

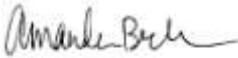
Chicago Alliance to End Homelessness – Consumers Commission Meeting

MINUTES FEBRUARY 16, 2010 10:00AM

<b>MEETING CALLED BY</b>	Irene Cabello
<b>TYPE OF MEETING</b>	Consumers Commission Meeting
<b>NOTE TAKER</b>	Amanda Becker Carlisle
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	<b>Present:</b> Irene Cabello, Donna Calvin, David Granberry, Brian McManaman, Paula Nixon, Keith Richardson, Dominick Versetto, Caesar Hill, Lonnie Fulton <b>Absent:</b> Barbara Burks, Mark Czyzewski, Fred Friedman, Linda Gibson, Evon McAllister, Brenda Whitaker, Dorothy Yancy, Thomas Williams, <b>Guests:</b> Sherise Alexander, Amanda Becker Carlisle, Nancy Radner, James Usher, Karen Banky-Livasy, Greg Mavromatis
<b>QUORUM?</b>	<b>Yes</b>

Agenda topics

<b>WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS</b>	Irene opened the meeting and asked everyone to introduce themselves and name an African American person who inspires them, in honor of Black History Month.
<b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b>	Dominick made a motion to approve the minutes as written, Brian seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
<b>REVIEW OF DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup> MEETING AND FOLLOW-UP</b>	Keith briefly reviewed the work of the Consumers Commission at the December 10 <sup>th</sup> meeting. He stated that at that meeting, a lot of information was disseminated about the structure of the Alliance, its Commissions, and Committees, as well as the Planning Council. Over the course of the next few meetings, more information can be provided about these structures since it was a lot of information. The rest of the December 10 <sup>th</sup> meeting included Committee reports and then a lengthy discussion about Veterans homelessness followed. Consumers were interested to hear more about Veterans homelessness programs which resulted in the Alliance setting up the guest speaker presentation today about the HUD VASH program.
<b>GUEST SPEAKER – HUD VASH: A BRIEF OVERVIEW</b>	Amanda introduced three guest speakers who were there to discuss the HUD VASH (Veterans Administration Supportive Housing) Program: Greg Mavromatis, Karen Banky-Livasy, and James Usher. Greg and Karen are HUD VASH Coordinators at the North Chicago VA Medical Center and James is a consumer who recently obtained permanent housing through the program. Greg and Karen gave an in-depth presentation about the program, which is now the nation’s largest supportive housing initiative that targets homeless veterans. Highlights of the presentation included data about the number of vouchers available nationwide (10,000 vouchers worth \$75 million in the first round), the eligibility requirements of the program, program success rates, and a question/answer section which focused a majority of the time around a discussion about services with the program. James discussed his personal experience with the program and told how he became homeless after serving in the military and has now successfully transitioned into a permanent housing unit of his own.
<b>COMMITTEE REPORTS</b>	<b>Advocacy Committee:</b> Keith gave a brief update regarding the activities of the Alliance’s Advocacy Committee. They are working on three initiatives right now: 1) Responsible Budget Coalition meeting on February 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2) Census 2010 Outreach and Training on March 3 <sup>rd</sup> , and 3) We Can’t Wait for Housing advocacy day in Springfield on March 24 <sup>th</sup> .  <b>Planning Council:</b> Amanda gave a brief update on the January Planning Council meeting. 1) A task group will bring the revised version Program Models Chart for approval to the March 17 <sup>th</sup> meeting, 2) an HMIS Project assessment is being developed by the HMV Committee, 3) the NOFA Evaluation Instrument will be voted on at the March 17 <sup>th</sup> meeting, and 4) an HMIS data quality report was presented for review. The next meeting is March 17 <sup>th</sup> at 9:30am at Facing Forward to End Homelessness, 642 N. Kedzie.  <b>Plan Advisory Committee:</b> Paula gave the PAC report. On January 26 <sup>th</sup> , PAC met to discuss the Plan Priorities and they chose 3 sections they would currently work on. Over the next several months, PAC will

	meet to review all the priorities outlined in the spreadsheet. A question was asked if the Consumers Commission could get copies of the Plan Priorities document emailed and the Alliance said it would do so. The next PAC meeting is Tuesday, February 23 <sup>rd</sup> .	
<b>WRAP-UP</b>	Sherise conducted the wrap-up of the meeting. Donna volunteered to be timekeeper for the next time, in order to keep the meeting on track and on time. From the December meeting, there had been some discussion about how to get consumers more involved and Sherise said the Commission would discuss this at the next meeting.	
<b>NEXT MEETING</b>	The next Consumers Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 20, 2010 at 10am at St. Leonard's Ministries, Michael Barlow Center (2120 W. Warren Blvd).	
<b>ADJOURNMENT:</b>	<b>MINUTES SUBMITTED BY:</b>	<b>APPROVED BY:</b>
Dominick motioned to adjourn the meeting, Donna seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.		

