

October 7, 2021

Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer  
Senator Kirsten Gillibrand

Rep. Jamaal Bowman	Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez	Rep. Kathleen Rice
Rep. Yvette Clarke	Rep. Carolyn Maloney	Rep. Thomas Suozzi
Rep. Antonio Delgado	Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney	Rep. Ritchie Torres
Rep. Adriano Espaillat	Rep. Gregory Meeks	Rep. Paul Tonko
Rep. Brian Higgins	Rep. Grace Meng	Rep. Nydia Velazquez
Rep. Hakeem Jeffries	Rep. Joseph Morelle	
Rep. Mondaire Jones	Rep. Jerrold Nadler	

Dear Majority Leader Schumer and Members of the New York Congressional Delegation,

The New York Housing Conference and more than 150 undersigned organizations ask you to ensure that \$330 billion in HUD funding for affordable housing and expansion of the Low Income Housing Tax Credit remains in the final Build Back Better reconciliation package.

New York and the nation as a whole are experiencing a housing and homelessness crisis, and the funding currently in the bill mark the first time in decades we have a plan even approaching the scale of the need. It is an opportunity to meaningfully address a crisis in which 90,000 New Yorkers are homeless on a given night and the [majority of low-income households](#) pay more than half their income in rent – and we cannot afford to miss it.

The funding includes \$90 billion for rental assistance, which would bring 70,000 new vouchers to New York. This would provide housing stability to tens of thousands of households in New York that are currently struggling. NYHC [research](#) found that new voucher holders would be predominantly Black and Hispanic and the program would assist single female-headed households and those with children.

The bill also includes \$80 billion for public housing, which could address virtually all of New York City Housing Authority's \$40 billion in capital needs. As you know, NYCHA residents are currently living with health hazards including mold, lead paint, and lack of heat in the winter and this funding could finally fix those conditions. It is not clear when we will have another chance to provide NYCHA residents with the dignity they deserve.

Lastly, the current bill provides necessary funding to increase affordable housing supply, through HUD programs and the Low Income Tax Credit. This includes \$37 billion for the Housing Trust Fund, \$35 billion in Home funding and funding for other HUD programs. Changes to the Low

Income Housing Credit, our nation's most important housing financing program, include lowering the 50% test for 4% LIHTC, a critical policy change that will unleash housing supply. This coupled a 50% expansion of the 9% Low Income Housing Tax Credit and other provisions would produce over 82,000 units of housing over the next decade in New York state.

New York has a deficit of almost [650,000 affordable and available rental units](#) and this funding would help reverse this desperate situation. There are also new homeownership tools that would help New York address racial disparities in homeownership and wealth and strengthen communities.

We are at a critical moment. If we do not implement the housing funding in the bill, we may not get another chance – and America's housing crisis will likely become too big to solve before that chance arises. We are asking you to protect this vital funding so we can finally have the resources to fight this crisis.

Sincerely,

New York Housing Conference

Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer

New York State Assemblymember Steven Cymbrowitz

New York State Assemblymember Linda Rosenthal

New York City Councilmember Robert Cornegy, Jr.

New York City Councilmember Brad Lander

New York City Councilmember Stephen Levin

New York City Councilmember Farah Louis

AccessCNY

ACMH, Inc.

All Souls Unitarian Church NYC Peace & Justice Task Force

ANHD

Ascendant Neighborhood Development Corporation

Association for Community Living

Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corp

Benchmark Title Agency

BHSN

Breaking Ground

The Bridge, Inc.

Brooklyn Community Services

Bronx Pro Group

BronxWorks

B'nai Jeshurun  
Camba  
Care For the Homeless  
Catholic Charities Progress of Peoples Development Corporation  
Center for NYC Neighborhoods  
Center for Urban Community Services  
Central Nassau Guidance  
Chhaya CDC  
Children's Rescue Fund  
Chinatown Partnership  
Church of St. Paul and St. Andrew  
Citizen Action of New York  
Citizens' Committee for Children  
Citizens Housing & Planning Council  
City Construction Partners  
Citywide Council of Presidents Inc  
The Coalition for Community Advancement: Progress for East New York  
Coalition for the Homeless  
Concern for Independent Living  
The Community Builders, Inc  
Community Access, Inc.  
Community League of the Heights. Inc  
Community Preservation Corporation  
Community Service Society of New York  
Community Voices Heard  
Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH)  
Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation  
Da Homeless Hero  
DC 37 Municipal Employees Legal Services  
DePaul  
Designing the We  
The Dorothy Day Guild  
Emergency Shelter Network  
Enterprise Community Partners  
ERASE Racism  
Fifth Avenues Committee  
Forsyth Street Affordable Housing  
FPWA  
Gateway Housing

Gateway Hudson Valley  
Geto & de Milly, Inc.  
Goddard Riverside  
Good Old Lower East Side  
Goshow Architects  
Habitat for Humanity New York City And Westchester County  
Harlem United  
Henry Street Settlement  
Highbridge Community Development Corp.  
Homeless Services United  
Housing Visions Unlimited, Inc.  
Housing Rights Initiative  
The Hudson Companies  
Hudson River Housing  
Human Development Services of Westchester, Inc.  
Human Services Council  
Impacct Brooklyn  
Interfaith Assembly on Homelessness and Housing  
Institute for Community Living  
Inwood Indivisible  
JCTOD Outreach, Inc. (dba) Johnson Park Center (JPC)  
The Jewish Board  
JRW Strategies  
Lakeview Health Services, Inc.  
Lappin Associates  
The Legal Aid Society  
Liberty Resources, Inc.  
LISC NYC  
LiveOn NY  
Lutheran Social Services of New York  
Joseph's House & Shelter, Inc.  
Margert Community Corporation  
MBD Community Housing Corp.  
Mega Contracting  
Merchants Capital  
Mohawk Opportunities  
National Alliance to End Homelessness  
Neighborhood Care Team, Inc  
Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter, Inc.

Neighborhood Housing Services of Queens  
Neighborhood Restore HDFC  
Neighbors Together  
New Destiny Housing  
New York Appleseed  
New York State Council of Churches  
New York State Rural Advocates  
NYSFAFH  
Odyssey House, Inc.  
Open New York  
Options for Community Living  
Osborne Association  
Pennrose, LLC  
Phipps Houses  
Phoenix House of NY  
Pratt Center for Community Development  
Project Hospitality  
Project Renewal  
Property Resources Corporation  
Project Hospitality  
Providence House, Inc.  
Rebuilding Together NYC  
REBNY  
Redeemer Presbyterian Church  
Rehabilitation Support Services  
RiseBoro Community Partnership Inc.  
Rockabill  
RPA  
RUPCO, Inc  
Safe Horizon  
SCO Family of Services  
Selfhelp Community Services, Inc  
Services for the Underserved  
Settlement Housing Fund  
SKA Marin  
Sisters of Charity of New York  
Sisters of Charity Housing Development Corporation  
Southern Tier Environments For Living, Inc  
Southern Tier Independence Center

Supportive Housing Network of New York  
St Dominic's Family Services  
St. Nicks Alliance  
St Paul and St Andrew Methodist Church  
Transitional Services Inc.  
University Neighborhood Housing Program  
University Settlement  
United Neighborhood Houses of New York  
Unity House of Troy, Inc.  
Urban Architectural Initiatives  
Urban Pathways  
Violence Intervention Program  
VOCAL-NY  
Volunteers of America - Greater New York  
Warren Washington Association for Mental Health, Inc.  
West Side Federation for Senior and Supportive Housing  
Win  
Witness to Mass Incarceration Inc  
YWCA of Rochester and Monroe County