



December 2015

### President's Message:

#### Happy Holidays & Best Wishes for 2016!

As 2015 begins to wind down and we look forward to the holidays with family and friends, CRC would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your membership and your continued participation in our dynamic organization. We hope it's been a great year for you, your company, and your mobile workforce.

This past year we hosted our first ever YP40 event in connection with our global partner organization Worldwide ERC. All members including YP40s also benefitted from networking and education opportunities at all four of our meetings in 2015. We hosted our June meeting at the Holocaust Museum in Skokie which was a welcome change and provided a cultural opportunity in addition to the meeting's educational content. Our joint member appreciation meeting in September with Wisconsin ERC in Lake Geneva Wisconsin also proved to be the best yet.

2015 was also a very exciting year as we welcomed new corporate and service members, contributed to our community, and continued the reputation of CRC as the premier regional relocation industry organization in the country.

2016 is going to be another great year for CRC and its members as we move forward with expanding the

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talent pool of our organization with opportunities for continued growth and learning experiences. However, we need your help with your continued involvement and participation at meetings and events supporting our charities. For 2016 we have an outstanding executive team and board of directors which will lead the organization to new height and who will welcome your input and ideas for making CRC even better in 2016 and beyond. Tell your peers about CRC and share your experiences with them as well as invite them to attend a meeting with you in the future.

We wish you happy holiday celebrations with your loved ones and only the best in 2016! We also look forward to seeing you at our Charitable Causes meeting in February - Watch your inbox for more information!

Sincerely,  
Tracy Toth  
CRC President - 2015

## Membership - We Continue to Grow!

As we approach the holidays and a new year ahead, we are very excited to welcome 2016! We are very fortunate to have a member organization that creates value within our industry. Our members come from all parts of relocation and are always eager to contribute their time and talents. Recently, renewal notices went out regarding your membership. If you haven't done so yet, please take a moment to renew your membership. If you have any questions, please contact Jim Rybarczyk at [jimr@bergerms.com](mailto:jimr@bergerms.com) or dial direct at 630-705-2406.

## 2016 Dates

**February 11th** -  
McDonald's H.U. -  
Hyatt Lodge, Oak Brook, IL

**June 16th** - Chicago  
Botanical Gardens, Glencoe,  
IL



## Upcoming Newsletters

Do you have any news you want to share with CRC in an upcoming newsletter? If so, we want to know! Awards, promotions, new hires, office openings or moves, etc., please send your news to [Lori.Johnson@SIRVA.com](mailto:Lori.Johnson@SIRVA.com).

**September 15th** - Joint WERC/CRC - Proposed for Grand Geneva, Lake Geneva, WI

**November 17th** - Proposed for JP Morgan Chase Bank, downtown Chicago, IL

*Exciting details to follow soon!*

## November 2015 Meeting

It was great to see everyone at the November Annual Member Business Meeting which was held on the 67th floor of the [Metropolitan Club](#) in downtown Chicago on November 12th. It was a content filled meeting. You can find the presentation on the CRC site. Here are some of the highlights:

We kicked off the day with our business meeting and committee updates followed by a wonderful tribute to our friend and colleague Valerie Mercurio who passed suddenly. Valerie spent over 25 years in the industry and most recently at Brookfield Global Relocation.

The announcement of our annual scholarship award winners was made. Congratulations to Emilie Price and Alexandria Adams!

Introduction of new board members Serendia Compton, BCBS of IL, Jim Rybarczyk, Berger/Allied, Evan Miller, RELO Direct, Amandra Eirich, Brook Furniture Rental, and Laura Henneberry, The Relocation Department. A thank you to board members retiring in 2016, Sandy McKinney, Altair Global Relocation, Dawn Hasil, Hollander International, Rick Dussault, Prager Moving, Elizabeth Goodchild, Weichert Realtors Goodchild Homes, and Kim Ashley, Brook Furniture Rental.

Laura Levinson with Weichert consulting group led us through a great discussion on "The Face of Global Mobility is Changing" with panelists Sarah Hunt from Mondelēz International and Janet Kupka with Hendrickson International. This turned out to be a thought provoking discussion about the challenges of the unrelenting pressure to control costs, companies are also struggling to meet the expectations of a new generation of employees, match the quickening

evolution of global business objectives, and find key talent to fill mission-critical roles. We heard what the current trends are in regards to alternative assignment types and directly what two local companies are doing to keep their multigenerational workforce mobile. We also discussed the drivers behind the use of alternative assignments based on industry, corporate objectives and segmentation, while also reflecting on how the current assignment programs will impact the assignee and company in the future.

