2006 HUD Peer-to-Peer Homeless Provider Conference

The Holiday Inn in Collinsville was the site of the Eighth Annual HUD Peer-to-Peer Homeless Provider conference on September 13 and 14. ICAA HUD and ICAA hosted approximately 245 providers of emergency, transitional and permanent housing, and supportive services in one of the best events since the conferences began in 1999. Peer-to-Peer is funded by the HUD Regional Office in Chicago.

ICAA’s John Colgan, HUD Regional Director Joseph P. Galvan, HUD Community Planning and Development Director Ray Willis, Madison County Community Action Division Manager Althea Bush were among those that welcomed the enthusiastic crowd.

Keynote addresses were given by Representative Wyvetter Younge from East St. Louis and Nan Roman,

National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC) continue to meet with staff members of the House and Senate Transportation, Treasury, HUD Appropriations Subcommittees (TTHUD). The committee staffers report that any serious discussions on the FY07 HUD Appropriations bill will not begin until after the November elections. Indeed, informal discussions between the staffs of the House and Senate TTHUD Subcommittees have not even begun. See the accompanying NLIHC budget chart.

(Continued on page 2)
Homeless Headlines

Housing Advocate/Locater Training

The Department of Children and Family Services is providing training on helping homeless families and individuals locate housing. Topics covered will include: assisting clients locate housing, inspecting units for safety risks, assisting clients obtaining employment, working with persons with a substance addiction disorder and providing short-term follow-up services after the client moves into their new housing. Training sessions will be provided in the following cities on the following dates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Champaign</td>
<td>12/1/06</td>
<td>10:00 – 3:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago</td>
<td>11/9/06</td>
<td>10:00 – 3:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peoria</td>
<td>11/30/06</td>
<td>11:00 – 4:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Springfield</td>
<td>11/16/06</td>
<td>10:00 – 3:15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A fifth training will be held in Chicago in January or February of 2007.

You must register for any of these five training sessions. Space is limited. To register, contact Adrian Montague at IDCFS at (312) 814-2385 or emailing him at Adrian.montague@illinois.gov. He will give you the address at that time.

Peer-to-Peer

(Continued from page 1)

are available on the IHDA web site (www.ihda.org).

Consumer Panelists from several agencies provided conferences with both insight and inspiration. That session is always amongst the most highly rated by attendees. Also highly rated were:

- Harm Reduction Approaches in Permanent Supportive Housing, Ed Stellon, Heartland Health Outreach, Chicago, and Fred Maclin, Christian Community Health Center, Chicago
- Law Enforcement and Continuums of Care: a Great Partnership, Maureen Pool, Will County Center for Community Concerns, Joliet,
- Peer-to-Peer

John Colgan, Vice President for Public Policy, Illinois Community Action Association

Joseph P. Galvan, HUD Chicago Regional Director, and Ray Willis, HUD Community Planning and Development Director

Homeless Headlines

Chairperson, Dwight Lucas
President & CEO, Dalitso Sulamoyo
Editor, Allan Timke
atimke@icaanet.org

The Illinois Community Action Association has published the monthly Homeless Headlines and the Homeless Hotline since 1991 under contract with the Illinois Department of Human Services.

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Springfield, Illinois 62704
Telephone: (217) 789-0125
Fax: (217) 789-0139
www.icaanet.org
Marking the release of the 2005 American Community Survey (ACS) Housing Characteristics data by the Census Bureau on October 3, NLIHC will release a research note providing an initial assessment of the patterns of severe affordability problems nationally, and within households, severe housing cost problems remain highly concentrated among the lowest income households.

In 2005, 68% of extremely low income (ELI) renters (defined here as renter households earning 30% of their state median income or less) lived in housing considered severely unaffordable, costing more than half of household income. Between 2004 and 2005, the number of ELI and very low income renter and owner households facing severe housing affordability problems grew significantly.

Research note #06-04 “Preliminary Assessment of 2005 American Community Survey Indicates Further Polarization of Housing Markets” is available at www.nlihc.org/research/06-04.pdf.

