BRINGING EDUCATION HOME

MAKING STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS IN HOUSING-EDUCATION

January 2020
Institute for Children, Poverty and Homelessness
Beyond Housing: A National Conversation on Child Homelessness and Poverty
WHO ARE WE?

The Council of Large Public Housing Authorities (CLPHA)
• National non-profit organization that works to preserve and improve public and affordable housing through advocacy, research, policy analysis and public education.
• Member based organization (as name suggests, members are large from places like D.C., Chicago, NYC, LA)

Chicago Housing Authority
• The Chicago Housing Authority provides homes to more than 63,000 households while supporting healthy communities in neighborhoods throughout the city. Designated a Moving to Work agency by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, CHA has used that flexibility to create innovative partnerships that expand choices and opportunities for the low income families and individuals it serves. At the start of 2018, 63 percent of work-able CHA residents were working and earning a yearly average of almost $22,000
HOUSING IS

The Initiative
- Partnerships
- Community of Practice
- Best Practices
- Online Collaboration
- Policy & Advocacy
- Informational Resources
- Training & Education
**HOUSING IS INITIATIVE**

**Knowledge & Awareness:**
- Expanding housing sector’s understanding of education and partners beyond just schools
- Building the evidence case that PHAs are essential partners for improving education efforts

**Convening Cross-Sector Players:**
- Connecting with education partners focused on this intersection (e.g. GLR, home visiting programs, pre-K programs)
- Fostering engagement among interested, innovative players across sectors

**Innovation and Capacity Creation:**
- Identifying capacity-building resources for PHAs
- Opportunities to integrate all across sectors of focus: housing, health, education (avoid two-sector siloing)
• Nearly 4 million children live in families that receive federal rental assistance
• Innovative practices
POVERTY & EDUCATION ADVERSE IMPACTS

• Higher rate of absenteeism
• Persistent academic achievement gaps
• Loss of learning over summer
• Increase risk of high school drop out
• Increase in college costs and divestment in higher ed, transferring college cost to family
• Increase risk of post-secondary drop out
  • Debt + No Degree
HOUSING IS EDUCATION

- Stability
- Access
- Engagement
- Place-based Initiatives
- Improved Outcomes
HOUSING ORGANIZATIONS TODAY: BUILDING A FOUNDATION

• Creating & Maintaining Partnerships
• Multiplier Effects
• Community of Practice
WHERE IS THE WORK HAPPENING?
SOME WAYS CLPHA MEMBERS ARE WORKING WITH EDUCATION PARTNERS

At the Local Level

- Akron PHA works with home visiting programs to address maternal depression and get children ready for school
- Portland PHA works with partners on pre-K registration
- King County PHA partners with after-school programs to increase socio-emotional learning
- Vancouver PHA partners with VPS for vouchers for homeless

At the National Level

- TA, data sharing, case studies, online clearinghouse, webinars
- Annual cross-sector Summit
- Research – involved with Raj Chetty’s work on Creating Moves to Opportunity (CMTO)
HOW TO DO THIS WORK

Elements of a Successful Partnership
www.clpha.org/elementsofsuccess

Up and Down the I-5 Corridor
How Housing Authorities in the Pacific-Northwest Created a Regional Collaboration to Further Housing-Education Efforts
DATA SHARING

- Legal Agreement among Partners
  - Determine joint goals
- Types of data sharing
  - Aggregate
  - Individual
  - Combination
- Long-term Success
DATA SHARING

Tools to Help with Data Sharing

- CLPHA’s universal data sharing agreement template
  - Establish partnerships
  - Determine joint goals
  - Customization
POSTSECONDARY EFFORTS

With our partners, we have:

• Produced a report (copies available!)
• Convening
• Embarking on a new grant with a 3-year investment from the Kresge Foundation
PAUSE
Implementing this work in your community!
YOUR PARTNERS

Write down:

• An organization in another sector you might want to partner with (could be name or type of organization)
• Specific people to contact (could be a name or title)
• What seems hard about this? What questions do you have for how to achieve what you want to do
• What are some small, but meaningful connections that could be made?
• What are some larger achievements?
EDUCATION TOUCHPOINTS FOR HOUSING

Central Question - Where are we uniquely suited as a housing provider to support a family to increase academic achievement?

Chicago Housing Authority has focus on the following Education Touchpoints:

• Early Learning
• School Choice and Enrollment
• Post-Secondary Aid + Support
• Re-Entry

With a goal of increased academic achievement for residents, leading to self-sufficiency
CHA’S EDUCATION PROFILE

• Average of 8-10% of Chicago Public Schools students receive CHA housing support.

• 42% of CHA Adults have attended some college.

• Of these adults, 25% or 1 in 4 have a degree or certificate.

• For all CHA adults, 1 in 10 have a degree or certificate.

• 75% of CHA college graduates attended more than one institution to complete their degree.

• 54% of CHA students have a gap in their college enrollment, where they needed to discontinue and reenroll later.

