

SUPPORTIVE HOUSING NETWORK OF NY

BUDGETARY & LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



BUDGET:

\$65.3 million to preserve 325 supportive housing units in FY2027

Includes \$44 million in Capital and \$21.3 million in Services & Operating. The units preserved will count towards the preservation goal of 1,300 units under NYC 15/15 by the end of CY2030.

3% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for human services workers

Continue to fund a 3% COLA for City-contracted human services workers. Additionally, support the Human Services Wage Floor Legislation to ensure a living wage.

\$6 million for Peer Behavioral Workforce in FY2027

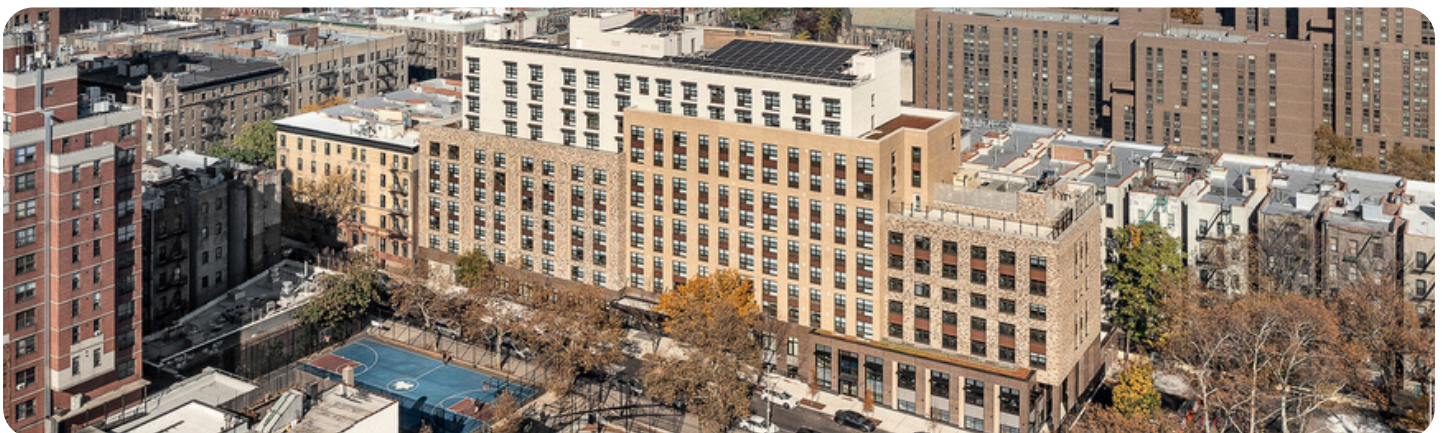
An additional \$1.5M investment from last year, totaling \$6M in FY27, to enable the peer workforce to expand the services they provide, better support existing behavioral health workers, and better track and improve outcomes.

LEGISLATION:

Intro 0452 – Council Member Althea Stevens

A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to establishing wage requirements for city-contracted human services workers

The proposed legislation would require payment of prevailing wages to human service workers providing human services pursuant to City contracts. Specifically, the proposed bill would require human service providers to pay their human services employees no less than the prevailing wage.



SUPPORTIVE HOUSING PRESERVATION



What is Supportive Housing?

- Affordable, permanent housing with voluntary on-site support services
- Helps people break the cycle of homelessness

Supportive Housing Models



Congregate

A building with on-site services; adds affordable units to the housing stock



Scattered site

Relies on scarce, unaffordable units in the private rental market

What is NYC 15/15?

- **2015:** NYC made a commitment to develop 15k total units over 15 years, split evenly between congregate and scattered site.
- **2023:** NYC awarded all congregate units, but only 17% of scattered site units due to challenges of the model. **In response, the Network proposed the NYC 15/15 Reallocation Plan.**
- **2025:** Mayor Adams announced the reallocation plan to develop and preserve 5,850 NYC 15/15 units by 2030.

The Need for Preservation: The Westbourne, WSFSSH Case Study

Without preservation efforts, the city could **losing existing supportive housing units**. **Insufficient services and operating funding** and **threats to the Continuum of Care** put **aging buildings** at risk.



- Opened in 1987 on the Upper West Side.
- **128 SRO units** with shared bathrooms and kitchens, including **76 supportive housing units**.
- **Support services** funding via NYSSHP/HRA SRO at **\$2,964 per unit** which is **6x lower than the NYC 15/15 service rate** of \$17.5k per unit.
- Several units are **not receiving subsidy due to disrepair** in common areas.
- Seeking **preservation funding** for **substantial rehabilitation** and **conversion** to studio apartments, which are more sought after and appropriate for **older adults aging in place**.

