

**Testimony from the New York City Housing Authority and the NYC Department of
Housing Preservation and Development
Life Without Emergency Housing Vouchers: Present Options and Future Plans
Committee on Public Housing
Wednesday, June 17, 2026 – 10 a.m.
250 Broadway, 8th Floor Hearing Room 2**

Chair Chris Banks, members of the Committee on Public Housing, other distinguished members of the City Council, NYCHA residents and voucher holders, community advocates, and members of the public: good morning. I am Lakesha Miller, NYCHA's Executive Vice President of Leased Housing. I am pleased to be joined by Melissa Renwick, Senior Advisor in the Office of Leased Housing, and our colleagues at the NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD): Adam Phillips, First Deputy Commissioner, and Meryl Block Weissman, Deputy Commissioner of Housing Access and Stability.

Thank you for this opportunity to discuss how the Authority and HPD are handling the federal government's early ending of the Emergency Housing Voucher program and working to support at-risk voucher holders. We know that members of the Council are as concerned as we are about the fate of this program – we share this concern and we thank you for your partnership as we assist its participants.

The Housing Choice Voucher and Emergency Housing Voucher Programs

For half a century, NYCHA has helped low-income New Yorkers rent housing in the private market thanks to the federal Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program, also known as Section 8. The Section 8 rental subsidy allows families to typically pay no more than 30 percent of their adjusted monthly income toward rent. NYCHA pays the remaining amount to the owner of the home on the family's behalf, usually referred to as the subsidy share of the rent. NYCHA administers the largest Section 8 program in the country: We currently serve more than 110,000 households – about 222,000 residents – who rent homes from over 26,000 participating landlords. More than half of our participants are children and seniors. The average household income is about \$24,000, and families pay an average of \$477 in monthly rent as their monthly share of the rent based on their income.

Like the HCV program, the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) program is also administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). It was established as a

separate tenant-based voucher program as part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, to help our most vulnerable families and individuals gain stable and affordable housing, including people who were experiencing homelessness, were at risk of homelessness, or were victims of domestic violence.

Our Plans in Response to Early Termination of Federal Funding

The approximately 70,000 EHV's administered by 626 public housing authorities across the nation were supposed to be funded through September 2030. However, HUD announced in March 2025 that the federal funding will run out by the end of this year, four years early. Addressing this early and unexpected expiration of funds is a nationwide issue affecting all public housing authorities that manage EHV's.

Within New York City, the administration of EHV's was split between NYCHA and HPD. NYCHA received over 5,700 vouchers and HPD received about 2,000. Both of our agencies have been working diligently to identify alternative housing options for our EHV households.

Once HUD made this announcement, NYCHA began developing a plan to assist the 5,000-plus EHV participants. Originally, NYCHA planned to offer EHV program participants a regular Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) – but since federal funding has not kept pace with recent cost increases to the program, doing so would require a waiver from HUD. We requested the waiver in December 2025, and it was denied by HUD the following month.

We now plan to provide EHV participants with alternative subsidized housing options across NYCHA's portfolio, including the PACT portfolio and other project-based vacancies. To that end, beginning in March 2026, we reached out to our EHV households through multiple rounds and modes of communication to encourage them to complete a public housing application, which we are continuing to accept, so that we can pursue an alternative subsidized housing option and capture information we need to match them to housing support outside of the EHV program. To date, we have sent over 13,000 emails and 9,000 letters to EHV participants informing them of the need to apply. We have also sent correspondence to EHV landlord participants and continue to hold regular office hours with referring providers to provide updates on the EHV transition process. Completion of the public housing application is the first step towards providing

households with an alternative subsidized housing option. We will continue to reach out to the remaining EHV participants to encourage them to do so.

As of June 9, we have received approximately 3,350 responses from EHV households. We have begun matching these households with vacant apartments across our housing portfolio, contacting them via email, regular mail, and phone to inform them once the match has been made.

In addition to placements within NYCHA's portfolio, the City has identified \$80 million in HOME-ARP funding to reallocate to HPD's HOME-TBRA program to assist a portion of NYCHA's current EHV participants. The proposed use of funding is contingent on HUD approval. Although we are pleased to share with the Council this progress, we understand time is of the essence to ensure our EHV families continue to receive the housing support they need. NYCHA is working with referral partners, participating in cross-agency working groups with City Hall and HPD to identify every approach to assist EHV households, and also partnering with the Mayor's Office of Mass Engagement to support our outreach efforts.

Thank you. HPD First Deputy Commissioner Adam Phillips will now provide information on HPD's response to the issue.

HPD Testimony

Good morning Chair Banks, members of the Public Housing Committee, and members of the public — thank you for the opportunity to testify today. HPD is here to discuss two related but distinct EHV issues.

First, we will address HPD's cohort of EHV voucher holders. There are roughly 2,000 households whose vouchers are administered by HPD, a group completely separate from the NYCHA clients discussed earlier. We will provide an update on the current status of these HPD EHV households, the stopgap solution we are implementing to prevent homelessness, and the need for long-term federal solutions.

Second, we will discuss NYCHA's EHV voucher holders. There are roughly 5,700 households in NYCHA's group that were discussed earlier; we will provide an update as to what HPD is doing

to support the transition of a portion of these voucher holders from NYCHA EHV to HOME-TBRA.

HPD's EHV Clients

Before we discuss the transition of NYCHA's EHV clients to HOME-TBRA, we'll start by providing updates on HPD's approximately 2,000 EHV clients.

HPD received notice from HUD in March 2025 that EHV funding would be terminated nearly four years earlier than anticipated. HPD, NYCHA, and housing agencies across the country faced the same unprecedented dilemma: local governments have been asked to fill a resource gap that has historically been filled by the federal government. This abrupt change in policy immediately put the roughly 2,000 HPD EHV households at risk.

As soon as we were notified that the EHV program would be ending early, we took swift action by engaging Congressional leaders, national organizations, and other public housing authorities (PHA) affected by this massive federal policy change. Many EHV households face significant barriers to housing stability and rely on vouchers to avoid falling into homelessness. We educated Congressional leaders on the significant risks and vulnerabilities that our EHV clients face in light of the program's early termination, along with the urgent need to secure additional federal funding that would allow us to provide ongoing assistance to these households.

Amid our efforts to educate our federal partners on this issue, HPD simultaneously began exploring possible funding alternatives through the summer and fall of 2025 to ensure we were prepared for a range of outcomes. At that time, Congress was weighing measures that would help to at least partly address the EHV funding cliff, but it remained very unclear how much additional assistance, if any, the federal government would provide us and other PHAs.

While the federal government wavered, HPD devised a creative stopgap solution to prevent these families from being evicted or made homeless. By leveraging HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance funds, we could transition them from HPD EHV to a newly created HPD HOME-TBRA program. We would have to do so by the end of September 2026, when EHV funding is estimated to run out. Once on HOME-TBRA, we estimate that funding will last for around two

years. This is not a permanent solution — this is a stopgap measure until more permanent assistance can be secured.

To facilitate a smooth transition from HPD EHV to HOME-TBRA, we proactively conducted outreach to EHV households and property owners. We sent letters and notices to EHV households and their landlords informing them of an upcoming programmatic change, and in February 2026, HPD hosted a number of information sessions to explain the federal changes, answer questions, and provide guidance on the transition to HOME-TBRA. Hundreds of households and owners participated in those sessions and, based on their engagement, we published FAQs and other relevant guidance online.

HPD is making every effort to seamlessly transition our 2,000 households from EHV to HOME-TBRA. We began sending out applications in March, and as of June 1, HPD has issued invitations to all of the roughly 2,000 EHV participants to apply for HOME-TBRA assistance. To reduce the burden on households, we sent out pre-filled applications with recent household and income information. Our response rate has been strong — almost 80 percent of the applications that were sent out prior to June have been returned.

This federal change has caused a crisis that is hitting cities around the country. Some may be forced to take the most painful path — where voucher holders face a lapse in coverage and lose their housing. HPD has been fortunate to have the resources to continue housing thousands of families whose EHV vouchers are being taken away prematurely. We are unique in being able to create a new program, albeit a temporary one, to keep these families housed, but this is not a sustainable solution. HOME-TBRA will not be able to cover our voucher holders indefinitely. There is no replacement for the federal government. They must meet their obligations to fully fund their programs, including Section 8. We have made that clear in our meetings with federal officials, and we will continue to say in no uncertain terms: the federal government must not abandon voucher holders and cities. They must uphold their responsibilities.

Those are the steps we're taking to keep HPD's group of 2,000 EHV households safely and securely housed through HOME-TBRA. I'm happy to take questions on this later. We'll now move on to our role in supporting NYCHA and a subset of their 5,700 EHV households.

NYCHA's EHV Clients

HPD will be supporting a similar transition of NYCHA EHV households to HOME-TBRA, which will be administered by HPD.

Given the time-sensitive nature of this crisis — with funding set to run out by the end of the year — we are pursuing an emergency contract via an RFP to enable the transition of families from NYCHA EHV to HOME-TBRA. HPD is currently reviewing RFP responses, and we are in the process of selecting a vendor.

EHV households are New York families, and we owe it to them to do everything we can to keep them housed. We are making all possible efforts to ensure a seamless transition for as many EHV households as we can. We will continue to work across government to ensure EHV households can access dignified, safe, and stable housing.

Thank you, and we welcome your questions.



**NYSAFAH Testimony
New York City Council
Committee on Public Housing
June 17, 2026**

Chairman Banks and members of the Committee on Public Housing, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of the New York State Association for Affordable Housing (NYSAFAH).

For over 25 years, NYSAFAH has represented the not-for-profit and for-profit developers, owners, and managers who have been essential partners in building and preserving New York's affordable housing. Our members are on the front lines of this crisis. These operators house families that are Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) recipients, and rely on these rental subsidies to help maintain their buildings and manage day-to-day operations.

We share the broad goals of this hearing and appreciate the Council's oversight of this urgent issue. We also want to highlight the impact the expiration of EHV's will have on the affordable housing industry at large.

The final federal EHV funding allocation is projected to support existing households only through November 2026, leaving some 5,200 NYCHA families facing uncertainty and potential homelessness. Those households are home to more than 12,000 New Yorkers, including 1,144 domestic violence survivors and 600 at-risk and homeless youth, all potentially at the brink of eviction. This is a problem for which we must act urgently.

For NYSAFAH members, operational challenges are real and concurring. When rental incomes disappear, property owners and managers face mounting arrears, costly legal proceedings, and ultimately, vacant units. Buildings with a high concentration of EHV recipients, some at 50 percent or more, face destabilization of their entire rent roll. This puts affordable housing preservation at risk.

We appreciate NYCHA's commitment to exploring all available funding options and believe it is critical for our city agencies, NYCHA, housing providers, and advocates to work together on a solution that will also consider the long term. We must preserve housing stability for thousands of families and maintain trust in our government partnerships. Voucher programs must retain confidence from the users and property owners who depend on them.

We are here with one message: the affordable housing industry stands ready to be a constructive partner. We support a collaborative approach that explores all viable options to keep families in their homes and preserve the city's affordable housing stock.



The city has tools at its disposal, and we encourage the Administration, the Council, and NYCHA to work together to implement a strategy as soon as possible.

We urge this committee to continue its oversight and work with all stakeholders to protect families and preserve the stability of affordable homes across the five boroughs.

Thank you.

Irak Cehonski-Rivas
New York City Director of Policy
New York State Association for Affordable Housing (NYSFAH)

Testimony of the New York Housing Conference

New York City Council Committee on Public Housing

June 17, 2026

Good afternoon. My name is Brendan Cheney. I am the Director of Policy and Operations at the New York Housing Conference (NYHC). I would like to thank the Committee for the opportunity to testify.

NYHC is a nonprofit affordable housing policy and advocacy organization. As a broad-based coalition, our mission is to advance City, State and Federal policies and funding to support the development and preservation of decent and affordable housing for all New Yorkers.

We are testifying about our concerns about the status of the 5,500 households that had received federal Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV) through the New York City Housing Authority that are at-risk of losing their housing.

The Emergency Housing Voucher Program (EHV) was part of a package of COVID relief passed in the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, appropriating \$5 billion to fund 70,000 rental assistance vouchers. Nationally, the program served the most vulnerable populations – including those at risk of or experiencing homelessness, domestic violence survivors, and survivors of human trafficking. Funding for vouchers was to remain available until September 30, 2030.

The program would have naturally phased out as families left the program because statute prevented vouchers from being reissued to another family. EHV's also came with additional funding that public housing agencies (PHAs) could use to implement housing navigator programs, landlord incentives and cover one-time costs such as deposits and moving expenses. New York State was issued over 9,400 vouchers, housing over 20,000 people with the vast majority allocated through the NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) and the NYC Housing Authority (NYCHA).

However, last March, HUD announced the original appropriation for the vouchers would be exhausted by this year - four years earlier than expected. In New York City, these vouchers keep the most vulnerable renters with the lowest incomes housed, including survivors of domestic violence, youth aging out of foster care and patients of our public hospital system experiencing homelessness.

These households cannot afford the market rent of their current apartment without the federal subsidy and the housing supply shortage means it would be next to impossible for them to find new homes. NYHC's 2025 analysis on the issue found that the average EHV household would need to increase their income by over 400% to stay in their current apartment. The average income of a household receiving an EHV was just over \$18,000 – too little to afford even \$500 in rent. Meanwhile, their average rent is about \$2,300 with the voucher covering about \$1,900 on average. Without a new form of support, many of these households will become homeless.

We are grateful that even though this was a crisis created by the federal government, both HPD and NYCHA have sought ways to keep EHV holders housed by identifying other federal funding sources such as HOME-ARP (serving all HPD-issued EHV households and 1700 NYCHA-issued EHV households) as well as HASA and vacancies in PACT and public

housing. At this time, it is unclear how many households will be able to move into PACT and public housing but it is likely that not all remaining EHV households will be accommodated. We urge the City to identify additional rental assistance supports to help households remain in place, otherwise there is a risk that families may lose their housing and enter homelessness.

We strongly support the resolution calling upon the New York State Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, A.10992/S.9430-A to ensure that families at risk of losing their EHV are eligible for the state funded Housing Access Voucher Program. In addition, we strongly encourage the City to extend CityFHEPS eligibility to NYCHA EHV families and fund it in the FY 2027 Budget. While the City has made some progress on aiding EHV households, it is imperative that solutions protect and keep all EHV households stably housed.



Homeless Services United, Inc.

25 Broadway, 12th Fl.
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Testimony for the New York City Council Committee on Public Housing

June 17th, 2026

My name is Kristin Miller, and I am the Executive Director at Homeless Services United. Homeless Services United (HSU) is a coalition representing over 55 mission-driven, homeless service providers in New York City. HSU advocates for the expansion of affordable housing and prevention services and for immediate access to safe, decent, emergency and transitional housing, outreach and drop-in services for homeless New Yorkers. Homeless Services United promotes effective solutions to end the crisis of homelessness in New York City.

Emergency Housing Vouchers and NYCHA

HSU and its member organizations have become concerned about the City's lack of communication surrounding the transfer of Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) holders onto Section 8 housing vouchers. As of May 2026, the City reports that there are 5,200 EHV voucher holders, but it is unclear if there is enough room in Section 8 to accommodate such a large influx of tenants. Providers fear that if these clients are not placed, they will be evicted, become homeless and subsequently overwhelm the shelter system. The City must not let these tenants become homeless, as maintaining housing is paramount in achieving long-term stability for clients.