Marking the release of the 2005 American Community Survey (ACS) Housing Characteristics data by the Census Bureau on October 3, NLIHC will release a research note providing an initial assessment of the patterns of severe affordability problems nationally, and within states, based on the 2005 American Community Survey Public Use Microdata.

The research note provides an update to a picture that is all too familiar. Despite growing concerns about the housing of moderate income households, severe housing cost problems remain highly concentrated among the lowest income households.

As you are aware, October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The National Coalition Against Homelessness reports that approximately half of all women and children experiencing homelessness are fleeing domestic violence (National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, 2001).

Access to public benefit programs often is critical to ensuring a victim of domestic abuse is able to successfully leave an abuser. Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) is a key resource if the individual is a parent living with children under age 18. The TANF program, however, can take anywhere from 30 (thirty) to 45 (forty-five) days to approve a regular TANF application, and requires that an individual participate in work and training activities. TANF policy in Illinois addresses the issue of domestic violence and helps to speed up this process.

Entries are being sought for the 2007 Rudy Bruner Award for Urban Excellence, given to urban places that demonstrate the successful integration of effective process, meaningful values and good design. RBA winners are distinguished by their social, economic and contextual contributions to the urban environment, and often provide innovative solutions to our cities most challenging problems. One Gold Medal of $50,000 and four Silver Medals of $10,000 each are awarded. Case studies of winners are published online and in a book distributed by the Bruner Foundation. For more information or an application, see: www.brunerfoundation.org. The application deadline is December 18, 2006.

A 1999 report published by the Institute for Wisconsin’s Future notes that “nearly one third of women surveyed were fired or lost jobs because of domestic abuse and 34 percent said education and training efforts were hurt by abuse.”

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Due to requests made by agencies in central and southern Illinois, on December 6, 2006 we will be conducting a special one day training session of our all day Making the Connection: A Guide to Accessing Public Benefits programs. The location of this session will be in Springfield. The exact location will be announced later. If you have an interest in attending this training session, please contact the DuPage Federation at 630-782-4767 to put your name on the list for further information.
Peer-to-Peer
(Continued from page 2)

First: A domestic violence victim who has left her abuser is able to receive TANF benefits within 7 days instead of having to wait 30-45 days. This can be done if the victim applies for Crisis Assistance at the same time an application for TANF is filed. Applying for Crisis Assistance entitles the woman to an interview and decision within 5 days of filing an application (state policy manual 06-03-00/01). If eligible for TANF, the benefit is issued with 2 days after the decision being made. In addition, the family is able to request, as part of the Crisis Assistance application, a one-time additional payment of $250 to help cover the cost of renting a place to live. Ask the state caseworker for the Request for Crisis Assistance application (form IL444-2689) at the same time the TANF application is completed and turned into the state office.

Second: If the woman is unable to participate in a work or training activity because of domestic violence, or it is unsafe to participate in these activities, the woman can request a Domestic Violence Exclusion. When requesting this exclusion proof of either being a current or past victim of domestic violence will be requested. This proof can be copies such as court records, or statements from domestic violence service providers. (State policy manual 21-01-05)

Third: Abused non-citizens who are victims of domestic violence and are spouses, widows or children of a U.S. citizen are eligible for crisis assistance. This can be done if the victim applies for TANF at the same time the application for domestic violence exclusion is made. The applicant must file the domestic violence exclusion application with the TANF application, and must file the application for crisis assistance at the same time the TANF application is being turned in.

The session, Clients with Disabilities, Information and Referral and Advocacy was quite unique, focusing on the difficulties encountered by Anita Mazique, a hearing impaired woman from Hoffman Estates, who has been seeking housing for herself and her profoundly handicapped young son. Conferrees discussed possible steps toward resolving Ms. Mazique’s continuing dilemma and gained a new appreciation of the needs of persons with disabilities. David Rodgers with Oakton Community College in Des Plaines, Illinois supplemented Ms. Mazique’s presentation with background information. Other panelists included Libby Berth, LINC, Inc., Belleville; Karen Zangerle, PATH, Bloomington; and Cathy Contarino, Impact, Alton.

