

2021 COMMUNITY FIRST® AWARDS NOMINATION FORM

The *Community First® Awards* were established to celebrate the successes of Federal Home Loan Bank of Chicago (FHLBank Chicago) members and their local partners as they work together to strengthen the communities they serve.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Nominee: _____

Title (If Applicable): _____

Organization: _____

Contact Person: _____

Complete Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email Address: _____

Nominator: _____

Title: _____

Member Institution: _____

Complete Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email Address: _____

MEMBER SIGNATURE

Signature: _____

Date: _____

The nominator must be a duly authorized officer of the FHLBank Chicago Member noted above.

2021 AWARD CATEGORIES

Please select up to two categories for which this nomination should be considered, if applicable.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Recognizes an exceptional effort to increase or strengthen affordable housing opportunities in Illinois and/or Wisconsin communities. Eligible nominees may include single- or multi-family projects (new construction, rehabilitation, or adaptive reuse); homeownership programming (down payment assistance programs, mortgage lending programs, etc.); housing strategies; partnership in affordable housing, etc. Projects that reflect community collaboration, support underserved populations, and/or utilize innovative approaches are strongly encouraged.

Nominators should respond to the following in the narrative section:

1. Describe the affordable housing project or initiative, the organizations involved, and how it was established.
2. What populations does this project or initiative serve?
3. What impact did this project or initiative have on the community? Please provide specific, measurable data regarding impact.
4. How were FHLBank Chicago members involved in this project or initiative (planning, development, financing, etc.)? See list of FHLBank Chicago members [here](#).

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Recognizes an extraordinary effort to foster economic growth or community revitalization in Illinois and/or Wisconsin communities. Eligible nominees may include business-lending programs focused on creating or retaining jobs; workforce development initiatives; development or redevelopment of community facilities; and/or unique partnerships supporting the planning or financing of an economic development project. Projects that reflect community collaboration, support underserved populations, and/or utilize innovative approaches are strongly encouraged.

Nominators should respond to the following in the narrative section:

1. Describe the economic development project or initiative, the organizations involved, and how it was established.
2. What populations does this project or initiative serve?
3. What impact did this project or initiative have on the community? Please provide specific, measurable data regarding impact.
4. How were FHLBank Chicago members involved in this project or initiative (planning, development, financing, etc.)? See list of FHLBank Chicago members [here](#).

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

Recognizes an organization or coalition dedicated to advancing the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion in the affordable housing and/or economic development space in Illinois and/or Wisconsin. Eligible nominees must be working to advance and empower underserved populations, including, but not limited to, Black and Latino communities, Native Americans, rural communities, and/or special needs persons.

Nominators should respond to the following in the narrative section:

1. Describe the project or initiative, the organizations involved, and how it was established.
2. What populations does the project or initiative serve?
3. What impact did this project or initiative have on the community? Please provide specific, measurable data regarding impact.
4. How were FHLBank Chicago members involved in this project or initiative (planning, development, financing, etc.)? See list of FHLBank Chicago members [here](#).

EMERGING LEADER

Recognizes an outstanding emerging leader relatively new to the affordable housing and/or economic development field (defined as fifteen or fewer years). This individual demonstrates initiative, delivers remarkable results, and goes above and beyond to serve their community. Eligible nominees may be employees of an FHLBank Chicago member institution or a community organization located in Illinois or Wisconsin.

Nominators should respond to the following in the narrative section:

1. Describe how the nominee became involved in the affordable housing and/or economic development field.
2. What major accomplishments has the nominee achieved?
3. How does the nominee go above and beyond to serve their community?
4. What makes the nominee stand apart from their peers?

NARRATIVE

In the space below, please respond to the questions listed in the award category descriptions. Please note that this box has a 7,000-character limit. Nominees may submit five (5) additional pages of supplementary materials.

GUIDELINES

1. Nominations are only accepted from FHLBank Chicago members and housing associates.
2. There is not a maximum number of nominations a member may submit; however, members may only receive one Community First Award in a single year.
3. Nominees may be considered in up to two categories, if applicable.
4. Individuals serving on the FHLBank Chicago Board of Directors or the Community Investment Advisory Council are ineligible to be considered in the Emerging Leader category.
5. Each Community First Award provides an unrestricted stipend of up to \$10,000.
6. Nominees may be individuals, public agencies, for-profit and/or not-for-profit organizations; however, the stipend may only be payable to a not-for-profit organization. Therefore, if the award winner is an individual, public agency, or for-profit organization, the stipend will be made payable to a not-for-profit organization of the awardee's designation.
7. Nominations are limited to the narrative section of the nomination form (7,000 characters) plus five (5) additional pages of supplementary materials.
8. All nominees will be notified of their award status in March 2021.
9. If your nominee receives the Community First Award in their category, the nominee and the nominator will be required to submit photo and video content to be used by FHLBank Chicago for our Community First Awards video. This video will be played at the 2021 FHLBank Chicago Member Meetings and shared to our social media accounts including Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter.

Submitting a Nomination:

The nomination form and attachment(s) may be saved as a single .pdf file and submitted via email to ci@fhlbc.com by Friday, February 12, 2021.