Chicago Alliance to End Homelessness – Consumers Commission Meeting

MINUTES

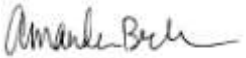
APRIL 20, 2010

10:00AM

<b>MEETING CALLED BY</b>	Consumers Commission
<b>TYPE OF MEETING</b>	Consumers Commission Meeting
<b>NOTE TAKER</b>	Amanda Becker Carlisle
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	<b>Present:</b> Barbara Burks, Irene Cabello, Donna Calvin, Lonnie Fulton, David Granberry, Caesar Hill, Brian McManaman, Dominick Versetto <b>Absent:</b> Mark Czyzewski, Fred Friedman, Linda Gibson, Evon McAllister, Brenda Whitaker, Dorothy Yancy, Thomas Williams <b>Guests:</b> Sherise Alexander, Amanda Becker Carlisle, Nancy Radner
<b>QUORUM?</b>	<b>Yes</b>

Agenda topics

<b>WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS</b>	Irene opened the meeting at 10:05am and asked everyone to introduce themselves.
<b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b>	Brian made a motion to approve the minutes as written, David seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
<b>REVIEW OF FEBRUARY 16<sup>TH</sup> MEETING</b>	Irene reviewed with the group the contents of the February 16 <sup>th</sup> meeting, which included a presentation on the HUD-VASH programs which helps veterans obtain permanent housing subsidies and services. David discussed the work of the newly-formed Homeless Veterans Constituency Group and the limited availability of the HUD-VASH vouchers. He also talked about how HUD-VASH recipients may be eligible to re-locate to other areas of the country with their voucher but in practice, this has not seemed to work out because of the limited availability of the vouchers nationwide.
<b>DISCUSSION ON THE CONSUMERS COMMISSION TOWN HALL MEETING</b>	<p>The Consumers Commission has wanted to explore the idea of conducting a town hall meeting with other consumers of homeless services in Chicago and so Sherise led a brainstorming session about the town hall concept, using a few documents provided at the meeting.</p> <p>Some questions and topics the Commission would like to address at the town hall meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ What do you find difficult and challenging about obtaining resources and education?</li> <li>➤ What expectations do people have of the Homelessness Prevention Call Center?</li> <li>➤ Why are people not eligible for programs/housing/services, etc?</li> <li>➤ Provide education on accessing resources.</li> <li>➤ What is going on in the homeless system? Possibly share results from the Evaluation of the Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness (due in the summer 2010).</li> <li>➤ Use this as a recruitment tool to get people involved in the Commission and constituency groups, etc.</li> <li>➤ Possibly have application for housing programs there at the town hall or distribute information about housing programs.</li> <li>➤ Possibly include a survey beforehand or at the beginning of the meeting to poll attendees about their desires for the town hall.</li> <li>➤ Include success stories.</li> </ul> <p>It was pointed out that the people who most likely will attend the town hall will be linked to the larger homeless system in some way, either through a relationship with a case manager or some other way, etc. Other people mentioned that the tone of the event is key and that the meeting should be a working meeting that is positive and results-oriented.</p> <p>Who to invite to the town hall?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Tenant advisory councils from various programs.</li> <li>➤ Tenant leadership in supportive housing programs.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Resident council members.</li> <li>➤ Representatives from shelters.</li> <li>➤ Administrators/staff members/ elected officials, etc.</li> <li>➤ Agencies currently involved with the Alliance's Service Providers Commission (SPC) could select one or two consumers of their programs to attend.</li> <li>➤ Consumers Commission members could identify individuals to invite.</li> </ul> <p>Details about the meeting, including what time of day to hold it, will be worked out with Alliance staff and the Consumers Commission Co-Chairs. The goal will be to hold the meeting prior to the Alliance's annual breakfast with the Mayor, so sometime in August or September.</p> <p>The Commission members also discussed at length the homelessness prevention services that are available and thought an additional education piece at a future Commission meeting on the Call Center might be appropriate. Furthermore, they thought it might be a good idea to invite someone from the Outreach and Engagement Constituency Group to make a presentation to the group.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>COMMITTEE REPORTS</b></p>	<p><b>Advocacy Committee:</b> Lonnie gave a brief update regarding the activities of the Alliance's Advocacy Committee: 1) The health care reform bill passed Congress this year which may mean new opportunities for homeless households to receive health care coverage, 2) the HEARTH Act, passed in 2009, is beginning to take off and should be implemented by 2011, and 3) the Alliance's Advocacy Team has mobilized several times this year to get service providers and consumers to call their legislators, especially about the state budget crisis.</p> <p><b>Plan Advisory Committee:</b> Sherise gave an update on the activities of the Plan Advisory Committee (PAC). Over the past several months, PAC has been working on a document called the Plan Priorities document, which outlines the strategic direction the Alliance will take in implementing the final years in Chicago's Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness. PAC has identified the strategic goals originally in the implementation schedule, the accomplishments of the Plan over the past 7 years, and set goals for the next 3 years. PAC will be prioritizing those goals, section by section, in the coming months. PAC will bring back the priorities to the Consumers Commission's June meeting for feedback.</p> <p><b>Planning Council:</b> Amanda gave a brief update on the recent activities of the Planning Council, most notably that the 2010 NOFA evaluation process for all renewal projects that receive HUD funding started at the end of March.</p>	
<p><b>WRAP-UP</b></p>	<p>Sherise conducted the wrap-up of the meeting. Several Commission members mentioned wanting more information in the coming months about the Homelessness Prevention Call Center.</p>	
<p><b>NEXT MEETING</b></p>	<p>The next Consumers Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 15, 2010 at 10am at St. Leonard's Ministries, Michael Barlow Center (2120 W. Warren Blvd).</p>	
<p><b>ADJOURNMENT:</b></p>	<p><b>MINUTES SUBMITTED BY:</b></p>	<p><b>APPROVED BY:</b></p>
<p>Lonnie motioned to adjourn the meeting, Dominick seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.</p>		

