Welcome
Home

HH Center for Housing & Health

2023 Annual Report
In 2023, the Center for Housing and Health welcomed hundreds of Chicagoans home. A safe and stable home is essential to health and well-being. Once CHH participants are connected to housing, we often see other areas of life come together for them: regular health care, mental health support, employment, stability. When our participants have a home, they have fewer emergency room visits, less hospital stays, and overall reduced mortality. Our dedicated staff and network of partners, including those who provide supportive wraparound services to participants who need them, contribute immensely to these outcomes. Being welcomed to a home of your own is nothing short of transformative.

In the first year of our Strategic Plan, “Welcome Home,” we grew our infrastructure, partnerships, and national presence. We made strides in centering racial equity, ensuring our work is people-centered and just. This included investing in CHH staff and subcontracted partner staff to move toward paying everyone a living wage in Chicagoland.

We continued to grow to better meet the needs of the community. CHH received new harm reduction funding to provide expanded substance use counseling, overdose prevention, and provider training. We were awarded a grant to provide permanent supportive housing to our neighbors living outside. CHH also began welcoming people back who directly left prison so they would immediately have a safe home in our communities.

We have a lot to be proud of and thankful for this year. I am pleased to share with you our progress and growth over the past year chronicled in this report, and I am thankful to everyone who made it possible: our supporters, partners, staff, and most of all, our participants.

With gratitude,
Peter Toepfer,
Executive Director
Centering Racial Equity

Strategic Plan Priority 1

Race Equity Action Plan

$879,000 to Black-led Organizations | 22% Increase

In 2023, CHH provided more than $879,000 to Black-led organizations which is a 22% increase from FY22.

This represents 28% of funding going out to community partners.

BiPOC-Identified Staff | 33% Increase

CHH increased the percentage of BiPOC-identified staff by 33% through intentional recruitment efforts. Importantly, BiPOC-identified staff also now represent 56% of leadership positions.

Racial Equity Board Committee

CHH Board members joined the new Racial Equity Board Committee.

Housing Policy Position

CHH hired its first dedicated housing policy position to lead the “racism as a public health crisis” policy initiative.

Bring Chicago Home Campaign

CHH provided leadership to the Bring Chicago Home Campaign, an effort to address homelessness by creating a dedicated funding stream. Through significant advocacy, Bring Chicago Home passed City Council to be added as a referendum question to the presidential primary ballot.
In 2023, CHH established a minimum wage of $50,000 for all staff and most subcontracted staff to move toward providing a living wage. In addition to significant investment in 2022, this step increased retention rates by 10%.
The Flexible Housing Pool of Chicago and Cook County (FHP) is a multi-agency program that helps people experiencing homelessness who cycle through public crisis systems to find permanent housing. The FHP is different from traditional housing programs, as it focuses on reducing costs to the health care sector while improving individual health care outcomes. While housing over 1,000 people and reducing costs to crisis systems by $1.4 million, the program demonstrated its success in many other ways, including:

1,000TH PERSON HOUSED
The FHP Housed its 1,000th person in 2023.

1,283 INDIVIDUALS | 738 HOUSEHOLDS
The FHP provided housing and wrap-around supportive services to 1,283 individuals in 738 households. During the year, 151 new households reached housing stability through the FHP.

434 CHILDREN | 301 FAMILIES
In 2023, the FHP served 434 children under the age of 18 and 301 families.

32 DAYS
The median number of days from enrollment in FHP to housing placement was 32 days.

97% | 12 MONTHS+
97% of households enrolled in FHP remained stably housed for at least 12 months.

93% | 24 MONTHS+
93% of households enrolled in FHP remained stably housed for at least 24 months.

37% LESS MORTALITY
19% LESS EMERGENCY ROOM VISITS
33% LESS INPATIENT DAYS
22% LESS JAIL REGISTRATION
FHP participants experienced 37% reductions in mortality, 19% fewer emergency dept visits, 33% fewer inpatient days, and 22% less jail registration as compared to people who frequently use crisis systems and are homeless in Chicago, but were not part of the FHP.
DeWayne Elliot was connected to housing through the Flexible Housing Pool.

"Three years ago, I was experiencing homelessness. Since I've gotten in this program, I have done nothing but move up," he says. The connections to services and resources he accessed through CHH were invaluable. "CHH's Supportive Services gave me more ease of mind and a more level head. 'Cause then I knew that I had support. I never had somebody before on the backend who was rooting for me like, 'we got your back.'"

Now, DeWayne is in job training and is on track to earn a full salary with benefits. "I have a job through the Urban Efficiency Program, doing weatherization on homes, which gives me room to grow. I’ll have my certification in a few months, so I not only have housing, I have a career and a job with medical benefits."

DeWayne serves on the FHP Youth Lived Experience Action Committee, where he can give insight and feedback to CHH services. He hopes to encourage other people to be optimistic about their possibilities and to get connected to housing through FHP. "I want people to see me as a person just like them. I went through hell and high water. Life kept taking me left and I finally found a right lane. And I'm sticking with it. You can stick with it too. There are resources. You just got to learn how to navigate them. FHP does that."
Client Demographics

Demographics based on 1,720 clients in 1,036 households served across all CHH programs.

