



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 27, 2023

Contact: Alex Zablocki, Executive Director

Public Housing Community Fund

347-885-1200 | alex@communityfund.nyc

Public Housing Community Fund and New York City Hospitality Alliance Impact Foundation Team Up to Provide Gift Cards to NYCHA Households for Holiday Meals

Through a strategic public-private partnership with the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) and MoCaFi Financial Services, partners provided 1,460 households with over \$50,000 in funds to purchase meals this holiday season

The initiative supported nearly 3,000 NYCHA residents from across 40 developments in all five boroughs

New York, NY – In a heartwarming gesture of community support and solidarity, the Public Housing Community Fund (the Fund) and the New York City Hospitality Alliance Impact Foundation joined forces with Mobility Capital Finance, Inc. ("MoCaFi") and the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) to bring Thanksgiving cheer to NYCHA households experiencing gas outages this holiday season. 1,460 MoCaFi MasterCard branded Immediate Response Cards were distributed, ensuring families enjoy a festive holiday meal.

This initiative comes at a time when the cost of food is rising and some NYCHA residents face challenges in preparing a traditional Thanksgiving meal due to the lack of gas service. Each household selected for the program were gifted a MoCaFi MasterCard loaded with funds to purchase meals for each household. The donation supported nearly 3,000 residents residing in 40 developments in all five boroughs.

"We stand united with the New York City Hospitality Alliance Impact Foundation and partners in our commitment to supporting the NYCHA community and give thanks to the many donors that made this program possible," said **Public Housing Community Fund Executive Director Alex Zablocki**. "This initiative embodies our collective dedication to ensuring that no family is left without the warmth and comfort of a holiday meal this Thanksgiving. We are immensely grateful to our partners and the generous donors. Their support goes beyond mere financial assistance; it represents a shared belief in the strength and resilience of our community. This act of giving is more than just about offering a meal—it's a symbol of hope, unity, and the enduring spirit of togetherness that defines New York City and we are reminded of the impact that thoughtful collaboration and community support can have in bringing light and joy into the lives of those who need it most."

"With the NYC Hospitality Alliance Impact Foundation, New York's hospitality industry is giving back to the city that's always been there for us, and we're proud to empower New Yorkers with resources this holiday season to buy the food they want from the restaurants that serve our communities. We're thankful for our partnership with the Public Housing Community Fund and the New York City Housing Authority for making this important holiday meals initiative a reality" said NYC Hospitality Alliance Impact Foundation Chief Executive Officer Andrew Rigie.

"Thanksgiving is a time for families and friends to come together to celebrate and reflect on what means most to us," said **NYCHA Chief Executive Officer Lisa Bova-Hiatt**. "We understand how important it is to share a meal with loved ones on this holiday, so we extend our most sincere appreciation to our partners at the Public Housing Community Fund, the New York City Hospitality Alliance Impact Foundation, and MoCaFi for helping to make it a bit easier for these NYCHA families to do so this Thanksgiving."

"Gas service interruptions are a matter of public safety, and unfortunately, cannot be scheduled around the holiday season," said **NYCHA Chief Operating Officer Eva Trimble**. "For this reason, we are incredibly thankful to the staff at NYCHA and our generous partners who worked hard to ensure our residents can enjoy their holiday, while we conduct the necessary testing and repairs to restore full service at their homes as quickly as possible."

"The MoCaFi team is ready to serve the residents of NYC Housing Authority (NYCHA) in partnership with the Fund and the New York City Hospitality Alliance Impact Foundation. This work represents the true spirit of the season. We will ensure that resources get to communities seamlessly and efficiently. New Yorkers helping each other makes our community so special, and we are glad to play a part in it," said **Wole Coaxum, CEO & Founder, MoCaFi**.

This collaborative effort underlines the commitment by all partners to support communities in need, especially during the holiday season as NYCHA residents await repairs and restoration of gas outages.

For more information about the program or to learn how to support this initiative, please contact Alex Zablocki at the Public Housing Community Fund at 212-210-2369 or by emailing info@communityfund.nyc.

About Public Housing Community Fund

Public Housing Community Fund is a nonprofit that forges partnerships to power transformative programs that enhance the lives of over 500,000 residents across NYCHA communities. Our goal is to engage people and partners to build a stronger, more equitable New York City by investing in public housing communities. We invest in programs focused on leadership development, financial empowerment, community health, and workforce training for residents of the NYCHA community. www.communityfund.nyc

About NYCHA

The New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA), the largest public housing authority in North America, was created in 1935 to provide decent, affordable housing for low- and moderate-income New Yorkers. NYCHA is home to 1 in 17 New Yorkers, providing affordable

housing to 528,105 authorized residents through public housing and Permanent Affordability Commitment Together (PACT) programs as well as Section 8 housing. NYCHA has 177,569 apartments in 2,411 buildings across 335 conventional public housing and PACT developments. In addition, NYCHA connects residents to critical programs and services from external and internal partners, with a focus on economic opportunity, youth, seniors, and social services. With a housing stock that spans all five boroughs, NYCHA is a city within a city.

About New York City Hospitality Alliance Impact Foundation

The New York City Hospitality Alliance Impact Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting a thriving and sustainable independent restaurant and nightlife community across the five boroughs. The Impact Foundation's initiatives complement the NYC Hospitality Alliance by focusing on workforce development, job placement, scholarships, and inclusion; emergency meals and food relief; community support; philanthropy; research; and more.

About MoCaFi

MoCaFi is a financial services tech platform providing Financial Services as Infrastructure™ to government and philanthropic organizations to drive forward the agenda of economic empowerment. Blueprint by MoCaFi empowers users with a complete view of their financial position including assets, liabilities, net worth, and credit profile so that users can manage their finances, reduce debt, create budgets and goals to save for their down payment and closing costs, and track their progress towards mortgage readiness. MoCaFi's direct to consumer offering further includes an innovative banking platform that provides, debit card, no-fee cash withdrawals, no-fee deposit options, online banking services and access to credit-building tools and financial literacy programs. For more information, visit www.mocafi.com and www.theblueprintapp.com