

## Faith Leaders for the Campaign 4 NY/NY Housing

June 14, 2016

Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor of the State of New York  
NYS Capitol Building  
Albany, NY 12224

Honorable Carl Heastie  
Speaker of the New York State Assembly  
Legislative Office Building  
Albany, NY 12248

Honorable John J. Flanagan  
New York State Senate Majority Leader  
State Capitol Building  
Albany, NY 12247

Dear Governor Cuomo, Assemblyman Heastie and Senator Flanagan,

As Faith Leaders from many faith traditions and throughout New York State, we write you to express our appreciation for your support for building supportive housing to help the neediest and most vulnerable homeless men, women, and children in our communities. In January, most of us wrote to encourage you to support and extend this critical effort as part of your budget, and we are grateful you did. The funds committed this spring to build the first 6,000 new units of supportive housing – the first step in your commitment to build 20,000 statewide – will help thousands of families and individuals break the cycle of poverty.

As people of faith, we know you each share our belief that the true values of a society are revealed in the way it treats the neediest and most vulnerable among us. That is why we are writing you today to encourage you to finish the job by signing the Memorandum of Understanding your budget requires before those funds can be spent, and those 6,000 new units of supportive housing can be built.

As members of the clergy and the leaders of faith based communities and service organizations, we are on the front lines of providing support to the 80,000 homeless children, women and men in our communities. From Montauk to Massena, Brooklyn to Buffalo, too many individuals and families with serious social service needs simply cannot find and maintain permanent, affordable housing and get off the streets. Today, the short supply of supportive housing units means just one in six applicants can be placed in a home. With the stroke of a pen, you can begin to change that.

Supportive housing is the best, most humane, and most cost effective way to provide chronically homeless people the support they need. Providing supportive housing to our most vulnerable residents saves government's money - \$10,100 per year, per tenant here in New York – by reducing hospitalizations, detox and rehab programs, and incarceration.

Governor Cuomo, Assemblyman Heastie and Senator Flanagan, you have shown leadership on this issue in your approval of the funds for these first 6,000 units. Now we are calling on you to do it again. Finish the job. Sign this MOU and allow the first 6,000 of 20,000 units of supportive housing to be built. If you do, you will send a strong message to members of our congregations and the general public that New York State is serious about ending homelessness and providing all of our citizens the opportunity to live full, decent and productive lives. All that stands in the way now is this MOU.

In Faith,

Reverend Peter Cook, Executive Director, New York State Council of Churches, Albany  
Rabbi Joseph Potasnik, Executive V.P., NY Board of Rabbis  
Reverend Robert Foltz-Morrison, Executive Presbyter, Presbytery of New York City  
Reverend Michael S. Bos, Senior Minister, West End Collegiate Church, President, Collegiate Church of New York  
Casey R. Kemper, President, Collegiate Realty, Collegiate Church of New York  
Reverend Skip L'Heureux, Executive Director, Queens Federation of Churches  
Reverend Dr. Serene Jones, President, Union Theological Seminary, Manhattan  
Reverend Fred Davie, Exec. VP, Union Theological Seminary, Manhattan  
Nicholas Napolitano, Assistant for Social Ministries, USA Northeast Province of the Society of Jesus  
Dr. Anne Klaeysen, Leader, New York Society for Ethical Culture  
Reverend John H. Vaughn, Executive Vice President, Auburn Seminary, Manhattan  
Reverend Dr. Raymond Rivera, President and Founder, Latino Pastoral Action Center, Bronx  
Reverend Joel Gibson, Director of Faith Based Initiatives, Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies  
Reverend Kevin Mullen, Minister Provincial, Holy Name Province - Franciscan Friars  
Deacon Walter Ayres, Catholic Charities' Commission on Peace and Justice, Albany  
Reverend Dr. Richard Gilbert, Interfaith Impact of New York State, Albany  
Bishop Dr. James I Clark, Jr, Co-Chair, Faith in New York, Christ Temple of Apostolic Faith, Brooklyn,  
Sheikh Moussa Drammeh, Director and Founder, Islamic Cultural Center, Bronx  
Reverend Emily McNeill, Labor-Religion Coalition of NYS  
Rabbi Michael Feinberg, Greater New York Labor Religion Coalition  
Mary Smith, Communications Coordinator, Church Women United in New York State  
Hemant Wadhvani, Hindu American Seva Charities  
Laura Jervis, Parish Assoc., Rutgers Presbyterian Church & ED, (Retired) West Side Federation for Senior and Supportive Housing, Inc.  
Reverend Terry Troia, Director, Project Hospitality, Staten Island  
Dr. Diane Steinman, Director, Interfaith Network for Immigration Reform  
Marc Greenberg, Executive Director, Interfaith Assembly on Homelessness and Housing

