



The Welcoming City



Community Partners - New Arrivals Briefing

February 21, 2024

- Welcome
- Overview & Current Status
 - 60 Day Policy Updates
 - TPS/EADs
 - Asylum & Other Legal Services
 - Workforce Development
 - Volunteer Program
 - How to get involved
 - Questions

The Chicago region has welcomed over 35,800 new arrivals since October 2022.



820 buses have arrived in Chicagoland area since August 2022



4,621 individuals arrived at O'Hare & Midway



24 shelters in operation across the city



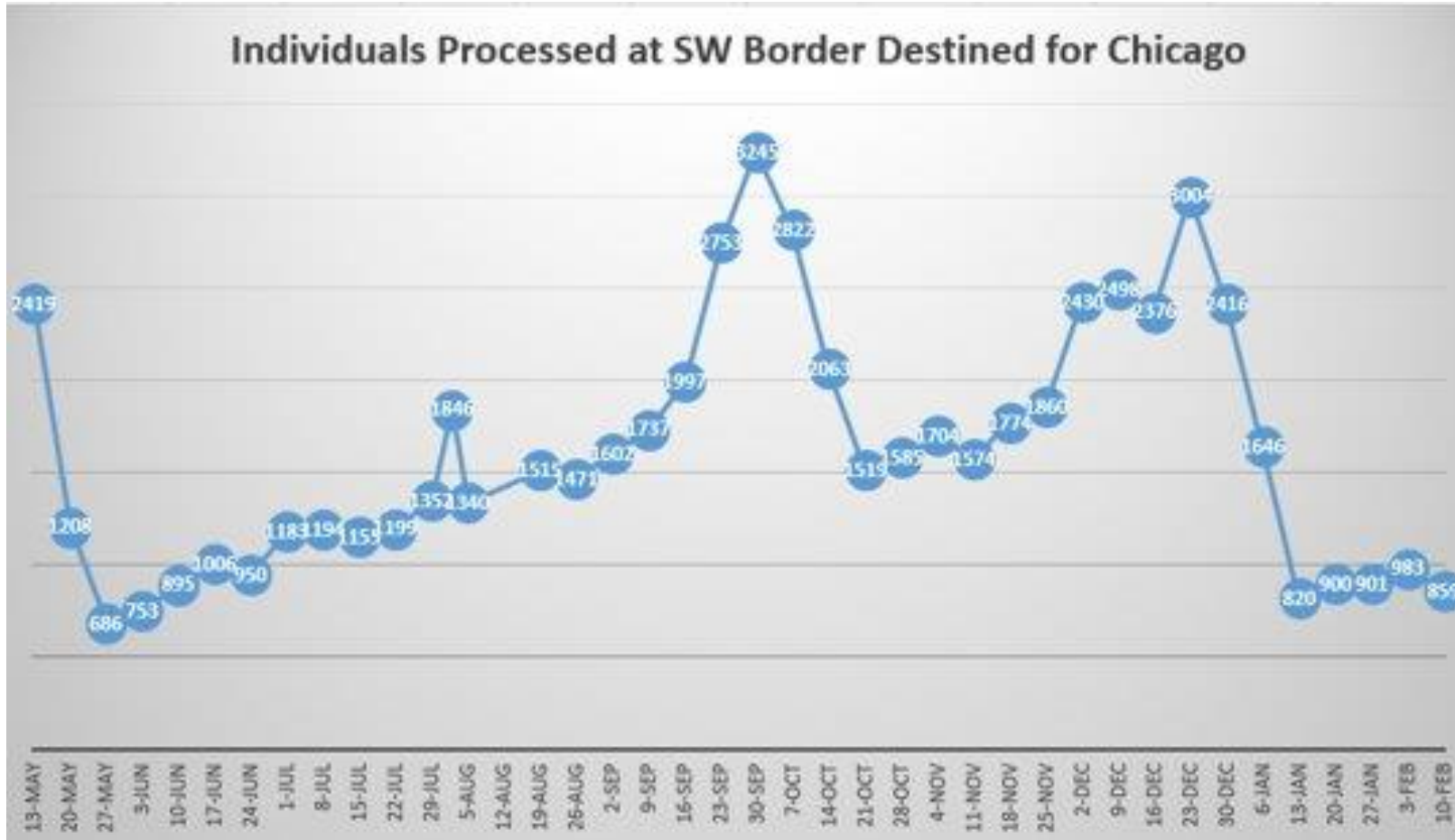
12,393 current shelter residents (1,841 beds available)

0 awaiting shelter at O'Hare and Midway

26 at Landing Zone

17 at Police Stations





An estimated 35,000+ asylum seekers have arrived in Chicago since Aug 31st, 2022

For the week ending on Feb 10, 2024, 859 non-citizens had an intended destination for Chicago.