Gender
- 47% FEMALE
- 46.7% MALE
- 5.6% REFUSED
- 0.7% OTHER*

Race and Ethnicity
- 76.3% BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN
- 5.4% WHITE
- 15% HISPANIC/LATINX
- 3.3% OTHER*

Age
- 31.3% < 18 YEARS
- 12.1% 18-24 YEARS
- 12.5% 25-34 YEARS
- 8.2% 25-34 YEARS
- 12.5% 35-44 YEARS
- 31.3% 45-54 YEARS
- 8.2% 55-64 YEARS
- 7.3% 65-74 YEARS
- 4.9% > 75 YEARS

Female and male gender categories inclusive of transgender and cisgender individuals.
*Gender non-binary/gender nonconforming/genderqueer
*Multi-Racial, Other, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, Asian or Asian American, or American Indian or Alaska Native
Collaborate Through Partnerships

Strategic Plan Priority 3

Coordinated Entry
The Coordinated Entry System (CES) connects people who are experiencing homelessness to housing opportunities across Chicago. The CES uses a standardized housing assessment to understand the needs of households.

CHH facilitated 66 trainings for Skilled Assessors to compassionately, accurately and equitably complete these assessments for people across the city.

Permanent Supportive Housing
184 Households
In 2023, 184 households received Permanent Supportive Housing.

76 Children | 26 Families
Including 26 families, and 76 children under the age of 18.

99% | 12 Months+
90% | 24 Months+
Of the households enrolled: 99% remained stably housed for at least 12 months; 90% for 24 months.

Partners
Ascension
Alexian Brothers Housing and Health Alliance
Chicago Family Health Center
Chicago House
Christian Community Health Center
Deborah’s Place
Heartland Alliance Health
Heartland Human Care Services
Housing Forward
Inner Voice
La Casa Norte
North Lawndale Employment Network
Northside Housing and Supportive Services
Of Color, Inc.
Point Source Youth
Primo Center
Renaissance Social Services Inc.
SGA Youth and Family Services
Spanish Coalition for Housing
The Boulevard of Chicago
The Night Ministry
Thresholds
Unity Parenting and Counseling
Universal Family Connections
Westside Health Authority
Wholistic Alliance
ENHANCE NATIONAL LEADERSHIP

STRATEGIC PLAN PRIORITY 4

REENTRY PROGRAM
To reduce arrest, recidivism and incarceration rates for people experiencing homelessness, CHH launched the Reentry Program in 2023 with funding from the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. With these funds, CHH and the Illinois Department of Corrections developed a process to directly transport individuals released from correctional institutions to move into their permanent home the same day. 15 people reached permanent supportive housing through this project so far with the goal of at least 50 total.

CONFERENCES & COLLABORATIVES
CHH presented at 5 national and statewide conferences in 2023.

CHH led a regional Youth homelessness learning collaborative in partnership with national leader Point Source Youth to promote best practices in the field.

CONNECTION TO HARM REDUCTION
25 formerly homeless participants received ongoing in-home substance use counseling services.

19 harm reduction trainings for 436 service providers.

1,356 Narcan overdose prevention kits distributed.

NARCAN NEWSSTANDS
The Connection to Harm Reduction (C2HR) program debuted a free Narcan Newsstand located just outside of AFC offices on the southwest corner of Monroe and Wells in the Loop. In its first two months of operation, the newsstand provided over 300 Narcan kits to the public.
HEALTHY FUTURES

In 2024, CHH will begin Healthy Futures, a permanent supportive housing project that will focus exclusively on people living outdoors under bridges, in parks, encampments and on the CTA. These participants will be able to directly move into apartments from their experience of homelessness. Building on CHH’s existing relationships with the healthcare system, all 100 participants will be frequent users of the region’s healthcare systems.

"STABLE HOUSING PUT ME ON THE ROAD TO A CAREER THAT I CAN USE AS A STEPPING-STONE — BECAUSE THERE’S SO MUCH MORE THAT I WANT TO DO."

—DeWayne Elliot
**Financial Information**

**Revenue FY23**
- Government Grants: $13,923,281
- Flexible Housing Pool: $17,800,612
- Contributions: $159,216
- Other: $9,951
- **Total Revenue**: $31,893,060

**Expenses**
- Direct Client Support: $24,290,148
- Subcontractor Costs: $3,021,583
- Program Services: $3,527,222
- General & Administrative: $933,609
- **Total Expenses**: $31,772,562

**Change in Net Assets**
- Unrestricted: $242,026
- Temporarily Restricted: ($121,528)
- **Total Change in Net Assets**: $120,498

**Net Assets, End of Year**: $3,023,897

**Board Members**
- Kuliva Wilburn: Chair
- Joanna Trotter: Vice-Chair
- Chad Thompson: Treasurer
- Stephanie Altman: Secretary
- Simone Koehlinger: Member (ex-officio)
- Chris O’Hara: Member
- Christy Prahl: Member
- Alejandro Segura: Member
- Dr. Paviella Foster: Member

**Funders**
- Advocate Aurora Health
- All Chicago
- Anonymous
- Blue Cross Blue Sheild of Illinois Foundation
- Chicago Department of Family & Supportive Services
- Chicago Housing Authority
- Cook County Health Corporation for Supportive Housing
- CountyCare
- Elizabeth Morse Genius Charitable Trust
- Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICIJA)
- Illinois Department of Corrections
- Illinois Department of Human Services
- Medical Home Network
- Meridian Health Plan of Illinois
- Michael Reese Health Trust
- Polk Bros. Foundation
- Prince Charitable Trust
- Pritzker Family Foundation
- Service Coordination and Navigation (SCaN)
- South Side Health Communities Organization
- The Chicago Community Trust
- The City of Chicago
- The Crown Family Philanthropies
- The Northern Trust Foundation
- University of Illinois Hospital & Health Sciences System
- US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- Wellness West
Mission
CHH honors every person’s right to a home and health care, by bridging the housing and health care systems, to improve the lives of Chicagoans experiencing homelessness.

Vision
Every person has a place to call home that helps them reach their full potential.

Center for Housing & Health
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