CONSUMERS COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

DATE: JUNE 15, 2010

START TIME: 10:00AM

<b>MEETING CALLED BY</b>	Consumers Commission
<b>NOTE TAKER</b>	Amanda Becker Carlisle
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	<b>Present:</b> Barbara Burks, Irene Cabello, Donna Calvin, Mark Czyzewski, Lonnie Fulton, Linda Gibson, David Granberry, Caesar Hill, Brian McManaman, Keith Richardson <b>Absent:</b> Fred Friedman, Evon McAllister, Paula Nixon, Brenda Whitaker, Thomas Williams, Dominick Versetto, Dorothy Yancy <b>Guests:</b> Sherise Alexander, Amanda Becker Carlisle, Nancy Radner
<b>QUORUM?</b>	<b>Yes</b>

Agenda topics

<b>WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS</b>	Keith Richardson called the meeting to order at 10:05am and everyone introduced themselves, also answering a question about their favorite part of summer.
<b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b>	Two changes to the April 20, 2010 meeting minutes were suggested: Gabriela Cabello should be added to the "guests" section under attendees and Paula Nixon should be added to the absent. Brian then motioned to approve the minutes with the two changes and David seconded; the minutes were approved unanimously.
<b>REVIEW OF THE APRIL 20<sup>TH</sup> MEETING (TOWN HALL DISCUSSION)</b>	Irene gave a brief overview of the discussion at the April 20, 2010 Consumers Commission meeting, regarding the Town Hall proposal. There were so many great and varied ideas that came out of that meeting about topics to be included at the town hall meeting that Irene mentioned possibly needing an additional one or two town hall meetings planned throughout next year, in order to cover all the topics and good ideas. While it is expected that the town hall meeting will occur sometime in August, the Commission still needs to set the time, date, and location of the town hall meeting and Alliance staff will work with the Commission's Co-chairs to determine these details. Brian mentioned that the National Alliance to End Homelessness will be in July and some good, progressive topics may be highlighted there that the Consumers Commission could explore for town hall meeting topics.
<b>DISCUSSION ON THE PLAN PRIORITIES</b>	<p>As mentioned at the April 20, 2010 meeting, the Plan Advisory Committee (PAC) has been working on developing a plan priorities document, to guide the Alliance's work around the Ten year Plan to End Homelessness over the next 3 years. PAC is looking for feedback from the Consumers Commission on the "Goals to be accomplished" section of the document, specifically prioritizing the Consumers Commission's top 5 or so priorities for the document. The group was able to review three of eleven sections of the document and made the following suggestions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Prevention and Engagement:</b> The Consumers Commission would keep priority #1 as their top priority (Restore and increase prevention assistance funding levels); Priority #3 would be switched to the Consumers Commission's priority #2 (Increase the type and variety of funds available through the HPCC); and priority #2 would be changed to priority #3 (Improve the coordination in discharge planning of individuals, youth, and families).</li> <li><b>2. Housing First: Moving to Permanent Housing:</b> The Consumers Commission generally left the priorities as written. They would keep the priority #1 as first (Need significantly more housing with lower barriers) and they could not make a decision about prioritizing the other goals on page 2 of the document – they felt all goals were equally important.</li> <li><b>3. Wraparound Services:</b> The Consumers Commission would like to see priority #3 moved to priority #1 (Create actionable steps to increase the overall capacity of homeless service providers to ensure an understanding of best practices across the entire homeless system that are realistic and executable). They would also like to move a priority under section C of Wraparound Services to their #2 priority overall in this section (Decrease/ mediate historical barriers to employment).</li> </ol> <p>There was additional discussion around some of the topics discussed. The Consumers Commission's feedback will be sent to PAC to consider at their meeting on June 22, 2010.</p>

