

OUR COMMUNITY WORKING TOGETHER TO END HOMELESSNESS



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.

> MAKING AN IMPACT

428 clients obtained or sustained housing*

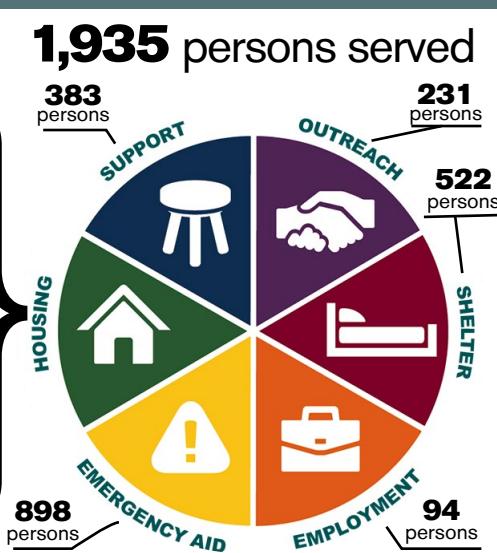


Rental Assistance
Rapid Re-Housing (RRH): 51 persons served
Short-term rental assistance and services with the goal of helping people obtain housing quickly, increase self-sufficiency, and stay housed.

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.
*Three clients moved from one housed program to another.



Who we helped

1479 single adults
920 men
727 women
212 minor children
684 disabled

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



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

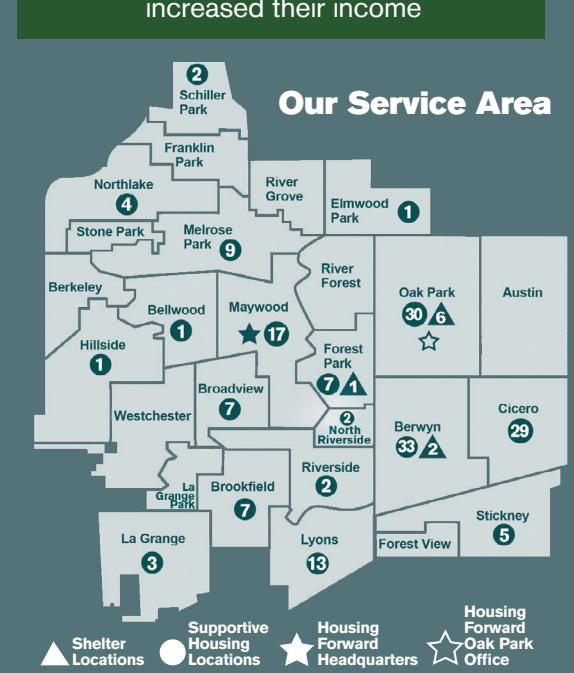
Our Partners

17 service partners

40+ congregations

1100 volunteers

12 AmeriCorps members



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



Community generosity once again made the traditional Housing Holiday Party & Holiday Gift Program possible for clients.

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.

Community generosity once again made the traditional Housing Holiday Party & Holiday Gift Program possible for clients.

> WORKING TOGETHER



CHANGING OUTCOMES

City of Northlake
55 East North Avenue • Northlake, IL 60164
Police Department
Committed to Excellence

JEFFREY T. SHERWIN
MAJOR
NORMAN NISSEN, JR.
CHIEF OF POLICE

January 3, 2019

Mr. Henry Fulkerson, President
Housing Forward
181 E. Main Avenue
Maywood, IL 60153

Re: Jennifer McWhorter

Dear Mr. Fulkerson:
I wanted to point out the work of a great team member of Housing Forward. Before I get to the you know, I wanted to provide a little background.

Like much of the United States, the City of Northlake has experienced evolution and change in our community. In 2016 we began to identify a small but recurring group of individuals who were homeless. Our police officers for many months seemed to be uninterested in addressing this issue. We recognized they were not doing their job. We recognized we were ignoring this population unless called by a concerned citizen or neighbor. Our mission is as a law enforcement agency to protect and serve. We really did nothing in the form of housing our homeless residents with any real solution until we worked with a very key staff member of Housing Forward, Ms. Jennifer McWhorter.

Now to the thank you part. I have been in police work for over three and a half decades and have never seen someone work as hard as Ms. McWhorter has for the betterment of the people in Northlake. In our case, Jennifer worked with our person who she had spent his entire adult life in an out of state penitentiary. After being released he had made his way back to Northlake where he would frequent in the somehow made his way back to Northlake where he would frequent in the neighborhood. Jennifer worked tirelessly for this person. He told us a few of our officers late seventies. The reason he was in prison for this person. Jennifer has worked tirelessly with our a return to prison was his only way to survive. Jennifer has worked tirelessly with our residents in finding a new place to stay and a hope to put his life back together.

EMERGENCY NO. (708) 531-5128 • NON EMERGENCY NO. (708) 531-5125

A Nationally Accredited Law Enforcement Agency

Have you ever encountered someone living on the street and wondered how you can make a difference? You can—especially if you have the right contacts.

Mr. Henry Fulkerson / Housing Forward
January 3, 2019
Page 2 of 2

I have good idea what would have happened if Jennifer McWhorter on behalf of Housing Forward hadn't stepped in. We avoided a person returning to prison and probably someone from being a crime victim here in Northlake.

Please extend my deepest gratitude to Jennifer for her proven dedication for those in need who live in the City of Northlake, with or without a roof. The world is a better place because of people like Jennifer, who show a tireless dedication to complete strangers.

Youngster
Norman Nissen, Jr.
Chief of Police
NNJsd

C. Lynda Schueler, Executive Director

The Housing Forward Outreach and Engagement Team connects the most vulnerable individuals living on the streets with resources.

