



December 2022 Newsletter: In Memoriam | 35th Anniversary Publication | Shelter Funding Announcement | Policy Focus | Housing Counselor Dispatch | AmeriCorps Updates | Funder Thank You | Learning & Networking | What We're Sharing | Jobs

In Memoriam

We deeply appreciate the work and dedication of longtime housing advocates and allies: Erana Jackson Taylor, who served as an AmeriCorps VISTA Leader with Housing Action Illinois in 2019-2020; Allison Gaiter of CSH & SHPA; Leeanna Majors of CCH; and Janet Smith of UIC's College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs and Nathalie P. Voorhees Center for Neighborhood and Community Improvement. Our thoughts and condolences go out to their colleagues and families.

Cheers to 35 Years

People are at the heart of our communities, our work, and our organization.

For the past 35 years, Housing Action Illinois has grown and accomplished a great deal, including a wide range of significant policy wins, capacity building initiatives, public outreach, peer conferences, and research.

As our anniversary year comes to a close, we invite you to join us in celebrating the voices, perspectives, and memories of some individuals who have made a difference with Housing Action Illinois by reading our 35th anniversary publication, [**Momentum: 35 Years of Housing Action**](#) »



Additional \$5 Million for Emergency Shelters

As the weather turns colder, many emergency shelters are getting full, and we expect the demand to increase. Fortunately, to address this concern, the **Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS)** will provide an additional **\$5 million**

in the expansion of access to emergency shelters, an investment strongly advocated for by Housing Action and our allies.

"The additional state funding that IDHS is providing will help emergency shelter providers serve additional people at a time when most all of the federal government resources that housed people during the COVID-19 pandemic have been exhausted, but the need for agencies serving people without a home has not lessened," said Bob Palmer, Policy Director for Housing Action Illinois for the official press release.

[Read the announcement »](#)



Policy Focus

Support \$51 Million Increase for Emergency and Transitional Housing Program

Join Housing Action and 120+ organizations who have signed a letter urging Governor Pritzker to include a \$51 million increase for the Emergency and Transitional Housing (ETH) Program in his upcoming budget proposal. **Our goal is to get to 200 organizational signers by December 20.**

The letter has been prepared by the Illinois Shelter Alliance, Housing Action Illinois, and the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless to demonstrate the widespread support statewide from community-based organizations, mayors and municipal leaders, churches, hospitals, real estate agents, and advocates to increase access to shelter for Illinoisans experiencing homelessness.

[Read the letter and add your organization »](#)



Housing Counselor Dispatch

Announcing 2023 Trainings

We're kicking off next year with two core trainings to help new and would-be housing counselors gain the fundamental knowledge and skills to help their clients. Register today:

- Housing Counseling Basics (3 sessions), Jan. 17–19: [Register](#)
- Housing Counseling Career Path (6 sessions), Jan. 24, 25, 26, 31 & Feb. 1, 2: [Register](#)

[See all upcoming trainings »](#)

Building Our Field

Housing counselors play an important role in stabilizing communities and supporting families by offering free guidance on how to reach their home goals. In addition to helping would-be homebuyers realize their dreams, housing counselors support people facing foreclosure or eviction. In order to become a housing counselor, you must learn the basics of housing counseling and pass a HUD Individual Certification Exam. **Congrats to all the HUD-certified housing counselors in our network!**

Are you a HUD-certified housing counselor? [Get your #HUDCertifiedProud shirt today and wear it with pride.](#) Interested in [becoming a HUD-certified housing counselor?](#) Register for our [Housing Counseling Career Path training!](#)



Shout out to these fashionable HUD-certified housing counselors: Pamela Stalling, Chicago Urban League; Peppy Golden, South Suburban Housing Center; Tonisha Brown, South Suburban Housing Center

AmeriCorps Updates

Apply to Host an AmeriCorps Member

Making a fundraising video for #GivingTuesday. Launching a program that empowers residents to advocate for themselves. Developing workshops to teach homeowners and renters how to save money by being environmentally friendly.

AmeriCorps VISTA Members in Housing Action's network have tackled all of these projects and more. We place both full-year and summer AmeriCorps Members with organizations around the state to work on projects build their organizations' capacity to fight poverty.

[Email to request a host site application \(due January 27\) »](#)



Give Today to Support Affordable Housing

We've accomplished a lot in our 35 years, but none of it would be possible without your support. With your help, we can build a brighter future and an Illinois

where everyone has a good, affordable place to call home.

