



City, State Housing Leaders Announce Supportive Housing Expansions at the Network's 2012 Conference

State to allocate \$75 million through Medicaid Redesign, City to double development

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New York City and State officials announced several major expansions to supportive housing development at the Supportive Housing Network of New York's annual conference on June 7.

Chief among them, NYS Homes & Community Renewal (HCR) Commissioner Darryl C. Towns used the conference's morning plenary session to formally announce that Governor Cuomo's newly-created Medicaid Redesign Team (MRT) Supportive Housing Development Program will allocate \$75 million a year to create thousands of units of supportive housing for high-cost Medicaid users. This funding will allow for acceleration of the NY/NY III program and budget restorations for the NYS Supportive Housing Program (NYSSHP), among other breakthroughs.

"We will likely look back at this commitment as a historic change that created a clear path to housing and stability for people too often failed by the healthcare system," said Network Executive Director Ted Houghton. "We sincerely thank Governor Cuomo and all representatives from the City and the State who helped make this momentous day happen."

The State will distribute the \$75 million in funding to create and provide services for as many as 4,500 capital and scattered-site units in the first year.

At the City level, NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) Commissioner Mathew Wambua announced a joint plan with the NYC Housing Authority (NYCHA) to double the number supportive housing units produced yearly, from 500 to 1,000 units a year. NYCHA Chair John Rhea also took the floor to pledge that NYCHA – for the first time in its history – will commit 200 Project-Based Section 8 vouchers annually and make underutilized NYCHA land available for supportive housing development.

"This remarkable partnership with the State, HPD and HDC is introducing a comprehensive solution to address not only the homelessness problem in New York, but also the needs of other vulnerable populations," said Chairman Rhea. "This collaboration is also setting a standard for the future creation of supportive housing -- the precious lifeline for so many for so many individuals and families in need."

New York State will allocate the \$75 million as follows:

- \$25 million in capital from HCR for NY/NY III acceleration

- \$14.3 million in capital to fund the NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance's (OTDA) Homeless Housing Assistance Program (HHAP) for upstate supportive housing projects
- \$10 million to fund NYS Office of Mental Health (OMH) Supported Housing scattered-site rental and service subsidies; 350 units in Brooklyn and 350 units in the rest of the state
- \$6 million to restore and fund 2,500 existing and new programs through NYSSHP (formerly SRO Support Services and Supportive Housing for Families & Young Adults)
- \$7.3 million to fund a 171-unit permanent supportive housing residence on land owned by Metropolitan Hospital to help move patients at Coler-Goldwater Hospital
- \$5 million to fund operating and services in 410 NYS Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS) scattered-site apartments throughout the state
- \$2.6 million to fund OTDA's Disability Housing Subsidy Program, to be used to pay for ongoing rent subsidies for 300 formerly homeless persons with disabilities who are facing imminent eviction in New York City.
- \$2.4 million to fund operating and services in 125 NYS Department of Health (DOH) AIDS Institute scattered-site apartments;
- \$1.8 million to fund NYS Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) for 180 community-based housing units
- \$276,000 to fund a 115-unit supportive housing program -- the Claremont Project -- in the Bronx
- \$135,000 to fund a supportive housing initiative for eight people with developmental disabilities who are currently residing in a nursing on Long Island.

In all, the 12th Annual New York State Supportive Housing Conference morning plenary featured remarks from Commissioner Towns, Commissioner Wambua, Chairman Rhea, NYS Medicaid Director Jason Helgerson, OMH Commissioner Michael Hogan, OASAS Executive Deputy Commissioner Kathleen Caggiano-Siino and OTDA Deputy Executive Commissioner Beth Berlin.

About the Supportive Housing Network of New York:

The Supportive Housing Network of New York is a nonprofit membership organization with offices in New York City and Albany. Established in 1988, the Network represents over 200 nonprofits that develop and operate supportive housing. The Network serves as a voice for the provider community, which has created the largest, best-managed and most innovative supportive housing stock in the nation. Learn more at www.shnny.org.

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