

Post-Sandy Housing Resources for Persons with Disabilities

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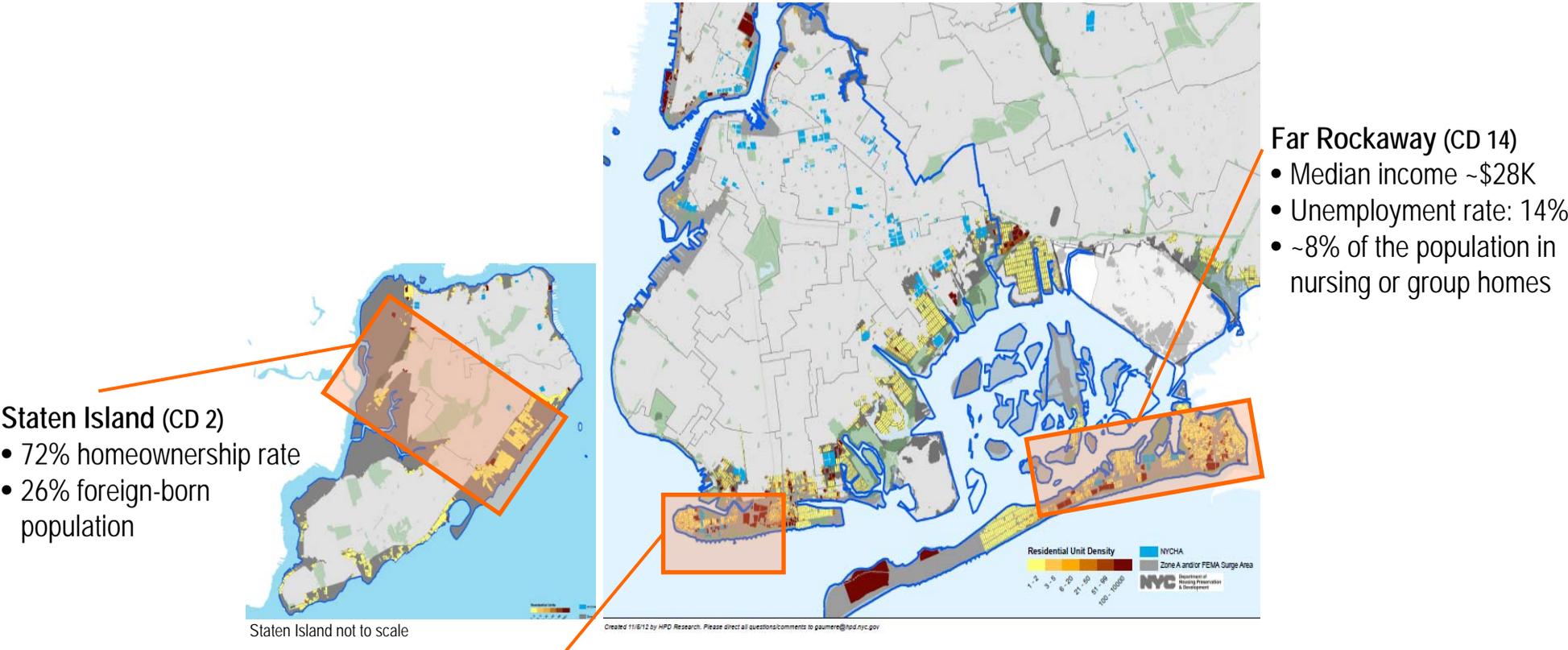


Outline

- Sandy's Impact on NYC and Vulnerable Populations
- Housing Match Program
- Affected Special Needs Population
- HPD's Rehab Program for Special Needs
- Housing Lottery Preferences
- How to Get Assistance

Sandy's Impact – Vulnerable Neighborhoods

Some areas with a high concentration of low-income or other vulnerable populations (e.g. seniors, extremely low income) may see a disproportionate impact because they may not have the resources to recover or rebuild.



Housing Match Program

Shortly after Sandy hit, HPD in conjunction with HDC, HCR, and HUD, began working with development partners in NYSAFAH, REBNY, and RSA to identify vacant apartments at different levels of affordability and make them available to Sandy victims. HPD then designed and launched an application process to assist displaced residents with interim- to long-term housing options.

Housing Recovery Match Program

- Assembled pool of vacant apartments exclusively for New Yorkers displaced by Sandy - included variety of affordability, sizes, and locations, though most units are located in the Bronx and Brooklyn.
- Created process for residents seeking help with interim housing. Included launching an online housing recovery portal (with help available through 311 and the Restoration Centers) and staffing a housing help desk.
- Coordinated with City hotel program to move people from hotels into more sustainable interim or longer term housing.
- Worked with NYCHA to identify and start to match qualified people to upwards of 400 vacant units.
- The City offered an assisted living option for evacuees though not many used it.
- Allocated 150 HPD Section 8 vouchers to low-income Sandy evacuees temporarily staying in City hotels referred by the Department of Homeless Services.

All Applicants

- 1520 households registered.
- 79% (1194) of registrants have been matched to at least one developer for an interview.
- 73% of all Housing Recovery Applicants are reporting income below 30% AMI.
- Approx. 9% of registered households have self-reported disability or include senior citizens (per 2/5/13 data)

Sandy's Impact – Special Needs Population

Through the housing recovery portal data, HPD has identified 130 Sandy-impacted households who self-reported special needs including disability accommodation or older adult issues. Eight of these households (6%) have opted out of the Housing Recovery Program because they either found other housing, returned home or no longer need our assistance. Per the most recent data from 2/5/13, of the remaining 122 households:

- 101(83%) applicants were matched to at least 1 developer
- 63 (54%) applicants had at least 1 interview reported
- 9 (8%) applicants have been offered an apartment

Efforts are ongoing to find housing solutions for displaced individuals with disabilities and to identify anyone else in need of immediate assistance.

Special Needs Housing Programs — Rehab

Special Needs Housing Rehab	
HPD Expertise	HPD has developed more than 14,000 units of supportive housing, including more than 1,000 that were impacted in some way by the storm;
Need	Currently, 240 supportive housing units are offline; another 1,000 units in Zone A are still habitable but will require retrofitting to withstand future disasters.
Program Description	Loans for repair/retrofit of supportive housing in the affected areas, including rehabilitation of units still offline. Supportive housing units are for homeless and disabled tenants referred by City agencies such as the Department of Homeless Services, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the HIV/AIDS Services Administration. Supportive housing is intended to provide permanent housing in which these special needs populations can live independently, with support and assistance provided through on-site social services funded by the City and State.
HPD Expertise	HPD has developed more than 14,000 units of supportive housing, including more than 1,000 that were impacted in some way by the storm; this initiative builds on the existing Supportive Housing Loan Program, using CDBG-DR funds as subordinate low-cost loans.
Innovation / Impact	Federal money may be made available through Community Development Block Grants to repair and retrofit supportive housing buildings. Devoting CDBG-DR funds to restoration of these properties recognizes the social benefit that supportive housing provides. Additionally, supportive housing is cost-effective because it is less expensive than emergency shelters, adult homes, nursing homes, and hospitals.

Housing Lottery Preferences

HPD-financed affordable housing units are awarded to qualified tenants via lotteries. The lotteries include preferences for persons with disabilities:

- 5% of units for mobility impairment
- 2% of units visual and/or hearing impairments
- Newly announced preference of 25% of units for income-eligible New Yorkers displaced from their homes due to Sandy

You can fill out a single application and apply to multiple new housing lotteries using an automated online system accessible on the new website at:

www.nyc.gov/housingconnect

Housing Recovery Desk

212-863-5710

nyc.gov/hpd