- **Once Upon Our Time Capsule** - Starting next month, Once Upon Our Time Capsule will return to three shelters for **8 weeks of youth activation**.
 - This time, they will be **joined by After School Matters** and a group of Chicago teenagers to help implement the program. Through a structured curriculum, teacher support, and "time capsule kits," Once Upon Our Time Capsule **helps kids document their views of the world with writing and drawing**. Youth stories are then captured and preserved in a digital Time Capsule.
 - Broadway Armory: Wednesdays from 4:30p-6:00p. March 6 - April 24
 - Halsted: Saturdays from 10:30a-12:00noon. March 9 - April 27
 - Ogden: Saturdays from 1:30p-3:00p. March 9 - April 27

- **240** on site shelter events scheduled in February to either provide direct patient care or to provide connection to direct health services
- **15** providers are currently providing onsite services at shelters either inside or via mobile van:
 - 9 contracted partners and 6 non-contracted partners
 - All interested providers who have expressed interest via provider survey have received provider agreement to sign and return
- **Community Health Workers/ Promotores** are piloting outreach to 2 family shelters and 1 adult shelter. Education focused on navigating the healthcare system and understanding vaccinations
- **Rush and IDPH** are partnering with CDPH to educate residents about safe sleep for families




Landing Zone

- Managed by OEMC
- Support from Streets and Sanitation and Favorite Healthcare contractors
- Operational 24/7
- Bus / District Transfers / Walk-in Reception
- Identify acute health concerns
- Meet immediate needs (Blankets, water, MREs, basic hygiene, baby formula)
- Short-Term reception
- Shelter placement
- Contractors' role (Data entry, Managing shelter waiting list, Spanish speaking, overnight security)

Intake Center

- Managed by IDHS
- Support from New Life Church and Catholic Charities
- Currently non-operational except for New Life Church handing out winter kits and snacks
- Anticipated operational hours 8:00am – 8:00pm hrs.
- Separate but adjacent to the Landing Zone
- Addresses immediate needs (water, food, warm clothing, phone charging,/Wi-Fi)
- Assist with onward movement
 - Local - New Life Church
 - Outside Chicago - Catholic Charities

Shelter-based case managers will use a **standardized extension screening document** and any **required supporting documentation** to determine eligibility for an extension.

EXTENSION CATEGORY	Housing Imminent 	Severe Weather 	Familial Circumstances 
VALIDATING PARTIES	Catholic Charities	OEMC and DFSS	DFSS, CPDH, CPS, MOPD, Medical Providers, ICIRR

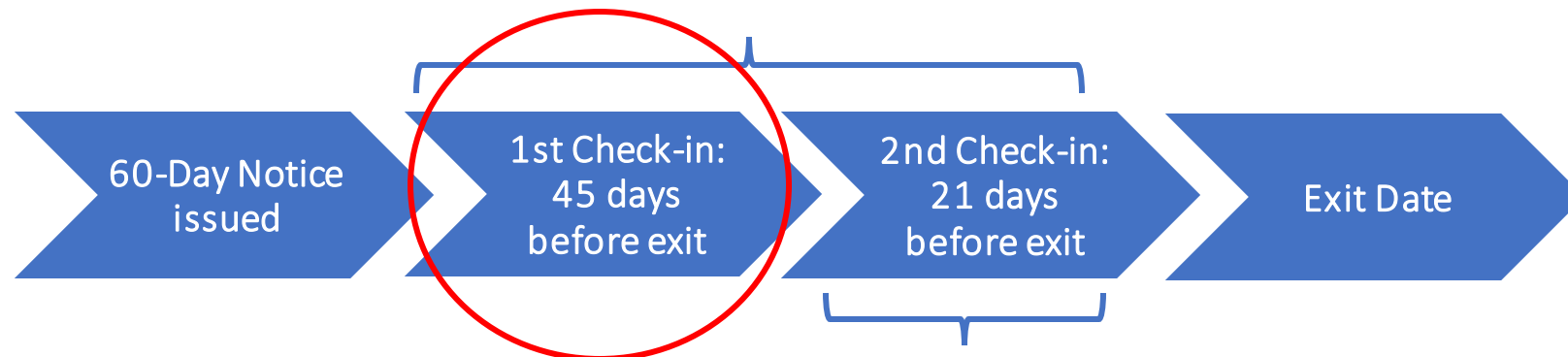
To ensure the City can support new arrivals in shelter with their resettlement and post-shelter planning, the following extensions will be granted:

- Residents who were expected to exit between **1/16/24 through 2/29/24** were granted a **60-day extension**.
 - Approximately 5,673 people.
- Residents who were expected to exit between **3/1/24 through 3/28/24** were granted a **30-day extension**.
 - Approximately **2,119** people.