<p><b>100,000 HOMES CAMPAIGN</b></p>	<p>Nancy gave an overview (including a handout) of the 100,000 Homes Campaign, a national campaign which Chicago recently signed onto. The Campaign is designed to “alter the response to chronic homelessness by giving communities tools to rapidly identify and house their most vulnerable; these households are the mostly likely to have severe challenges that interfere with their ability to find and maintain a stable housing environment”.</p> <p>The start of the campaign begins with an initial “Registry Week”, selected for a week in August in Chicago, where volunteers collect data from homeless households on the streets and in shelters. Data is about their length of homelessness, health and mental health issues, reasons for homelessness, etc. As a result of the registry, resources for permanent supportive housing will be prioritized to the most vulnerable homeless households identified.</p> <p>Consumers Commission members had the following comments about this campaign:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. There needs to be proper training for volunteers conducting the vulnerability survey during that week. People on the street will be very wary of people approaching them in the middle of the night; and volunteers should bring proper identification with them so as not to alarm anyone.</li> <li>2. It should be clear, from the beginning, what Chicago wants to get out of by participating in this campaign and collecting all this personal information.</li> </ol> <p>Almost everyone in the room agreed that they wanted to volunteer during the Registry Week. More details will follow from the Alliance staff about how to participate.</p>	
<p><b>WRAP-UP, 2010 MEETING DATES, &amp; ANNOUNCEMENTS</b></p>	<p>Sherise provided a brief wrap-up from the meeting. The Consumers Commission faced difficult choices trying to decide on Plan Priorities but they did a wonderful job accomplishing the task. Irene thought the group had a very good and productive meeting and looks forward to the continued growth of the Commission. Irene also mentioned that the Consumers Commission might want to recruit family members of consumers, upon a suggestion from her daughter, who is interested in attending the meetings as an observer.</p> <p><b>The next meeting will be August 17, 2010 from 10am to 12pm at St. Leonard’s Ministries, Michael Barlow Center (2120 W. Warren Blvd).</b> More information about the town hall and participating in the 100,000 Homes Campaign Registry Week will be sent out by Alliance staff via email.</p> <p>Announcements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Congratulations to Caesar Hill and David Granberry for being awarded a scholarship to attend the National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH) conference in Washington, DC in July 2010.</li> <li>2. The CHA waiting list information will be sent by Sherise to the entire Consumers Commission list in the next few days.</li> <li>3. Barbara Burks said she is concerned about violence against homeless households living on the street, and this might be a topic to add to the town hall meeting agenda.</li> <li>4. Brian mentioned that at the last meeting the group showed interest in hearing more about the activities of the Homelessness Prevention Call Center and Sandi Murray would be happy to give a presentation to the group sometime soon.</li> </ol>	
<p><b>ADJOURNMENT:</b></p>	<p><b>MINUTES SUBMITTED BY:</b></p>	<p><b>APPROVED BY:</b></p>
<p>Irene adjourned the meeting at 11:45am.</p>		

CONSUMERS COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

DATE: AUGUST 17, 2010

START TIME: 10:05AM

<b>MEETING CALLED BY</b>	Consumers Commission
<b>NOTE TAKER</b>	Amanda Becker Carlisle
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	<b>Present:</b> Barbara Burks, Irene Cabello, Donna Calvin, Mark Czyzewski, Lonnie Fulton, Caesar Hill, Brian McManaman, Keith Richardson <b>Absent:</b> Fred Friedman, Linda Gibson, Paula Nixon, Thomas Williams, Dominick Versetto, Dorothy Yancy <b>Guests:</b> Sherise Alexander, Amanda Becker Carlisle, Randall Doubet King, Kathleen Molnar, Sandi Murray, Peter Dellos (for Fred Friedman)
<b>QUORUM?</b>	<b>Yes</b>

