



# BUILDING BONDS'

# CHANGING LIVES

2018 ANNUAL REPORT



Center for Housing & Health

# INTRODUCTION

“ If it weren't for this program and you all, I wouldn't be here today. You saved my life. ”

Statements like these from program participant Derrick ground us and motivate the team to deepen our efforts even while we celebrate a hallmark year in 2018. Last year the Center for Housing and Health (CHH) served more people than ever before, led a County-wide Strategic Plan integrating housing and health care, launched a new website, and established relationships with two major hospital systems. We demonstrated significant decreases in unnecessary health care use and reduced cost in the Better Health

though Housing hospital projects that drew national media attention. These projects also laid the foundation for CHH to win a contract for an innovative new program, the Flexible Housing Pool (see the What's New section for more information).

Since CHH received its first grant of \$100,000 in 2011, the organization has grown to a budget of over \$5 million this year. CHH and the AIDS Foundation of Chicago (AFC)

both continue to benefit from their unique subsidiary relationship with CHH relying on the strength of AFC's infrastructure and AFC expanding its reach and programming.

As we look back on the year, a thank you is due to our funders who provide crucial support and our partner organizations who make our work possible day in and day out. We also need to thank our program participants who embody resilience and serve as a reminder that our work is not done until every one of our neighbors can claim their right to a safe home and quality health care.

Sincerely,



Peter Toepfer  
Executive Director



After visiting several doctors for an unbearable pain that made it difficult for him to stay on his feet, Daniel discovered that his hip bones were deteriorating due to his former drug use.

Although Daniel changed his relationship with drugs years ago, the effects were still taking a toll on his body and he was told that he needed surgery or else he would risk losing mobility in his legs. However, Daniel was now out of a job as a busboy, so his focus was set on securing a steady income. He applied for Social Security benefits, but was denied and eventually ended up living on the streets for 7 months because he could not afford a place to live. He was later charged with retail theft, but luckily, the judge in Daniel's case recognized that he would benefit more from a rehabilitation program, rather than jail time.

Once in the program, Daniel's case manager connected him to CHH's SOAR coordinator who helped him successfully apply for and win his case for social security benefits. With a secure income and a steady place to live, Daniel was finally able to focus on taking care of his health and triumphantly underwent two hip replacement surgeries. Now, Daniel has plans to become a counselor in order to give back to his community and is thankful for those who supported him to get to where he is today.

# OUR WORK

## PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING



**270 HOUSEHOLDS**  
**47 FAMILIES AND 77 CHILDREN**

We offered permanent supportive housing, including intensive wraparound case management services, to 270 households, including 47 families and 77 children.



**165 PARTICIPANTS**

165 participants in our permanent supportive housing program achieved increased or stable income.



**245 HOUSEHOLDS**

245 participating households were stably housed for 12 months or longer in 2018.

## DIRECT CLIENT SERVICES



**17 CASE MANAGERS**  
**9 PARTNER AGENCIES**

We worked with 17 case managers from 9 partner agencies to provide direct services to participants throughout the Chicagoland area.



**15 FAMILIES**

We delivered furniture sets and essential move-in items to 15 families and individuals after they moved into their apartments.



**37 PARTICIPANTS**

We worked with 37 participants to help them apply for disability benefits in order to obtain a steady income.



## SYSTEM LEADERSHIP



**200 SKILLED ASSESSORS**  
**70 AGENCIES**

We coordinated the work of over 200 Skilled Assessors from more than 70 agencies throughout Chicago to ensure that all people experiencing homelessness are assessed for housing resources in the Coordinated Entry System.



We convened the regional H2 Strategic Plan with leaders in health care, housing, community, government and philanthropy. The H2 Plan completed a data sharing project between the homeless system and academic medical centers to investigate identification of homelessness and patterns of health care utilization.



**850 SUPPORTIVE HOUSING RESIDENTS**

We guided the Supportive Housing: Optimizing Placements research study of over 850 supportive housing residents in partnership with the Medical College of Wisconsin and the AIDS Foundation of Chicago. In 2018 the study completed all resident interviews and achieved a retention rate of nearly 90% for study participants.



**4 HOSPITALS AND 26 PARTNER AGENCIES**  
**91 PEOPLE**

We led the Better Health through Housing Collaborative, comprised of 4 hospitals and 26 partner agencies, that has housed 91 people throughout Chicago since its inception.



## WHAT'S NEW

In 2019, CHH will launch a new County-wide Supportive Housing program model called the Flexible Housing Pool (FHP) to house homeless individuals with poorly-managed chronic health conditions. The FHP uses an integrated housing, health and social services design. It combines multiple public and private investments into one pool that will provide rental subsidies and services funding as a payer of last resort. The goal of the project is to promote cross-sector investment in a housing and service delivery strategy that will dramatically increase supportive housing for people impacted by homelessness with complex health needs and a history of justice involvement.

In its first phase, the FHP will offer housing and support to at least 50 frequent utilizers of Cook County Health.

# FUNDERS

ALL CHICAGO  
ANONYMOUS  
THE CHICAGO COMMUNITY TRUST  
CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY  
& SUPPORT SERVICES  
CHICAGO HOUSING AUTHORITY  
CSH  
ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
MEDICAL COLLEGE OF WISCONSIN  
MICHAEL REESE HEALTH TRUST

NORTHWESTERN MEDICINE  
OTHO S.A. SPRAGUE  
MEMORIAL INSTITUTE  
POLK BROS. FOUNDATION  
RUSH UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER  
SWEDISH COVENANT HOSPITAL  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING  
AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS: HOSPITAL  
& HEALTH SCIENCES SYSTEM

# PARTNERS

AIDS FOUNDATION OF CHICAGO  
ALEXIAN BROTHERS HOUSING  
AND HEALTH ALLIANCE  
THE BOULEVARD  
CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF THE  
ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO  
CHICAGO HOUSE AND SOCIAL  
SERVICE AGENCY  
CHICAGO LOW-INCOME  
HOUSING TRUST FUND  
CHILDREN'S PLACE ASSOCIATION  
CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY  
HEALTH CENTER  
DEBORAH'S PLACE  
FACING FORWARD TO  
END HOMELESSNESS  
HEARTLAND ALLIANCE HEALTH  
HEARTLAND HUMAN CARE SERVICES

HOUSING FORWARD  
HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR WOMEN  
IMPACT BEHAVIORAL  
HEALTH PARTNERS  
INNER VOICE  
INSPIRATION CORPORATION  
LA CASA NORTE  
MERCY HOUSING  
NORTH SIDE HOUSING AND  
SUPPORTIVE SERVICES  
PRIMO CENTER FOR WOMEN  
AND CHILDREN  
RENAISSANCE SOCIAL SERVICES  
SARAH'S CIRCLE  
THRESHOLDS  
UNITY PARENTING &  
COUNSELING, INC.

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NICOLE KAZEE – CHAIR  
KULIVA WILBURN – VICE-CHAIR  
CHAD THOMPSON – TREASURER  
JOHN W. PFEIFFER – SECRETARY

LESLIE CAIN  
SIMONE KOEHLINGER  
PARIS MULLEN  
CHRIS O'HARA



Center for Housing & Health

200 W. Jackson Blvd., Suite 2100  
Chicago, IL 60606  
[housingforhealth.org](http://housingforhealth.org)