

The Next Challenge for Public Housing: Serving Its Most Vulnerable Families
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Ron Ashford is the director of public housing supportive services at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). His office is responsible for the community services component of the HOPE VI program, the Resident Opportunity and Supportive Services (ROSS) program, which includes the Public Housing Family Self-Sufficiency program. Before coming to HUD in 1995, Ashford worked at the New York City Housing Authority, where he developed and administered supportive service programs.

Mary Howard joined the Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) in 2009 as vice president of the resident services division, overseeing case management (FamilyWorks) and workforce development services. Before joining CHA, she spent over 25 years working in nonprofit management, dealing with such issues as vulnerable populations, addiction, domestic violence and sexual assault, workforce development, and poverty. Howard is a former senior director for Heartland Human Care Services.

Susan J. Popkin, an expert on assisted housing and mobility, is a senior fellow at the Urban Institute and the director of its Program on Neighborhoods and Youth Development. Her research includes the HOPE VI Panel Study, the first large-scale, systematic look at families involuntarily relocated from public housing; the Chicago Family Case Management Demonstration, a partnership testing the impact and cost-effectiveness of intensive services for the most troubled public housing residents; and the only national study of public housing desegregation. She is a coauthor of *Public Housing Transformation: The Legacy of Segregation*.

Matthew W. Stagner (moderator) is the executive director of Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago and a senior lecturer at the university's Irving B. Harris School of Public Policy Studies. Previously, Stagner directed the Center on Labor, Human Services, and Population at the Urban Institute and served as the director of the Division of Children and Youth Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. An expert on youth risk behaviors, child welfare services, and program evaluation, he is conducting research on the effectiveness of programs for children aging out of foster care.

Valorie Wright is an associate director with Chicago's Heartland Human Care Services. She oversees the FamilyWorks program and the implementation of the Chicago Family Case Management Demonstration. She specializes in implementation and program development, community activism and integration, service coordination with the Chicago Public School System, initiatives to decrease obesity in Illinois, building coalitions to decrease youth violence in Chicago, advocacy for victims and human rights, and education and awareness regarding sexual abuse in urban communities.