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**SUPPORTIVE HOUSING TENANTS, ADVOCATES, & ALLIES RALLY OUTSIDE
SENATORS SCHUMER & GILLIBRAND’S NYC OFFICES**

*Emergency #SavetheCoC Rally Demanded Protection for Critical Housing Funding Ahead of
Looming Government Shutdown*

NEW YORK CITY, NY (September 25, 2025) – The Supportive Housing Network of New York (the Network) joined more than 60 supportive housing tenants, advocates, and allies for an emergency rally outside the Manhattan offices of Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer and Senator Kirsten Gillibrand today.

Participants expressed gratitude to the Senators for including the vital, no-cost provision Section 166 in their continuing resolution draft. Section 166 would ensure existing [Continuum of Care \(CoC\)](#) funding is renewed and communities are shielded from disruptive program changes. CoC remains an essential funding source for homelessness response that includes over \$100 million in supportive housing rental assistance in New York State alone.

Advocates called on Congress to pass a Continuing Resolution that includes Section 166 ahead of the looming government shutdown deadline on September 30. Without Section 166, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) could impose new funding requirements that divert resources away from proven solutions like supportive housing. Such changes could result in the loss of more than \$100 million in rental assistance statewide, the closure of nonprofit housing providers, financial strain on landlords, and thousands of vulnerable New Yorkers being forced back into homelessness.

“If HUD follows through with their plan to release radically different housing priorities and funding guidelines, it will be a catastrophic disaster with significant economic impacts,” said **Pascale Leone, Executive Director of the Network**. “In New York alone, thousands of New Yorkers will return to homelessness, nonprofits will be forced to close down, and landlords will go into mortgage default. These are long-term impacts that erase decades of work to end homelessness and would take decades to fix. The most promising tool we have to fight this is if Congress includes Section 166 in the Continuing Resolution and protects the CoC program. Our representatives must stand firm on this and fight for their most vulnerable constituents — formerly homeless New Yorkers and the organizations that provide them with deeply affordable housing and the services they need to remain stably housed.”

The rally built on the Network’s ongoing advocacy efforts, including the successful Hands Off Housing [Day of Action](#) across New York in July, and their [March rally](#) at New York City’s City

Hall. It represents part of a growing, urgent movement to prevent catastrophic funding cuts and preserve permanent supportive housing for those who need it most.

"We are at a critical juncture where the very foundation of supportive housing is at risk," said **Bonnie Mohan, Executive Director of The Health & Housing Consortium**. "Without immediate action from Congress to protect CoC funding, we could see thousands of formerly homeless New Yorkers lose their homes, severing the vital link between stable housing and health. The time for our elected officials to act is now."

"[CoC] funds have already been appropriated for this year, but we have the next year ... and we must preserve those," said **Anthony Feliciano, Vice President of Advocacy at Housing Works**. "We must ensure that CoC contract renewal remains a top priority."

"For 25 years, CoC funding has provided housing stability and support to New York's most vulnerable tenants," said **James Dill, Executive Director of Housing and Services, Inc.** "Our programs rely heavily on this funding, and without it, our ability to help tenants regain stability would be devastated. These cuts are reckless and dangerous — people's lives are on the line. We need our Senators to fight, fight, fight for the CoC program and the New Yorkers whose lives depend on it."

"The CoC supports vital transitional housing programs for individuals experiencing homelessness in New York City and permanent housing programs that move them into stable, permanent housing," said **Kristin Miller, Executive Director of Homeless Services United**. "Congress must act now to pass a continuing resolution that renews the CoC housing initiatives."

"The Coalition for the Homeless has witnessed firsthand how permanent supportive housing transforms lives," said **Dave Giffen, Executive Director of the Coalition for the Homeless**. "Yet, funding for supportive housing through the CoC is under threat. We urgently call on our Congressional representatives to ensure that CoC contract renewals remain a top priority in negotiations, alongside explicit protective measures to block HUD from implementing devastating new funding requirements that would have catastrophic consequences for homeless New Yorkers. Changes to CoC funding priorities could potentially force thousands of formerly homeless individuals back onto the streets or into shelters. We must protect our neighbors from losing the housing stability they've worked so hard to achieve."

"Crises in housing and affordability put New Yorkers in a state of emergency every day," said **Michelle Jackson, Executive Director of the Human Services Council of NY**. "Human services providers help bring our neighbors out of crisis by helping them secure housing, navigation, and much more. We are deeply concerned about threats to CoC, which is vital for supportive housing. HUD's expected new funding requirements would result in thousands left homeless, with reverberating negative impacts on NY's already fragile housing ecosystem. CoC must be protected as Congress negotiates a Continuing Resolution."

“CoC dollars pay for social workers to assess and stabilize formerly homeless people with previously undiagnosed and untreated mental health and substance abuse disorders – the very type of care the homeless continuum is sometimes accused of lacking,” said **Catherine Trapani, Assistant Vice President of Public Policy for Volunteers of America – Greater New York.** “These social workers are a critical component of our model of providing people with the housing and care they need to permanently overcome unsheltered homelessness. We urgently need Congress to remove the uncertainty in our funding and ensure that Section 166 remains in the continuing resolution. This must be a top priority.”