Agenda topics

<b>WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b>	<p>Keith Richardson called the meeting to order at 10:05am and everyone introduced themselves.</p> <p>Brian motioned to approve the June 15, 2010 minutes as written, Donna seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.</p>
<b>REVIEW OF THE JUNE 15<sup>TH</sup> MEETING (PLAN PRIORITIES)</b>	<p>Sherise gave a brief overview of the discussion at the June 15, 2010 Consumers Commission meeting, regarding the Chicago Alliance’s Plan Priorities for the next 3 years of the Plan to End Homelessness. A document with the finalized priorities, titled “Top Priorities for Implementing Chicago’s Plan to End Homelessness” was distributed so that Commission members could see the final version and how their input at the June 15<sup>th</sup> meeting was taken by the Chicago Alliance’s Plan Advisory Committee. The document will soon be submitted to Commissioner Mary Ellen Caron (Chicago’s Dept. of Family and Support Services) for discussion about the City’s co-leadership role in accomplishing the tasks listed.</p> <p>Key items highlighted by Sherise were areas that the Consumers Commission discussed at its June meeting, including #3 (increase the supply of low barrier housing), #4 (create more specialized housing), #8 (support a continuum of employment related programs), and #13 (create greater access to mainstream resources through a multi-level approach). There was also a substantial discussion again about #13 and various trainings offered around mainstream benefits (such as SOAR) and what documentation is needed to obtain which benefits.</p>
<b>PRESENTATION: HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION CALL CENTER</b>	<p>Sandi Murray of the Homelessness Prevention Call Center gave a presentation about the purpose of the Call Center, what funds are available for homeless prevention, and eligibility criteria for various funds. A packet was handed out with additional information about how the Call Center works with the rest of the homeless system, etc.</p> <p>The Call Center is in collaboration with Chicago’s Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness and was originally <i>developed to create a centralized resource for people to access homeless prevention funds in the City of Chicago.</i> The Call Center essentially pre-screens callers for funds and if found eligible for a particular fund, the caller is then linked to the agency with the available funds for an additional application process, funding, and support.</p> <p>The Call Center can be accessed most easily by dialing 3-1-1 from any phone in Chicago (it can also be accessed by dialing 312-744-5000). It was noted that the easiest way to access the Call Center from 3-1-1 is to say you need “short term help”. Last November, the Call Center was expanded to Cook County and if someone is in Cook County seeking prevention assistance, they can dial 877-4COOK15 (877-426-6515) to access the Cook County prevention funds.</p> <p>Sandi had Kathleen Molnar from the Emergency Fund come to discuss the various prevention funds. A sample of available prevention funds includes: HPRP (federal stimulus funds), State Homelessness Prevention Funds, EFSP (use to be known as FEMA funds), the City’s Rental Assistance Program, and the Emergency Fund resources, among others. Each fund has its own set of criteria, which makes determining eligibility important as well as the tracking of funds and the availability of each fund. Kathleen stated that the HPRP funds seems to be one of the most flexible funds and have to be spent over a 3 year period. The HRPP funds aim to help people who are homeless or at-risk of being homeless and can be used on rent, utilities, security deposits, moving, and storage costs. One unique element of HPRP is that there is no requirement for self-sufficiency after receiving the funds, unlike other prevention programs. It was noted that the State Prevention funds cover mortgages while HPRP does</p>

	<p>not, but self-sufficiency after receiving state funds is a requirement of the program. Due to the state budget crisis, the Emergency Fund will likely not receive the state funds until January 2011 when the fiscal year started July 1, 2010. For more information about each fund, contact Kathleen Molnar at 312-379-0301 x12 or <a href="mailto:kmolnar@emergencyfund.org">kmolnar@emergencyfund.org</a>.</p> <p>Consumers asked a few questions at the end of the presentation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Can any of the prevention funds be used for transit passes?</i> Answer: Yes, the Emergency Fund's private funds are fairly flexible and can be used, at times, for transit passes.</li> <li>2. <i>What do you do if a person cannot speak with the Call Center about their situation but might be eligible for prevention funds?</i> Answer: The Call Center needs to receive verbal consent from the person seeking assistance and can then talk to the person authorized to speak on their behalf.</li> <li>3. <i>What are the next steps in the case where someone is not eligible to receive any prevention funds, because of their situation?</i> The Call Center provides resources for non-financial help, either directing callers that are not eligible for prevention funds, to the City's Dept. of Family and Support Services 6 service centers, or a workforce development office, or the unemployment office, or to whatever service is needed.</li> </ol>	
<p><b>CONSUMERS COMMISSION ELECTIONS</b></p>	<p>The 2010-2011 term of the Consumers Commission begins in October 2010. In preparation for the new year, Sherise gave a brief presentation about a few open seats for a Consumers Commission representative on the Alliance Board and Chicago Planning Council.</p> <p>Current members were elected to serve a term until 2011, so no one is up for re-election on the Consumers Commission at this time. The following seats are open beginning in October:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 seat available for Chicago Alliance Board of Directors</li> <li>• 1 seat available for Chicago Planning Council on Homelessness</li> <li>• 3 seats available for Chicago Planning Council on Homelessness Alternates</li> </ul> <p>Nominations will be solicited between August 17<sup>th</sup> and August 31<sup>st</sup>. Nomination forms were handed out at the meeting; completed forms can be emailed or faxed to Sherise at the Chicago Alliance at <a href="mailto:salexander@thechicagoalliance.org">salexander@thechicagoalliance.org</a> or 312-223-9871 (fax). <b>All nominations must be submitted by August 31<sup>st</sup>.</b> An elections process for the open seats will begin in September.</p>	
<p><b>UPDATE ON TOWN HALL &amp; 100,000 HOMES CAMPAIGN</b></p>	<p><u>Town Hall Meeting</u> The Town Hall meeting will be held sometime in mid to late September. Goals of the meeting are: 1) generate public relations opportunity for the Consumers Commission (and education to other consumers), 2) create an environment to network with peers, and 3) produce atmosphere to recruit potential new members.</p> <p>The agenda will be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to the Chicago Alliance and its Consumers Commission</li> <li>• Introduction to Chicago's Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness (including discussion of Plan Evaluation preliminary results, goals for the next 3 years, etc)</li> <li>• Next Steps and Discussion</li> <li>• Wrap-up and Announcement of an Orientation Session for Interested New Members</li> </ul> <p>Consumers Commission members were asked to think of 2 or 3 members that they could invite to the event. And finally, they were asked to volunteer to help out in the planning of the town hall meeting as well as the day-of the event. More information will follow in an email from Sherise, once the date, time, and location are set.</p> <p><u>100,000 Homes Campaign</u> The 100,000 Homes Campaign, which was discussed at the June 15<sup>th</sup> meeting, will kick off in Chicago next week with a Registry Week over 3 days. Registry surveys will be collected from volunteers and then a database of Chicago's homeless will be created to assess vulnerability of the household and try to match them up with a permanent housing opportunity.</p>	
<p><b>WRAP-UP, 2010 MEETING DATES, &amp; ANNOUNCEMENTS</b></p>	<p><b>The next meeting will be October 19, 2010 from 10am to 12pm at St. Leonard's Ministries, Michael Barlow Center (2120 W. Warren Blvd).</b> Please also note that the scheduled December 21, 2010 meeting has been changed to December 8, 2010 due to holiday conflicts that month.</p>	
<p><b>ADJOURNMENT:</b></p>	<p><b>MINUTES SUBMITTED BY:</b></p>	<p><b>APPROVED BY:</b></p>
<p>Keith and Irene adjourned the meeting at 12:00pm.</p>	<p>Amanda Carlisle</p>	

