



Lawyers' Committee  
for Better Housing



*2019*

*Partnerships*



Lawyers' Committee  
for Better Housing

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Lawyers' Committee  
for Better Housing

Dear Friends,

Every 3.5 hours an individual or family in Cook County is confronted with being evicted from their home. Evictions negatively impact family health and safety, and severely limit employment and educational opportunities. I invite you to partner with Lawyers' Committee for Better Housing (LCBH) to help make sure that lower-income renters facing eviction have meaningful access to justice.

For nearly 40 years, LCBH has fought for housing justice by defending vulnerable individuals and families against unwarranted evictions; educating renters about their rights and responsibilities; and collaborating with community organizations to protect Chicago neighborhoods from displacement and inadequate affordable housing. LCBH's free legal and supportive services help families move from a path leading to homelessness to one of safe and stable housing.

Each year, LCBH hosts two special events to raise critically-needed funds. We also support over 150 pro bono attorneys and legal interns. In 2017, thanks to our sponsors and volunteers, we served over 3,600 people in desperate need of legal assistance. As an LCBH partner, you will not only be investing in Chicago's wonderful people and vital neighborhoods, you will also be building upon your company's reputation as a leader in Chicago's civic community.

Our Partnership Packet describes LCBH's accomplishments, how your support can make an impact for renters in need, as well as the sponsorship benefits and volunteer opportunities available to your company. We hope you will consider partnering with our organization. Together, we can make sure more renters avoid homelessness due to eviction or unsafe living conditions.

Sincerely,

Mark Swartz  
Executive Director

Claire Battle  
President

ABOUT

# Lawyers' Committee for Better Housing

Lawyers' Committee for Better Housing's (LCBH) mission is to provide free legal and supportive services to improve housing stability for lower-income renters, while advocating for the rights of all renters until everyone in Chicago has a safe, decent, and affordable place to call home.

Every year, LCBH responds to over 5,000 phone and email inquiries from renters facing serious housing issues. In 2017, our in-house legal team and dedicated network of 150 pro bono attorneys closed nearly 900 cases. Since 1980, their combined efforts have secured tens of thousands of client victories, sealing unjust eviction records, recovering millions of dollars in financial damages, and winning more time for families to find affordable, replacement housing.

As the only legal aid nonprofit in Chicago that exclusively serves the interests of renters, we see patterns in eviction court that would otherwise go unnoticed. We share our expertise and original research with neighborhood groups, helping them to mobilize campaigns to preserve affordable housing and prevent homelessness. By standing up for renters' rights, LCBH protects families and strengthens communities.

## 2017 KEY STATS

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875

cases closed in 2017

3,596

total people served

80

cases closed by  
pro bono attorneys

7,688

pro bono and intern  
volunteer hours

40%

clients with  
children under 18\*

65%

clients with  
income under \$20k\*

\* Data is based on 1,033 non-foreclosure helpline clients who provided household type and income information.

## DID YOU KNOW?

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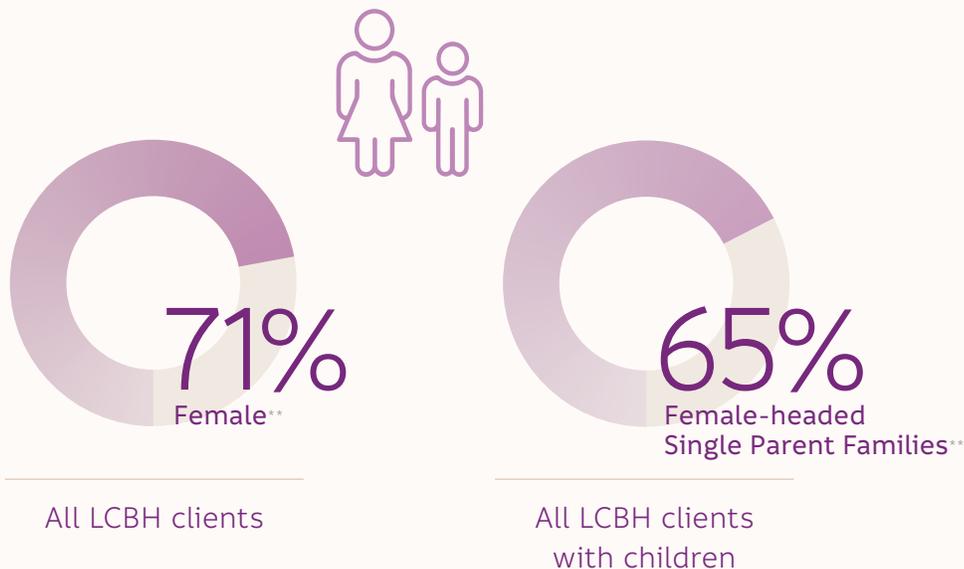
**88%** tenants who appeared in eviction court without an attorney

Between 2014 and 2017, there were 105,272 completed residential eviction cases in Cook County. In the overwhelming majority of cases (81%), landlords appeared with legal counsel, while only 12% of tenants had an attorney.

