



Housing Authority of Cook County

NEWS



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Contact: mbond@thehacc.org
(312) 542-4691

The Housing Authority of Cook County Raises Awareness for Domestic Violence Victims

YWCA Evanston/North Shore to receive vouchers to House & Protect Victims

Cook County – The Housing Authority of Cook County (HACC) today announced that 27 vouchers would be allotted to victims of domestic violence in honor of National Domestic Violence Month. YWCA Evanston/North Shore, which is expanding their domestic violence services to include long term housing support for survivors, is one of the organizations receiving vouchers.

Domestic violence affects millions of Americans, including 1 in 4 women in their lifetime, and with a problem of this scale, the month of October is a reminder of the work that's been done.

“Often times we see where Domestic Violence is the immediate cause of homelessness and we are committing unwavering support to provide as much help as possible for those survivors of domestic violence who have both short- and long-term housing needs,” said HACC Executive Director Monocchio.

Immediately, survivors require safe housing away from the abuser. Ultimately, the family requires access to safe, stable, affordable housing. YWCA Evanston/North Shore, which will provide long-term housing for survivors in a confidential location, is the only comprehensive domestic violence service provider in northeastern metropolitan Chicago.

“We are grateful for the assistance of the Housing Authority of Cook County,” said Karen Singer, CEO of YWCA Evanston/North Shore. “For over 30 years, we have provided safe shelter to survivors of domestic violence, but once survivors left our 90-day shelter, they often had few housing options. Vouchers for long-term housing enable us to provide housing and employment support that will enable survivors to truly break free from their abusers and go on to lead stable, independent lives.”

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“Working with social service agencies and organizations that promote peace, justice and empowerment have partnered with us and guided us in selecting the right agency where victims can benefit from safe and decent housing,” stressed HACC Executive Director Monocchio.

Affordable and available housing is critical for the family or woman is able to leave the shelter system as quickly as possible without returning to the abuser.

Over the last 20 years, the Justice Department’s Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) has supported the efforts of those on the front lines to answer the call. After the enactment of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) on September 13, 1994, OVW was created the following year and tasked with leading the Federal government in helping communities to implement this groundbreaking legislation. Specifically, OVW administers grant programs and provides training and technical assistance for criminal justice agencies, victim service organizations, and other state, local, and tribal entities to combat not only domestic violence, but also sexual assault, dating violence, sex trafficking, and stalking.

For 24-hour help or support, please call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE or the National Sexual Assault Hotline at 1-800-656-HOPE.

For more information about the Housing Authority of Cook County, please visit us at www.thehacc.org; www.facebook.com/theHACC or www.twitter.com/theHACCtweets.

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