2015 Sandy Welbourn Award was presented to Kate (Santo) Reisinger with Coldwell Banker for her commitment to CRC and her work with our local charities. Congratulations Kate!

We ended the meeting with a fond farewell to Jack Clarke with FMC.

Thank you to our November Meeting Sponsors: Platinum - Quicken Loans; Gold - Arpin, Chase, and VIP Corporate Housing; Silver - Brooke Furniture Rental, Cartus, Manilow Suites, Plus Relocation and Wells Fargo Home Mortgage.

## Calling All Sponsors

CRC would like to thank all of our 2015 sponsors, with a special shout-out for our two Platinum sponsors this year, Chase and Quicken Loans!

Interested in sponsoring CRC in 2016? Get a jump start on the sponsorships you want by visiting the CRC website today!

If you have any questions, please reach out to our Sponsorship Chairperson, Suzanne Sichz at (630) 620-0027 or [Suzanne.sichz@wellsfargo.com](mailto:Suzanne.sichz@wellsfargo.com).

## Scholarship

- 15 applicants for the 2015 scholarship
- 9 finalists met all criteria
- 2 winners were chosen based on grades, extra-curricular activities and essay
  - Emilie
    - Freshman at University of Wisconsin - Madison

- Aspires to become a Nurse Practitioner
- Relocated summer before senior year from North Carolina to the Chicagoland area
- Alexandria
  - Freshman at Purdue University
  - Studying engineering
  - Relocated winter of freshman year from Texas to Chicagoland area
- 2016 scholarship application has been created and sent to local schools
- We have started receiving applications already!

Click [here](#) for details on the available scholarships.

## Charity 2016

As another year comes into focus, it is time to say goodbye to one outstanding charity and to welcome another to the CRC family.

The Cara Program has done so much for the people who have needed help in transitioning to a new job: interviewing skills, resume building, and clothing are all a part of the Cara Program philosophy. Over the past two years, CRC has done so much to support this wonderful program. It is with some sadness then that we find ourselves saying good bye. Please consider staying involved in The Cara Program on an individual basis.

CRC will continue to support Hephzibah House during 2016. Hephzibah House is truly a shining light for those children in need. Through no fault of their own, these children have found themselves unable to stay in their homes. Hephzibah House fills a need for these children. I want to thank all of you who helped out with our Super Hero day: making swords and decorating them were the highlight of the event. We were so touched by those children who sat with us and shared what their super hero strengths were. One of the young ladies was on a mission to save rotary phones! Your donations that day of bike helmets and pajamas were a huge hit

and helped to reduce some of the needs of Hephzibah House. Your continued support during our November meeting of warm coats, hats, mittens, and sweatshirts shows just how much of a giving organization we are.

The newest charity for CRC is Working Bikes, a Chicago based organization.

**From Working Bikes website:**

*Countless bicycles are discarded or sit unused in garages in the United States every year. But in a developing country a bicycle can truly change the life of an individual, their family and their community. Bicycling is, of course, a form of transportation. But bicycles are also used for towing cargo, and even as a source of electricity through the creation of pedal-powered machines. In areas plagued by poverty, high levels of unemployment and lack of reliable, accessible transportation, a bicycle can help provide access to jobs, education, medical attention, and other resources.*

**Global Impact:** *Working Bikes ships thousands of bicycles each year to our partners in countries throughout Latin America and Africa, including El Salvador, Guatemala, Panama, Nicaragua, Uganda, Lesotho, Sierra Leone, South Africa, and Ghana.*

**Local Impact:** *Working Bikes donates to individuals and partner organizations here in Chicago, providing transportation to people in homeless transition, refugee resettlement, and youth empowerment programs in our own community.*

Last year, Working Bikes donated over 8,000 bicycles both here in Chicago and around the world. Their Board is 100% volunteer and they coordinate their efforts out of their store front. We look forward to supporting Working Bikes for the next two years. We'll get to hear more about this great cause at our February meeting.



The above picture is Working Bikes' loading dock. These bikes were being readied to be shipped to South America. All are in working order. The shipment will also contain some spare parts.

## Member News



Congratulations to Baird and Warner for the 4th consecutive [top workplace](#) honor.

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