Having an advocate in eviction court makes all the difference in the world. With high-quality legal aid, tenants are able to secure positive outcomes, including waived rent, dismissals, additional time to move, and sealed records.

### Evictions disproportionately harm women and children

Because the demand for our services is so great, we accept cases based on a client's vulnerability to homelessness. National studies have found—and LCBH's experience confirms—that evictions lead to difficulty finding a new home, declining mental health, particularly for mothers, and school performance problems for kids.



\*\* Data is based on 1,033 non-foreclosure helpline clients served in 2017 that provided gender and household type information.



# \$962,450

Financial benefits recovered by LCBH\*

In 2017, LCBH closed 252 eviction litigation cases, recovering nearly \$1 million in waived rent, damages, and relocation assistance. LCBH also secured other client victories such as avoiding an eviction order (84%), sealing the eviction case (62%), and winning additional time to move (61%).



# 606

 LCBH clients received help with pre-litigation housing disputes in 2017

LCBH provides emergency assistance to renters whose utilities have been illegally shut off, have been locked out of their homes by the landlord, live in a foreclosed building, or experience other serious life-threatening issues. This type of intervention resolves issues without going to court and maintains our clients' quality of life.



# 84%

 LCBH clients who were stably housed after receiving both legal & supportive services

LCBH was the first legal aid nonprofit in the region to hire a social worker, offering clients assistance finding replacement housing and referrals to supportive services, while their legal crisis is resolved. This holistic approach helps families move from a path leading to homelessness to one of safe and stable housing.



# 379

 LCBH clients living in foreclosed buildings

Foreclosure has impacted nearly 1 in 10 Chicago area rental units, yet renters are often unaware of their rights or where to turn for help. LCBH counsels renters facing foreclosure and educates key stakeholders including attorneys, community advocates, and tenants on renters' rights and responsibilities.

## PARTNERING WITH LCBH IS A WIN-WIN

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Supporting Lawyers' Committee for Better Housing provides you the unique opportunity to connect with Chicago's legal aid community and other like-minded professionals, while showing support for an important cause: housing justice! Corporate sponsorships also provide critical operating revenue for LCBH's core programs, including representing renters facing eviction, counseling tenants living in foreclosed buildings, and providing brief services.

### Make a difference

Volunteer opportunities are available to match your needs, whatever your experience level. When you join LCBH as a pro bono attorney you will have the chance to practice housing law; develop strong negotiation and litigation skills; gain experience counseling and interviewing clients; draft motions and settlements; receive CLE credits; and, most importantly make a difference in the lives of others.

#### Presenting Partner *\$15,000*

- Presenting Partner for "Opening the Door" LCBH's annual awards ceremony
- Speaking opportunity at "Opening the Door"
- Logo prominently featured on pre-event e-marketing, webpage, and print invitations
- Logo spotlighted on day-of event materials and A/V presentations
- Ten (10) tickets to any LCBH event
- Customized pro bono volunteer opportunities

#### Champion Partner *\$10,000*

- Special recognition at "Opening the Door" LCBH's annual awards ceremony
- Logo featured on pre-event e-marketing, webpage, and print invitations
- Logo spotlighted on day-of event materials and A/V presentations
- Eight (8) tickets to any LCBH event
- Customized pro bono volunteer opportunities

#### Advocate Partner *\$5,000*

- Logo featured on "Opening the Door" pre-event e-marketing and webpage
- Logo on day-of event materials and A/V presentations
- Six (6) tickets to any LCBH event
- Priority bono volunteer opportunities

#### Community Partner *\$2,500*

- Logo on "Opening the Door" pre-event e-marketing and webpage
- Logo on day-of event materials and A/V presentations
- Four (4) tickets to any LCBH event
- Priority bono volunteer opportunities



Lawyers' Committee  
for Better Housing

## **Yes!**

*We would like to sponsor the critical work of the  
Lawyers' Committee for Better Housing, as:*

- Presenting Partner** / \$15,000
- Champion Partner** / \$10,000
- Advocate Partner** / \$5,000
- Community Partner** / \$2,500
  
- We are unable to participate as a partner at this time,  
but would like to make a tax-deductible donation  
in support of LCBH's efforts in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
COMPANY NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
CONTACT PERSON

\_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY, STATE ZIP CODE

\_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL

\_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE NUMBER

### ***Payment Method***

- Please invoice me at the email address above.
- Please call me for my credit card information or ACH information.

### ***Get Involved***

- Please contact me about pro bono and other volunteer opportunities.

For more information about ***partnership opportunities*** with the  
Lawyers' Committee for Better Housing, please contact **Allen Hailey**,  
Development Director, at [ahailey@lcbh.org](mailto:ahailey@lcbh.org) or call **312-784-3505**.

For more information about ***volunteer opportunities*** with the  
Lawyers' Committee for Better Housing, please contact **Julie Pautsch**,  
Pro Bono Coordinator, at [jpautsch@lcbh.org](mailto:jpautsch@lcbh.org) or call **312-784-3515**.

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