CONSUMERS COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

DATE: OCTOBER 15, 2010

START TIME: 10:05AM

<b>MEETING CALLED BY</b>	Consumers Commission
<b>NOTE TAKER</b>	Sherise Alexander
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	<b>Present:</b> Connie Bacon, Donna Calvin, Mark Czyzewski, John Dawkins, Patrice Dean, Dennis Flint, Rochester Green, Caesar Hill, Priscilla Lamb, Brian McManaman, Anthony Pulli, Keith Richardson, Tony Robinson, Richard Rowe, Gwendolyn Turner, Dennis Vice, Dorothy Yancy <b>Absent:</b> Barbara Burks, Irene Cabello, Fred Friedman, Linda Gibson, Dominick Versetto, <b>Staff:</b> Sherise Alexander
<b>QUORUM?</b>	<b>Yes</b>

Agenda topics

<b>WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS, AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b>	<p>Keith Richardson called the meeting to order at 10:05am and everyone introduced themselves.</p> <p>The minutes from the August Consumers Commission meeting were reviewed and approved.</p>
<b>DISCUSSION ON THE TOWN HALL MEETING</b>	<p>Keith and Sherise Alexander gave a brief overview of the Consumers Commission Town Hall meeting held on October 4<sup>th</sup> that included 45 individuals in attendance, interested in hearing about the Chicago Alliance and the Consumers Commission. Both remarked how pleased and excited they were with the turn out and the level of participation by participants at the Town Hall. The commission members and other guests present reported that their overall impression of the Town Hall meeting was positive and found it to be a rewarding experience. General feedback about the Town Hall meeting and questions and comments about the homeless system by the group are noted below.</p> <p>Key issues highlighted regarding the Town Hall and the homeless system included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Thoughtful questions were asked by participants at the Town Hall meeting</li> <li>● Acknowledged not being aware of the Alliance and its role in working other homeless providers</li> <li>● Expressed a desire to be more knowledgeable about outreach efforts and services available to clients living on the streets</li> <li>● Expressed concern that there is not enough resources or knowledge about resources for homeless Individuals without disabilities</li> <li>● Communicated a desire to not be accepted as second class citizens just because a person is homeless or has been homeless</li> <li>● Expressed the need to improve and increase communications by agencies and staff members regarding available resources and services for consumers</li> <li>● Would like more information about the “lobby” efforts of the Alliance</li> <li>● Would like to see more “activism” on the part of consumers</li> <li>● Concerned about the lack of “follow-up” when established consumers’ policies and procedures are not adhered to by homeless service providers</li> <li>● Talked about advocacy issues and to how influence policy decisions as it relates to the homeless system</li> <li>● Discussed the need to include more of the community (churches, police departments, hospitals, neighborhood libraries, etc. ) as it relates to homeless issues</li> <li>● Expressed a need to increase awareness about homelessness</li> <li>● Expressed frustration with the homelessness system</li> <li>● Expressed a desire to improve relationships with the city regarding homeless services</li> <li>● Concerned about the loss of services if agencies are forced to closed due to the lack funds to support their programs</li> <li>● Would like more information about the city’s warming centers, shelters, housing, food stamps, youth services (how does “311” work)</li> </ul> <p>Sherise stated that these issues and concerns would be used to help develop the Consumers Commission’s Work Plan for the coming year at the December 8<sup>th</sup> Consumers Commission meeting.</p>

