

Cook County Commission on Women's Issues

2009 Public Hearing:

Housing: A Basic Human Right

A focused look at the impact of policies, practices, and laws affecting a woman's right to attain and retain housing in Cook County.

Thursday, October 22, 2009

I. Welcome and Introductions

Peggy A. Montes, Chairperson, Cook County Commission on Women's Issues

II. Hon. Todd H. Stroger, President, Cook County Board of Commissioners

III. Introduction of First Speaker

Peggy A. Montes

IV. Speakers

Shani S.P. Smith, Director, Association of Block Clubs

Britt Shawver, CEO, Housing Opportunities for Women

Deborah Smith, Planner, Cook County Office of Planning & Development

Lorri Newson, Executive Director, Housing Authority of Cook County

Betsy Schuman-Moore, Project Director, Chicago Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under the Law

Janet Smith, Co-Director, Nathalie P. Voorhees Center Associate Professor, Urban Planning and Policy Program University of Illinois at Chicago

Pam Bozeman Evans, Chief Operating Officer, YWCA Metropolitan Chicago

Katherine E. Walz, Senior Attorney, Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law

Merilyn D. Brown, Attorney Advisor, Midwest HUB Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity at HUD

10:40-10:55 Questions

IV. Speakers Continued

Eduana Wilks, Associate Clerk of the County Bureau, Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County

Caroline Shoenberger, Director, Immigration Project at the Chicago Legal Clinic

Rob Breymaier, Executive Director, Oak Park Regional Housing Center

Allison Bethel, Clinical Professor and Director, Fair Housing Clinic, John Marshall Law School

K. Sujata, Director of Programs, Eleanor Foundation

Nosheen Hemani, Program Coordinator, Home Ownership Preservation Initiative

Kendall Reid, Neighborhood Assistance Corporation of America

Terri L. McDermott, Executive Director, Cook County Sheriff's Dept. of Women's Justice Services

John Bartlett, Director, Metropolitan Tenants Organization

12:25 – 12:45 Questions

The Cook County Commission on Women's Issues would like to thank all of the speakers for their extremely enlightening and informative presentations. We feel confident that the information provided today will ensure that the 2009 Public Hearing Report "Housing: A Basic Human Right" will be a resourceful and insightful tool for policy and decision makers in Cook County, as they strive to address the issues that impact a woman's ability to attain and retain housing. Clearly, from the testimony today, housing isn't just a "women's issue," it is a human issue, and a basic human right.

Todd H. Stroger, President, Cook County Board of Commissioners

*Peggy A. Montes – Chairperson
Commissioners*

*Jennifer Artis
Kathryn A. Below
Letitia Challos
Linda Fleming
Trina Janes
Marjorie A. Manchen
Mary Morris
Tiffany Randle
Thamreen Siddiqui*

*Laura Bartell
Dr. Frances G. Carroll
Carolyn Curry
Dr. Harvette Grey
Deborah Lopez
Dr. Jodi Martinez
Andrea A. Raila
Hon. Ginger Rugai
Linda Wilkens Siegel*

Dr. Aparna Sen-Yeldandi