Why Every Unit Must Be Preserved

10,134 households eligible for SH (LL3 FY25 report)



844 available SH units (LL135 12/25 report)

There are twelve eligible households for every available supportive housing unit in NYC.

More than **7,600 units in aging buildings** could be in **need of preservation** based on their precarious **rental subsidies** and **service contracts**.

FY2027 Budget Ask



Invest \$65.3M to preserve 325 units in FY2027
\$44M in Capital and \$21.3M in Services & Operating



Counts towards the 1,300 unit goal (under NYC 15/15) by the end of CY2030





SUPPORT #JUSTPAY FOR HUMAN SERVICES WORKERS!

BACKGROUND

Government is the primary funder of human services nonprofits through contracts. Although program costs have risen with inflation, the amount of funding in City contracts has not, leaving nonprofits struggling to cover higher wages and program costs.

In light of the impact of federal funding cuts, New Yorkers will need services more than ever and our sector will need resources to weather challenges ahead. The City must act to adequately fund human services nonprofits and provide true wage equity for their workforce.

OVERVIEW: CORE NONPROFIT HUMAN SERVICES WORKERS*

51% 

are women of color

61% 

have a 4-year degree or better, vs. 50% of NYC's private sector overall

IMPACT OF THE CITY'S POVERTY WAGES

31% 

College-educated core nonprofit human services workers make **31% less** in wages and fringes than government human services workers

\$36,688 

was the average salary of core nonprofit human services workers in 2023

19% 

receive food stamps

*Core nonprofit human services workers exclude Home Health Care and Early Care and Education workers, who face unique City and State policy and compensation dynamics.

OUR FY27 ASKS

- Continue to fund a **3% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA)** for City-contracted human services workers from 2026-2027 to uphold the City's multi-year COLA deal commitment.
- Pass **Wage Equity Legislation (Int 0452-2026)**, which would align nonprofit and government human services job titles, and through that, raise salaries for nonprofit human services workers.



 **LEARN MORE: justpayny.org**

Peer Behavioral Workforce Development Budget Advocacy for FY '27

For more information please contact Jordyn Rosenthal at jrosenthal@communityaccess.org

History of the Funding Initiative

The FY '26 speakers budget (Chart #30) included a \$4.5M pot of funding for investing in the peer workforce. This funding originated via advocacy from [Correct Crisis Intervention Today \(CCIT\)- NYC](#) and the [Progressive Caucus](#) with the intention of adding peers to B-HEARD teams. As a result of negotiations and political processes, this new pot of funding was established.

What It Is Currently Funding

The \$4.5M was divided amongst 34 community-based organizations to support peer positions. A survey of community-based organizations that received funding found that a majority of organizations were utilizing funding to employ peers with mental health experiences or substance use history on [SPOA teams](#) and in clubhouses.

FY '27 Budget + City Council Ask(s)

We urge Speaker Menin to continue and expand this line of funding to \$6M in her FY '27 budget. We also ask that the funding eligibility criteria be refined to spotlight the peer behavioral workforce with an emphasis on positions that aid in community-based behavioral health crisis response systems and the continuum of care.

For example, with more funding, Concern Housing said, "It would be ideal to bring on an employee full time to better ramp up the crisis response program and ultimately be more responsive to the tenant community." Similarly, Samaritan Daytop Village, Inc. said, "Expanded funding would support Recovery Coach trainings that lead to certification, Mental Health First Aid training to enhance peers' ability to identify and respond to mental health crises, and advanced instruction in crisis de-escalation, harm reduction, and street-based outreach safety."

We also ask that the **Committee for Mental Health, Addiction, and Disabilities jointly with the Committee on Workforce Development hold an oversight hearing this spring on the topic of behavioral workforce development.** This is especially pertinent as Mayor Mamdani promotes his vision for the [Department of Community Safety](#), which would need a robust behavioral workforce. A comprehensive workforce strategy coupled with adequate funding will enable the city to take a coordinated approach to building a pipeline of behavioral health workers while investing in professional development and career pathways to retain talent.

If this pot of funding is expanded, recipients would be able to:

- Expand the services they provide
- Better support existing behavioral health workers and boost retention with training and salary increases
- Improve data infrastructure to better track and improve outcomes
- Help other organizations learn how to train, support, and benefit from the use of peer specialists either through direct support or policy and advocacy work

For the purpose of this document peer refers to an individual with their own mental health experiences.