

Campaign 4 NY/NY Housing

**Supportive Housing Solves Homelessness,
Improves Neighborhoods,
Saves Tax Dollars**

There Is No Better, No More Cost-Effective Solution

What is Supportive Housing?

- It pairs **permanent affordable housing** with **voluntary support services** to help chronically homeless people move out of shelters, off the streets and into **stable** homes.
- Adults, youth and families living with disabilities and chronic health conditions, or leaving foster care, shelters, psychiatric or correctional facilities, developmental centers, addiction treatment programs, nursing homes, and hospitals **all find stable lives** in supportive housing **throughout New York State**.
- Many supportive housing developments include **apartments for low-income individuals and families from the neighborhood**, as well as **community services** like day care or after school programs.
- New York State pioneers invented this innovative **solution to homelessness** in the 1980's.

What are the New York/New York Agreements?

- NYS and NYC have jointly financed **more than 14,000 supportive housing units** via three NY/NY Agreements since 1990.
- **More than three-quarters** of the homeless people moving into this housing were still **stably housed after two years**.
- In the first five years of the New York/New York III supportive housing agreement, chronic homelessness among adults was **reduced by 47 percent**.
- However, the number of homeless New Yorkers sleeping in municipal shelters has **nearly doubled** since the start of the NY/NYIII Agreement.

Record Homelessness in New York State

- A record **60,000 people, including 25,000 children** sleep in New York City homeless shelters each night. Thousands more sleep on the streets.
- **7,400 people** stay in shelters outside New York City every quarter with thousands more finding shelter in abandoned buildings and makeshift campsites.
 - Four out of five of those living in shelters are located in Albany, Erie, Monroe, Nassau, Onondaga, Orange, Schenectady, Suffolk, Ulster and Westchester Counties.
 - Recent increases in shelter demand are concentrated in Suffolk, Onondaga and Schenectady Counties, but some districts with smaller populations have also had increases of greater than 50 percent, including Cattaraugus, Chemung, Chenango, Columbia, Delaware, Jefferson, Tompkins, and Warren.

*See map

The Unmet Need for Supportive Housing

- The homeless shelter census is **93 percent higher** than it was in May of 2006, the last significant low-water mark when there were 31,350 people staying in shelters each night.
- **More than 20,000** New York City households are found eligible for supportive housing each year but there is **only one housing unit available for every six eligible applicants.**
- The wait for supportive housing outside NYC forces many homeless people to **remain homeless for years.**
- The statewide estimated unmet **annual** need for supportive housing is **24,100 units.**

Supportive Housing Solves Homelessness

- **Numerous studies show that supportive housing solves homelessness:**
 - Shelter use **decreased** by as many as **170 days** in the first year
 - Detoxification visits **declined 82 percent**
 - Hospitalizations were **reduced by 57 percent**
 - Emergency room use **dropped by 58 percent**
 - Days spent incarcerated **decreased** by as many as **7 days** in the first year

Supportive Housing Improves Neighborhoods

- The Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy studied the impact of 123 supportive housing residences in New York and found:
 - Properties closest to supportive housing **increased in value** and experienced **strong and steady growth** in the years after the supportive housing opened, regardless of the **size of the development (number of units) or the development's characteristics.**
 - Real estate in the same neighborhood increased in value more than comparable properties further from the supportive housing property **in both low and high density neighborhoods.**

Supportive Housing Saves Tax Dollars

- Public costs for each homeless person moving into supportive housing **dropped on average by \$10,100** - after accounting for housing and service costs.
- In a rural setting, moving chronically homeless adults with disabilities into supportive housing **greatly reduced public costs**, including: Lower costs for shelter (99% less), jail (95%), mental health care (57%), ambulance services (32%), and emergency room visits (14%).
- Taxpayer costs were **reduced by nearly \$47,000 per person** when the highest cost homeless patients left hospitals for supportive housing.

Campaign **4** NY/NY Housing

- The statewide **Campaign 4 New York/New York Housing** is asking Governor Cuomo to develop **35,000 new units** of supportive housing over the next ten years:
 - **23,350** units for adults,
 - **10,150** units for families (including young families, adult families, and those affected by domestic violence),
 - **1,500** units for youth.
- The solution to homelessness lies in helping the neediest New Yorkers recover their lives by providing them with safe, stable homes.
- **By wisely investing in this proven solution, we can**
 - ✓ **Solve homelessness**
 - ✓ **Improve our neighborhoods**
 - ✓ **Save tax dollars**