By donating just \$35 in celebration of our 35th anniversary year, you can help us secure a future where everyone in Illinois has a good, safe place to call home.

Donate

Want to wear your support for affordable housing?

Our collection of housing justice shirts includes designs and styles to keep you warm this holiday season. Visit our Bonfire store to [snag your favorite today »](#)



Thank You to Our Funders

The generous support of our funders makes our work possible. Housing Action Illinois extends our sincerest thanks to all of the sponsors and funders listed below, and to those who wish to remain anonymous, for supporting our work during 2022.

Ameren Illinois • AmeriCorps • Anonymous Family Foundation • Applegate & Thorne-Thomsen • Associated Bank • The Chicago Community Trust • Citizens Bank • Cinnaire • Federal Home Loan Bank of Chicago • Fifth Third Chicagoland Foundation • Freddie Mac • Harris Family Foundation • Huntington Bank Foundation • The Energy Foundation in partnership with the Illinois Clean Jobs Coalition • JPMorgan Chase • Midland States Bank • National Housing Resource Center • National Low Income Housing Coalition • Old National Bank • PNC Foundation • Polk Bros. Foundation • Providence Bank & Trust • Regions Bank • Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Policies for Action Program • Second Federal / Self-Help Federal Credit Union • U.S. Bank Foundation • U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development • Wintrust • Woods Fund Chicago • Zillow

Learning & Networking

Events from us, our [members](#), funders, and organizations to which we belong. [Submit your listing »](#)

Hosted by Working Family Solidarity

Teach-In on ChiBlockBuilder Program & Equitable Development, 12/14 (TODAY at 6 pm): [Register](#)

Hosted by Housing Forward

National Homeless Person's Memorial Service, 12/21 at 12:30 pm (Oak Park Main Library): RSVP to kwilliams@housingforward.org



Housing Counseling Basics, 1/17–1/19: [Register](#)



Housing Counseling Career Path (English), starting 1/24: [Register](#)

Hosted by CSH in partnership with IHDA

The 2023 CSH Supportive Housing Institute will help you jumpstart a supportive housing project through ten sessions held

in Mattoon, IL over the course of four months. Applications due 1/20/23: [Learn more](#)

[See all upcoming Housing Action events »](#)

What We're Sharing

◆ **IHDA's Illinois Homeowner Assistance Fund (ILHAF)** supports qualified homeowners who need help with past-due mortgage payments and related expenses due to financial hardships associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. [Learn more](#), [join an info session](#), and [help homeowners apply by 1/31/23](#). (resource)

[OSAH State Grantees in Action: Spotlight on North Carolina and Illinois](#) (partner spotlight)

[Rising to the Challenge: Illinois' Affordable Housing Progress Report](#) from the Illinois Housing Council showcases recent affordable housing successes in Illinois and outlines ways to build on them. (resource)

HUD's [Supportive Housing for the Elderly Program](#). Apply by 1/25/23. (funding opportunity)

DCEO, in cooperation with IDHS, has partnered with TEC Services Consulting, Inc. to operate and administer the [Human Services Capital Investment Grant Program](#) on behalf of the State. The program, funded by Rebuild Illinois, will support up to \$15 million in capital improvement projects for facilities of eligible not-for-profit human services providers. Apply by 12/30/22. (funding opportunity)

Who's Hiring

Jobs from Housing Action, our [members](#), funders, and organizations to which we belong. [Submit your opening »](#)

360 Youth Services, [Transitional Housing Program Case Manager](#)

All Chicago, [Program Manager](#) & [Shelter Diversion Specialist](#)

Brightpoint (IN), [Weatherization Inspector](#) & [Development Coordinator](#)

Center for Disability & Elder Law, [Staff Attorney](#)

Hesed House, [Case Manager](#)

H.O.M.E. DuPage, [Housing Counselor](#)

HOPE Fair Housing, [Staff Attorney](#) and [Fair Housing Specialist](#)

LCBH, [Grants Finance Manager](#)

Mano a Mano, [Community Building Organizer](#)

Project NOW, [CSBG Program Assistant](#) & [Weatherization Specialist/Assessor Specialist](#)

*Housing Action Illinois is collaborating with the National Housing Resource Center (NHRC) to expand the field of housing counseling, and NHRC has launched a jobs board to match HUD-certified housing counselors and agencies with open positions. **Find or post a housing counseling position at [HousingCounselingCareer.org](#) »***

We are stronger together. Join us in the fight to create an Illinois where everyone has a good, stable place to call home.

[Become a Member](#)

[Donate](#)

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