- **5,367 individuals** in shelter are eligible for rental assistance.
 - House meetings were held for all ASERAP eligible individuals who were scheduled to have 45-day check-in conversation last week
 - Catholic Charities and ICIRR Case Managers were invited to be a part of the conversation.
 - House meetings focused on encouraging residents to continue making progress towards permanent housing.
 - Attendance at the house meeting is tracked to ensure at least one adult member of the household attended.
- **6,895 individuals** in shelter are ineligible for rental assistance. Shelter staff continue to host 45-day check-in conversations with this group.

Check In:

- Conversation between case manager and shelter resident
- Goal: Get residents thinking about what onward movement could look like prior to the end of their 60-day stay
- Conversation includes questions about access to resources and networks of support



Extension screening:

- Extension eligibility screening would occur at the 21-day check in, only if the resident states they anticipate needing shelter beyond their current exit date.

The Resurrection Project and the State – in collaboration with City and Federal governments, and others – are coordinating efforts to **centralize and expedite application** preparation via large-scale workshops for new arrivals who are eligible for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) and/or Employment Authorization Documents (EAD).

Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3
Focus: City-run shelters. Began on Nov 9th, 2023.	Focus: Other shelters and those in ASERAP housing. Beginning Feb 20th, 2024.	Focus: New arrivals not in shelters or ASERAP housing.

3,428 Applications Submitted to USCIS (Feb 5)	
EAD: 1,750	TPS: 1,678

Approved Documents Received (Feb 5)	
Work Permits received: 1,606 (+244)	Social Security Cards received: 1,525 (+244)

TPS documents could take upwards of 6 months to be adjudicated.

For those who don't qualify for TPS or EAD:

Only **15%-20%** of new arrivals in shelter during Phase 1 were eligible to attend a work authorization event.

Others seeking immigration remedies who are not eligible for TPS or EAD, whether in shelter or not, **may qualify and apply for asylum.**

In very specific circumstances, a new arrival may qualify for a U visa or T visa.

Metropolitan Family Services' Legal Aid Society will be hosting weekly legal clinics at the IDHS building (401 S Clinton) on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. These clinics are separate and complementary to the weekly work authorization clinics run by The Resurrection Project.

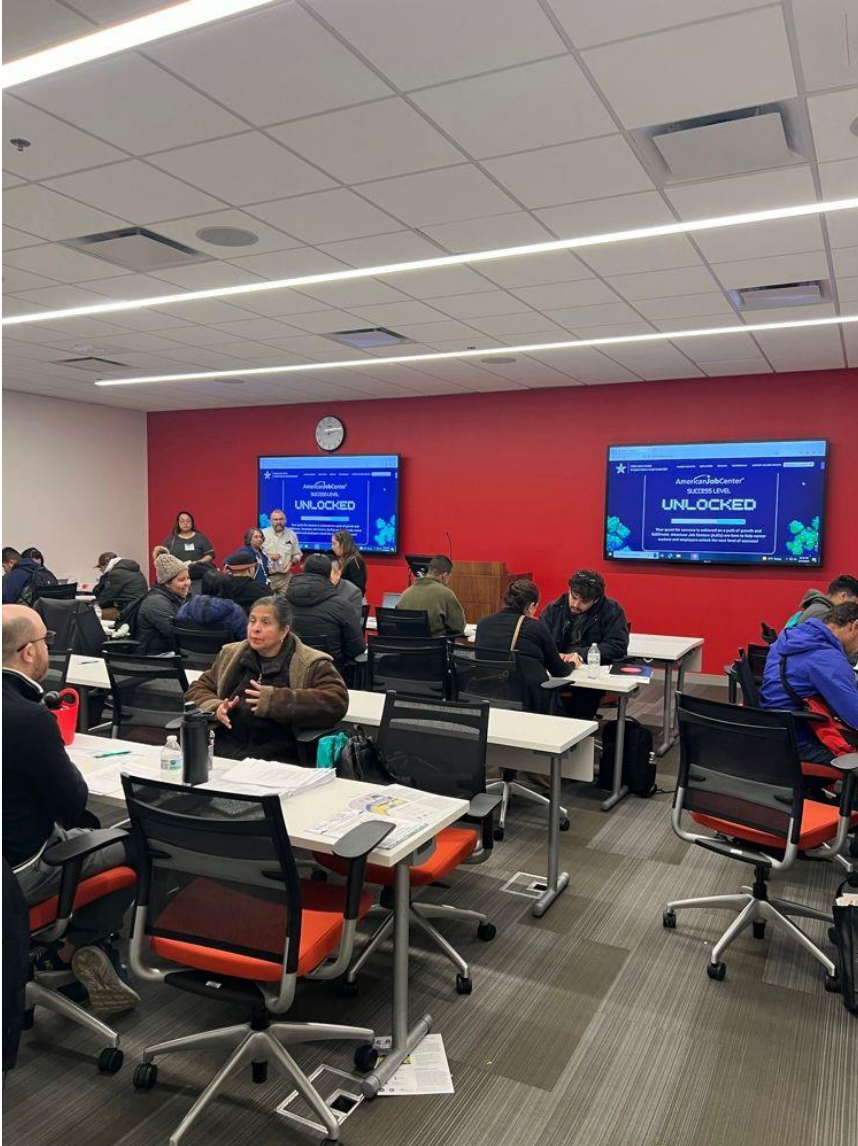
- **GOAL:** support new arrivals with a variety of legal supports, including **changes of venue, changes of address, and asylum claims**. Clinics will initially focus on new arrivals in shelter whose 1-year anniversary of arrival to the US is coming up.*
- **TIMELINE:** Soft launch on Tues, Feb 12th (at 50% capacity) and full launch on Tues, Feb 20th.
- **CAPACITY:** Daily capacity will be 50 people.
- **STRUCTURE:**
 - **Tuesdays & Wednesdays will be dedicated to changes of address, changes of venue, and an initial review of asylum claims.** New arrivals who have previously filed for asylum and have passed 150 days after filing will get support with EAD (work permit) applications under Asylum. **Mornings will be dedicated to pre-registered participants with an appointment, and afternoons will be a mix of appointments (pre-registered) & walk-ins (non-registered).**
 - **Strong asylum cases will receive 1-on-1 pro se support on Thursdays.** Those who need more assistance will receive resources on how to complete applications on their own.