Currently, EHV updates state that voucher holders must complete a NYCHA public housing application on the Self-Service Portal to receive an offer of alternative subsidized housing. Additionally, individuals must be current on their annual recertification and participate in Housing Quality Standard inspections. EHV holders must now subject themselves to a lengthy application process after already being approved for housing assistance, but even that does not guarantee housing that works for the applicant. The EHV FAQ states that applicants will receive an offer that may be public housing, a converted PACT development, or a project-based Section 8 unit. NYCHA must proactively work with providers to make sure that all EHV holders are able to find housing that maintains individual and community stability and accommodates any mental or physical health needs. Merely directing tenants to a portal is not acceptable. We cannot let clients become homeless due to the loss of the EHV program.

NYCHA must commit to assisting EHV holders in the process of applying for a new housing voucher. These individuals and families were already determined to be in need of emergency housing assistance, and we must not let them get lost in the shuffle but instead provide assistance with this stressful and potentially complex process. NYCHA must also offer clarity as to how the 5,200 current residents will all be moved into safe and stable housing including how many EHV holders NYCHA can accommodate, what alternatives will be given to tenants who are unable to accept the alternative housing option offered, and what outreach is being done to residents who do not apply for Section 8. NYCHA must work in tandem with homeless service providers to move EHV holders into new housing to maintain stability and keep them from entering homelessness.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I can be reached at kmiller@hsunited.org if you would like more information.

REBNY Testimony | June 17, 2026

The Real Estate Board of New York to The City Council Committee on Public Housing regarding Emergency Housing Vouchers and the Housing Access Voucher Program

The Real Estate Board of New York (REBNY) is the City's leading real estate trade association representing commercial, residential, and institutional property owners, builders, managers, investors, brokers, salespeople, and other organizations and individuals active in New York City real estate. REBNY appreciates the opportunity to express our support for [Resolution 0495-2026](#) calling upon the New York State Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign into law, [A10992 \(Rosenthal\)/S9430-A \(Kavanagh\)](#), which aims to protect thousands of New Yorkers from losing rental assistance as funding for the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) program is exhausted.

The EHV program has served as a critical lifeline for households experiencing or at risk of homelessness throughout the five boroughs. Today, however, many of those households face uncertainty given the impending loss of NYCHA-administered EHV. Over 5,000 New York City households currently rely on EHV, and without a replacement source of rental assistance, many of these households will face housing instability, displacement, or homelessness.

This challenge comes at a time when New York City continues to grapple with an unprecedented housing shortage and sustained pressure on its shelter system. Preventing households from losing their homes is far more effective and less costly than attempting to rehouse them after they enter shelter. Ensuring continuity of rental assistance for vulnerable households should therefore remain a central goal of the City's efforts to address the housing crisis.

REBNY has long supported the Housing Access Voucher Program (HAVP) as a valuable tool to address housing instability and prevent homelessness. As thousands of New Yorkers face the potential loss of EHV assistance, HAVP provides an existing framework through which eligible households can continue receiving rental assistance and remain stably housed. A10992 (Rosenthal)/S9430-A (Kavanagh) strengthens this framework by expanding priority access to HAVP for households at risk of losing federal assistance due to program termination, funding reductions, or changes in eligibility requirements. By creating a clear pathway for EHV recipients to transition into ongoing rental assistance, this legislation would help prevent unnecessary displacement and reduce the likelihood that vulnerable households enter the shelter system.

This bill also includes important administrative improvements that would help ensure assistance can be deployed efficiently. Allowing local program administrators to conduct inspections when assistance

contracts are established will reduce administrative burdens, accelerate voucher utilization, and facilitate smoother transitions between rental assistance programs. Together, these reforms will help preserve housing stability for thousands of New Yorkers while maximizing the effectiveness of the State's investment in HAVP.

At a time when New York City faces both a housing affordability crisis and historically low vacancy rates, every effort should be made to keep households stably housed and prevent homelessness. For these reasons, REBNY urges the Council to adopt this resolution and calls on the State Legislature and Governor to enact this legislation in the upcoming 2027 legislative session.

Thank you for your consideration of these points.

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June 17, 2026
New York City Council
Hearing Before the Committee on Public Housing
Oversight - Life Without Emergency Housing Vouchers: Present Options and Future Plans
Testimony of the New York Legal Assistance Group

Greetings Chair Banks and members of the New York City Council Committee on Public Housing. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on Section 8 Emergency Housing Vouchers and the realities that our clients and the communities we serve are facing as they attempt to navigate the housing landscape after losing this vital program. My name is Anna Luft and I am the Associate Director for Housing Policy and Advocacy in the Tenants' Rights Unit at NYLAG. I also lead our Public Housing Justice Project (PHJP). PHJP is the first team of legal advocates solely dedicated to directly representing public housing residents in New York City.

New York Legal Assistance Group ("NYLAG") uses the power of the law to help New Yorkers experiencing poverty or in crisis combat economic, racial, and social injustices. We address emerging and urgent needs with comprehensive, free civil legal services, financial empowerment, impact litigation, policy advocacy, and community partnerships. We aim to disrupt systemic racism by serving clients whose legal and financial crises are often rooted in racial inequality.

NYLAG works closely with community organizations, agencies, and elected officials, and operates numerous legal clinics in locations such as community centers, courthouses, and hospitals. With the full implementation of Right to Counsel at the NYCHA Office of Impartial Hearings ("OIH"), NYLAG created the Public Housing Justice Project ("PHJP") within its Tenants' Rights Unit ("TRU"). NYLAG's PHJP represents residents in Section 9 and Permanent Affordability Commitment Together, known as "PACT," developments; as well as Section 8 Housing Choice and Emergency Voucher-holders in voucher termination and restoration advocacy. This testimony draws on the experience of housing advocates in PHJP and TRU, as well as in other NYLAG Units including Domestic Violence Law Unit, serving survivors of intimate partner violence across family and immigration law matters; LegalHealth, the largest medical-legal partnership, with advocates embedded in hospitals across New York City; and our Shelter and Economic Stability Project, serving individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

The Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) program has had a significant impact on the clients and communities NYLAG serves across all of our practice areas. Considering the sheer number of New Yorkers who benefited from the program, the City has before it a monumental task of ensuring that they all remain stably housed. NYLAG applauds this effort. New Yorkers deserve better than what they have been dealt with EHV's, and we are grateful to see the City try to rise to meet this moment, where other jurisdictions have not. However, the groups that were prioritized by NYCHA and HPD require a certain amount of flexibility in housing. Particularly, survivors of domestic violence and the frequently hospitalized require more than just stable, affordable housing. They require housing in locations that meet their needs, either due to safety concerns, or access to their healthcare support systems.

NYLAG submits this testimony today to draw the Committee on Public Housing's attention to these two groups in particular and to urge modifications to, and flexibility in how, their post-EHV transitions are handled.

At the outset, it is important to emphasize just how critical stable housing is to both of these communities. Domestic violence is one of the leading causes of homelessness for women and their families, and housing stability is widely recognized as a cornerstone of safety for survivors of domestic violence. More than 94% of survivors experience economic violence and abuse, including restricted access to money, employment, and credit, which severely limits their ability to secure independent housing.¹ For survivors who may have limited work history, savings, or inadequate credit history, finding market rate housing is incredibly difficult. For survivors of domestic violence, having access to their own Emergency Housing Voucher and therefore not only their own lease, but an affordable housing guarantee that is portable and moves with them, is crucial. An EHV does not only mean a safe home wherein they can reclaim their lives; it provides the flexibility they need if they are forced to relocate again quickly due to safety concerns.

Stable housing is also crucial for individuals with chronic illness. Stable housing means better access to healthcare and better health outcomes, fewer trips to the emergency room, and greater financial security. Many of NYLAG's clients in our LegalHealth Unit have not reported the health harming conditions in their apartments because they were in arrears to their landlord and feared reporting would result in their eviction. Individuals who are housing insecure or unhoused are less likely to have regular medical care and more likely to postpone treatment or use the emergency room for treatment. People who are unhoused and discharged from the hospital back to the street or a shelter are associated with a higher risk of readmission.

For both of these groups, the individual's control over the location of their home is crucial. For individuals with chronic illness or disabilities, they may require homes that are close to their doctors or healthcare providers because of frequent appointments. In these cases, it is not simply enough that they are in the same borough, they need to be in close proximity to their medical and support networks. For domestic violence survivors, they need to feel confident that they are in locations where they will not encounter their assailants. For individuals for whom the domestic violence is ongoing, they require portability and the ability to simultaneously feel confident that they will have affordable housing and also quickly move. Under such circumstances, it is our understanding that voucher recipients may transfer multiple times a year in order to keep themselves and their families safe.

NYCHA's current plan for converting these EHV recipients to other forms of subsidy does not account for the flexibility or specificity they both require in their housing options in order to ensure their safety and success. As applications are received, it is our understanding that NYCHA is connecting applicants with a housing resource on a first-come, first-served basis. In other words, when you submit your housing application determines what type of housing you are connected to. Currently, applicants are being connected with units in PACT or Project-Based Section 8

developments. While this solution does require people to relocate, it has one significant benefit: unlike EHV's or city-subsidized vouchers or housing coupons, a unit in one of these developments has no expiration date.

However, these units don't provide flexibility, which is necessary for these groups. NYCHA's approach here is the same as it is in typical unit placement: the applicant is shown a unit, and if they refuse it, they are shown one more and that's it. Formerly, PACT tenants in need of emergency transfers based on reasonable accommodations or safety issues such as domestic violence could quickly request and receive Housing Choice Mobility Vouchers from NYCHA to transfer to another unit in a private building that met their needs. The subsidy was permanent, but the location did not need to be. However, due to NYCHA's shortfall, the Housing Choice Mobility Voucher program is completely suspended and NYCHA is not issuing any tenant-based vouchers, even in the case of domestic violence or a reasonable accommodation. In other words, if a survivor of domestic violence or person with chronic illness moves into PACT or Project-Based Section 8, they are stuck there. If they need to quickly move for safety, or healthcare, they will be forced to forgo their affordable housing.

NYCHA is trying to address this by asking applicants to list reasonable accommodation needs and borough preferences or restrictions on the application. But New York City's boroughs are big, and a unit in East New York doesn't accommodate a person whose doctors are in Downtown Brooklyn, and for some groups a permanent unit is simply not safe. For EHV recipients in these vulnerable groups, a different approach is necessary.

NYLAG urges a more comprehensive approach for individuals who were referred to the EHV program either due to a history of domestic violence or frequent hospitalizations. For these groups, instead of assigning them to a housing option depending on when they submit their application, they should be given information about the different options and allowed to select the one that meets their needs: whether it's a permanently affordable unit or a tenant-based subsidy. In making this change, the process will also align more closely with local disability protections, which requires an individualized, interactive process when determining reasonable accommodations.

It is an understatement to say that EHV recipients have been treated unfairly by the federal government. It is imperative that New York City and State act to remediate this harm, not only by attempting to fill a funding gap, but by creating a program and process that replicates the original good of EHV's: a housing subsidy program designed for distinctly vulnerable groups. In order to make this happen, the City must take the following steps:

1. Expand HPD's HOME TBRA program as much as possible and facilitate internal information sharing in order to ensure a smooth transition from one program to the other.
2. Expand CityFHEPS immediately, with eligibility carve-outs to accommodate EHV recipients with a history of domestic violence or frequent hospitalization.

3. Review and revise both program requirements to ensure that participants enjoy the same flexibility and transferability as Section 8.
4. Assign and train a set group of staff who can work across programs and help EHV recipients who are DV survivors or were referred due to frequent hospitalizations in an interactive process in order to identify which program will work for them.
5. Include more legal service offices and community-based organizations in outreach and community education, so that we can easily advise clients on the process and what to expect, as well as any questions they may have about the application itself.

For EHV recipients, housing can mean the difference between life and death. The City must immediately expand eligibility standards for locally administered housing vouchers and coupons and engage in a true collaborative process with the recipients in order to ensure that they are housed and that their needs are met.

Respectfully submitted,

Anna Luft
Associate Director for Housing Policy and Advocacy
Tenants' Rights Unit
New York Legal Assistance Group



Breaking the Cycle of Homelessness
for Women and their Children

**Testimony of Win (Formerly Women in Need, Inc.) for the New York City Council
Committee on Public Housing Hearing
June 17th, 2026**

Thank you, Chair Banks, and the esteemed members of the Public Housing Committee for the opportunity to submit testimony on the status of the federal government's emergency housing vouchers (EHVs). My name is Jade Vasquez, and I am the Director of Policy and Research at Win, the largest provider of shelter and supportive housing to families with children in New York City and the nation. We operate 16 shelters and nearly 500 supportive housing units across the five boroughs. Each night, nearly 7,000 people call Win "home," including 3,600 children.

Today, as our city faces its worst affordability crisis, approximately 100,000 New Yorkers, including 31,000 children, are experiencing homelessness. As the federal government significantly cuts social welfare programs, like SNAP, Medicaid, and has eliminated funding for the EHV program, it is imperative that our City and State government expand *not* diminish local programs and initiatives that serve struggling New Yorkers experiencing housing insecurity or homelessness.

Established in 2021 via the American Rescue Plan, the EHV program has provided vital rental assistance to 59,000 households across the country, who were experiencing homelessness, facing eviction, or fleeing domestic violence and human trafficking.¹ Although the program was originally funded through 2030, the Trump administration's cruel decision to exhaust funding for the EHV means thousands of families are at risk of losing their homes, including 5,200 NYC households.

Without intervention, these households will likely be evicted and forced back into shelters, the streets, or, for survivors, dangerous situations. Given that our federal government has turned its back on these families and our state government has failed to pass [S.9430-A/ A.10992](#) to extend the Housing Access Voucher Program (HAVP) to priority populations, the City must act immediately by fully implementing the 2023 CityFHEPS expansion laws. Specifically, Local Laws [100](#) and [101](#) would help thousands of EHV recipients remain stably housed by eliminating the shelter requirement for CityFHEPS eligibility and expanding voucher access to tenants facing eviction.

