



# Chicago Housing Options Survey Tool (HOST)

## Permanent Housing with Short-Term Support Centralized Waitlist Pilot: Process Description as of 9/15/11



### What is the Chicago Housing Options Survey Tool?

The Chicago Housing Options Survey Tool, called HOST, is designed to streamline the process of connecting individuals in need of housing with the prevention resources and/or housing options that may best meet their needs. HOST was developed by the Illinois office of the Corporation for Supportive Housing in 2009 and funded by the City of Chicago.

### What Does HOST Do?

HOST includes information and basic eligibility criteria for more than 200 housing options in the City of Chicago. Based on your responses to the HOST survey, you will receive a ranked list of housing options for which you appear to meet basic eligibility criteria. The options listed first are those that may be the best fit for you based on the information you provided.

### How Do I Access HOST?

Anyone can access HOST by visiting [www.chicagohousingoptions.org](http://www.chicagohousingoptions.org). If you would like to complete a survey to determine housing options you can simply begin responding to the questions displayed or click on “Start New Assessment.”

### Do I Need to Register to Use HOST?

No, anyone can complete a HOST survey and receive a list of housing options by visiting [www.chicagohousingoptions.org](http://www.chicagohousingoptions.org). Registration is available to case managers so that they can access previously completed surveys. Case managers who would like to register on the site should click on the link that says “Registration.”

### What is the Permanent Housing with Short-Term Support Centralized Waitlist?

Four organizations--Catholic Charities, Heartland Human Care Services, Housing Opportunities for Women and Inspiration Corporation--are participating in a pilot to centralize access to their permanent housing with short-term support units. Instead of needing to apply to each agency separately you will now complete one waitlist application in order to be considered for units with all four agencies.

### How Do I Apply for the Permanent Housing with Short-Term Support Centralized Waitlist?

Beginning on September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011 the only way to apply for the waitlist for permanent supportive housing with short-term support units held by the four agencies listed above, is by completing a HOST survey at [www.chicagohousingoptions.org](http://www.chicagohousingoptions.org). After completing a survey if you meet the criteria for the program, you will see a link that says “Click here to apply for the permanent housing with short-term support waitlist.” Click on that link if you would like to apply. You will be asked a few additional questions as part of your waitlist application. **Please note that the four agencies are only accepting waitlist applications through HOST. You must visit [www.chicagohousingoptions.org](http://www.chicagohousingoptions.org) and complete both the initial survey and the waitlist application to apply.**

### Can I Apply for Other Housing Options Using HOST?

At this time, you can only apply directly to the permanent housing with short-term support program waitlist at the four participating agencies through HOST. For all other housing options in HOST you will still need to contact the listed organizations directly using the provided contact information.

### I Still Have Some Questions, Who Can I Ask?

If you have questions or comments about HOST and/or the permanent housing with short-term support centralized waitlist please email [chicagohousingtool@cs.org](mailto:chicagohousingtool@cs.org)