Reverend James Addison, Coordinator, Life Experience and Faith Sharing Association, Manhattan  
Cassandra Agredo, Executive Director, Xavier Mission, Manhattan  
Reverend, Moira Ahearne, Interim Pastor, Union Church of Bay Ridge, Brooklyn  
Rabbi Daniel Aldar, Brotherhood Synagogue, Manhattan  
Reverend Ian Alterman, Spirit Fellowship Ministries, Manhattan  
Rabbi Renni S. Altman, Associate Dean, Director, Rabbinic Program, Hebrew Union College-JIR, Manhattan  
Reverend Laurie Anderson, Interim Pastor, Lutheran Church of the Redeemer, Queens  
Reverend, Michael Asbury, Pastor (Ret.), United Methodist Church, Loudonville  
Dipo Ashiru, Elder, Trinity Grace Church, Manhattan  
Rev. Deacon Anne Auchincloss, Episcopal Diocese of New York  
Reverend John Backe, Pastor, Trinity Lutheran Church, ELCA, Staten Island  
Reverend Erica Baron, Minister, Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Catskills, Kingston  
Dennis Barton, Deacon, Middle Collegiate Church, Manhattan  
Reverend Alan Bentz-Letts, Retired College and hospice chaplain, Queens  
Brother Raj Bhushan, Promoter & Reporter, Oneness of All Movement, Manhattan  
Andy Bidy, Elder, Trinity Grace Church, UWS, Manhattan  
Reverend David Brettell, Pastor, Glen Morris Presbyterian Church, Queens  
Reverend Yolanda Brown, Pastor, CENTER OF DESTINY Christian Fellowship, Manhattan  
Ashley Byrd, Elder, Trinity Grace Church – Westside, Manhattan  
Father Michael J. Callaghan, Executive Director, Nazareth Housing, Pastor, The Oratory Church of St. Boniface, Brooklyn  
Reverend Dr. James Campbell, Pastor, Broadway United Church of Christ, Manhattan  
Reverend Luis-Alfredo Cartagena Zayas, Park Avenue Christian Church (DoC)/UCC, Manhattan  
Rabbi Ayelet Cohen, Jewish Community Center, Manhattan  
Reverend Doug Cunningham, Lead Pastor, New Day United Methodist Church, Bronx  
Reverend Chase Danford, Assistant Rector, Grace Church in New York, Manhattan  
Reverend Adrian Dannhauser, Episcopal Church of the Incarnation, Manhattan  
Sister Carol De Angelo, Director of Office of Peace, Justice and Integrity of Creation, Sisters of Charity of New York  
Daniel DeBrucker, Ruling Elder, Robinson Memorial Presbyterian Church, Syracuse  
Reverend Beverly Dempsey, Pastor and Executive Director, Jan Hus Presbyterian Church, Manhattan  
Grace R. Diaz, Pastoral Associate, Our Lady of the Americas Shrine Church, Albany  
Reverend Alistair Drummond, Pastor, West End Presbyterian Church, Manhattan  
Father John P. Duffell, Pastor, Blessed Sacrament Church, Manhattan