<p><b>RECRUITMENT OF NEW MEMBERS</b></p>	<p>Sherise gave a brief update on the Consumers Commission's Orientation meeting held on October 15<sup>th</sup>. She reported that fifteen consumers attended the orientation session and expressed interest in joining the Consumers Commission. All of the participants in attendance at the orientation session were invited to attend the Consumers Commission meeting scheduled for October 19<sup>th</sup>. Sherise indicated that participants who attended the orientation session and the October 19<sup>th</sup> Consumers Commission meeting would be considered as candidates for joining the Consumers Commission at the December 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.</p>	
<p><b>PLANNING COUNCIL ELECTION</b></p>	<p>The 2010-2011 terms of the Chicago Planning Council Members and its Executive Committee begins on October 27, 2010. In preparation for the new year, Sherise gave a brief presentation about the election process for deciding who would be elected as the consumer chair on behalf of the Consumers Commission for the Planning Council. After the presentation, members nominated Irene Cabello and Dorothy Yancy. Both accepted the nominations and members held an election for the consumer chair of the Planning Council. After the votes were tallied, both candidates received the same number of votes resulting in a tie. As such, Sherise agreed to contact the members not present and ask them to vote before Friday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> for one of the candidates. Sherise will announce the results by email on Friday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>.</p>	
<p><b>ANNOUNCEMENTS</b></p>	<p>Mark Czyzewski announced that he was looking for members to join the mental health caucus. Several individuals at the meeting expressed interest in joining and Sherise agreed to forward their contact information to Mark for follow-up. Mark indicated that he expected to have a meeting scheduled and a location for the meeting secured by next month.</p> <p>John Dawkins distributed handouts announcing assistance with utility bills through LIHEAP. Anyone needing assistance should contact LIHEAP at their Howard Area Community Center located at 7648 N. Paulina.</p> <p>Tony Robinson distributed a handout that announced openings at the Mercy Housing Lakefront's Apartment beginning October 20<sup>th</sup>. The supportive housing units are for homeless and disabled single adults.</p> <p>Sherise announced that the Chicago Alliance is hosting a Breakfast with the Mayor on October 20<sup>th</sup> at the Westin Hotel and that Caesar Hill, member of the Consumers Commission, is one the keynote speakers at the breakfast.</p>	
<p><b>WRAP-UP, 2010 MEETING DATES, &amp; ANNOUNCEMENTS</b></p>	<p><b>The next meeting will be Wednesday, December 8, 2010 from 10am to 12pm at St. Leonard's Ministries, Michael Barlow Center (2120 W. Warren Blvd).</b></p>	
<p><b>ADJOURNMENT:</b></p>	<p><b>MINUTES SUBMITTED BY:</b></p>	<p><b>APPROVED BY:</b></p>
<p>Keith adjourned the meeting at 12:00pm.</p>	<p>Sherise Alexander</p>	

CONSUMERS COMMISSION MEETING

MINUTES

DATE: DECEMBER 8, 2010

START TIME: 10:05AM

MEETING CALLED BY	Consumers Commission
NOTE TAKER	Amanda Becker Carlisle
ATTENDEES	<b>Present:</b> <b>Absent:</b> <b>Staff:</b> Sherise Alexander and Amanda Becker Carlisle <b>Guests:</b> Randall Doubet King
QUORUM?	<b>Yes</b>

Agenda topics

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS	Irene Cabello called the meeting to order at 10:05am and everyone introduced themselves.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES	One correction was made to the minutes – the date listed as the meeting date should have been October 19, 2010 rather than October 15, 2010. Mark motioned to approve the minutes with the one correction, Keith seconded and the minutes were approved unanimously.
ELECTION OF CONSUMERS COMMISSION MEMBERS	<p>Candidates for membership to the Consumers Commission were listed on a handout document. Each potential new member introduced themselves again and stated briefly why they wanted to join the commission. Brian motioned to elect persons who were listed on the handout as members of the Consumers Commission. Caesar seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>The new members are: Connie Bacon, John Dawkins, Dennis Flint, Rochester Green, Priscilla Lamb, Anthony Pulli, Tony Robinson, Richard Rowe, Gwendolyn Turner, and Dennis Vice.</p>
DISCUSSION OF THE PLANNING COUNCIL'S MOTION TO ENDORSE AND USE THE 100,000 HOMES CAMPAIGN – VULNERABILITY INDEX AND REGISTRY	<p>Sherise introduced and provided background information (see handouts) for this agenda item, which is on the 100,000 Homes Campaign motions which come from the Chicago Planning Council on Homelessness (Planning Council). As a reminder, the Planning Council oversees the process for applying and distributing over \$50 million in HUD homeless assistance funding to Chicago each year; the Consumers Commission has six representatives that sit on the Planning Council.</p> <p>The three motions were first introduced on September 28<sup>th</sup> to the Planning Council by its Executive Committee. After discussion and questions, the Executive Committee decided to table the motions and solicit feedback between November 5<sup>th</sup> and November 30<sup>th</sup>; responses to the feedback and questions will be sent out to Planning Council members by December 8<sup>th</sup> and the motions will be revisited and voted upon at the December 15<sup>th</sup> Planning Council meeting.</p> <p>Before the group went through the motions one by one, Mark commented that he would like one of the eight Vulnerability Index risk factors to be changed from tri-morbid (mentally ill + abusing substances + chronic medical problem) to bi-morbid (2 out of 3 of the following: mentally ill + abusing substances + chronic medical problem). Mark expressed concern that he did not want to slow down the process of incorporating the Vulnerability Index and Registry into the homeless system intake/referral process but wanted bi-morbid as a risk factor. Brian suggested that the consumers make a motion at the December Planning Council meeting to “discuss at the February Planning Council meeting the eight risk factors that comprise the criterion for vulnerability and that tri-morbidity be changed to bi-morbidity; bi-morbidity shall be defined as any 2 of the following 3 risk factors (mentally ill + abusing substances + chronic medical problem).” The group approved this suggestion by consensus.</p> <p><u>The group then discussed each motion:</u></p> <p><b>Motion #1:</b> The motion reads “The Executive Committee of the Chicago Planning Council on Homelessness moves to endorse the ongoing use of the 100,000 Homes Campaign Vulnerability Index Registry (VIR) as the primary referral source for new permanent housing units created in the 2010 NOFA and future cycles.” Amanda explained the motion and answered a few questions by members. It was clarified that this motion would require service providers to use the Registry as the primary referral source for new permanent housing projects created by new HUD funding; currently service providers are voluntarily setting aside some of their permanent housing units for clients referred by the Registry but this motion would mandate that new permanent housing projects created through HUD NOFA funding would have to use this as their primary referral source for housing clients. After some discussion, John motioned to endorse motion #1, Patrice seconded. The group voted unanimously to approve motion #1 at the Planning Council meeting.</p>