(Continued on page 7)
## Homeless Headlines

### Housing Update

(Continued from page 1)

An omnibus spending bill, in which Congress rolls together the remaining nine pending appropriations bills into one large piece of legislation, is expected in the lame duck session when Members return after the November elections.

An across the board (ATB) cut to all federal programs except for those within the Departments of Defense and Homeland Security is also expected. This ATB cut was made more likely when, under threat of a presidential veto, Congress reallocated $5 billion intended for FY07 housing, community development, and health and human services spending to the FY07 Defense Appropriations bill.

(Continued on page 7)

### FY07 Budget Chart for Selected Programs

(Continued from page 1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HUD Program (set asides indented)</th>
<th>FY04 Enacted</th>
<th>FY05 Enacted</th>
<th>FY06 Enacted*</th>
<th>FY07 Request</th>
<th>FY07 House Passed</th>
<th>FY07 Senate Appropriations</th>
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<td>Resident Opportunities and Supportive Services (ROSS)</td>
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<td>Public Housing Operating Fund</td>
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<td>Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS</td>
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<td>American Dream Downpayment Initiative</td>
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<td>Housing Assistance Counseling</td>
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<td>Homeless Assistance Grants</td>
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<td>Shelter Plus Care (renewals)</td>
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<td>Samaritan Initiative</td>
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<td>Rural Housing and Economic Development</td>
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<td>Housing for the Elderly (Section 202)</td>
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<td>545</td>
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<td>237</td>
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<td>Housing Counseling Assistance</td>
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<td>Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Program</td>
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<td>167</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>115</td>
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<td>Salaries and Expenses</td>
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<td>1,141</td>
<td>1,162</td>
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<td>Total HUD Discretionary Budget**</td>
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<td>34,708</td>
<td>33,503</td>
<td>34,268</td>
<td>33,646</td>
<td>36,600</td>
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</table>

### Non-HUD Program

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<tr>
<th>FY04 Enacted</th>
<th>FY05 Enacted</th>
<th>FY06 Enacted</th>
<th>FY07 Request</th>
<th>FY07 House Passed</th>
<th>FY07 Senate Appropriations Committee</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homeland Security – Emergency Food and Shelter Grants</td>
<td>153</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>151</td>
<td>151</td>
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<tr>
<td>USDA – Section 515 Rental Housing</td>
<td>116.5</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>99</td>
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<tr>
<td>USDA – Section 521 Rental Assistance</td>
<td>584</td>
<td>592</td>
<td>647</td>
<td>486</td>
<td>335</td>
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<tr>
<td>USDA – Section 533 Housing Preservation Grants</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasury – CDFI</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>40</td>
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</table>

*FY06 numbers reflect an across the board cut of 1%.

**This number will not total the amounts listed in the chart; the chart does not include all HUD programs, and also includes programs from other departments.

Source www.nlihc.org - 9/21/2008
Homeless Headlines

Public Benefits

(Continued from page 4)

citizen or Lawful Permanent Resident, and have been abused by the citizen, LPR or a member of that relative’s family may qualify for TANF. The individual can receive TANF even if she has resided in the U.S. less than 5 years, never worked, or even is not a lawfully admitted alien. She will need to apply with Immigration services as a victim of domestic violence and provide proof of the abuse. She can apply for benefits if she and her children have left the abuser, or plan to leave the abuser within one month of being approved for benefits. (Policy Manual 03-01-02i, 11-01-00, 12-01-00)

Food Stamps are another valuable resource. Again, there are special provisions to help survivors of domestic violence. Usually individuals cannot receive Food Stamps in more than one case (household) at a time. An exception to this applies to persons living in a shelter for battered women and children. These individuals can receive separate Food Stamp benefits, even if they are still included in the Food Stamp case with the person who abused them (state policy manual 05-09-00). The individual does not have to wait to be deleted from the abuser’s benefits before receiving her own benefits. Also, the income or assets of the abuser that the client left are not counted. Any asset that is jointly held with the abuser is exempt, if the asset is only accessible with that person’s consent. An application for Food Stamps is made at the office that serves the location where the victim currently lives, such as the domestic violence shelter or other location, even if the address is temporary.
Housing Update  
(Continued from page 1)

On September 27, a group of 24 moderate Republican Representatives sent a letter to Majority Leader John Boehner (R-OH), reminding him that in return for their help in passing a FY07 budget resolution, he had agreed to negotiate for more money in the Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations bill.