Reverend Kate Dunn, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care and Outreach, Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, Manhattan  
Sister Irene Ellis, Dominican Sisters of Sparkill  
Reverend Brian Ellis-Gibbs, Pastor, Queens Baptist Church  
Susan Enzer, Trustee and Secretary, Sacred Music New York  
Reverend Paul B. Feuerstein, President/CEO, Barrier Free Living, Manhattan  
Rabbi Brian Fink, Jewish Community Center (JCC), Manhattan  
Reverend Katharine Flexer, Rector, St Michael's Episcopal Church, Manhattan  
Sheika Feriha Friedrich, Nur Ashki Jerrahi Sufi Order, Manhattan  
Reverend Carl Garrison, Minister of homeless outreach, Manhattan Church of Christ  
Reverend Calvin Gibson, Ebenezer Baptist Church, Queens  
Rabbi Megan Goldman, Columbia/Barnard Hillel, Manhattan  
Father Anthony Green, St. John of God Parish, Albany  
Phillip Grigsby, Executive Director Schenectady Inner City Ministry (SICM)  
Father Mark Hallinan, Pastor, St Mary's Mount Carmel Church, Staten Island  
Frances Hardy, Faith & Community Relations Manager, Habitat for Humanity New York City  
Reverend Martin Hauser, Pastor, Grace & St. Paul Lutheran Church, Manhattan  
The Reverend Peter Heltzel, Associate Director, The Micah Institute at New York Theological Seminary  
Reverend Stephen Holton, Assistant Rector, Grace Church, Manhattan  
Katy Homans, Head Coordinator, Friends shelter, Manhattan  
Frances Hunter, Elder, Robinson Memorial Presbyterian Church, Syracuse  
Rabbi David Ingber, Romemu, Manhattan  
Karen Jackson, Director of Recovery and Community Initiatives, Project Hospitality, Staten Island  
Reverend Scott Black Johnson, Senior Pastor, Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, Manhattan  
Rabbi Jeremy Kalmanofsky, Congregation Ansche Chesed, Manhattan  
Reverend Jim Ketcham, Executive Director, FOCUS Churches of Albany, Inc.  
Sister Honora Kinney, Sisters of Saint Joseph, Albany  
Sister Janet Kinney, Executive Director, Providence House Inc., Brooklyn  
Leah Kozak, Associate Director, The Micah Institute at New York Theological Seminary  
Rabbi Robert Levine, Congregation Rodeph Sholom, Manhattan  
Rabbi Ellen Lippmann, Kolot Chayeinu/Voices of Our Lives, Brooklyn  
Reverend John Long, First Presbyterian Church, Buffalo  
Reverend Sally MacNichol, Co-Director, CONNECT - NYC  
Rabbi Marc Margolius, West End Synagogue, Manhattan  
Father Joseph Marina, Pastor, Church of St. Francis Xavier, Manhattan  
Rabbi José Rolando Matalon, Congregation B'nai Jeshurun, Manhattan  
Reverend Martin McGeachy, Pastor, Gilead Church, Queens  
Imam Khabir John McGeehan, Masjid Al Farah, Manhattan  
Reverend Emily McNeill, Labor-Religion Coalition of NYS  
Reverend John McNeill, Senior Pastor, St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Ithaca  
Reverend Erika Meyer, Rector, Church of the Good Shepherd, Manhattan  
Reverend Paul B. Millholland, Pastor, Trinity Lutheran Church, Queens  
Father Stephen Mimnaugh, Executive Director, St. Francis Friends of the Poor, Inc. , Manhattan  
Reverend Brian Moll, Coordinator, New York Collaborative to End Homelessness  
Rabbi Steven Moskowitz, Congregation L'Dor V'Dor, Oyster Bay  
Abdul Qadir, Muhammad, Director of Administration, Masjid AT-Taqwa, Brooklyn  
Reverend, Eric Mull, Pastor, Lutheran Church by the Sea, Queens  
Reverend Andrew Tobias Nelson, Pastor, Christ Our Emmanuel Lutheran Church, ELCA, Chatham  
Reverend Daiken Nelson, Zen Peacemaker Order, Coordinator, Mandala Café, Manhattan  
Reverend Patrick O'Connor, Senior Pastor, First Presbyterian Church in Jamaica, Queens  
Reverend James Osei-Kofi, Associate Pastor, Bethesda Healing Center, Brooklyn  
Reverend Emily Otto, Presbyterian New England Congregational Church, Saratoga Springs  
Rabbi Shuli Passow, Congregation B'Nai Jeshurun, Manhattan  
Reverend Jennifer Reddall, Rector, The Church of the Epiphany, Manhattan  
Ayelet Porzecanski, Cantor, West End Synagogue, Manhattan  
Reverend Thia Reggio, Pastor, Astoria First Presbyterian Church, Queens  
Reverend Irving Rivera, Senior Pastor, Reformed Church in America, Bronx  
Joann Sams, Administrator, The Dwelling Place of NY, Manhattan  
Rev. Dr. Maria A. Scates, D.D., CEO/Founder, JCTOD Outreach Inc. (dba) Johnson Park Center, Utica  
Reverend Matt Schaeffer, Pastor, Bethel United Methodist Church, Staten Island

Reverend Donna Schaper, Senior Minister, Judson Memorial Church, Manhattan  
Sally Siemoens, Elder, Robinson Memorial Presbyterian Church, Syracuse  
Rabbi Felicia Sol, Congregation B'nai Jeshurun, Manhattan  
Reverend Bruce Southworth, Senior Pastor, Community Church of New York, Inc., Manhattan  
Reverend Scott Stearman, Pastor, Metro Baptist Church, Manhattan  
Reverend, Charles Straut, Retired clergy, NY Annual Conference United Methodist Church, Brooklyn  
Reverend James Sudbrock, Pastor, Advent Lutheran Church, Manhattan  
Reverend Edward Sunderland, Executive Director, Crossroads Community Services, Manhattan  
Reverend Kenneth J. Thomas, Associate Minister, West End Presbyterian Church, Manhattan  
Reverend Margaret O. Thomas, Associate Minister, West End Presbyterian Church, Manhattan  
Reverend Phil Tom, Interim Senior Pastor, Eastchester Presbyterian Church, Bronx  
Reverend Kitty Ufford-Chase, Co-Director, Stony Point Conference Center, Stony Point  
Reverend Rick Ufford-Chase, Co-Director, Stony Point Conference Center, Stony Point  
Reverend Shannan Vance-Ocampo, Albany Presbytery, Presbyterian Church USA  
Reverend J. Donald Waring, Rector, Grace Church in New York  
Musa Watanabe, Peer Specialist, Rainbow Heights Club, Brooklyn  
Reverend William C. Webb, Episcopal Diocese Western NY, Albany  
Rabbi Simkha Y. Weintraub, Brooklyn  
Michael Weis Cantor, Brotherhood Synagogue, Manhattan  
Reverend Anette Westermark, Pastor, First Presbyterian Church of Newtown, Queens  
Reverend Suzanne Wiedel-Pace, Coordinator, Living Well, Restorative Communities Collaborative  
Reverend Dustin Wright, Pastor, Messiah Lutheran Church, Schenectady

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Institutional Affiliations listed for Identification Purposes only

**For further information about Faith Leaders 4 NY/NY Housing**

Contact Marc Greenberg, Executive Director, Interfaith Assembly on Homelessness and Housing, at [Marc@iahh.org](mailto:Marc@iahh.org) – 917-913-0098