• The median gap of time for these students is 7 months or two academic semesters.
CHA’S TWO POST-SECONDARY AID PROGRAMS

CHA SCHOLARSHIP
Merit-Based Scholarship Program for College
http://thecha.org/scholarship

- $270,000 Annually Awarded
- 270 Awards at $1,000 level
- Eligible for all degree programs at accredited 2 & 4 year institutions
- Minimum 2.0 GPA; 2.5 GPA Recommended
- Students reapply each year they are in school
- Over 1,400 awards and $1.6+ Million in program’s history

PARTNERS IN EDUCATION
Last-Dollar Support to attend City Colleges of Chicago
http://thecha.org/partnersineducation

- Since 2010, over 1400 awards have been conferred through the Partners in Education program with City Colleges of Chicago.
- “Last-Dollar Scholarship” – covers tuition, book and fee vouchers for CHA residents after Financial Aid is applied.
- Financial Aid is applied first, then unmet costs are covered by CHA. If student has no financial aid, can request support through an Appeal.
- Program runs year round – including Summer Semester
## POST-SECONDARY AID – STUDENT PROFILE

### CHA SCHOLARSHIP
*Merit-Based Scholarship Program for College*
[http://thecha.org/scholarship](http://thecha.org/scholarship)

- Serves primarily traditional, first-time college students from CHA
- Average age of CHA Scholarship awardee is 23 years old
- 80% are dependent members of the household; only 20% are the head of household
- 77% are female, 23% male
- 75% attend 4-year Universities
- 71% attend an institution in Illinois

### PARTNERS IN EDUCATION
*Last-Dollar Support to attend City Colleges of Chicago*
[http://thecha.org/partnersineducation](http://thecha.org/partnersineducation)

- Serves primarily non-traditional, returning college students
- Average age of Partners in Education participant is 35 years old
- Gap of time between prior enrollment to CCC enrollment is 5 years
- 64% are the head of CHA household.
- 81% are female; 19% are male
- Many are not financial aid eligible given a prior unsuccessful enrollment
CHA’S TWO POST-SECONDARY AID PROGRAMS

CHA SCHOLARSHIP
Merit-Based Scholarship Program for College
http://thecha.org/scholarship

- Scholarship awardees maintain double the rate of academic involvement (remaining enrolled or have graduated) than their unsupported peers.
- Students with aid have shorter gaps than unsupported students

Residents can use both programs to maximize student support, receiving a scholarship for the academic year, and Partners in Education each Summer for up to two courses.

PARTNERS IN EDUCATION
Last-Dollar Support to attend City Colleges of Chicago
http://thecha.org/partnersineducation

- 87% of students are returning from prior enrollment where they did not complete their degree
- Mean enrollment gap for those returning is 5 years from end of prior enrollment.
- Through appeals we are able to support students who are initially ineligible for financial aid, offering limited support to assist them in getting their grant aid reinstated.
CHA’S POST-SECONDARY COACHING SUPPORT

SOAR PROGRAM
Post Secondary Coaching for Students ages 14-20
http://thecha.org/education

- Provides one-on-one coaching to CHA residents to - find the right college or program, complete applications, save money and persist to graduation.
- Also hosts College Tours, College Info Sessions, College and Workforce Fairs.
- Initially funded for a 2 year demonstration by HUD; CHA has continued through program through Resident Services.

PARTNERS IN EDUCATION PLUS
Last-Dollar Support + a One Million Degrees Coach
http://thecha.org/partnersineducation

- Provides one-on-one coaching, plus access to One Million Degrees suite of services.
- In addition to Voucher support from Partners in Education, students can earn a stipend of up to $1250 for meeting program benchmarks.
- 50 Students started in Fall 2019, a new cohort of students will be eligible for support each Fall.
- Opens the opportunity for OMD to reach non-traditional students served by CHA’s program.
CONTINUED CONNECTIONS THROUGH COLLEGE

Take Flight Event
Held Annually in August as a ‘Trunk Party’ for Dorm Supplies and Send-off for College Freshman, CHA youth living on campus.

Take Flight: Staying the Course
Held Annually in January as a ‘Mid-Winter Check-In’ with College students, features Internships, Free Headshots

Summer Internship Program
Full-time internship for CHA College Students

College Tours led by current CHA students
CHA’S LESSONS LEARNED

Starting Small, But Get Started

Engaging Like Partners Across Sectors

Joint Grant Writing Across Partners

Engaging Students as Leaders and Highlight Successes

- Take Flight Programs – Student Panel, Student Speakers

- Tour Guides for College Tours; Represent Tables at College Fairs

- CHA Alumni, ChangeMakers + Videos
CHA’S FUTURE PLANS

Giving Similar Attention to Other Education Touchpoints

Greater Data Partnerships – Chapin Hall, National Student Clearinghouse

Grow, Iterate, Share Out to support PHAs Nationwide
OTHER POSTSECONDARY EXAMPLES

HOUSING SUPPORT FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

• Pilot programs providing housing vouchers to homeless students, Tacoma Housing Authority
• Family Scholar House, Louisville Kentucky, specifically for women with children seeking to complete degree.
• ScholarHouse, Columbus Ohio

AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

• Project SOAR: HUD-funded post secondary counseling grant. Funded 9 PHAs across the US.
• Foundation Support
MYTHBUSTING

What do you think of when you think of a PHA?

• Positives of PHAs
• Negatives of PHAs
HELPFUL ADDITIONS

Top things to know to partner with a PHA

• MTW
• How to Approach a PHA
• Biases about low-income students
• Low-Cost, Quick-wins
THANK YOU!

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