On September 28, Representative Jerry Lewis (R-CA), Chair of the Appropriations Committee, said it will be “difficult” for Representative Boehner to fulfill his promise made to moderate Republicans to find extra money to increase domestic spending in the FY07 Appropriations bills, calling the source of any additional monies “very unclear.” Representative Lewis said, “I hope it doesn’t come to across-the-board cuts because, if you take Homeland [Security] and Defense out, there’s not much left from which to cut.”

GSE Legislation

The GSE regulatory reform legislation that may pass in this session with an Affordable Housing Fund included is still under discussion, though no official action was taken before recess. In remarks made to the National Economists Club on September 28, James Lockhart, director of the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight (OFHEO) said, “Both companies [Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac], a large bi-partisan group of Senators and Congressmen, and the Bush administration all support reform, but we cannot get the ball across the goal line…it is my hope and belief that Congress will act on GSE reform legislation when they return this November.”

On September 26, Senator Richard Shelby (R-AL), Chair of the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs, said the fate of the bill is in the hands of the GSEs. In response to reporters’ questions, Senator Shelby said, “If Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac want a good bill, and a strong regulator, I think we’ll get a bill. If they decide, no, they don’t…we won’t get the bill.”

Minimum Wage Increase

Although many legislative vehicles exist in Congress to increase the federal minimum wage, including the FY07 Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations bill, no action has been taken.

Continuing Resolution Means Cuts to Housing Programs

On September 29, a Continuing Resolution (CR) was passed as part of the FY07 Defense Appropriations bill, funding federal programs through November 17, 2006. The CR is necessary to ensure that funds are available to keep the government running when the new fiscal year begins. Before Members of Congress left for a six-week recess on September 29, they completed only two of 11 spending bills: Homeland Security.

As it did last year, the CR funds programs at the lowest of the House-passed level, the Senate-passed level or the FY06 current rate. Because the HUD appropriations have not yet had a full Senate vote, its programs’ funding rate is at the lower of the House-passed level or the FY06 current rate. Until FY06, CRs traditionally continued funding programs at the prior year levels in order to ensure that no programs are cut prior to final Congressional action. The CR will mean cuts to some HUD programs for the duration of the CR. The CR also explicitly extends the expiring authorization for the Mark-to-Market program through the period of the Continuing Resolution.

For further information, contact the National Low Income Housing coalition at the address in Headlines Directory.

Public Benefits  
(Continued from page 6)

Residents of public or private nonprofit residential shelters for battered women, or battered women and their children, also qualify for food stamps as a single Food Stamp household. If the shelter serves other individuals, besides victims of domestic violence, the women and children must be staying in a section of the shelter set aside on a long-term basis for battered women and children only. Battered women and children temporarily placed in a private home as an extension of the shelter, also qualify using these special rules.

The DuPage Federation on Human Services Reform, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization focused on advocacy and planning in DuPage County, Illinois and designer and trainer of Making the Connection: A Guide to Accessing Public Benefits. The DuPage Federation is affiliated with Northern Illinois University, Regional Development Institute. Questions can be directed to knelson1@niu.edu or cking@dupagefedertion.org.

Peer-to-Peer  
(Continued from page 2)

Other workshops covered a wide range of topics including Collaborative Supportive Housing, Crisis Intervention Teams, Coordinating Clinical Care and Housing, Social Entrepreneurship, Housing Development in Rural Areas, Universal Design and Persons with Disabilities, Layered Financing, HUD Technical Issues, and Prisoner Release into the Shelter System.

Agency tours took conference to visit seven local sites in Madison and St. Clair Counties.

Planning for next year will begin in earnest in January.

