



WHERE CRISIS BECOMES
Opportunity



ABOUT NORTHWEST COMPASS, INC.

Since the early 1980's, Northwest Compass, Inc. (NWC), known then as CEDA Northwest Self-Help Center and working with Community and Economic Development Association of Cook County (CEDA), served as the primary community development hub for emergency community safety-net social services for the low and moderate income people in the northwest suburbs of Chicago.

To respond to an environment of dynamic and constantly changing socioeconomics, and a strategic decision to end its involvement with CEDA (2014), the identity of Northwest Compass was created. In 2015, the organization dramatically and definitively re-defined its mission to be more responsive

to the one issue impacting most of its clients: a safe and affordable place to live.

In addressing the challenges of housing in the post-recession recovery period, NWC found it necessary to tailor its programs to more effectively serve the needs of certain groups. In 2016, Helping Youth on the Path to Empowerment (HYPE) was created to address the unique needs of homeless and unaccompanied youth. Legacy Corps, an AmeriCorps volunteer service program providing respite services to the caregivers of veterans and active military families, was brought on board in order to address the many obstacles for veterans, including housing.

Through a continuum of services, including a network of local agencies, government offices and nonprofit businesses, NWC is now providing supportive services to, and addressing the housing needs of, adults, families, youth and veterans in Northern Illinois, from the lakefront to Rockford. This unprecedented change in direction for NWC will continue to define and solidify its essential role in assisting people in meeting the challenges of having a safe environment for themselves and their families, from which they can once again have a chance to be contributing members of society.

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