FEBRUARY EVENTS

- ✓ **FEB 8:** An **employer-focused webinar** for Illinois HR Professionals, Hiring Managers, Business Owners, and Diversity and Inclusion Advocates is scheduled for February 8th. The event is hosted by CCW, the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (DCEO), the Illinois Department of Employment Security, and Tent Partnership for Refugees.
- ✓ **FEB 14:** The **Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership (CCW)** is hosting an **Adult Resource Fair**, connecting them with job resources, resume support and interview coaching. Subsequent hiring fair scheduled for March 19th.
- ✓ **FEB 16:** **Central States SER** is hosting a **Job Fair** to provide attendees with an orientation on their job placement services, followed by their participation in the job fair held that same day.

FUTURE EVENTS

- **Feb 28 – March 1:** **Chicago Public Schools (CPS)** is organizing a **Youth Skilled Trades Fair** with strategic efforts to engage new arrival youth, offering them insights and opportunities in various skilled trades.
- **ONGOING:** New arrivals receiving their EAD documents are given a flyer with information to connect them to workforce development and employment services through a partnership involving the American Job Centers.
- **Additional Resource Links:**
 - [Workforce Services for Immigrant and Refugee Jobseekers](#)
 - [Hiring Job Seekers with Work Authorization](#)
 - [BizHub: Hiring Newcomers](#)



CHICAGO Volunteer Program: New Neighbors Campaign

The New Neighbors campaign will **streamline and coordinate volunteer efforts across the City** between community members, mutual aid groups, aldermanic offices, city agencies and partner organizations serving New Arrivals, helping to foster a sense of belonging and connection to our communities.



ChicagoCares and ***Chicago Refugee Coalition*** are partnering with the City to **standardize and provide an easy to access volunteer process** dedicated to redefining volunteerism.

ChicagoCares builds upon community partnerships in the city's South and West Sides.

Chicago Refugee Coalition is dedicated to provide innovative, dignity-centered relief services for refugees in the Chicagoland area.

Soft launch last week with partners:

- ***City Clerk – City Key***
- ***The Resurrection Project – TPS Workshop***
- ***New Life Center – Donations Warehouse***

thehub.chicagorefugee.org/

Donate and Volunteer

- Amazon Wish List: chicago.gov/support
- Gently used items can be dropped off at one of Cradles 2 Crayons several locations
- Volunteers at [New Life Centers Warehouse](#)
- **Critical Needs:**
 - Blankets, cots, pillows, towels, hygiene kits, feminine hygiene products, diapers, wipes, baby formula, baby bottles.

Recommend Apartments Units

- Suggest rental units
<https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/texas-new-arrivals/home/shelter.html>

