



SOUTHLAND HUMAN SERVICES LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

*Connecting nonprofits across
South Suburban Cook County*

THIS NEWSLETTER WILL BE AVAILABLE BI-ANNUALLY

The Southland Human Services Leadership Council Newsletter

SPRING 2018 EDITION

IN THIS ISSUE

Introducing The SHSLC

Downtown Park Forest welcomed the highly anticipated Southland Human Services Leadership Council, (SHSLC) as its newest residence. The SHSLC is a body of agencies collaborating, advocating, and informing with and on behalf of all nonprofits in the South Suburbs. Our thriving networking body brings together information sharing, expands available resources, and creates a unified voice throughout our communities.

The SHSLC Purpose

The SHSLC will play a significant role initiating dialogue between legislators and human services agencies to work together and transform the southland region. South Suburban Cook County is currently home to more than 1 million people. The SHSLC,

mission is to create and sustain health and human services excellence and enhance the nature and flow of resources to people in the Southland community.

Future Goals for the SHSLC

SHSLC'S goal is for legislators to develop a solid understanding of the positive impact of the array of services provided by agencies across the region.

Services Leadership Council is to create and sustain health and human services excellence and enhance the nature and flow of resources to people in the Southland community.

- Reducing high school dropout rates & workforce preparation

- Increasing the number of pre-school children prepared for kindergarten
- Increase the number of beds for both temporary/long-term shelter
- Decreasing the number of families' dependent on government assistance
- Increasing healthcare provision in underserved neighborhoods over



Want to join the SHSLC?

Want to join the SHSLC? Simply request an MOU via email at:
theshslc@gmail.com

The 2017 SHSLC Legislative Forum

The fifth Southland Human Services Leadership Council Legislative Forum was held on Friday, October 27, 2017, and hosted by Prairie State College in Chicago Heights, IL. It was facilitated by the Co-Chairs of the Council, Jay Readey and Bryan Dunlap, and followed by a discussion on issues in human services affecting the southland region.

Organizations within human service, municipalities, companies, and academic institutions were present. Attendance increased from the previous year which proves the progression of our collaborative efforts, in tandem with elected

officials advocating on our behalf to ensure positive impact throughout Southland communities.

"We hope to continue ongoing conversations and strategies that duly inform legislators of our collective human services sector knowledge, and the vast number of constituents we represent" Bryan Dunlap, Co-Chair.



Having legislative forums is a one-of-a-kind opportunity for legislators to walk away with an

understanding of the issues that we need resolved as well as to receive direct, legislative input on what processes are available to resolve those issues. As the Council moves forward in its advocacy efforts, it's important that we use our collective voices to communicate the impact the of lack of support for human services has on constituents, demonstrate the willingness human services agencies have to support their legislators to help resolve issues, and implement strategies that advance our collaborative need across the south suburban Cook County region.

2018 LEGISLATIVE FORUM

Sign up for upcoming information about the next Legislative Forum at: theshslc@gmail.com

YOU ASK, "WHAT IS THE HUB?"



The HUB

To help address the myriad of problems in our society, the Southland offers an information and referral system for the South Suburban area of Cook County,

covering 63 municipalities and 4 townships called The Hub. The Hub's mission is to streamline and expedite the process of connecting people with the services they need has played an integral role that increased agency capacity.

The HUB assists families in finding help with emergency rent or mortgage assistance, and underlying issues that more than often need to be addressed, such

as counseling, lack of job training, legal issues, food instability, medical issues or other problems. If these problems are not addressed, the individual or family cannot remain stable and/or housed long-term. Today they are mobilizing all of their assets; funding, volunteers, legislative advocacy, technology, in-kind resources and corporate partnerships to deliver transformative, measurable results.

Contact **The HUB**: 708.966.9482

www.hubrelief.com



.....PEOPLE YOU SHOULD KNOW

Johanns Williams is a longtime resident of the South-Suburban Region. He and his family reside in the Village of Flossmoor. He is the father of two wonderful college graduates and husband to Constina (Tina) for 33 years. Johanns has a true passion for serving the community. He served as the Chairman of Economic Development Commission for the Village of Matteson. He is the Vice-Chair on the Board of Directors for The United Way of Metro Chicago, member of the Chicago Southland Convention & Visitor Bureau, and is the Board President of Interdependent Living Solution Centers. Over the years, personal projects such as OneVoiceFocused on Men's Health-Health Fair, Jobs Fan Page Career Fair, the Minority Business Expo, and the April Food Day Food Drive gave Johanns the foundation to support his passion for serving others. Johanns founded OneVoiceFocused, a non-profit to serve as a vehicle to support the community. Professionally, he is the Regional Franchise Service Director for LaQuinta Inns & Suites (LQ Management LLC-Dallas, TX) for the upper Midwest. Johanns has over 25 years of combined experience in business management, business consulting and project management. Before hospitality, Johanns was a Retail Manager and District Trainer implementing inventory control processes for Walgreens (Deerfield, IL). Johanns worked as an Operations Manager for Toys R Us (Paramus, NJ). Johanns has received a plethora of awards for his community service and work professionally, including the highest regional EBITDA and "Hotel of the Year" for three years as voted by the Chicago Sun Times-Daily Southtown, the Chicago Defender Men of Excellence Award, Crossroads Coalition Community Leadership Honoree, and the LaQuinta Community Service Award. Johanns was recognized for training the staff of 65 hotels as a "Here For You" mentor a culture development project Johanns was featured in the national publication Jet magazine, "Life- Whom You Know," five things about Johanns Williams's article.



Reena is a resident of the South Suburban Region and mother of 2. She and her family reside in the Village of Lansing. Reena has a Bachelor's of Arts in Public Relations and Advertising from Lewis University, and is also an advocate for education, animal rights social justice, inequality and community service. For the last 5 years, she has used her administrative and photography talent to perform volunteer service for several non-profit organizations. Some of which include Ford Heights Community Service Organization, United Way of Metro Chicago, The Harold Colbert Jones Center and The Southland Human Services Leadership Council. Currently, Reena serves as the Liaison for the Southland Human Services Leadership Council. Her professional background includes 10 years of experience in a broad range of fields, working as an Event Manager for McCormick Place (formerly MPEA), Marketing and Communications Assistant for the National Restaurant Association, Administrative and Events Coordinator for United Way of Metro Chicago, and Special Events Manager for NewStar. Reena serves as an ambassador within the community to increase awareness on human services and issues affecting the south suburban region.



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