	<p><b>Motion #2:</b> The motion reads “The Executive Committee of the Chicago Planning Council on Homelessness moves that the Planning Council endorse the use of the VIR and the Vulnerability Index itself (for outreach programs), for existing homeless service providers.” Amanda explained the motion and clarified that the 100,000 Homes Campaign Vulnerability Index and Registry are currently being used by service providers on a voluntary basis. After some discussion, John motioned to endorse motion #2, Patrice seconded. The group voted unanimously to approve motion #2 at the Planning Council meeting.</p> <p><b>Motion #3:</b> The motion reads “The Executive Committee of the Chicago Planning Council on Homelessness moves that the HMV Committee should consider incorporating its use into the Evaluation Instrument in future funding cycles”. After some discussion, Mark motioned to endorse motion #3, John seconded. The group voted unanimously to approve motion #3 at the Planning Council meeting.</p>				
<b>FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION ON THE 2011-2012 WORK PLAN</b>	<p>Sherise recommended, that due to the lengthy discussion on the 100,000 Homes Campaign, item number V – Follow-up discussion on the 2011-2012 work plan – be moved to the April 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. All members agreed by consensus.</p>				
<b>2011 MEETING DATES</b>	<p>The 2011 meeting dates are: February 17<sup>th</sup>, April 12<sup>th</sup>, June 14<sup>th</sup>, August 9<sup>th</sup>, October 11<sup>th</sup>, and December 13<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>Sherise asked the group if 10am to 12pm worked for everyone and everyone agreed. Because the mid-morning meeting time may preclude some potential members from joining the commission, the meeting times will be discussed at a meeting in 2011. The next meeting will be held on February 17<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 12pm at St. Leonard’s Ministries (2120 W. Warren Blvd).</p>				
<b>ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Mental Health Caucus Meeting:</u> The Mental Health Caucus meeting will be held Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup> from 12pm to 2pm at Roosevelt Branch at the Chicago Public Library (1101 W. Taylor Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor).</li> <li>• <u>Chicago Planning Council on Homelessness:</u> Meetings are held every other month and are open to the public. The next meeting will be Wednesday, December 15<sup>th</sup> from 9:15am to 11:15am at AIDS Foundation of Chicago (200 W. Jackson Blvd, Suite 2200). Please see Amanda Becker Carlisle after the meeting if you would like to attend, as your name will have to be given to security.</li> <li>• <u>National Alliance Conference on Ending Family Homelessness:</u> Brian McManaman mentioned that the National Alliance will hold its conference on ending family homelessness February 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> in Oakland, CA. There may be opportunities for consumer scholarships. Sherise said she would forward any information to the group.</li> <li>• <u>Advocacy Committee:</u> Keith mentioned that the Chicago Alliance has an advocacy committee that works on local, state, and federal initiatives. Please talk with Sherise if you are interested in joining the committee, as there are currently two vacancies for Consumers Commission representatives.</li> </ul>				
<b>WRAP-UP, 2010 MEETING DATES, &amp; ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	<p><b>The next meeting will be Thursday, February 17, 2011 at 10am to 12pm at St. Leonard’s Ministries, Michael Barlow Center (2120 W. Warren Blvd).</b></p>				
<b>ADJOURNMENT:</b>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"><b>MINUTES SUBMITTED BY:</b></td> <td style="width: 50%;"><b>APPROVED BY:</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sherise Alexander</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	<b>MINUTES SUBMITTED BY:</b>	<b>APPROVED BY:</b>	Sherise Alexander	
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