CityFHEPS expansion is not only a moral imperative; it is the most fiscally responsible option. A recent Win [analysis](#) found that, if CityFHEPS expansion laws had been implemented in January 2024, the City could have saved **over \$1 billion in shelter costs** alone and cut the family homeless population by half.²

The impending loss of EHV will be disastrous for New Yorkers across every borough and every single City Council district. Below is the number of households in each borough that will be impacted:



- **Bronx:** 2,493 households
- **Brooklyn:** 1,216 households
- **Queens:** 869 households
- **Manhattan:** 452 households
- **Staten Island:** 188 households

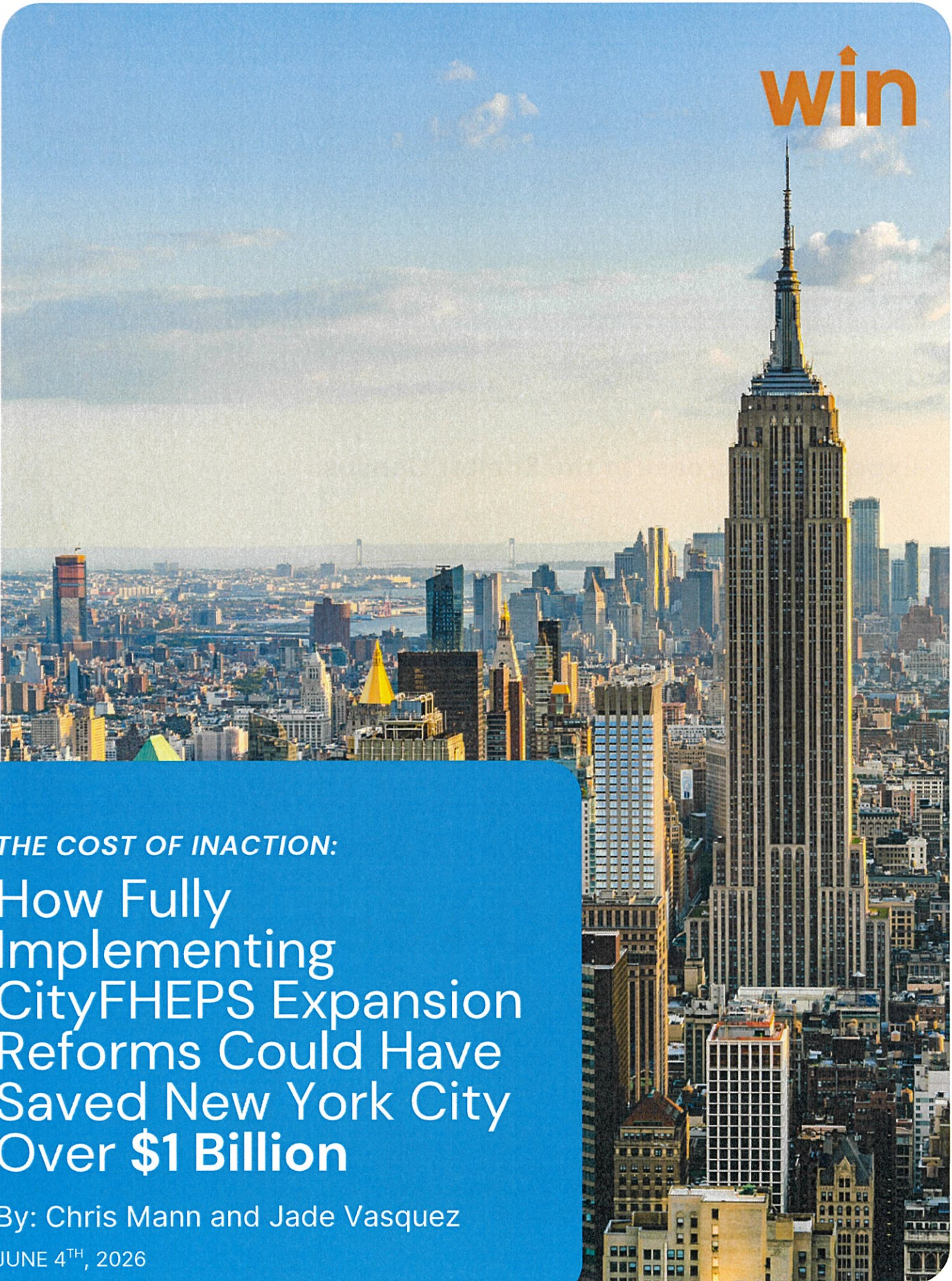
Currently, 68,000 households receive CityFHEPS vouchers, becoming a vital lifeline for homeless and housing insecure New Yorkers.³ However, with homelessness and eviction rates reaching record highs, there are still tens of thousands of NYC households in need of assistance. Although New York State established the HAVP program this past year, New York City will only receive approximately 1,000 vouchers, a wholly inadequate amount to meaningfully address the homelessness crisis. Furthermore, the vouchers will only support people living in shelter, meaning that EHV recipients will have to endure the trauma of eviction and homelessness before they can possibly access this resource. We are thankful to Chair Banks for introducing [Resolution 0495](#) calling on State lawmakers to pass [S.9430-A/ A.10992](#) to amend HAVP, fixing the priority populations language to allow households at eminent risk of housing loss to have access, a bill on which Win and the Housing Access New York coalition has led advocacy efforts. While we are disappointed in the State's failure to pass this law to make HAVP an eviction prevention tool, we know that the City has already passed reforms to make CityFHEPS that lifeline for EHV recipients and others facing eviction. Thus, to ensure that federal cuts do not displace survivors and formerly homeless New Yorkers, we urge the Mayor and City Council to prioritize the expansion of CityFHEPS by allocating \$500 million in the FY27 budget.

Enacted in 2023, implementation of CityFHEPS expansion is long overdue. We know federal cuts to social safety net programs will have dire results for the communities we serve. Given the imminent loss of these federal programs, it is crucial that New York City, the wealthiest city in the world, allocates the necessary resources to low-income households to help struggling New Yorkers obtain financial stability, and achieve our collective mission of ending homelessness.

¹ "Unless Congress Acts, 59,000 Additional Households at Risk of Homelessness," *Center on Budget and Policy Priorities*, June 23, 2025, <https://www.cbpp.org/blog/unless-congress-acts-59000-additional-households-at-risk-of-homelessness>.

² "The Cost of Inaction: How Fully Implementing CityFHEPS Expansion Reforms Could Have Saved New York City Over \$ 1 Billion," *Win*, June 2026, <https://winnyc.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/06/The-Cost-of-Inaction-Policy-Report-1.pdf>.

³ "This Voucher Is Supposed to Help Homeless New Yorkers Leave Shelters. A Majority Don't Qualify," *The City Reporter*, May 5, 2026, <https://www.thecityreporter.nyc/2026/05/05/homeless-shelter-rental-voucher-cityfheps/>.



win

THE COST OF INACTION:

How Fully Implementing CityFHEPS Expansion Reforms Could Have Saved New York City Over **\$1 Billion**

By: Chris Mann and Jade Vasquez

JUNE 4TH, 2026

Executive Summary

New York City is in the midst of a historic housing affordability crisis, but the solutions are already within reach. If the comprehensive CityFHEPS expansion package passed by the City Council in 2023 had been fully implemented, the City would be on track to solve the homelessness crisis, rather than merely managing it. A fully implemented expansion would have led to a drastic reduction in the shelter census. This reduction in shelter census would have saved the City over **\$1.4 billion dollars (\$1,422,440,155.50)** in shelter costs and counting as the census continued to decrease. When you account for the increase in CityFHEPS spending (\$418,084,676.10) as newly eligible households moved out, the City would still have saved over \$1 billion (\$1,004,355,479.40). **CityFHEPS works, and to truly turn the tide on homelessness, the Mamdani administration must prioritize its expansion to fulfill the promise of a housed and equitable New York.**

Expected Decrease in the Shelter Census:

49%

reduction in **families with children** shelter census

32%

reduction in **adult families** shelter census

7%

reduction in **single adult** shelter census

Expanded CityFHEPS would have saved the City over

\$1,004,355,479.40

Introduction

In May 2023, the New York City Council passed a package of bills that would significantly improve and expand access to CityFHEPS housing vouchers. These laws were designed to dismantle barriers to permanent housing by eliminating the 90-day shelter stay requirement, preventing the deduction of utility costs from maximum rental allowances, expanding eligibility to those at risk of imminent housing loss, eliminating work requirements, and increasing the income eligibility cap.

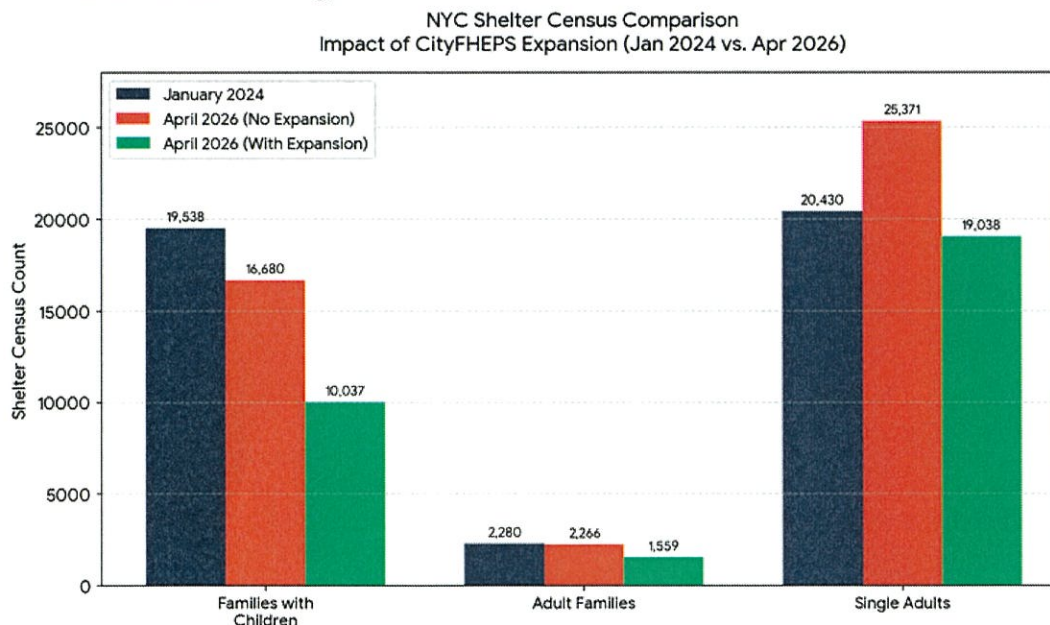
Although the New York City Council passed the bills with a veto-proof majority in a vote of 41-7, the Adams administration stalled on its execution. Implementation of Local Laws 99, 100, 101, and 102 of 2023 would have officially begun in January 2024, precisely as homelessness across the five boroughs reached record highs. However, by failing to execute these laws, the City missed a critical window to stabilize tens of thousands of households.

Critics of the expansion have argued that CityFHEPS costs have ballooned simultaneously with rising shelter costs, suggesting that rental assistance programs are financially unsustainable. However, this perspective fundamentally misinterprets the data and ignores the reality that CityFHEPS has significantly reduced what the City would have otherwise been spending on shelters. The upfront investment in the CityFHEPS program outlined in these laws is more than offset by savings in costs associated with eviction and homelessness.

If the CityFHEPS expansion had been implemented as intended in 2024, we would have seen a significant, corresponding drop in the shelter census and shelter-related spending, actively reversing the trend of concurrent cost increases.

Decreasing the Shelter Census

Had the CityFHEPS expansion been fully implemented, New York City would be actively shrinking its shelter system. Internal analysis of Win and Volunteers of America – Greater New York (VOA) data was utilized to determine the additional percentage of New Yorkers in shelter that would become eligible for CityFHEPS if the 2023 expansion laws were fully implemented. Together, Win and VOA data represents approximately 10% of the overall shelter census in NYC. Due to the scale and distribution of this sample, findings from the data are generally representative of the broader population. To calculate the expected overall reduction in shelter census, the findings from our internal data were extrapolated to the broader shelter population. See calculations and assumptions under citations for more information on methodology.





Families with Children: 49% Reduction

The most profound impact would have been felt by families with children, where the shelter census would have dropped by 49%, representing 6,643 households. Internal analysis found that the families with children shelter census would drop by approximately 34% strictly because of the expansion. This reduction is on top of a 15% reduction in the families with children shelter census that has already occurred since January 2024. [1]



Adult Families: 32% Reduction

For adult families, the census would have decreased by 32%, or 707 households. Internal data analysis found that the adult families shelter census would drop by approximately 31% directly because of the expansion. This is a critical missed opportunity, as the population of adult families has remained nearly constant since January 2024.



Single Adults: 7% Reduction

The single adult shelter census would have decreased by 7%, representing 6,333 households. According to internal analysis, this reduction is entirely attributable to the expansion. Without it, the population of singles in the shelter system has actually increased by 24% since January 2024.

Furthermore, Win and VOA data confirms that for households that receive a CityFHEPS voucher, utilization is extremely high. ***Almost every household that received a CityFHEPS voucher was able to successfully utilize it to secure permanent housing within a year.***

Cost Savings

The financial argument for the CityFHEPS expansion is undeniable. Providing affordable, permanent housing is vastly cheaper than paying for emergency shelter. Assuming that it would have taken approximately one year to roll out the implementation and ensure households could take full advantage of the expanded eligibility, the calculated savings in this report are based on 485 days of full implementation from January 2025 through April 2026.

- **Gross Shelter Savings:** The projected reduction in the shelter census across all populations would have saved the City over **\$1.4 billion dollars (\$1,422,440,155.50) in direct shelter costs**. These savings would have only continued to compound as the census decreased further over time.
- **Voucher Investment:** Achieving these shelter reductions would require an increase in CityFHEPS spending, calculated at **\$418,084,676.10** as these households successfully moved out of shelters and into permanent homes.
- **Net Fiscal Benefit:** When accounting for the necessary CityFHEPS investment against the massive shelter savings, the City would still have **saved over \$1 billion since initial implementation (\$1,004,355,479.40)**.

These figures only account for direct shelter costs and do not include the additional millions that would be saved by avoiding the indirect costs of homelessness, such as emergency medical care, juvenile detention, foster care placement, and educational disruptions.

Reducing Homelessness Recidivism

To understand the necessity of CityFHEPS, it's critical to look at the outcomes for those who attempt to leave the shelter system without comprehensive rental assistance. Without a housing voucher such as CityFHEPS, most people who leave the shelter will eventually return.

The CityFHEPS program has proven to be one of the City's most effective rehousing and homelessness prevention tools precisely because it shields households from unsustainable rent burdens. According to New York City data, **less than 1% of households comprised of families with children who left shelter with a rental subsidy re-entered after one year, compared to 12% of unsubsidized households.** [2]

This means that of the **2,500 households who exited shelter last year without a voucher, an estimated 300 of them will return to shelter after one year.** Further analysis from Win found that approximately 50% of households that leave shelter without a housing voucher will return to shelter within 5 years. [3] The data demonstrates the critical impact vouchers have on housing stability. When families are pushed out of shelters without adequate subsidies, or when they are burdened with paying more than 30% of their income toward rent, they are highly likely to experience homelessness again, *completely negating any short-term cost savings the City thought it achieved.*

Conclusion

We have already seen that CityFHEPS works. Where it has been deployed, it has resulted in verifiable reductions in our shelter census and long-term stability for vulnerable households. But to truly turn the tide on the homelessness crisis in New York City, full implementation of the legislative expansion is absolutely necessary.

If this expansion had been implemented in January 2024, New York City would already be in a very different place, operating on a track to finally solve the crisis rather than endlessly treading water. But it is not too late. The Mamdani administration has a unique opportunity to course-correct. **By immediately implementing the full CityFHEPS expansion, the Mamdani administration can live up to its promises, recapture more than \$1 billion in lost savings, and be the first administration to fundamentally solve the homelessness crisis for thousands of New Yorkers.**

Citations

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"2026 Preliminary Mayor's Management Report," NYC Mayor's Office of Operations, March 2026, https://www.nyc.gov/assets/operations/downloads/pdf/pmmr2026/2026_pmmr.pdf

Chris Mann, More Than a Moral Choice: How CityFHEPS Could Save NYC \$635 Million, Win, February 2026 <https://winnyc.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/More-Than-a-Moral-Choice-How-CityFHEPS-Could-Save-NYC-635-Million-2.pdf>.

[Calculations and Assumptions](#)



Breaking the Cycle of Homelessness
for Women and their Children

To the Honorable Members of the New York City Council,

The impending loss of Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHVs) administered by NYCHA is a looming catastrophe for thousands of vulnerable New Yorkers. We are facing a crisis of federal abandonment: the reckless and cruel decisions of the Trump administration have prematurely exhausted funding for the EHV program, putting 50,000 households at risk nationwide, including 5,200 right here in New York City.

With the federal government turning its back on these families, including 1,144 domestic violence survivors and 600 runaway and homeless youth, and given the state's failure to expand the Housing Access Voucher Program (HAVP), the City must act immediately. For many EHV holders, NYCHA's current proposal for internal transfers is not viable; it would uproot families from the schools, jobs, and support networks they have painstakingly rebuilt since fleeing abuse or homelessness. Without intervention, these families will likely be evicted and forced back into shelters, the streets, or, for survivors, dangerous situations.

