

OUR COMMUNITY WORKING TOGETHER TO END HOMELESSNESS



Homelessness can be complicated.

Ebony Martin has known "Miss Alice" for several years. As an experienced Housing Forward Street Outreach Specialist, she's familiar with Alice's routines and favorite spots, and has been in contact with family, friends and the police officers eager to improve this woman's situation.

Even though she resists the idea of being housed and accessing shelter, a wide grin appears whenever Ebony comes to visit. Sometimes water, food, handwarmers and clothing are accepted—and sometimes not. Despite her hearing loss, the two have no trouble communicating. Being part of Miss Alice's trusted network hasn't come easily. It took compassion, perseverance and recognition that it takes time to build mutual respect.

DOING WHAT IT TAKES



2018 ANNUAL REPORT

COLLECTIVE IMPACT

OAK PARK HOMELESSNESS COALITION

Armando Smith, Housing Forward Director of Operations & Client Services, and Cristy Harris, Coordinated Entry Director, stand at the podium to answer questions prior to a key session during the September Oak Park Village Board meeting. The two main initiatives they supported were a Flexible Rental Assistance Fund through the Oak Park Homelessness Coalition, and a new Interim Housing Program; a partnership between Housing Forward, the Oak Park Housing Authority and Loyola Medical/MacNeal Hospital, to help homeless families and individuals with physical limitations or in need of medical respite—which is now known as Sojourner House.

Both votes passed along with another on whether to begin work on an inclusionary zoning ordinance. We thank all who help to address housing sustainability.

Have-A-Heart Gala hosted by Chris and Rachel Sullivan raises a record \$263,000.

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church becomes a new PADS shelter site designated for families on Sunday evenings, in addition to being a Friday night shelter site.

Housing Forward launches the Rental Housing Support Program, in partnership with Cook County Health, South Suburban PADS and BEDS Plus adding 30 new units of permanent housing for extremely low-income households.

The Flexible Rental Assistance Program (FRAP) begins with funding from the Village of Oak Park's Affordable Housing Fund to provide additional financial resources to divert area households from becoming homeless.

JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH APRIL MAY JUNE JULY AUGUST SEPTEMBER OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER

Housing Forward begins formal discussions with the Oak Park Housing Authority to develop a new Interim Housing model for extremely low income families and persons with mobility challenges.

After 9 months of displacement due to a fire and subsequent water pipe burst in 2017, Housing Forward staff return to their headquarters in Maywood. Jackie, a Supportive Services Case Manager sits at the relocated front desk.

Conversations begin with MacNeal Hospital to explore a medical respite model.

AmeriCorps staff members participate in city-wide Veteran's Day service project.

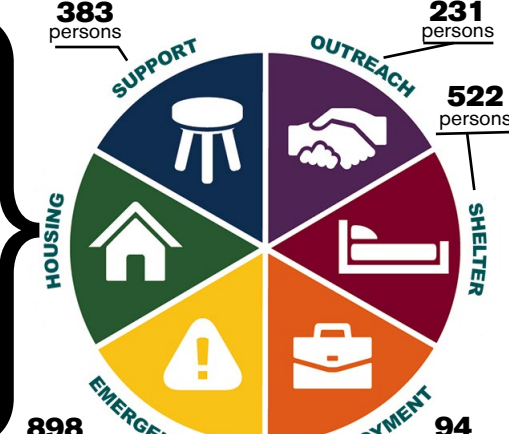
MAKING AN IMPACT

428 clients obtained or sustained housing*



- Rental Assistance Rapid Re-Housing (RRH):** 51 persons served. Short-term rental assistance and services with the goal of helping people obtain housing quickly, increase self-sufficiency, and stay housed.
- Transitional Housing:** 13 veterans served. Transitional housing for up to 24 months.
- Permanent Housing Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH):** 283 persons served. Combines affordable housing assistance with voluntary support services for the needs of disabled homeless people.
- Housed Elsewhere:** 47 persons served. Exited to a permanent, positive destination outside of Housing Forward or partner resources.
- Rental Housing Supportive Program (RHSP):** 34 persons served. Provides targeted long-term rental support.

1,935 persons served



Who we helped

- 1479 single adults
- 365 families with 212 minor children
- 920 men
- 727 women
- 684 disabled

*Three clients moved from one housed program to another.

Partnering with companies is invaluable to us.

Whether they support our work financially with grants and sponsorships, encourage employee volunteering, or hire our employment program graduates, we are thankful for their involvement. A team from **Huntington** is pictured here, providing dinner on a Sunday night at a family-designated shelter site.



Key Areas of Agency Growth

- 18% increase in families prevented from losing their homes
- 32 new permanent supportive housing units added
- 142% increase in short-term/diversion stability services
- 8% increase in annual operating budget

14,956 nights of shelter provided at the PADS Emergency Shelter and Summer Transitional Shelter

95,814 nights of housing provided

96% of participants in housing obtained or maintained their health insurance

\$165,107 in direct financial assistance provided to avert a financial crisis or loss of housing

231 individuals outreached on the streets

7 legal clinics offered

245 job counseling sessions

38% of participants in housing increased their income

88% of participants in supportive housing have remained stably housed

303 visits to our Medical Clinic

Our Partners

- 17 service partners
- 40+ congregations
- 1100 volunteers
- 12 AmeriCorps members



WORKING TOGETHER



Students at Thurgood Marshall Elementary School in Bellwood donated more than **1,100** pairs of socks during their "Socktober" donation drive.

