority
- Midland States Bank
- Pierce Family Foundation
- PNC
- Polk Bros. Foundation
- Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust
- U.S. Bank Foundation
- U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development
- Woodforest Bank
- Woods Fund of Chicago
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COMMUNICATIONS & DEVELOPMENT VISTAS
Marissa Diekhoff
Scott Tankersley
MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

Housing Action Illinois has more than 160 members, including nonprofit organizations, government agencies, and corporations, all committed to protecting and expanding the availability of quality, affordable housing.

*Organizations in bold are Founding Members

Access Living, Chicago
Affordable Housing Corporation of Lake County, Libertyville
Agora Community Services, Chicago
All Chicago, Chicago
Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County, Hillside
Applegate & Thorne-Thomsen, Chicago
Assisted Housing Risk Management Assessment (AHRMA), Rantoul
BCMW Community Services, Centralia
Bethany Village Family Crisis Resource Center, Anna
Bethel New Life, Chicago
Breakthrough Joliet, Joliet
Brighton Park Neighborhood Council, Chicago
Catholic Charities Diocese of Joliet, Joliet
CDBG Operations Corporation, East St. Louis
C.E.F.S. Economic Opportunity Corporation, Effingham
Center for Changing Lives, Chicago
Centro Romero, Chicago
Champaign County Regional Planning Commission, Urbana
Champaign-Urbana Tenant Union, Champaign
Chicago Area Fair Housing Alliance, Chicago
Chicago Coalition for the Homeless, Chicago
Chicago Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, Inc., Chicago
Chicago Rehab Network, Chicago
Chicago Urban League, Chicago
Chicagoland Habitat for Humanity, Chicago
Chinese American Service League, Chicago
Cinnaire (formerly Great Lakes Capital Fund), Madison
City of Rockford, Rockford
Claretian Associates, Chicago
Community & Economic Development Association of Cook County, Chicago
Community Contacts, Inc., Elgin
Community Investment Corporation of Decatur, Decatur
Community Partners For Affordable Housing, Highland Park
Community Service Council of Northern Will County, Bolingbrook
Connections For The Homeless, Evanston
Cornerstone Associates LLC, Indianapolis
Crosswalk Community Action Agency, West Frankfort
CSH, Chicago
Disability Resource Center, Joliet
Dove, Inc., Decatur
DuPage Habitat for Humanity, Wheaton
DuPage PADS, Wheaton
East Central Illinois Community Action Agency, Danville
Economic Growth Corporation (GROWTH), Rock Island
Edgewater Village, Chicago
Embarra River Basin Agency, Inc., Greenup
Enterprise Community Partners, Chicago
Erie Neighborhood House, Chicago
Everlasting Word Church, Aurora
Federal Home Loan Bank of Chicago, Chicago
Ford Heights Community Service Organization, Ford Heights
Freeport Area Church Cooperative, Freeport
Garfield Park Community Council, Chicago
Genesis Housing Development Corporation, Chicago
Good Samaritan House, Granite City
Grass Roots Organizing Works, Rock Island
Greater Southwest Development Corporation, Chicago
Habitat for Humanity Chicago, Chicago
Habitat for Humanity Chicago South Suburbs, Chicago
Habitat for Humanity of Champaign County & Restore, Champaign
Habitat for Humanity of Illinois, Naperville
Habitat for Humanity of Northern Fox Valley, Elgin
Habitat for Humanity of Sangamon County, Springfield
Heartland Alliance, Inc., Chicago
Heartland Housing, Inc., Chicago
Hesed House, Aurora
HOME DuPage (formerly DuPage Homeownership Center), Wheaton
HomeStart, Inc., Freeport and Rockford
HOPE Fair Housing Center, West Chicago
Hope Haven of DeKalb, DeKalb
Hope of East Central Illinois, Charleston
Housing Authority of Cook County, Chicago
Housing Choice Partners of Chicago, Chicago
Housing Forward (formerly West Suburban PADS), Maywood
Housing Opportunity Development Corporation, Techry
Housing PLUS, Chicago
IFF, Chicago
Illinois Community Action Development Corporation, Springfield
Illinois Housing Council, Chicago
Illinois Valley Center for Independent Living, LaSalle
IMPACT Center For Independent Living, Alton
Inland Home Mortgage, Hillside
Interfaith Leadership Project of Cicero, Berwyn & Stickney, Cicero
John Marshall Law School, Chicago
Joining Forces for Affordable Housing, Chicago
Joseph Corporation, Aurora
Justine Petersen Housing and Reinvestment Corporation, Granite City
Kankakee County Housing Authority, Kankakee
Lake County Coalition For The Homeless, Gurnee
Lake County Community Development Division, Libertyville
Lake County Housing Authority, Grayslake
Lake County Residential Development Corporation, Gurnee
Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance Foundation, Springfield
Latin United Community Housing Association, Chicago
Latino Policy Forum, Chicago
Lawyers’ Committee For Better Housing, Chicago
Lazarus House, St. Charles
LIFE Center for Independent Living, Bloomington
Local Initiatives Support Corporation, Chicago and Peoria
Madison County Community Development, Edwardsville
METEC, Peoria
Mid Central Community Action, Bloomington
Midland States Bank, Chesterfield
Mobile Home Owners Association of Illinois, Des Plaines
Mobile Housing Plus Services, Peoria
Mortgage Education Foundation, Orland Park
Muslim Women Resource Center, Chicago
Neighborhood Housing Services of Chicago, Inc., Chicago
Neumann Family Services, Chicago
New Christian Joy Full Gospel Baptist Church, Chicago
New Community Vision, Chicago
North Central Illinois Council of Governments, Ottawa
North Side Community Federal Credit Union, Chicago
Northside Community Development Corporation, Chicago
Northwest Compass, Inc., Mount Prospect
Northwest Side Housing Center, Chicago
Oak Park Regional Housing Center, Oak Park
Open Communities, Winnetka
Over The Rainbow, Evanston
Overflow Ministry – Korean United Methodist Church, Flossmoor
PADS Lake County, North Chicago
PADS of Elgin, Elgin
Partners In Community Building Inc., Chicago
People’s Resource Center, Wheaton
Peoria Public Housing Authority, Peoria
Progress Center for Independent Living, Forest Park
Project IRENE, Wilmette
Proviso Leyden Council for Community Action, Maywood
Resources for Community Living, Rolling Meadows
Respond Now, Chicago Heights
Restoration America, Inc., Crystal Lake
ReVive Center for Housing and Healing, Chicago
RinCon Family Services, Wheaton
Rockford Housing Authority, Rockford
Shawnee Development Council, Karnak
Shelter Care Ministries, Rockford
South Suburban Family Shelter, Matteson
South Suburban Housing Center, Homewood
South Suburban PADS, Chicago Heights
Southwestern Illinois Development Authority, Collinsville
Spanish Coalition for Housing, Chicago
Spanish Community Center, Joliet
Springfield Housing Authority, Springfield
Supportive Housing Providers Association, Springfield
Supportive Services for Veteran Families, Springfield
The Harbour, Inc., Park Ridge
The Resurrection Project, Chicago
Thresholds, Chicago
Together We Cope, Tinley Park
Total Resource Community Development, Chicago
Tri-County Opportunities Council, Rock Falls
Triology Behavioral Healthcare, Chicago
Trinity Lutheran Church
Turnstone Development, Chicago
Universal Housing Solutions CDC
Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, Inc., St. Louis
Volunteers of America, Chicago
Western Egyptian Economic Opportunity Council, Inc., Steeleville
Will County Center for Community Concerns, Joliet
ZION Development, Rockford

* As of October 2017
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