The Solution: Expand CityFHEPS

CityFHEPS is the clear solution to this crisis. By implementing the CityFHEPS expansion laws passed in 2023 and specifically, local laws [100](#) and [101](#) that eliminate the shelter requirement for CityFHEPS eligibility and expand voucher access to tenants facing eviction, the City would have the tools necessary to seamlessly transition NYCHA EHV participants onto the program. Extending this eligibility and funding it in the FY 2027 Budget as part of a \$500 million expansion of CityFHEPS will not only prevent homelessness but also maintain the vital income stream for the thousands of landlords currently renting to these tenants. As Win highlights in our recent policy report, [The Cost of Inaction](#), failing to support these families carries long-term human and economic costs that far outweigh the investment required to keep them stably housed and cost the City over \$1 billion in shelter cost savings.

A Crisis in Every District

This disaster is not isolated; it touches every borough and every single City Council district. The impact of these potential EHV losses is distributed across the entire city:

- **Bronx:** 2,493 households
- **Brooklyn:** 1,216 households
- **Queens:** 869 households
- **Manhattan:** 452 households
- **Staten Island:** 188 households

For a detailed breakdown of the 5,218 total EHV households by individual Council District, please refer to the data compiled in the infographic below. These families are your constituents. If the City does not act, they will very likely become homeless. I urge you to prioritize the expansion of CityFHEPS and secure the \$500 million in funding in the FY27 budget necessary to ensure these households remain in the homes where they have rebuilt their lives.

Sincerely,

Christine C. Quinn
President and CEO, Win



Breaking the Cycle of Homelessness
for Women and their Children



NYC COUNCIL DISTRICTS BY EHV

District	# EHV	Current Council Member	District	# EHV	Current Council Member
01	32	Christopher Marte	27	145	Nantasha Williams
02	19	Harvey Epstein	28	50	Ty Hankerson
03	34	Carl Wilson	29	99	Lynn Schulman
04	21	Virginia Maloney	30	38	Phil Wong
05	53	Julie Menin	31	194	Selvena N. Brooks-Powers
06	25	Gale A. Brewer	32	46	Joann Ariola
07	13	Shaun Abreu	33	93	Lincoln Restler
08	161	Elsie Encarnacion	34	20	Jennifer Gutiérrez
09	126	Yusef Salaam	35	71	Crystal Hudson
10	72	Carmen De La Rosa	36	64	Chi Ossé
11	165	Eric Dinowitz	37	95	Sandy Nurse
12	303	Kevin C. Riley	38	20	Alexa Avilés
13	171	Shirley Aldebol	39	24	Shahana Hanif
14	283	Pierina Ana Sanchez	40	67	Rita Joseph
15	404	Oswald Feliz	41	202	Darlene Mealy
16	343	Althea Stevens	42	253	Chris Banks
17	404	Justin Sanchez	43	16	Susan Zhuang
18	316	Amanda Farias	44	42	Simcha Felder
19	8	Vickie Paladino	45	56	Farah N. Louis
20	15	Sandra Ung	46	50	Mercedes Narcisse
21	58	Shanel Thomas-Henry	47	118	Kayla Santosuosso
22	34	Tiffany Cabán	48	27	Inna Vernikov
23	16	Linda Lee	49	154	Kamillah M. Hanks
24	53	James F. Gennaro	50	23	David Carr
25	17	Shekar Krishnan	51	11	Frank Morano
26	94	Julie Won			

KEY TAKEAWAYS



TOTAL EHV
5,218



AVERAGE EHV
102.3
PER DISTRICT



HIGHEST EHV
404
DISTRICTS 15 & 17

EHV BY RANGE

300 or higher	6	(11.8%)
200 – 299	5	(9.8%)
100 – 199	11	(21.6%)
50 – 99	14	(27.5%)
20 – 49	10	(19.6%)

TOTAL DISTRICTS 51

TOP 5 HIGHEST EHV

- 1 404 District 15
Oswald Feliz
- 2 404 District 17
Justin Sanchez
- 3 343 District 16
Althea Stevens
- 4 316 District 18
Amanda Farias
- 5 303 District 12
Kevin C. Riley

EHV BY BOROUGH



GRAND TOTAL
5,218

Totals may not sum due to rounding.

Testimony to the Committee on Public Housing
Re: EHV Voucher Program — Funding, Conversion to Section 8, Porting Rules, and Transition
Communication

Written/Speaker: Angelica Charles, JCCA

Good morning/afternoon, Chairmembers. My name is Angelica Charles. I'm a Family Peer Advocate with JCCA, and a member of WeUnlockNYC. I'm here to testify both from my professional experience working with families every day, and as someone currently living inside the exact system I'm describing.

I'm originally from New York, but I was based in another state working as a travel CNA nurse during the COVID pandemic. In 2022, I returned back to my beloved New York, may because my high risk pregnancy which included ulcerative colitis so severe, I had to give up my current position as a traveling nurse and my place of residence outside of New York and entered the New York City family shelter system for assistance. I spent close to two years in shelter — with a high risk pregnancy, that led to a stroke, which forced an emergency C-section almost 2 months before my due date, then recovering from an emergency C-section,— before receiving my EHV voucher and moving into an apartment in the Bronx.

Even after getting housed, I was still unwell. Health complications meant I had to give up my work as a travel CNA nurse entirely. During that recovery period, I joined committees and advocacy groups I could participate in remotely, while I focused on my health. Once I was finally cleared and well enough, I made the decision to change careers, not only because of my physical health, but because of the awareness of what's happening in the black and brown communities, I felt I had to become a Family Peer Advocate with plans to pursue my DSW or PhD in social work.

Around that time, through Housing Connect, I moved into my current apartment here in Brooklyn — closer to my job and to the medical care my son needs. This EHV voucher was meant to be a bridge, a place to stabilize while I finish school, and not a permanent reliance. I moved into this apartment in January of this year. I have had my EHV voucher for under three years total. I have since learned the EHV program is ending this year, and my priority placement number is W9, with no further communication. Under Section 8 rules, I cannot port my voucher to another unit — including units I've already identified in New Jersey — until I've lived at my current location a full year. By the time that year is up, the EHV program will already be gone. I followed every step. I am compliant, current, and still left with no answer about where my children and I go next. And I am not alone — I work with families across Brooklyn in this exact position, EHV holders who did everything asked of them and are now facing a cliff with no transition plan.

I understand there is currently no funding allocated to extend EHV. But this Committee should be pressing a harder question: NYCHA had a plan. EHV was always meant to convert into permanent Section 8 vouchers, and NYCHA began that transition — prioritizing households by EHV admission date, with a target of completing it by the end of this year. But NYCHA needed a waiver from HUD to fund that conversion, and HUD denied it in January. That was five months ago. Since then, families like mine have heard almost nothing. My priority number is W9, and I have no idea what that means for my timeline, or whether the conversion NYCHA promised is still happening for households like mine at all.

So my ask to this Committee is this: first, demand a public, updated timeline from NYCHA on the EHV-to-Section-8 conversion — who is being prioritized, by what date, and what happens to households still waiting when EHV funding runs out; second, create a hardship exception to the one-year porting requirement for households whose voucher will lapse before that year is reached; and third, push NYCHA to communicate directly and individually with every household on the W-list, because right now people are being left to guess.

Thank you for your time and for the work this Committee does.



Testimony of

Coalition for the Homeless and
The Legal Aid Society

before the Committee on Public Housing
of the New York City Council

submitted by

Alison Wilkey, Esq.
Director of Government Affairs and Strategic Campaigns
The Coalition for the Homeless

Robert Desir
Staff Attorney
Civil Law Reform
The Legal Aid Society

June 17, 2026

The Coalition for the Homeless (“Coalition”) and The Legal Aid Society (“Legal Aid”) welcome this opportunity to testify before the New York City Council’s Committee on Public Housing on the impact of the loss of Emergency Housing Vouchers and offer recommendations to prevent a flood of households into shelter.

THE EMERGENCY HOUSING VOUCHER PROGRAM

The Emergency Housing Voucher Program (“EHV”), established under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, provides rental assistance to particularly vulnerable individuals and families who were homeless, at risk of homelessness, recently homeless, or fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking. Administered by local Public Housing Authorities (“PHA”) and funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”), EHVs operate like Housing Choice Vouchers (“HCV”) but include additional supports, such as housing search assistance, security deposit payments, and other move-in costs, to facilitate rapid placement into stable housing. The City’s EHV vouchers are administered by three PHA agencies: the New York City Housing Authority (“NYCHA”), the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development (“HPD”), and New York State Homes and Community Renewal (“HCR”).

Similar to the Section 8 HCV program, rental assistance is paid directly to landlords. The PHA determines the household’s share of rent, typically 30% of monthly income, with the voucher covering the remainder, up to the area’s determined payment standard maximum. Units must meet HUD Housing Quality Standards before approval. Eligibility requirements are similar to HCV, including meeting HUD income limits (at or below 50% of the Area Median Income) and passing standard PHA screening; referrals were typically made through a local Continuum of Care or other designated agencies. Through a collaboration with HRA and NYCHA, the Legal Aid Society assisted nearly 200 clients and former clients in obtaining EHVs. Most were long-term residents of apartments that they could no longer afford; and most could no longer work due to disabilities.

Although the EHV program was originally expected to provide rental assistance through 2030, HUD announced on March 6, 2025, that it would terminate the program early, with funding projected to be exhausted by the end of 2026. In New York City, 7,713 vouchers were issued, serving low-income households, including survivors of domestic violence, homeless youth and youth aging out of foster care, and people living with HIV/AIDS. Many of these households, with an average income of just over \$18,000, face a significant risk of returning to homeless shelters as the program ends. Youth who return to DYCD shelters will have no access to housing, because people in those shelters do not currently have access to CityFHEPS vouchers or other subsidized housing. Youth who received EHV upon aging out of foster care will be unable

to return to that system. In response to news that the EHV program would be ending early due to a lack of funding, NYCHA announced that it would transition its EHV households to traditional HCV Section 8 vouchers with no interruption in subsidy, thereby averting a potential housing crisis. Significantly, in February 2026, NYCHA announced that its plan had fallen through and that it was instead identifying alternatives to HCVs for its EHV households.

Households utilizing the Exception Payment Standard (“EPS”), which permits higher subsidy levels in higher-cost rental markets, are especially vulnerable because they reside in units that cannot be supported by a standard housing choice voucher or rental assistance subsidy like CityFHEPS. NYCHA reports that as of May 2026, 25% of the 5,200 participants in its EHV program are assisted under an Exception Payment Standard (“EPS”). If these recipients lost their vouchers, they would quickly be evicted from their current apartments, become homeless, and require other City resources. Continuing their subsidy is the most effective and efficient means to continue their housing support, while avoiding additional trauma caused by eviction and homelessness and other social costs.

NYCHA AND ALTERNATIVE SUBSIDIZED HOUSING OPTIONS FOR ITS EHV PARTICIPANTS

In informing EHV participants of the end of the program, with funding running out by the end of 2026, NYCHA explained that in order to receive an offer of an alternative subsidized housing option from NYCHA, a participant must complete a NYCHA public housing application by May 1, 2026. As of June 17, 2026, 3,400 households had successfully completed the application.

At this time, NYCHA has confirmed the availability of the following alternative subsidized housing options: public housing apartments; PACT unit vacancies that are “move-in” ready, with additional vacancies expected through the end of 2026; project-based Section 8 non-PACT units; and HOME-TBRA through HPD..

ISSUES WITH THE NYCHA PUBLIC HOUSING APPLICATION

We are concerned about how low this number is given the vulnerability of the EHV households. We have been actively reaching out to EHV households to help them complete the public housing application and have experienced many issues with this process, including:

- Difficulty accessing the self-service portal from a smartphone.
 - Accessing the portal from public computers at libraries is not an effective option given limited library opening hours, lack of support and distance from home.
- Multiple attempts to upload requested documents, including income information.

- Minor errors in completing the form result in it not being “linked” to the EHV participant and therefore not in queue to receive an alternate housing option.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INCREASING RESPONSE FROM EHV PARTICIPANTS AND SECURING ALTERNATIVE SUBSIDIZED HOUSING OPTIONS TO AVOID HOUSING INSTABILITY

The City must do more to prevent thousands of vulnerable households from eviction and a flood of people entering the shelter system. We recommend:

- More direct outreach to participant households to determine housing needs and relevant alternative options;
- Providing access to CityFHEPS vouchers to allow households to remain in their current apartments;
- Prioritizing the preservation of existing tenancies in rent-stabilized apartments, which typically provide lower-cost housing, by directing housing assistance toward maintaining current occupancy wherever feasible.
- Targeting outreach and mobility support for households with rents at the Exception Payment Standard (EPS), with an emphasis on connecting them to available public housing opportunities within their borough.

CONCLUSION

The EHV program has provided essential housing stability for thousands of vulnerable New York City households facing homelessness, disability, and extreme poverty. With the program now set to end earlier than expected, many participants are at risk of losing their housing and returning to shelters unless effective alternatives are secured.

Although NYCHA is working to identify replacement housing options, concerns remain about whether these resources are sufficient and accessible, particularly given documented barriers in the application process and the high needs of EHV households. Without a smooth and well-supported transition, the end of EHV funding could result in widespread displacement and increased strain on the shelter system.

To prevent this, the City should strengthen outreach, reduce administrative barriers, and prioritize continuity of subsidies so that families can maintain stable housing without interruption.



About The Legal Aid Society and Coalition for the Homeless

The Legal Aid Society: Legal Aid, the nation's oldest and largest not-for-profit legal services organization, is more than a law firm for clients who cannot afford to pay for counsel. It is an indispensable component of the legal, social, and economic fabric of New York City – passionately advocating for low-income individuals and families across a variety of civil, criminal, and juvenile rights matters, while also fighting for legal reform.

Legal Aid has performed this role in City, State, and federal courts since 1876. It does so by capitalizing on the diverse expertise, experience, and capabilities of more than 2,000 attorneys, social workers, paralegals, and support and administrative staff. Through a network of borough, neighborhood, and courthouse offices in 26 locations in New York City, Legal Aid provides comprehensive legal services in all five boroughs of New York City for clients who cannot afford to pay for private counsel.

Legal Aid's legal program operates three major practices — Civil, Criminal, and Juvenile Rights — and receives volunteer help from law firms, corporate law departments and expert consultants that is coordinated by Legal Aid's Pro Bono program. With its annual caseload of nearly 200,000 legal matters, Legal Aid takes on more cases for more clients than any other legal services organization in the United States. And it brings depth and breadth of perspective that is unmatched in the legal profession.

Legal Aid's unique value is an ability to go beyond any one case to create more equitable outcomes for individuals and broader, more powerful systemic change for society. In addition to the annual caseload of nearly 200,000 individual cases and legal matters, Legal Aid's law reform representation for clients benefits more than 1.5 million low-income families and individuals in New York City and the landmark rulings in many of these cases have a State-wide and national impact.

Legal Aid is uniquely positioned to speak on issues of law and policy as they relate to homeless New Yorkers. Legal Aid is counsel to the Coalition and for homeless women and men in the *Callahan* and *Eldredge* cases. Legal Aid is also counsel in the *McCain/Boston* litigation in which a final judgment requires the provision of lawful shelter to homeless families. Legal Aid, in collaboration with Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler, LLC, filed *C.W. v. City of New York*, a federal class action lawsuit on behalf of runaway and homeless youth in New York City. Legal Aid, along with institutional plaintiffs Coalition and Center for Independence of the Disabled-NY ("CIDNY"), settled *Butler v. City of New York* on behalf of all disabled New Yorkers

experiencing homelessness. Also, during the pandemic, Legal Aid along with Coalition continued to support homeless New Yorkers through litigation, including *E.G. v. City of New York*, Federal class action litigation initiated to ensure Wi-Fi access for students in DHS and HRA shelters, as well as *Fisher v. City of New York*, a lawsuit filed in New York State Supreme Court to ensure homeless single adults gain access to private hotel rooms instead of congregate shelters during the pandemic.

