

SPANISH COALITION FOR HOUSING NEWS

*Featured story:
In the Community:
Chicago's Small
Landlords*

In the Community: **Chicago's Small Landlords**

In 1902, Jane Addams, celebrated Chicago activist and the first American woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize, conducted a study of the city's tenements. She was surprised to find that many landlords lived near or even in the buildings they rented. "Their interests are identical," Addams wrote, noting that "the tenant and the landlord are represented by the same type of person." For small landlords, the discrimination and oppression their tenants face is also a part of their own lives.

General Taylor, who has managed a building on Chicago's West side for over 30 years, knows that when people hear that he's a landlord they don't always get the right idea; "I'm not a slum landlord," he assures me. "I don't believe in that." Instead, General, a humble, soft-spoken man, is one of the thousands of small, independent Chicago landlords who rent apartments in their building or even their own home, much like they did when Addams conducted her study over a hundred years ago.

In 1999, this understanding that small landlords live, work, and are a part of their communities influenced the creation of Spanish Coalition for Housing's Chicago Bilingual Landlord Association (CBLA). The CBLA was established to help landlords become more knowledgeable property owners in the face of discrimination, and to protect themselves while also providing



In This Issue **In the Community**

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stable, safe housing for their tenants.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

**Homebuyer Workshops:
in English and Spanish**
5:00 pm

**Financial Education
Workshops:
in English and Spanish**
5:00 pm

And More . . .

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