

# 2020 HOUSING MATTERS!

## VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

*IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE STRENGTHENING NATIONAL COMMUNITIES FORUM*



### **Working with Landlords to Provide Re-Entry Housing**

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COMMUNITY  
PARTNERS for  
**AFFORDABLE  
HOUSING**



Everyone should have a safe, affordable place to call home.

CPAH is a HUD-certified nonprofit organization that helps residents rent homes, buy homes, repair homes and save homes from foreclosure.

## BUY a Home



**Education:** Learn how to navigate the complex process of buying and maintaining your home.

**Counseling:** Personalized guidance and individual action plans to help you overcome barriers to homeownership.

**Forgivable Grants:** Forgivable grants of up to 5% of the purchase price for down payment and closing costs.

**Affordable Homes:** Affordable homes for sale throughout the northern suburbs.

## RENT a Home



**Rental Housing:** Affordable rental units available throughout the northern suburbs.

**Rental Assistance:** Rental assistance for income-qualified residents.

## REPAIR your Home



**Home Repair Grants:** Forgivable grants to make necessary home repairs and improvements.

**Accessibility Grants:** Forgivable grants to make your home accessible for residents with disabilities and limited mobility.

**Amortized Loan:** Low cost loans to make other types of home improvements.

## SAVE your Home



**Counseling:** Provides a free in-depth assessment of your situation and, where appropriate, intervenes with your lender to help save your home from foreclosure.

**Mediation:** Facilitated by a neutral court-appointed mediator, mediation puts legal proceedings on hold while lenders and homeowners work towards a resolution acceptable to all parties.

**Call to discuss your circumstances and see if a CPAH program is right for you.**

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY SHIFT PROGRAM

Individuals coming to HACC on any of our special purpose vouchers have the opportunity to participate in SHIFT, our goal-based incentive program. Our case managers work closely with individuals to achieve basic goals in education, career, finances, and personal development. As each goal is achieved, participants are rewarded with a cash incentive. Participants of this program may earn up to \$16,000 which may be used to further advance their goals.

### YOUTHBUILD

HACC YouthBuild is a Department of Labor-funded program that works with at-risk youth ages 16-24. The program gives young people an opportunity to reclaim their futures by earning a high school diploma while earning an industry recognized certification in construction trades, information technology, or healthcare.

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*Growing & Moving Forward Together*

## REENTRY PROGRAMS



## INTRO TO HACC

HACC is one of 39 Move to Work (MTW) agencies in the country. This HUD demonstration program allows HACC to design and test innovative, locally designed strategies for providing low-income families with affordable housing and new paths to economic independence.

Housing is fundamental to personal stability, and when individuals lack it, the consequences are dire. This is especially true for those who are returning to local communities from prison. Experts who have studied our current corrections programs agree that every individual leaving prison needs three key things — employment, housing and healthcare. In fact, without the most basic of human needs — a roof over a head — justice-involved individuals struggle to reintegrate, at great cost to Illinois' public safety and to the fabric of our communities.

Here at HACC we are helping destroy barriers that hinder returning citizens in their respective journeys. We have been extremely intentional and strategic about expanding our level of service to individuals with criminal backgrounds and advocating local and statewide change through our actions and policies.



## SCREENING POLICY

In June 2020, HACC modified its screening policy to reduce the historical criminal background factors which previously may have disqualified an individual from receiving housing assistance under one of our programs. Instead, HACC's new policy allows individuals with criminal backgrounds who have demonstrated progress access to our assistance and support for their entire household to turn over a new leaf while protecting the quality of life of our current residents.

## HOUSING ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

### TRADITIONAL HOUSING CHOICE VOUCHER

HACC has formed partnerships with local landlords willing to rent units to previously incarcerated individuals and their families. Once provided with a voucher from the Housing Choice Program, clients can choose the home of their choice managed by a participating landlord in Champaign County.

### IDHA REENTRY TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Individuals exiting the IDOC on parole, who are currently working with case managers to develop pre-release plans are referred to us through our partnership with IDOC to receive immediate housing upon release. HACC helps with the security deposit and furnishes the apartment. Case managers will also work with individuals to gain employment and education resources.

## MTW TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROGRAM

After continuous dialogue with community members and partner organizations, HACC has made efforts to support transitions and rehabilitation for individuals with criminal backgrounds.

As a result, HACC partnered with two local non-profits FirstFollowers and Women-in-Need (WIN) Recovery to establish the Reentry Transitional Housing Program for individuals exiting the criminal justice system.

**FIRSTFOLLOWERS** is a community-based organization that runs a drop-in center where they provide services and support for people returning from prison. The goal of FirstFollowers is to provide a safe, stable, and supportive living environment for people transitioning from prison to the community. Residents are provided with trauma-informed guidance and support to help them achieve employment, educational development and healing as well as gain access to social services and healthcare.

**WIN RECOVERY** is a community-based organization that provides a reentry and recovery foundation for women and the LGBTQ community. The WIN Recovery House will be a transitional residence for women and the LGBTQ population that are returning from prison and/or have completed treatment and are returning from another shelter or halfway house. The goal of the Recovery House is to provide individuals with stable housing based on recovery support groups and peer mentoring.

Participants that successfully complete the FirstFollowers and WIN Recovery Programs are eligible to receive an MTW Housing Choice Voucher through HACC.



# Reentry Rental Assistance Pilot Initiative Update



# OVERVIEW

- IHDA/IDOC collaboration
- 4 local administering agencies (LAAs) selected through Request for Application (RFA)
- \$3 million for 75 housing placements over 3 years
- Through IDOC, LAAs, and their community partnerships, participants can access various social services
- Will serve persons exiting state prisons who are:
  - Seniors (ages 55 and over) *or*
  - Disabled *or*
  - Ready to Work (ages 35 and over; *special consideration for enrollment/completion of vocational education*)



# OVERVIEW

Local Administering Agency	Service Area	# Units	1 BR	2 BR	3 BR	4 BR
Housing Choice Partners of Illinois	Suburban Cook Co.	20	8	8	2	2
Winnebago County Housing Authority	Winnebago County	20	10	8	2	0
Winnebago County Housing Authority	Boone County	5	2	3	0	0
Winnebago County Housing Authority	Stephenson County	5	3	2	0	0
Community Partners for Affordable Housing	Lake County	10	6	2	1	1
Housing Authority of Champaign County	Champaign County	15	10	5	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>75</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>



- Officially launched in mid-July with first placements done
- Current IDOC pipeline of eligible participants:65
- Secured funding through NYU for basic housewares and home furnishings for all participants
- Ongoing LAA outreach to prospective landlords
- Exploration of philanthropic resources for program evaluation in partnership with NYU