Coalition for the Homeless: Founded in 1981, Coalition is a not-for-profit advocacy and direct services organization that assists more than 3,500 homeless and at-risk New Yorkers each day. The Coalition advocates for proven, cost-effective solutions to address the crisis of modern homelessness, which is now in its fifth decade. The Coalition also protects the rights of homeless people through litigation involving the right to emergency shelter, the right to vote, the right to reasonable accommodations for those with disabilities, and life-saving housing and services for homeless people living with mental illnesses and HIV/AIDS.

The Coalition operates 12 direct-services programs that offer vital services to homeless, at-risk, and low-income New Yorkers. These programs also demonstrate effective, long-term, scalable solutions and include: permanent housing for formerly homeless families and individuals living with HIV/AIDS; job-training for homeless and low-income women; and permanent housing for formerly homeless families and individuals. Our summer sleep-away camp and after-school program help hundreds of homeless children each year. The Coalition's mobile soup kitchen distributed nearly 400,000 hot, nutritious meals to homeless and hungry people on the streets of the city this past year – up from our usual 320,000. Finally, our Crisis Services Department assists more than 1,000 homeless and at-risk households each month with eviction prevention, individual advocacy, referrals for shelter and emergency food programs, and assistance with public benefits as well as basic necessities such as diapers, formula, work uniforms, and money for medications and groceries. Since the pandemic, we have been operating a special Crisis Hotline (1-888-358-2384) for homeless individuals who need immediate help finding shelter or meeting other critical needs.

The Coalition was founded in concert with landmark right-to-shelter litigation filed on behalf of homeless men and women (*Callahan v. Carey* and *Eldredge v. Koch*) and remains a plaintiff in these now consolidated cases. In 1981, the City and State entered into a consent decree in *Callahan* through which they agreed: “The City defendants shall provide shelter and board to each homeless man who applies for it provided that (a) the man meets the need standard to qualify for the home relief program established in New York State; or (b) the man by reason of physical, mental or social dysfunction is in need of temporary shelter.” The *Eldredge* case extended this legal requirement to homeless single women. The *Callahan* consent decree and the *Eldredge* case also guarantee basic standards for shelters for homeless men and women.

Pursuant to the decree, the Coalition serves as the independent court-appointed monitor of municipal shelters for homeless single adults, and the City has also authorized the Coalition to monitor the municipal shelter system serving homeless families. In 2017, the Coalition, fellow institutional plaintiff Center for Independence of the Disabled – New York, and homeless New Yorkers with disabilities were represented by Legal Aid and pro-bono counsel White & Case in the settlement of *Butler v. City of New York*, which is designed to ensure that the right to shelter includes accessible accommodations for those with disabilities, consistent with Federal, State, and local laws. During the pandemic, the Coalition worked with Legal Aid to support homeless New Yorkers, including through the *E.G. v. City of New York* Federal class action litigation initiated to ensure Wi-Fi access for students in DHS and HRA shelters, as well as *Fisher v. City of New York*, a lawsuit filed in New York State Supreme Court to ensure homeless single adults gain access to private hotel rooms instead of congregate shelters during the pandemic.

**TESTIMONY OF NEW DESTINY HOUSING TO
THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HOUSING OVERSIGHT
HEARING – “LIFE WITHOUT EMERGENCY HOUSING VOUCHERS: PRESENT OPTIONS
AND FUTURE PLANS”**

**Gina Cappuccitti, Senior Director of Housing Access and Stability Services
June 17, 2026**

Thank you, Public Housing Committee Chair Banks, Council Members, and Council Central Staff, for the opportunity to submit written testimony on this important oversight hearing on the future of the 5,200 households with NYCHA-administered Emergency Housing Vouchers.

ABOUT NEW DESTINY

Founded in 1994, New Destiny’s mission is to end the cycle of domestic violence and homelessness for low-income families and individuals by developing and connecting them to safe, permanent, affordable housing and services.

New Destiny is the only organization in New York City dedicated exclusively to permanent housing solutions for survivors of domestic violence. We are the largest provider of supportive housing for survivors in New York, and we operate the first and biggest federally funded rapid rehousing program for those impacted by domestic violence in our city. We do this work because [domestic violence is the number one cause of family homelessness](#) in our city — and for survivors, housing is a matter of life and death.

We are a co-convener of the [Family Homelessness Coalition \(FHC\)](#), a collective of formerly homeless parents and organizations committed to tackling housing insecurity among families in our city, and a member of the Mayor’s Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence (ENDGBV) Advisory Council.

EMERGENCY HOUSING VOUCHERS

The [Emergency Housing Voucher \(EHV\) program](#) is a federal rental subsidy created in 2021 as a 10-year initiative in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic to house 70,000 households nationwide, focusing on those in the most dire need, like people living on the streets and survivors trying to flee an abusive relationship. New York City was allocated roughly 7,800 EHV’s, which were to be administered by two city agencies: the NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) received 2,050 and the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) 5,738. Since then, NYCHA’s active EHV’s have declined to about 5,200 households, as some vouchers ended when participants exited the program.

For survivors of domestic violence and the advocates supporting them, the launch of EHV meant far more than another housing program. Unlike local and state subsidies, it was the first large-scale resource people fleeing abuse could access without first entering the shelter system. For instance, it allowed a paraprofessional who could not bring herself to take her disabled

daughter into shelter — and had been enduring the abuse to protect her child — to secure a safe home and bypass shelter. It allowed elderly survivors who had suffered decades of abuse from their partner to finally move on and begin to heal.

Because of our demonstrated track record operating a rapid rehousing program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), New Destiny was selected by the city to provide voluntary housing navigation to domestic violence survivors referred for EHV by ENDGBV. In less than two years, we helped house over 700 survivor-led households participating in the program.

New Destiny went a step further and secured private funding to make aftercare, consisting of case management and mental health services, available to the survivors we placed. As a [2025 third-party evaluation](#) documented, survivors strongly benefit from this model. We know firsthand how vulnerable many would be to returning to homelessness — or to their abuser — if they lost their rental assistance.

TERMINATION OF THE EHV PROGRAM

The Trump administration announced in March of 2025 that the \$5 billion allocated for the EHV program had run out early and no additional funding would be provided — putting 50,000 households nationwide at risk of losing their homes. HPD and NYCHA were pressed to come up with contingencies. HPD is using another federal subsidy, HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA), which is a 2-year program, as a stopgap measure for their EHV households. NYCHA had originally planned to use Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers to help EHV households remain in their homes, but the federal government rejected their proposal.

So far, NYCHA's only available resource for its 5,200 EHV families — including 1,144 domestic violence survivors and 600 runaway and homeless youth — is to apply for a transfer within its portfolio through the public housing portal. This is not a viable solution on its own. With about 2,000 apartments, there simply aren't enough units available. Even where transfers are possible, they would uproot families from the communities they have built — for survivors, the very neighborhoods, schools, and support networks that anchored their lives after fleeing abuse.

We understand that NYCHA is waiting for HUD to approve a plan to use 1,700 HOME TBRA vouchers for its EHV households. This would allow some families to remain in their homes, but it would not meet the full need — thousands would still be left with no other option.

New Destiny is working closely with ENDGBV to keep survivors informed. Also, we have been in direct contact with NYCHA, troubleshooting issues case by case. Many of NYCHA's frontline staff are genuinely committed to making this work — but their hands are tied.

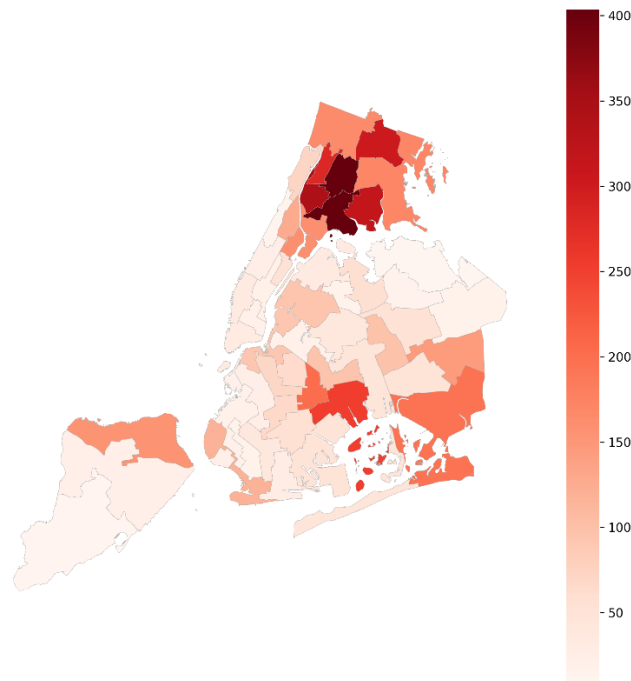
OUR RECOMMENDATION: CITYFHEPS

No single option will keep every NYCHA EHV household housed. NYCHA should continue to offer portfolio transfers for families who want to move, and HOME TBRA, if HUD approves it, would reach about 1,700 families. But units are scarce, and many survivors need to stay in the neighborhoods, schools, and support networks that anchored their lives after fleeing abuse.

Even with these options, roughly 1,500 EHV households — including domestic violence survivors and runaway and homeless youth — would still have no path to remain housed. That is why CityFHEPS must be part of the solution: it is the one resource that can close that gap and keep these families in the homes where they have rebuilt their lives.

The city must extend CityFHEPS eligibility to NYCHA EHV participants and fund it in the FY 2027 Budget as part of the full program expansion. Today, CityFHEPS eligibility requires a DHS shelter history — a requirement that excludes many EHV participants, especially survivors and youth who found safety precisely because EHV let them bypass the shelter system. A dedicated eligibility category would remove that barrier, allowing EHV households to transition seamlessly to CityFHEPS without anyone being forced back into homelessness. As the map below shows, NYCHA EHV households live in every Council District.

EHV Households by New York City Council District
Source: NYCHA



CityFHEPS would also keep rental income flowing to the thousands of landlords housing these families. And New Destiny is not alone in this call: more than 350 organizations and New Yorkers — most of them directly impacted — have signed our letter urging the Mayor to act, which we hand-delivered at City Hall.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our comments on this crisis. New Destiny remains committed to partnering with the Committee and the Council in any way possible to protect New Yorkers at risk of losing their homes.



June 17, 2026

New York City Council

Committee on Public Housing
Hon. Chris Banks, Chair

Testimony of Maureen Curtis, Vice President, Criminal Justice Programs, Safe Horizon

On the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Program and Domestic Violence (DV) Survivors

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. My name is Maureen Curtis, and I am Vice President of Criminal Justice Programs at Safe Horizon, the nation's largest non-profit victim assistance organization. Every year, 250,000 people seek safety through our services. Our mission is to stand with those who have experienced violence, abuse, and exploitation. We offer unwavering support and advocate for systemic change. We envision a world where safety is a universal human right. And to the New Yorkers we serve, housing is safety.

Right now, thousands of New Yorkers, including survivors of domestic violence and formerly homeless youth, are about to lose their homes as a result of the Trump Administration prematurely ending the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Program.

During the pandemic, New York City helped thousands of New Yorkers access safe, stable, affordable housing through EHV. Survivors of domestic and gender-based violence were able to apply through community-based partners (like Safe Horizon) and domestic violence shelters. Partnering with the Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender Based Violence (ENDGBV), Safe Horizon's Criminal Court Programs, Crime Victim Assistance Program (CVAP), and Manhattan Family Justice Center assisted about 400 survivors with EHV.

Safe, stable, affordable housing has been and continues to be the number one need of survivors we serve across all programs. We work with clients to see if they qualify for any housing resources. For the survivors we were able to help with EHV, receiving that voucher literally changed their lives. They were able to find safety and sleep well at night, sometimes for the first time in years. Many have been able to put down roots, build community, build family, ensure stability for their children, go to school, and find employment. A safe home allows for a survivor to accomplish so much and rebuild their life.

The end of EHV is crushing. Homelessness is trauma, and cycling in and out of homelessness is retraumatizing. There are also many survivors who may choose to go back to an abusive partner rather than face homelessness with their children. Domestic violence is a leading driver of family homelessness in New York City, and our City government must ensure that no survivor is left behind.

It is not possible that NYCHA's current "plan" can help all the survivors we helped with EHV. First, the number of EHV households vastly outnumbers the number of available NYCHA



apartments. Second, we are talking about survivors who have been rebuilding their lives and have found community. Even if they receive their one NYCHA apartment offer, having to relocate and start over may not be the safest or best option for them. Lastly, we help hundreds of survivors each year apply for NYCHA as N-1 priority (Victim of Domestic Violence) or for a NYCHA emergency housing transfer as a Victim of Domestic Violence (VDV) or Intimidated Victim (IV). We fear that NYCHA's stopgap plan for EHV is only going to force survivors already on waitlists to wait that much longer.

With EHV ending, survivors and formerly homeless youth need our City government to ensure that they aren't forced again into dangerous, unsafe situations. We implore Mayor Mamdani and the City Council to extend CityFHEPS eligibility to NYCHA EHV families and fund it in the FY 2027 Budget as part of the larger expansion of CityFHEPS. This will allow survivors and formerly homeless youth to stay in the homes where they have rebuilt their lives and begun to heal.

Our clients need CityFHEPS so they have the option of staying in the homes that they have worked so hard to build and to help mitigate the inevitable harm that will last for decades due to the sudden defunding of this federal program. We still hear from landlords that they do not want to rent to voucher holders because they felt the repercussions of the Advantage voucher abruptly ending due to the failures of our state and city governments 15 years ago.

Housing is a key foundation for safety and healing and for a safer city. That is why New Yorkers need a fully funded and fully implemented CityFHEPS voucher program. CityFHEPS has already been essential to connecting so many New Yorkers to a pathway out of homelessness - especially New Yorkers that have no other options. It would be unconscionable for this Administration to turn its back on the very New Yorkers that need help the most. We urge Mayor Mamdani and the City Council to fund the CityFHEPS expansion, extend eligibility to EHV households, and end the cycle of homelessness that plagues New York City.



June 17, 2026

New York City Council

Committee on Public Housing
Hon. Chris Banks, Chair

**Testimony of Joe Westmacott, Director of Housing & Benefits Resources,
Streetwork Project, Safe Horizon**

On the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Program and Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY)

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. My name is Joe Westmacott, and I am Director of Housing & Benefits Resources at Streetwork Project, a program of Safe Horizon. Safe Horizon is the nation's largest non-profit victim assistance organization. Every year, 250,000 people seek safety through our services. Our mission is to stand with those who have experienced violence, abuse, and exploitation. We offer unwavering support and advocate for systemic change. We envision a world where safety is a universal human right. And to the New Yorkers we serve, housing is safety.

Safe Horizon's Streetwork Project provides shelter, showers, hot meals, therapy, service linkage, safer sex supports, case management, and so much more, in a therapeutic harm reduction community serving homeless youth ages 13 to 25. We work with homeless and street-involved young people to help them find safety and stability. Many homeless young people face a day-to-day struggle to survive, which can lead to physical and emotional harm. Homeless youth may have experienced family abuse, violence, rejection, and instability that led to their homelessness. We welcome these young people, help them navigate complex systems, connect them to community, and provide essential resources at our drop-in centers, at our overnight shelter, and through our street outreach teams. The number one need of the young people we serve at Streetwork is safe, stable, affordable housing.

Right now, thousands of New Yorkers, including survivors of domestic violence and formerly homeless youth, are about to lose their homes as a result of the Trump Administration prematurely ending the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Program.

