



## 2009 Network Accomplishments

### NEW YORK STATE POLICY AND ADVOCACY

The Network successfully advocated for the following to be added to the NYS FY'10 budget:

- **\$1.25 million** in the NYS Office for Children and Family Services budget to fully fund NY/NY III housing for youth aging out of foster care
- **\$1.3 million** in the NYS Department of Health budget to fully fund NY/NY III housing for chronically homeless individuals living with HIV/AIDS.
- **\$4.4 million** in the NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance budget to fully fund all existing SRO Support Service contracts across the state and provide new funding for residences opening this year.
- **\$9.4 million** in critical homeless prevention funding including Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) and Homelessness Intervention program (HIP).

In addition to our budget advocacy, the Network:

- In partnership with Association for Energy Affordability, won a **\$9 million grant to weatherize 1,250 units** of supportive housing in New York City and surrounding counties.
- Successfully advocated for changing OTDA's Homeless Housing and Assistance Program once annual application process to that of a "rolling RFP", a change that will speed development across the state.

### NEW YORK CITY POLICY AND ADVOCACY

In 2009, the Network:

- Successfully advocated for restoration of \$1.876 million to the HRA/HASA budget funding HIV/AIDS case managers.
- Helped expedite certificates of occupancy for half a dozen supportive housing residences across the City.
- Developed a critical tracking mechanism for measuring the progress of New York/New York III implementation by agency.
- Worked with the Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) to establish a more efficient and cost-effective construction oversight process including creation of a cost proposal flowchart, a commitment to more transparent cost determinations, and a set time frame for change order approvals.
- Played a leadership role in securing stimulus funding for key homeless prevention programs.

### FEDERAL POLICY AND ADVOCACY

Along with our national advocacy partners, the National Alliance to End Homelessness and the Corporation for Supportive Housing, the Network played a vital role in:

- Securing a \$3.86 billion increase for supportive housing and other important low-income housing programs in the FY 2010 HUD budget.

- Ensuring passage of both legislation and appropriations for veterans' supportive housing, including a second round of housing subsidies for homeless veterans.
- Working toward passage of the Section Eight Voucher Reform Act (SEVRA), including testifying before Congress.

## **PUBLIC EDUCATION**

- Helped place twelve positive stories about supportive housing in the media.
- Produced a new short film about supportive housing as a positive force in the community entitled *Good Housing. Good Neighbors* and distributed 300 dvds to government agencies and nonprofit providers across the country.
- Developed more than 17 new discrete 'tools' for helping groups communicate the community benefits of supportive housing to the public at large.
- Organized and conducted more than a half dozen tours of supportive housing residences for funders, government partners, community board members, elected officials and reporters.

## **RESEARCH**

- Launched major three-year initiative to identify and ameliorate pervasive development barriers to building supportive housing in New York City.
- Became an integral member of the official New York/New York III evaluation working group, providing timely data and recommendations on how best to capture and evaluate the landmark 10-year City/State initiative.
- Released *Supportive Housing and Community Investment*, a report of findings from its survey of quality-of-life improvements that New York City supportive housing residences offer to their surrounding communities, including local jobs, meeting space, and engagement in community activities.
- Produced *Breaking the Cycle*, a policy brief that introduced the need for supportive housing into the debate on Rockefeller Drug Law reform implementation.

## **TRAININGS**

- In partnership with the Pratt Center and ANHD, facilitated "Managing Lean and Green", a year long training program on developing and running energy efficient affordable housing.
- Coordinated a five-part Asset Management series with Enterprise Community Partners followed by three-part series focusing on "Year 15".
- Hosted the country's best-attended supportive housing conference with over 1,000 members of the supportive housing community in attendance.

## **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

- Provided strategic technical assistance to more than 18 groups with 900 units of housing in their pipelines; bringing the total of groups helped through the Good Neighbor Initiative to 38 groups with more than 3000 units in the pipeline.
- Provided technical assistance workshops in Long Island and the Hudson Valley.
- Provided assistance to four Upstate Continuum of Care networks.