Last winter, Engagement Specialist Jennifer McWhorter received a call from a Northlake police officer about

a man who was living in a parking lot. Residents had filed complaints, but since it is not illegal to be homeless in Illinois, it wasn't clear what to do.

No crime had been committed, but very often that man,

whose name Jennifer learned was Jeffrey, would get very, very drunk. After she

was able to earn his trust, she learned

Jeffrey usually drank

intentionally until passing out as a way to

make it through the longest, coldest nights.

She also discovered he suffered from several



health issues, and was not regularly taking prescribed medications to control seizures.

"I enjoyed working with Jeffrey," says Jennifer. "He taught me how to see things through his eyes, and act with a more compassionate heart. I didn't see a homeless man, I saw a human being and treated him how he deserved to be treated all along."

Jeffrey was assigned a case manager and is now living in his own apartment, which was furnished with a House to Home Kit donated by our supporters. After he moved in, the Northlake Chief of Police and members of his department came to meet our staff to learn how they can better help those who are experiencing a housing crisis. He also sent a letter praising Jennifer and her intervention.

"Jennifer worked with our person who had spent his entire adult life in an out of state penitentiary. The options were running out for this person. He told a few of our officers a return to prison was his only way to survive," he said. "I have a good idea what would have happened if Jennifer McWhorter, on behalf of Housing Forward, hadn't stepped in. We avoided a person returning to prison and probably someone from being a crime victim in Northlake."

Outreach Specialist Jennifer McWhorter (top) and Jeffrey, at home.

We gratefully acknowledge ALL of the funders and donors who make the work of Housing Forward possible. The following list reflects total contributions made during 2018. (January 1 – December 31)

GOVERNMENT PARTNERS

City of Berwyn
Community Mental Health Board of Oak Park Township
Cook County
Department of Planning & Development Corporation
for National & Community Service (AmeriCorps)
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
Illinois Department of Human Services
Illinois Housing Development Authority
Oak Park Township
Proviso Township Mental Health Commission
River Forest Township
The Community and Economic Development Association of Cook County, Inc. (CEDA)
Village of Oak Park
Village of Schiller Park
U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development

U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs

COMMUNITY & CORPORATE PARTNERS

\$50,000+

Chicago Community Trust

\$25,000 - \$49,999

Oak Park River Forest Foundation

Rich Char., Inc.

Rush University Medical Center

TCC Gives Inc.

TJX Foundation Inc.

Trinity Health U.S.A.

\$2,500-\$4,999

Adaptation Capital

Albion Residential

Aria Group Architects

Dewan Foundation

Dimensions Management

Greenplan

Horizon Foundation Inc.

Old Second National Bank

Pepisco Foundation

Pleasant Surprises

Riverside Kachina

Indian Princess Tribe

Nectel Technologies

Wintrust Bank

\$500-\$999

Aly Financial Inc.

Architectural Consulting Engineers

Athletic Management, LLC

BMO Harris Bank

CenterPoint Properties

Climate Corporation

Educational World Charities

Forest Agency Insurance

Fringe Home Design

Northern Trust

Oak Park Insurance Agency, Inc.

\$5,000-\$9,999

Abell Associates LLC

Byline Bank

CIBC Bank USA

The Clinton Family Fund

Fred J Brunner Foundation

George M. Eisenberg Foundation for Charities

Frank & Kathleen Fiorito

James Fitzgerald

Jennifer & Robert Fox

Roger & Frances French*

Sarah Fyffe

Bruce Gorchow

Lawrence & Janet Graf

Bob & Melanie Halvorson

Chris & Autumn Hamer

Karen & Christel Harris

Suzanne Haverline

Amy Henderson

John & Toni Henle

Peter Hood & Christine Worley*

Lydia Hosek

Elaine Iwicki

Andrea Ladra

Aaron Lebovitz & Donna Myers

Byron Lee & Audrey Williams-Lee

Julie Lenggenhager

Seth & Lauren Levant

Carl Lingefelter & Stacia Smith

Catherine Lynott*

Amanda Jones & Mark Leon

Deborah Kapp & Anthony Rager

Laura Kiewer*

Lee Knutson*

David & Katie Kralik

Jessica Mackinnon & Jim Olson

Mark & Leslie Maloney

Mark Mandich

Brandon & Trisha Marchand*

Ronald Marklund

Patrick & Charlene McAnany

Bruce & Susie McNulty

Helen & Curtis Pinnell

Illinois Conference of the United Church of Christ

Irish Woods Foundation

Kirkland & Ellis, LLP

Moller Family Foundation

Northshore Foundation

Office of the Mayor

Office of the City Clerk

Office of the City Treasurer

Office of the City Auditor

Office of the City Clerk

Office of the City Auditor

Office of the City Clerk

Office of the City Auditor

Office of the City Clerk

Office of the City Auditor

Office of the City Clerk

Office of the City Auditor

Office of the City Clerk

Office of the City Auditor

Office of the City Clerk

Office of the City Auditor

Office of the City Clerk

Office of the City Auditor

Office of the City Clerk

Office of the City Auditor

Office of the City Clerk

Office of the City Auditor

Office of the City Clerk

Office of the City Auditor

Office of the City Clerk

Office of the City Auditor

Office of the City Clerk

Office of the City Auditor

Office of the City Clerk

Office of the City Auditor

Office of the City Clerk

Office of the City Auditor

Office of the City Clerk

Office of the City Auditor

Office of the City Clerk

Office of the City Auditor

Office of the City Clerk

Office of the City Auditor

Office of the City Clerk

Office of the City Auditor

Office of the City Clerk

Office of the City Auditor

Office of the City Clerk

Office of the City Auditor

Office of the City Clerk

Office of the City Auditor

Office of the City Clerk

Office of the City Auditor

Office of the City Clerk

Office of the City Auditor