For most of our clients, this was the first opportunity in their life to access stable housing. Ten years ago, Mayor de Blasio promised homeless youth that they would soon have access to LINC vouchers, which is now CityFHEPS. Although the Council has passed multiple bills to extend access to CityFHEPS vouchers to RHY in DYCD programs, Mayors de Blasio, Adams, and now Mayor Mamdani have fought this expansion. Since that initial broken promise in 2016, 11,344 young people have been discharged from youth shelters into ongoing homelessness because the city offers them no pathways out of homelessness. And those are just the homeless youth who were able to access youth shelters. While continuing to fight for CityFHEPS, our programs were able to connect hundreds of homeless youth to EHV during the pandemic.



Receiving a housing voucher literally changed their lives. Since EHV began, our clients have worked hard to take advantage of this rare opportunity and have been successfully housed for several years now. Once housed, they were able to begin to find stability and put down roots in their communities. These young people have been able to go back to school, find and maintain stable employment, and even find better job opportunities, grow their families and build healthy relationships, improve their physical and mental health, and become involved in their neighborhood communities. For those young people with children, their children have also found stability and community.

The end of EHV is crushing. These young people have already experienced significant trauma, which lead to them being homeless as young adults. Now our government is failing them. A significant number of them will lose everything and return to homelessness. We are needlessly and carelessly retraumatizing them.

NYCHA's current "plan" will not help the majority of the young people we helped with EHV. First, the number of EHV households vastly outnumbers the number of available NYCHA apartments. Second, NYCHA famously does not have very many studio apartments, and the overwhelming majority of DYCD EHV households are single individuals who only qualify for studio apartments in NYCHA housing. Third, we are talking about young people who have finally put down roots and found community. Even if they receive their one NYCHA apartment offer, having to relocate and start over may not be the safest option for them.

EHV has been this population's only resource and option. DYCD clients have always been excluded from city housing resources – LINC, CityFHEPS, NYCHA priority, homeless set-aside units, etc. - and this solvable problem continues. Precisely because homeless youth are excluded from housing resources, they will likely be disproportionately harmed by the end of EHV.

With EHV ending, survivors and formerly homeless youth need our City government to ensure that they aren't forced again into dangerous, unsafe situations. We implore Mayor Mamdani and the City Council to extend CityFHEPS eligibility to NYCHA EHV households and fund it in the FY 2027 Budget as part of the larger expansion of CityFHEPS, allowing survivors and formerly homeless youth to stay in the homes where they have rebuilt their lives and begun to heal.

Some EHV households are already being pushed out of their housing and returning to homelessness because their landlords know the program is ending and are not renewing their leases. The timing here is urgent.

Our clients need CityFHEPS so they have the option of staying in the homes that they have worked so hard to build and to help mitigate the inevitable harm that will last for decades due to the sudden defunding of this federal Emergency Housing Voucher program. We still hear from landlords that they do not want to rent to voucher holders because they felt the repercussions of the Advantage voucher abruptly ending due to the failures of our state and city governments 15 years ago.

Housing is a key foundation for safety and healing and for a safer city. That is why New Yorkers need a fully funded and fully implemented CityFHEPS voucher program. CityFHEPS has already



been essential to connecting New Yorkers to a pathway out of homelessness - especially New Yorkers that have no other options, like RHY. It would be unconscionable for this Administration to turn its back on the very New Yorkers that need help the most. We urge Mayor Mamdani and the City Council to fund the CityFHEPS expansion, extend eligibility to EHV households, and end the cycle of homelessness that plagues New York City.



June 17, 2026

New York City Council

Committee on Public Housing
Hon. Chris Banks, Chair

Testimony of KG, Safe Horizon Streetwork Project Client

As an EHV holder, it is extremely overwhelming and concerning to hear that EHV funding may end by the end of 2026. It is both saddening and frustrating to face so much uncertainty about what will happen when rental assistance ends and families are expected to pay rent entirely out of pocket. As a low-income parent, this creates tremendous stress and fear about the future.

These are already difficult times, and many families struggle every day to keep a roof over their heads. The EHV program has helped me and my son in ways I cannot fully express. Before receiving this voucher, we lived in harsh conditions and faced many challenges with very little support. We worked hard to get to where we are today, and the EHV voucher has been a major part of that journey. For the past three years, this voucher has changed our lives. It provided us with a safe and stable home, something I am incredibly grateful for. Most importantly, it gave my son a place where he feels secure, happy, and loved. Without my EHV voucher, I do not know what we would do. We could face homelessness or be forced back into the shelter system, which is already overcrowded and limited in resources. No parent should have to worry about their child's safety while living among strangers or wonder where they will sleep each night.

EHV should continue to support families and individuals in need. Many people, including myself, are deeply worried about what the future holds. Questions constantly run through our minds: Where will we live? How will this affect our children? How will we afford rent? Where will we sleep at night? How will we put food on the table? My son and I have fought hard and made many sacrifices to maintain our voucher and our home. My son now knows where home is, and he loves being here. Imagine having to tell a child that they can no longer stay in the place where they feel safe because housing assistance has ended and their family is being evicted or forced to leave without a plan. That is a heartbreaking reality many families could face.

The EHV program has done more than provide housing – it has allowed me to support my family. It has helped me keep food on the table, pay for necessities, and provide for my son's needs. Without this assistance, it would become much more difficult to afford basic living expenses. Even with the voucher, my family is already struggling with rising costs, including high utility bills such as Con Edison expenses. Furthermore, the possibility of losing EHV assistance creates emotional stress and anxiety. Instead of focusing on spending time with my family, working hard, and building a better future for my son, I now find myself having to explain why I deserve help and why my family deserves housing stability. It is emotionally draining to constantly worry about whether we will have a place to live.

For five years, EHV has helped families achieve stability, safety, and independence. I respectfully ask that decision-makers consider the devastating impact that ending this funding



will have on families like mine. A home is more than just a place to live – it is safety, security, peace, and stability.

Please continue to support myself and families in need and allow us to remain in the homes we have worked so hard to maintain. My son and I deserve the opportunity to continue building our future in the place we proudly call home.

From: Aletha Singleton, EHV Holder

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Aletha Singleton. I am a mother, a provider, and currently an Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) holder. I am writing to share how the impending end of the EHV program is threatening to tear apart the stable life I have built for my children.

When my family received an EHV voucher, it was a lifeline. It allowed me to secure a safe, stable home where my children could thrive.

Because of this housing stability, my daughter is currently attending college and working toward a bright future. Furthermore, this home

When my family received an EHV voucher, it was a lifeline. It allowed me to secure a safe, stable home where my children could thrive.

Because of this housing stability, my daughter is currently attending college and working toward a bright future. Furthermore, this home has provided the predictable, secure environment that my son, who is autistic, absolutely requires to navigate the world safely.

Now, because the federal government is allowing EHV funds to deplete early, my family is facing the terrifying reality of displacement.

To say this is unfortunate is an understatement

—it is devastating. The thought of losing our home and being forced back into housing instability fills me with dread. The disruption to my daughter's education and the severe impact that losing a familiar environment will have on my autistic son is keeping me awake at night. The EHV voucher did exactly what it was supposed to do: it rescued a vulnerable family and gave us a foundation to build on.

Taking it away now collapses that foundation entirely.

Families like mine cannot simply absorb the cost of market-rate rent, nor should we be penalized for a federal funding shortfall. I am testifying today to urge our housing authorities and lawmakers to provide immediate, seamless transitions to permanent housing subsidies for all current EHV holders.

We need protection, we need continuity, and we need to know that our families will not be left behind when the funding runs out.

Thank you for your time and for listening to my family's story.

Sincerely,

Aletha Singleton

Buenos días. Gracias al Concejo Municipal de la Ciudad y en especial al Presidente Banks, por darme la oportunidad de presentar mi testimonio sobre el programa EHV administrado por NYCHA.

Es de mucha satisfacción compartir mi experiencia con los miembros del Consejo Municipal, ya que por medio de estas vivencias les puedo testificar todo lo que pase como sobreviviente de violencia doméstica, quiero decirles que gracias a la ayuda ofrecida por New Destiny encontré una vivienda digna para mis hijos, donde nos sentimos libres de todo abuso y de maltratos. Mis hijos sienten lo que es un hogar libre de violencia y traumas.

En mi caso, viví con un hombre narcisista que odiaba a mis hijos y mi madre, que me maltrato en todos los sentidos, tanto emocional como psicológico, tanto a mí y a mis hijos, y me usaba para lo que él quería.

Con la ayuda del programa federal *Emergency Housing Voucher* (EHV), un vale de asistencia a la vivienda, pude lograr darles más estabilidad a mis hijos. New Destiny me ayudó con el proceso de búsqueda y el papeleo para encontrar mi departamento. Ahora el mismo vale que nos dio seguridad, nos está causando un proceso de retraumatización, desde que nos hemos enterado de que el gobierno federal ha decidido desfinanciar el programa antes de tiempo.

Aunque el programa fue originalmente financiado hasta 2030, la administración de Trump ha anunciado que el financiamiento se ha agotado, poniendo en riesgo a 50,000 hogares en todo el país. Los hogares con EHV se encuentran en todos los distritos de la ciudad de Nueva York.

NYCHA administra 5,200 vales EHV, incluyendo el mío. Entre esos hogares hay 1,144 sobrevivientes de violencia doméstica como yo, y 600 jóvenes que huyeron de sus hogares o se encontraban sin hogar. La única solución que NYCHA nos ha ofrecido hasta ahora es que solicitemos una transferencia a vivienda dentro de NYCHA. Y eso no es viable. Simplemente no hay unidades disponibles para todos nosotros. Además, esto significa una mudanza, para la cual no nos están facilitando fondos.

La solución más directa es CityFHEPS. Pero la elegibilidad actual exige haber pasado por un albergue del DHS, lo que excluye a muchas de nosotras. Les pido que amplíen la elegibilidad de CityFHEPS a las familias con NYCHA EHV y que incluyan los fondos en el presupuesto del año fiscal 2027. Esto permitirá que los sobrevivientes de violencia doméstica, como yo y mis hijos, podamos permanecer en los hogares que tanto esfuerzo nos ha costado reconstruir.

Necesitamos que la ciudad nos ampare ya que el gobierno federal nos ha fallado.

Le doy gracias a Dios primero y a New Destiny, que durante mi proceso de violencia doméstica me dieron ese apoyo. Ahora que enfrentamos otro momento de crisis, pongo

mi confianza en Dios y en los funcionarios públicos, para que escuchen mi plegaria y se aseguren de que mi hogar — así como los miles de otros que dependen de NYCHA EHV — tengan un lugar seguro donde vivir y cuidar de sus familias.

Creo en que le será posible.

Gracias 🙏 y bendiciones a todos.

Neoyorquina, madre, sobreviviente de violencia doméstica, e integrante del programa Voces de Cambio de New Destiny Housing

Adjunto fotos del hogar en donde vivo con mis hijos gracias al EHV, donde nos sentimos seguros y quisiéramos permanecer:







To: New York City Council

CC: Committee on Public Housing and Committee on Finance

Date: June 13, 2026

Subject: In Support of Comprehensive Modernization and a Moratorium on PACT/RAD

My name is Ariana Faye Allensworth, and I am a District 1 resident and the creator of *Staying Power*, a public history and publishing project documenting the experiences, histories, and expertise of NYCHA residents.

I'm writing to oppose Zohran's proposed budget for public housing. I join Save Section 9, Citywide Council of Presidents, Neighbors Helping Neighbors, Residents to Preserve Public Housing, and Save Section 9's call for a moratorium on privatization through PACT/RAD and for greater public investment in comprehensive modernization of Section 9 public housing.

Zohran's proposed budget for public housing should alarm us all. It is the largest transfer of public monies and assets in recent history. And it will destroy the only truly affordable housing we have in NYC.

Through my work, I have spent years collaborating with public housing residents to document oral histories, photographs, and community knowledge. Again and again, I have encountered a disconnect between the dominant public narrative about public housing and the reality of the communities themselves.

Public housing is often portrayed as a failed system defined by neglect and disrepair. Yet this narrative overlooks the decades of federal, state, and local disinvestment that produced these conditions in the first place. It also obscures the fact that public housing remains one of the most significant sources of permanently affordable housing in New York City and a critical anchor for hundreds of thousands of residents.

As both a researcher, artist, and cultural worker committed to housing justice, I am deeply concerned by the growing assumption that privatization is the inevitable solution to NYCHA's challenges. Across the country, public housing has been systematically dismantled through policies that frame public ownership as a failure while shifting public assets into private hands. New York should not continue down that path without rigorous public scrutiny and meaningful accountability to residents.

The stories I have collected through *Staying Power* make clear that residents are not simply tenants of a housing program. They are stewards of communities, keepers of

neighborhood history, and experts in what their developments need to thrive. Their voices must be central to decisions about the future of public housing.

I urge the Council to reject the assumption that privatization is the only viable path forward for public housing and instead pursue policies that strengthen public ownership, public accountability, and resident leadership.

Specifically, I support Save Section 9's calls to:

- Institute a moratorium on further privatization through RAD, PACT, and the Public Housing Preservation Trust pending an independent impact study of these programs.
- Establish a pathway for developments converted through RAD/PACT to return to Section 9 public housing, preserving future democratic control over these public assets.
- Expand meaningful tenant participation and democratic oversight in decisions that fundamentally alter public housing governance.
- Develop a new organizational plan for NYCHA in partnership with residents and the Federal Monitor that prioritizes the long-term stewardship of Section 9 housing.
- Invest in NYCHA's workforce by expanding union jobs, apprenticeships, and resident hiring pathways that improve quality of life across developments while rebuilding the public sector's capacity to manage and maintain housing directly.

Public housing is more than a collection of buildings. It is a public resource, a repository of community history, and one of New York City's most important commitments to housing as a public good. The future of public housing should remain public.

In Solidarity,

Ariana Faye Allensworth
District 1 Resident

Good afternoon, Chair and members of the Committee.

My name is Biannie Garcia, and I am an Emergency Housing Voucher recipient.

I am here today because I am deeply concerned about what will happen to people like me if Emergency Housing Voucher funding runs out.

I have been dealing with housing insecurity since 2003. For years, I struggled to keep a roof over my head, went back and forth to Housing Court, searched for affordable housing, and applied for every housing opportunity I could find. Like many New Yorkers, I spent years trying to navigate a housing system that was difficult to access.

I was on the waiting list for a Housing Choice Voucher beginning around 2000. I waited for decades for housing assistance.

In 2023, I finally received an Emergency Housing Voucher. For the first time in a very long time, I had stability and peace of mind. The voucher gave me the opportunity to live without the constant fear of losing my housing.

Today, I am facing the possibility that the Emergency Housing Voucher program could lose funding. What makes this especially frightening is that my understanding is that I am no longer on the Housing Choice Voucher waiting list because I accepted an Emergency Housing Voucher. After waiting so many years for assistance, I now face the possibility of losing my current voucher while also having no path back to the program I spent decades waiting for.

People who accepted Emergency Housing Vouchers in good faith should not be left without housing because of circumstances beyond their control. We followed the rules, accepted the assistance that was offered, and worked hard to build stability in our lives.

I urge the Council to advocate for protections for current EHV recipients, including transitioning EHV households into permanent housing assistance, restoring access to other voucher programs when appropriate, and ensuring that no one loses their home because federal funding has run out.

After more than twenty years of waiting and more than two decades of housing insecurity, I am simply asking for the chance to remain safely and stably housed.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and for your attention to this important issue.

From: [seven kings](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Committee on Public Housing Testimony – EHV and Housing Choice Voucher Stability”
Date: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 1:29:05 AM

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Good morning Chairperson and members of the Committee on Public Housing.

