**What is a Continuum of Care?**

The Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009 (HEARTH Act) amended the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. Among other changes, the HEARTH Act consolidated the three separate McKinney-Vento homeless assistance programs (Supportive Housing program, Shelter Plus Care program, and Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation SRO program) into a single grant program known as the Continuum of Care (CoC) Program.

The CoC Program is designed to assist individuals (including unaccompanied youth) and families experiencing homelessness and to provide the services needed to help such individuals move into transitional and permanent housing, with the goal of long-term stability. More broadly, the program is designed to promote community-wide planning and strategic use of resources to address homelessness; improve coordination and integration with mainstream resources and other programs targeted to people experiencing homelessness; improve data collection and performance measurement; and allow each community to tailor its program to the particular strengths and challenges within that community.

Each year, HUD awards CoC Program funding competitively to nonprofit organizations, States, and/or units of general purpose local governments, collectively known as **recipients**. In turn, recipients may contract or subgrant with other organizations or government entities, known as **subrecipients**, to carry out the grant’s day-to-day program operations.

The DeKalb County Continuum of Care IL509 meets on a quarterly basis. Partners of the Continuum come together to discuss the jurisdictional needs of the homeless persons within our County. Meetings are open to the public. For information and updates on the DeKalb County Continuum, monitor this webpage or email sperkins@dekcohousing.com.

**Are you or someone you know in need of Continuum Resources?**

* I am homeless, I don’t have any money and I need to get a bus ticket to another city.
* I am behind on my rent and my landlord is going to evict me.
* My utilities have been shut off or will be shut off and my landloard is going to evict me.
* I have a job, but no place to live or get mail.
* I have a job, but I am afraid I am going to lose it because my car broke down and now I can’t get to work.
* I am not homeless, yet, but I’m barely making it. Where can I get services to help me keep my housing?
* I am homeless and don’t have an address and therefore, I am not able to get services from certain organizations that require you to be a resident of that county.

If you or someone you know could benefit from the Continuum of Care Program, please contact [Ben Gordon Center](http://www.bengordoncenter.org/), [Hope Haven](http://hopehavendekalb.com/), or [Community Support Program](http://www.bengordoncenter.org/services/).

**Homeless Assistance Grant Information:**

2014 Competition

* Grant Inventory Worksheet Has been released to CoC’s for evaluation
* Notice of Funding Availability has not been released.

2013-2014 Competition

The IL509 Homeless Assistance Grant Submission and due date notifications required under the 2013/2014 Competition are as follows:

* IL509 Project Applications Due to Collaborative Applicant **12/31/2014** (30 day before submission)
* IL509 CoC Meeting to Accept/Reject Project Applicants AND vote to Submit CoC Application **1/8/2014**
* IL509 Notice to Project Applicants of Accept/Reject Project **1/17/2014** (15 day before submission)
* IL509 Target Submission Date **1/31/2014**
* Submission Due Date **2/3/2014**