



Supportive Housing Network of New York Response to the 2024-25 State Budget

We are incredibly disappointed and, quite frankly, alarmed that financial support for the outdated and chronically underfunded New York State Supportive Housing Program (NYSSHP) remains unchanged in the final state budget.

Adding insult to injury, the hardworking social services employees who work in NYSSHP-funded programs were inexplicably left out of a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) provided to their colleagues doing the exact same essential work across the state.

Failure to include a modest funding increase to align more appropriately some 9,000 at-risk NYSSHP units in danger of coming offline with the better-resourced Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative (ESSHI) was a significant missed opportunity. As a result, some of New York's most vulnerable individuals and families could be at risk of becoming homeless yet again.

This is exact opposite of what the governor and legislative leaders have repeatedly said are among their top priorities: Combatting the rise in homelessness, addressing the affordable housing crisis, and providing more support to individuals struggling with a wide range of challenges – from substance use and mental health issues to domestic violence, HIV/AIDS and more.

We are grateful to the state Senate for including the full \$32 million sought by the Network to help convert NYSSHP-only funded units to ESSHI in its one-house budget resolution, and to our champions in the Assembly who also fought for these critical funds throughout the budget negotiations.

The Network is dedicated to securing all the funding necessary to successfully complete a five-year conversion of these units from NYSSHP to ESSHI and will continue to making fighting for these dollars a top priority.

The Network recently released a [first-of-its-kind report](#) outlining the state of supportive housing across New York, which we hope will serve as a guide for making future policy and funding decisions that enable our community to fulfill its mission-driven work to combat chronic homelessness.

We stand ready to work with elected officials, advocates, and agencies at all levels of government to protect and preserve supportive housing statewide.

For more information contact Liz Benjamin: Liz@Marathonstrategies.com, 518-424-0356.

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About The Network:

The Supportive Housing Network of New York is a 36-year-old nonprofit membership organization representing more than 200 nonprofits statewide that build and run supportive housing. The Network began life as a handful of pioneers seeking to create a respectful new model of housing to meet the needs of chronically homeless New Yorkers and evolved alongside the movement. As the only supportive housing membership organization in the state and the largest in the country, 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.