For further information, contact Allan Timke at (217) 789-0125 or atimke@icaanet.org.
Headlines Directory

Center for Community Change
1536 U Street NW
Washington, DC 20009
Phone: (202) 339-9300
http://www.communitychange.org

Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
820 First Street, NE, Suite 510
Washington, DC 20002
Ph: (202) 408-1080
Fax: (202) 408-1056
http://www.cbpp.org

Chicago Coalition for the Homeless
1325 S. Wabash, Suite 205
Chicago, IL 60605
Telephone: (312) 435-4548
Fax: (312) 435-0198
http://www.enteract.com/~cch/index.htm

Coalition of Citizens With Disabilities in Illinois
300 E. Monroe, Suite 100
Springfield, IL 62701
Telephone: (217) 522-7024
TDD: (217) 522-7016
http://www.inw.net/~ccdi/index.htm

Corporation for Supportive Housing
203 N. Wabash, Suite 410
Chicago, IL 60601
Phone: (312) 332-6690
Fax: (312) 332-7040
Email: IlHomeless@aol.com
www.csh.org

Food Research and Action Center
1875 Connecticut Avenue, NW, # 540
Washington, D.C. 20009
Telephone: (202) 986-2200
Fax: (202)986-2525
foodresearch@frac.org

Housing Action Illinois
11 E. Adams, Suite 1501
Chicago, IL 60601
Telephone: (312) 935-4548
Fax: (312) 435-0198
http://www.enteract.com/~cch/index.htm

Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence
801 S. 11th
Springfield, IL 62703
Telephone: (217) 788-1939
http://www.ilcadv.org

Illinois Coalition to End Homelessness
Matthew Hanafee, Executive Director
P.O. Box 3956
Oak Park, IL 60303-3956
Telephone: (708) 263-3590
Email: ILHomeless@aol.com

Illinois Community Action Association
3435 Liberty Drive
Springfield, IL 62704
Telephone: (217) 789-0125
Fax: (217) 789-0139
http://www.icaanet.org

Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
620 W. Lawrence, 2C
Springfield, IL 62762
Telephone: (217) 782-1317
Fax: (217) 524-6029
http://www.state.il.us/dhs/

Illinois Department of Human Services
Homeless Services and Supportive Housing
480 W. Lawrence, 2C
Springfield, IL 62701
Telephone: (217) 788-1939
http://www.ilcdhs.org

Illinois Coalition to End Homelessness
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Illinois Housing Development Authority
401 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 206
Chicago, IL 60611
Telephone: (312) 836-5200
Fax: (312) 836-5286
TDD: (312) 836-5222
http://www.ihda.org/

National Alliance to End Homelessness
1518 K Street, NW, Suite 206
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 638-1526
Fax: (202) 638-4664
E-mail: naeh@naeh.org
http://www.endhomelessness.org/

National Coalition for Homeless Veterans
333 ½ Pennsylvania Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20003-1148
Telephone: (202) 546-1969
Fax: (202) 546-2063
E-mail: nchv@nchv.org
http://www.nchv.org/home.html

National Coalition to End Homelessness
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Email: ILHomeless@aol.com

National Community Reinvestment Coalition
727 15th St., NW, #900
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 354-0827
Fax: (773) 267-1294
supportivehousing@aol.com

National Law-Income Housing Coalition
& National Low Income Housing Information Service
727 15th St NW, 6th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 662-1530
Fax: (202) 393-1973
E-mail: info@nlhc.org
http://www.nlhc.org

National Rural Housing Coalition
601 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Suite 850
Washington, D.C. 20004
Telephone: (202) 393-3229
Fax: (202) 393-3054
http://www.nrhcweb.org

Rural Development
2118 W. Park Ct, Suite A
Champaign, IL 61821
Telephone: (217)403-6222
Fax: (217)403-6231

Southern Illinois Coalition for the Homeless
P.O. Box 955
704 W. Boynton
Marion, IL 62959
Telephone: (618) 993-0094
Fax: (618) 993-4013

Supportive Housing Providers Association
3417 North Monticello
Chicago, IL 60612
Telephone: (773) 388-0827
Fax: (773) 267-1294
supportivehousing@aol.com

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Community Planning and Development
77 W. Jackson 24th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3507
Telephone: (312) 354-0827
Fax: (312) 353-5417