My name is Cece Kromah, I am a domestic violence survivor, a person living with retinal sickle cell disease and

related health complications, a working New Yorker, and a mother.

Today, I ask you to consider what happens to families like mine if there is uncertainty surrounding

Emergency Housing Vouchers. Stable housing is the foundation that allows me to remain safe, healthy, employed, and active in my community.

I currently work for a nonprofit organization and also serve as a Doula Apprentice through the NYC

Doula Initiative. I am helping support mothers and families during one of the most important moments of their lives. In fact, I live directly across from one of the hospitals where I am training and giving birth support. I also go to that hospital for my treatment treatments as well.

I am also the proud mother of a straight-A New York City student. Who starts his first job in a few days of which he's extremely excited about; Like thousands of other working

New Yorkers with housing assistance, I am doing everything society asks of me. I enjoy working hard and trying to give back as much as I can .

I want to share something personal. My sickle cell diagnosis and my experience as a survivor of

domestic violence are not things I discuss openly. I am a private person, and I do not want to be

defined as a victim. However, I felt it was important to share these parts of my story today so that

the Council can put a face to the people who would be affected by housing instability.

Since receiving information suggesting that my housing assistance may not be permanent, I have

actively searched for alternative housing resources. I have reached out to multiple city agencies

seeking guidance, but because I currently have a voucher, I am repeatedly told there is little they

can do unless I first lose my housing assistance. The reality is that if that were to happen, I could be

at risk of homelessness and potentially forced into the shelter system before becoming eligible for

additional help. I have nowhere else to go.

That uncertainty leaves me feeling stuck in limbo. As a mother, one of the hardest parts is that I am

afraid to tell my child that our housing situation could become uncertain in the future. I do not want

my child carrying that burden, so I carry that worry alone.

For someone living with a disability, that uncertainty creates tremendous stress, anxiety, and fear. I

respectfully ask: What would you have someone like me do? I am working. I am contributing. I am

raising a successful child. I am overcoming domestic violence and managing a serious medical condition.

The average rent in New York City now exceeds \$5,300 per month. For many working families,

Housing Choice Vouchers are not a luxury—they are a lifeline.

I respectfully urge the Council to support long-term housing stability for EHV households and to

explore pathways for eligible participants to transition into regular Housing Choice Voucher assistance whenever possible.

Thank you for your time, your service, and your consideration

Cece

We oppose the mayor's proposed public housing budget, which is the largest transfer of public resources to private entities in recent history and jeopardizes precious, truly affordable housing.

The mayor wants to transfer management authority, development rights, long-term leaseholds, and revenue opportunities associated with public assets to private entities under the promise of:

- Repairs for tenants,
- Less constituent demands on council members, and
- Lower costs for the public.

But the PACT/RAD program fails us all. PACT privatizes public housing, hands over the units to private management under long-term leases, and costs taxpayers twice as much.

The Mayor's budget allocates \$1.3 billion dollars toward privatization while continuing a pattern of underinvestment in Section 9 public housing. This approach asks taxpayers to invest in public housing buildings earmarked for privatization. If taxpayers are funding the rehabilitation of buildings, why should private entities manage them for perpetuity?

Meanwhile, Section 9 developments not accepting privatization will continue to wait for basic repairs. This budget harms tenants via PACT, a program that increases evictions, dilutes tenant rights, and increases rental burden.

A privatization strategy is only fiscally justifiable if it lowers costs, preserves public value, and improves outcomes. PACT does none of these.

This is why the Citywide Council Of Presidents, Residents to Preserve Public Housing, Neighbors Helping Neighbors and Save Section 9 are calling for all funds to be invested in [comprehensive modernization](#) and put a moratorium on PACT pending an impact study.

The council must determine if privatization is delivering the outcomes promised to both tenants and taxpayers. Concerns raised by tenants, lawyers and the NYC Comptroller regarding tenant hardships under PACT raise important questions about whether these programs are producing the public benefits that justify their costs.

If taxpayers are paying more while tenants face increased housing instability and diminished public accountability, the financial assumptions underlying privatization deserve renewed scrutiny.

In the meantime the responsible choice is to shift public funds away from privatization and toward comprehensive modernization of Section 9 public housing.

We further urge the Council to establish a dedicated "Save Section 9" funding stream supported by [sustainable revenue sources](#) we've identified at the city, state, and federal levels. Protecting public housing is not only the socially responsible choice — it is the fiscally responsible choice.

Taxpayer investments should produce lasting public value, preserve public ownership, and strengthen one of New York City's most important public assets for generations to come.

Chairperson and members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. My name is Eva Jacroux, and I am a case manager working at one of New York City's multiple safe havens. I work daily with New Yorkers transitioning out of shelter into permanent housing. However, I, and other case managers across the city, are encountering an administrative issue that is blocking thousands of New Yorkers from housing: IDNYC requires a photo ID to get a photo ID.

Houseless individuals need a photo ID to apply for the 2010e supportive housing and HRA benefits to receive public assistance, or to be eligible for HRA administered programs like CityFHEPS and SOTA¹.

Populations experiencing instability such as runaway and homeless youth, victims of domestic violence, immigrants, houseless individuals who have experienced sweeps and evictions, and mentally ill individuals in unstable living environments are especially likely to not have – or have never had – a form of government-issued photo ID. **All of these populations are clientele served by NYC Safe Havens.**

Currently, IDNYC accepts client caretakers from a handful of health-related city departments who can vouch for their client's identities in place of photo IDs. **However, in what I consider to be a huge oversight, this shortlist does not include the Department of Homeless Services.**

DHS safe haven shelters often serve as a catchall for New York's most vulnerable populations. While these clients would be better served in medical facilities, they are confined to the shelter system and are ineligible for the very programs they need due to a lack of documentation needed to apply for services (such as a photo ID or other forms of identification which require a photo ID). Whether they are fleeing abuse, or have had their documents stolen or thrown away, the current IDNYC rules make it impossible to replace the very documentation required to apply for critical services. **These New Yorkers are condemned to a life-long stay in transitional housing and chronic homelessness.**

Two Administrative Fixes:

¹ Further issues identified:

1. IDNYC requires documentation with a birthdate: a birth certificate, Medicaid card, etc. A. You cannot apply for a birth certificate without a photo ID unless you can physically go to a vital records office (may be born out of state, may still not accept this) B. Undocumented clients cannot receive Medicaid unless it is emergency Medicaid provided at the hospital.

2. IDNYC only accepts original documents (original birth certificate, original social security card) - not copies. This is a major barrier if (1) you cannot reapply for original documents given the barriers defined above, or (2) are an immigrant and would need to contact your home country for an original document.

1. **Primary** Add DHS to caretaker list: DHS case managers can waive photo requirements for IDNYC - Unblocks housing for shelter clients. Currently, IDNYC only accepts: NYS Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD), NYS Department of Health (DOH), NYS Office of Mental Health (OMH), NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH)

2. **Back up** Accept physician statements: Physicians sign a statement verifying patient identity (This is currently accepted by the Social Security Administration as proof of identity when applying for SS card).

My Clients' Stories

1. My client who was adopted from Mongolia and became a German citizen, later married an American man and became an American citizen. This man withheld her documents as a form of abuse and eventually destroyed them altogether. She is essentially undocumented and is internally displaced, unable to apply for permanent housing or public assistance.

2. My elderly client from Appalachia who grew up in an unstable home was seemingly never issued a photo ID. He cannot remember where or when his parents would have kept a birth certificate, photo ID, or social security card. He has been chronically homeless his whole life. We recently got him Medicaid so he can now access healthcare but is still blocked from public assistance and permanent housing.

3. My client who has a traumatic brain injury and schizoaffective disorder cannot remember when or how he left his home. We recently recovered his social security number by tracing his hospitalization record. He has been chronically street homeless and does have a vague memory of being a victim of a sweep in which all his belongings were disposed of. This may have included any documentation we could use to get him identification. He is currently blocked from public assistance and permanent housing.

Essentially, the work around for client 2 and 3 is that I am applying for Access-A-Ride which provides government-issued photo IDs for their members. They qualify for Access-A-Ride because they are disabled. They also will be receiving Medicaid cards that have their birthdates on it. There are many hurdles in this process - including if Access-A-Ride decides to decline them or change their policy and do not issue photo IDs anymore. Further, their housing processes have been delayed weeks to months due to needing to apply for Access-A-Ride. My first client is not disabled and does not qualify for Access-A-Ride, and will not be able to receive an IDNYC.

Please reach out if you have further questions,

Eva Jacroux | Case Manager and concerned New York resident| eva@jacroux.com

To: New York City Council.

CC: Committee on Public Housing

Date: June 10th, 2026

Subject: Oppose PACT and institute comprehensive modernization for NYCHA

Dear members of the committee,

I am a union organizer and longtime tenant in rent stabilized housing here in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. I oppose all further funding for PACT conversions and support publicly managed, comprehensive modernization of Section 9.

When I heard that Mayor Mamdani's FY2027 budget included billions in funding for NYCHA, I was initially overjoyed, until I saw the fine print. \$2.6 billion for PACT and \$1.5 billion of that for additional conversions and privatization. That's not only an ineffective and fiscally irresponsible use of funds, it is playing directly into the hands of real estate developers who will jump at the opportunity to exploit public land for their own profit. We are talking about real estate developers like Related, the developer behind the Hudson Yards project that delivered next to nothing in community benefit in Chelsea while gentrifying and increasing living expenses for residents like my parents, uncles, and grandpa who live in Penn South. Hudson Yards was built on public land. The public should have benefited, and that benefit should have exceeded the potential profits from any private developer.

It's time we put an end to the practice of giving away our public land for the enrichment of multi-billion dollar private developers. We need to start thinking more ambitiously about how the city government can actually do the work of providing public services to working people.

Private companies are not more skilled, efficient, or effective at providing public services. Let's end that myth once and for all. When fully funded and democratically accountable, public services are the gold standard. NYC's Section 9 NYCHA has the potential to set an example for the rest of the country by committing to comprehensive modernization and sustainable management. PACT conversions cost taxpayers twice as much, lead to a lack of accountability, and make NYCHA residents' living situations less stable. The \$1.5 billion set aside for further PACT conversions should be shifted away from privatization and instead go to comprehensive modernization and sustainable public management of our Section 9 NYCHA housing. The city should also set a baseline of funding dedicated to the comprehensive modernization effort that will be included in every budget going forward.

Another radical idea— instead of privatizing, convert struggling NYCHA housing into limited equity coops that are controlled and owned by the tenants themselves. Give the billions you've earmarked for privatization directly to a democratically elected tenant board for investing in their homes' renewal, instead of huge companies like Related.

I support Save Section 9's solutions and sustainable revenue sources copied below:

Sustainable Revenue Sources

We urge the adoption of legislative proposals that increase the city and state's revenue. The revenue created by these would fund a budget line item and ensure rehabilitation and expansion of Section 9 is fiscally sustainable.

- In New York City 10% of the Fair Share Act would result in \$400M annually for Section 9.
- At the state level 5% of the Repeal of Stock Trade Tax (STT) Rebate Act would secure \$3B for Section 9.
- Nationally 5% of the Make Billionaires Pay Their Fair Share Act would create \$22B for Section 9.

Solutions

1. **Institute a moratorium on privatization via Project Based Section 8** (RAD/ PACT and the Public Housing Preservation Trust). NYCHA could use this time to assess their performance, recalibrate and refocus on their core responsibility, managing Section 9 in NYC. The moratorium should be reliant on an impact study being conducted by the Government Accountability Office as requested by Congresswoman Maxine Waters in 2023.
2. **Establish a pathway back to Section 9.** RAD/ PACT is fundamentally anti-democratic because it strips tenants, cities, states and Congress of policy flexibility. The lack of a return mechanism erodes public assets, and leads to permanent public-sector shrinkage without future voter consent.
3. **Democratize the privatization process.** Project-Based Section 8 transforms public housing governance without creating equivalent democratic protections for tenants. Tenants experience privatization as something done to them rather than governed with them.
4. **Develop new guidelines for an organizational plan** in tandem with the Federal Monitor. The last plan was fiercely denounced by tenants and adopted in spite of our objections. We recommend this plan be inspired by the operational plans of 1965-1970.
5. **Encourage and support NYCHA's growth.** Ensure that hiring focuses on securing union personnel for roles that improve tenants' quality of life. Each

development should have a plumber, a carpenter, and enough building porters to assign two porters to each building. We would make plasterers and painters the second wave of hiring. These roles should provide apprenticeships to tenants and lean on Section 3.

In solidarity,

Jeremy Gottfried

June 17,2026

To : TheNew York City Council

From: EHV Tenant Kristine Ingram

I would like to first express that I'm extremely grateful that the New York City Council is providing an opportunity for EHV tenants to provide our testimony and express our need for stability and to maintain housing. I do understand that in terms of government and in public administration we are living in unprecedented times. However, without being said I do still feel strongly that each individual among the EHV program should not be disregarded and left with limited to no options in terms of housing. I would like to again express how I'm extremely grateful for my EHV subsidy as it has provided me a sense of safety that I have not necessarily benefited from through all my years of trying to obtain safe and stable housing in New York City. I'm here to provide my testimony.

I obtained the Emergency Housing Voucher through me being a victim of a domestic violence incident back in 2022. During the time I was residing with an extended family member in my neighborhood of Queens with my extended relative and also my ex-boyfriend in a home which I later found he was illegally occupying. During this time I was beginning my career and working for a non -profit organization with an organization that works closely with law enforcement and I felt extremely empowered and was looking forward to the future. My ex-boyfriend was severely mentally ill and would continuously verbally abuse me and menace me with weapons and his friends would have to intervene. I recall one particular day I finally had the courage to end the relationship in which my ex-boyfriend did not accept that I was ready to end the relationship and focus on myself and helping myself. My ex-boyfriend slashed my tires as retaliation and I was in disbelief that he did such a thing. At this time I was fearful to tell my relative that I lived with that this happened to me in fear that she would kick me out due to the drama of what had occurred. I was unsure what to do because members of my community would label me a snitch or untrustworthy if I reported it to the police. However, due to my role at that time I understood that I was unjustly wronged and I needed to tell someone trustworthy. I took the first step and discussed with the officers that I worked with at the 104 precinct Domestic Violence Officers and told them what had occurred, in which they empowered me to report this to the police in my jurisdiction. Furthermore, I reported the incident and due to the evidence he was arrested and an order of protection was issued to me for protection. I spoke to the Assistant District Attorney assigned to the case and informed him that I would like to have an order of protection against him; however , I need to speak to someone regarding moving because I'm extremely fearful of him retaliating against me. With then he later attempted to commit suicide and was admitted to the psych ward in Jamaica Hospital and blamed me for it which is something I still deal with and

seek mental health therapy for. What I've learned through therapy is that this was an act of manipulation and the behaviors of a person with narcissist disorder.

I reached out to the higher ups at my job and expressed concern for my safety and that I need assistance with a job transfer because he knew where I worked and that If possible I would need assistance with finding an apartment. With Advocacy from the leadership at my employer and the Assistant District Attorney they were able to connect me with the Family Justice Center in Manhattan and this is when I was informed about the Emergency Housing Voucher and screened for eligibility. I was determined eligible for the voucher and once issued the voucher I had a responsibility to secure my own apartment and that is what was the hardest part . When I was issued the voucher I was informed I would have it for 10 years.

I was then connected with a housing navigator at New Destiny Housing Kare Hernandez empowered me and assisted me every step of the way with the leasing process and to assure everything was seamless. After almost a year of looking for an apartment and being turned down due to credit issues, and then being indirectly discriminated against for having a subsidy I was contacted through the Housing Connect Lottery. When I was connected I was in disbelief because I had applied for the lottery for years and never been picked so I was highly excited to have a chance. I was selected for an apartment in Manhattan away from where the incident had occurred and I thought I had a chance at safety.

