



SUPPORTIVE HOUSING NETWORK OF NEW YORK

Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Priorities

Following the release of the Mayor's Preliminary Budget in January, The Network was encouraged to see HPD's total FY22 capital budget proposed at \$1.45 billion, with FY21 budget updated at \$1.43 billion. This includes a restoration, announced in November, of the \$466 million that had been cut in the spring. We are relieved to see no significant cuts in the expense budget that would impact supportive housing providers. However, we are in danger of not reaping the benefits of this budget if the HPD hiring freeze remains intact, and the nonprofit sector is not fully supported. We are asking the Council to include the following in the response:

LIFT HIRING FREEZE IMPACTING SUPPORTIVE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATIONS

There are dozens of vacancies across HPDs development and rental assistance administration, which are beginning to impact the pace of supportive housing development and move-ins. Additionally, the City may lose more employees as some positions have not seen salary increases in almost a decade. Even positions funded completely by the federal government are being held vacant. The City must lift the hiring freeze.

INVEST \$171 MILLION TO FULLY FUND THE INDIRECT COST RATE INITIATIVE FOR FY20, FY21, AND FY22

After nonprofits have expended staff time and financial resources to comply with the City's demand to certify their new indirect rate, the City has reneged on its promise. After stating that the city would commit to 60% a providers approved rate, they are now saying that the city will only cover up to 30% of the approved rate for FY21, almost nine months into the fiscal year. This is unconscionable. The City must commit to at least \$171 million to cover the full cost of the initiative.

FULLY FUND EMERGENCY PAY FOR HUMAN SERVICE NONPROFITS RETROACTIVE TO MARCH 20, 2020

At the height of the pandemic in New York City, human service nonprofits stepped up for the communities they serve. Acting as points of contact for emergency food distribution, PPE, mental health resources for staff and neighbors, and so much more. The City should recognize the sector as the essential workers they are, and fully fund emergency pay retroactively, and as long as the pandemic endures.

INCLUDE ANNUAL COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT (COLA) OF AT LEAST 3% ON ALL HUMAN SERVICE NONPROFIT CONTRACTS

60% of direct care staff in supportive housing are women of color. The City must begin addressing the gender and wage gap prevalent in the sector. Beyond acknowledging that these workers are "essential", they need to be paid as such. Absent a significant increase in contract rates, the City must commit to this modest cost of living increase.



ENSURE HUMAN SERVICE SECTOR IS NOT IMPACTED BY PEGs

As the City looks to identify agency cuts, we must ensure that the balancing act does not fall on the backs of the human service nonprofit sector. The Council must ensure that human service funding remains intact.