Moving into my first apartment was challenging but also rewarding at the same time and I have been able to take all the necessary steps to become safe which included at the time changing my job and avoiding going back to Queens as much as possible. I'm truly grateful for the EHV voucher because it has changed my life and provided me the opportunity to begin my own life and to leave behind all the horrible things that happened to me in Queens. Since residing in my apartment for the past 4 years I have grown so much personally and professionally. I'm currently a graduate student pursuing my Masters in Public Administration and I'm projected to graduate in 2027 which I'm looking forward to. I have been able to focus on my health goals in which I lost a total of 160 pounds. I truly believe if I never was given the EHV voucher and given the opportunity to move to a safe area I would have never been able to grow as much as I have.

With there being defunding of EHV and other programs this will put myself and other victims of domestic violence at risk for homelessness and more importantly more vulnerable to victimization again. NYCHA having plans to put EHV tenants in NYCHA public housing is NOT a viable plan. As someone who did live in NYCHA at one point in time, I experienced victimization within my own household when I lived in NYCHA with my stepfather at the time and stepsister that was family violence. After that victimization occurred I decided to move in with a friend to complete my undergraduate program. Historically NYCHA unfortunately has not been the safest for most New Yorkers and especially those who have never been exposed to NYCHA. As a single woman I'm very fearful to move into NYCHA and I have embedded myself in my current community with my doctors, as well as my mental health therapist and psychiatrist. NYCHA unfortunately has an overwhelming number of issues and complexities and as someone who battles with depression and anxiety this has caused my depression to be

heightened as my fear of being victimized and being a target is extremely a reality. As I know when a person who is new to NYCHA resides in they are immediately targeted and at times plotted against. I do understand the politics and the lack of support from the federal government in extending the voucher however, I do not believe it's fair that political propaganda is impacting individuals ability to remain in safe and stable housing. As a country we should not allow this to be the precedent of not granting our citizens the opportunity to have autonomy in their housing situation.

This program was expected to be in place for a much longer duration under the Biden Administration so it leaves the question of where the proposed funds for EHV was allocated to. As a victim of domestic violence I took every precaution to remain safe and steady and also assure I pay my portion of my rent on time every month.

However, I strongly urge the New York City Council to please advocate with HUD and the federal government to allow EHV participants to remain within our subsidy as this will leave many participants displaced and back in the shelters or even worse in the homes of our abusers. With EHV participants being misinformed and promised stable housing for 10 years to now having to live on edge with the unpredictably of our housing is very chilling. Also other EHV participants such as HPD being able to transition to the HCV program and this not being extended to NYCHA EHV's is extremely unfair especially when last year I was informed my voucher would change to HCV, because this has not occurred this has led me to be uncertain about my future when my goal is to be able to focus and graduate from school next year.

As someone who is studying Public Administration and has worked in multiple sectors this has to be a clear example of advocacy and bi-partisanship.

I strongly urge our state government and the New York City Council to advocate with HUD to allow EHV participants to remain in our apartments with EHV subsidy as we have come extremely far and it would be disappointing to see all our efforts to go in vain.

From: [Maisha Cooper](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Supplemental Written Testimony Regarding the End of Emergency Housing Vouchers
Date: Wednesday, June 17, 2026 3:30:00 PM

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Subject:

Hello Council Members,

My name is Maisha Cooper. I testified today by phone, but I am submitting this written testimony because I do not feel I was able to fully express what I needed to say. I was in a public setting and did not feel safe discussing some of the most traumatic parts of my experience. The time allowed was not enough to explain how the end of the Emergency Housing Voucher program has affected my family.

I am a survivor of severe domestic violence. For years, I endured physical, sexual, and psychological abuse. I was strangled, beaten with objects, sexually assaulted, abused while pregnant, and attacked so violently that parts of my body were bitten as if I were a meal. The trauma I experienced did not end when I escaped. Survivors carry those experiences with them every day.

After my final attack, I was blessed to receive an Emergency Housing Voucher. At that time, I was terrified. I carried an emergency device around my neck that could alert police if my abuser, the father of my children, appeared. I had monitoring systems in my home because I was living in constant fear.

The EHV voucher allowed me to leave New York City and relocate my family to Alexandria, Virginia. For the first time in years, we had peace.

My oldest son thrived there. He was an honor-roll student involved in JROTC, leadership programs, competitions, mentoring, and community activities at Alexandria City High School. My daughter was active in Girl Scouts, marched in the Irish Parade in Old Town, made blankets for animal shelters, sold cookies, attended camping trips, and had a healthy community around her. My youngest daughter attended daycare where she could simply be a child. She played on safe playgrounds, watched bunnies hop through the grass, and enjoyed the kind of childhood every parent hopes their child can have.

For the first time in a very long time, we had safety. We had stability. We had a home.

Then everything began to fall apart.

In February 2025, I learned that approximately \$8,000 in rent had not been paid. To this day, I do not fully understand why. I was never given a clear explanation as to how such a large

balance accumulated or why the payments were not being made.

Eventually, organizations came together to pay the balance, but even then I was left with more questions than answers. My councilwoman became involved because the situation was so serious. She worked to help me understand what was happening and later promised me that she would do everything she could to ensure what happened to my family never happened to another family.

At the same time, I learned that my lease would not be renewed. To this day, I cannot say with certainty why. I do not know whether it was because of the payment issues, because the EHV program was ending, or for some other reason. What I do know is that nobody was transparent with me. Information was vague, inconsistent, and constantly changing.

I spent months trying to understand what was happening, trying to get answers, and trying to save my family's housing. But clear answers never came.

I was eventually left with roughly one month to figure out where my family would go next. Alexandria, Virginia did not have shelter options readily available to us, and waiting lists were long. I had no realistic choice but to return to New York City.

On October 27, 2025, my children and I entered the New York City shelter system.

After everything we had survived to escape domestic violence, after finally building a safe and stable life in Virginia, we found ourselves right back in a shelter.

It was devastating.

We lost our home. I lost the job I loved. I had worked in a school assisting a nonverbal kindergarten student and had built a meaningful career using my training, my medical assistant certification, and my experience supporting children. That was taken away.

My children lost their schools, their friends, their activities, their mentors, and the community they loved.

My son lost his JROTC program, competitions, leadership opportunities, and the future he had been building. He has always been a straight-A student. His academic success is part of who he is. Because of all the disruption and displacement, he now has to attend summer school despite years of academic achievement.

Recently, he returned to Virginia to visit friends and attend graduation events at Alexandria City High School. He does not want to come back. He is asking my brother if he can stay because Virginia still feels like home. He simply wants to finish high school in peace.

My daughters lost their stability too. They lost routines, friendships, activities, and a sense of security.

While living in shelter, I searched tirelessly for housing. Eventually I found an apartment at Dunbar Apartments in Harlem. I finally believed my family would be able to rebuild.

My move-in date was May 20, 2026, which was also my daughter's birthday.

Shortly before moving in, while I was still living at Gails Manor Family Shelter, I contacted the New York City Housing Authority Customer Service Section 8 Department to check on the status of my HAP contract so I could receive my keys and move into my apartment.

That phone call is how I found out EHV was no longer funded. The receptionist was brutal with her delivery and showed zero sympathy nor empathy. I requested an email or documentation in the mail about this voucher. Almost 2 months in since I've found out I've still received zero documentation of the program ending.

I was confused because I had not received any notice, warning, package, or communication explaining what was happening. If I had not taken the initiative to call and check the status myself, I may not have known at all.

I remember sitting there trying to process the information. My blood pressure shot through the roof. I felt like I was having an out-of-body experience.

Once again, after everything my family had survived, we were facing uncertainty.

I had already begun planning for my children. I was finding programs for my son, including mentoring opportunities, boxing programs, and activities to support his mental health after everything he had lost.

Then suddenly it felt like another storm was coming.

Today I am in an apartment, but I do not feel secure. I arrived with air mattresses and bags. I still hesitate to fully settle in. I find myself asking why I should buy furniture, unpack everything, or make long-term plans if everything can be taken away again.

What hurts the most is hearing language that minimizes what families are going through.

During today's hearing, I heard a statement that families need to participate because "you have to be in it to win it."

That statement was offensive, dismissive, and deeply out of touch.

This is not a lottery.

This is not a game.

This is not about winning.

These are our homes.

These are our children.

These are survivors of domestic violence.

These are families who have already endured abuse, homelessness, displacement, trauma, and instability.

We have already been "in it."

We survived it.

We lived it.

We carried it.

We buried pieces of ourselves in it.

To hear our futures compared to a lottery was painful.

I also heard laughter and casual conversation throughout portions of the hearing. Maybe those moments were unrelated to testimony, but when people are sharing some of the most painful experiences of their lives, hearing laughter is difficult to hear.

Families are discussing whether they will remain housed.

Mothers are discussing trauma.

Children are losing stability.

There is nothing left.

The Emergency Housing Voucher gave my family something priceless: safety, peace, and the opportunity to heal.

Now we are being asked to live with uncertainty again.

Housing authorities knew this funding was ending. Agencies knew families depended on this program. There should have been a transition plan long before we reached this point.

Families should not have been left scrambling for answers.

Families should not have been left confused.

Families should not have been left wondering whether they should enroll their children in programs, buy furniture, establish roots, or plan for the future.

Families like mine did everything we were supposed to do. We rebuilt our lives. We followed the rules. We worked. We raised our children. We found housing. We survived.

And yet here we are again.

I do not want to hear about budgets. I want accountability.

The agencies responsible for protecting families knew this day was coming, and they failed to create a plan for the people who trusted them.

My family deserved better.

Every EHV family deserved better.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Maisha Cooper

I oppose Zohran's proposed budget for public housing. Zohran's proposed budget for public housing should alarm us all. It is the largest transfer of public monies and assets in recent history. And it will destroy the only truly affordable housing we have in NYC.

Zohran wants to transfer management authority, development rights, long-term leaseholds, and revenue opportunities associated with public assets to private entities under the promise of:

- Repairs for tenants,
- Less constituent demands on councilmembers and,
- Lower costs for the public.

But the PACT/RAD program fails us all. PACT privatizes public housing, hands over the units to private management under long-term leases, and costs taxpayers twice as much.

From: [Mildred Martinez](#)
To: menin@council.nyc.gov
Cc: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Subject: NYCHA Accountability, RAD/PACT Concerns, and Immediate Oversight Under New Leadership
Date: Monday, June 15, 2026 10:44:35 PM

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Testimony

Date: June 15, 2026

To: Speaker Julie Menin,

NYCHA residents continue to live with mold, heating failures, broken elevators, and years-long repair delays. These conditions are not new—they are documented, persistent, and unresolved.

At the same time, Mayor Mamdani’s budget should explicitly acknowledge and commit to “Save Section 9” as a real effort to protect the city’s last remaining deeply affordable housing. He should take that position seriously by reviewing the concerns being raised and assembling an independent team to investigate longstanding issues surrounding NYCHA’s finances and the RAD/PACT (Section 8) program. Yet within the first 166 days of his administration, there has been no visible action in that direction. Instead, these programs continue to move forward at full speed, advancing permanent changes to public housing without first addressing unresolved questions of accountability and transparency.

RAD/PACT conversions are expanding. Demolition and redevelopment plans such as Fulton Elliott-Chelsea are advancing. These are not temporary policies; they are permanent restructurings of public housing.

They are moving forward without resolving core financial questions.

Audits and federal oversight have already identified gaps in financial tracking, contract oversight, \$100 million uncountable and capital accountability. These issues span multiple administrations from decisions under Mayor de Blasio, through Mayor Adams, and now continuing under Mayor Mamdani.

Residents are consistently told there is no funding while substantial public resources continue to move through systems that still lack full transparency.

That contradiction remains unresolved.

Many residents increasingly view RAD/PACT as a mechanism that shifts public housing into private control without first demonstrating that existing funds have been properly accounted for. At the same time, projects like Fulton Elliott-Chelsea are being accelerated, raising serious concerns about whether financial incentives not resident needs are driving these decisions.

If the issue is funding, then it must be addressed at the scale required.

The National Infrastructure Bank (NIB) offers a federal financing model designed to support large-scale infrastructure investment, including public housing rehabilitation, without relying on delayed and insufficient annual budgets.

Website: <https://www.nibcoalition.com/>

This is a viable pathway to begin addressing NYCHA's capital needs immediately. It should be actively pursued not ignored.

No more waiting on budgets that arrive late or incomplete.

No more advancing permanent policy changes without financial clarity.

No more oversight gaps while residents continue to live in unacceptable conditions.

As Speaker, you have the authority to act:

Demand a full, reconciled, public accounting of NYCHA funds across administrations
Convene hearings focused specifically on RAD/PACT financial structures and outcomes
Require transparency before approving further conversions or demolitions
Support large-scale financing solutions such as the National Infrastructure Bank
Ensure the Council is exercising independent oversight not simply co-signing executive decisions

NYCHA residents are not asking for anything beyond what they are entitled to: safe housing, clear accountability, and leadership that acts with urgency.

Right now, those standards are not being met.

This is the moment to correct that clearly, publicly, and without delay.

Sincerely,
Mildred Martinez
El Sonido Latino Presente
Voice for "We The People"

CC:

Committee on Public Housing
Committee on Finance

From: [Martha Flores-Vazquez](#)
To: [Mildred Martinez](#)
Cc: menin@council.nyc.gov; [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Subject: NYCHA Accountability, RAD/PACT Concerns, and Immediate Oversight Under New Leadership
Date: Monday, June 15, 2026 11:08:08 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe. Report suspected phishing emails with the Phish Alert Button or forward them to [REDACTED] as an attachment.

Very well said. Estoy con tigo

On Mon, Jun 15, 2026 at 10:41 PM Mildred Martinez [REDACTED] wrote:

Testimony

Date: June 15, 2026

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Mildred Martinez
El Sonido Latino Presente
Voice for "We The People"

CC:

Committee on Public Housing
Committee on Finance

Testimony Regarding Emergency Section 8 Housing Assistance

Good morning/afternoon,

My name is **Rahima Kalkan**, and I reside at [REDACTED], **Bayside, New York**. I am a single mother and a survivor of domestic violence.

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the planned termination of Emergency Section 8 Housing assistance at the end of this year.

This program has provided critical support to individuals and families facing financial hardship and rising housing costs. For my family, this assistance has been essential in helping us maintain a safe and stable home while rebuilding our lives.

As a single mother and domestic violence survivor, safe housing is not simply a convenience—it is a necessity. This assistance allows me to provide stability, security, and a safe environment for my child. Without this support, I fear that my family could face housing instability or even homelessness.

The cost of living continues to increase, while affordable housing remains limited. Ending Emergency Section 8 assistance without providing an alternative solution would place many vulnerable residents, including families with children, seniors, individuals with disabilities, and survivors of domestic violence, in an extremely difficult position.

Stable housing is essential for maintaining employment, supporting children's education, and promoting overall well-being. Housing assistance is not just financial support—it is an investment in stronger, healthier communities.

I respectfully urge decision-makers to extend Emergency Section 8 Housing assistance or create a meaningful transition plan that protects families from losing their homes. This program gives families like mine the opportunity to remain safe, stable, and self-sufficient while raising our children. No family should have to face homelessness because this vital assistance ends.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and commitment to supporting the residents of our community.

Respectfully,

Rahima Kalkan

[REDACTED]
Bayside, New York

Subject: NYCHA EHV Crisis – Act Now

Dear Mayor Mamdani,

My name is Rahima Kalkan, and I am your constituent. I am a survivor of domestic violence with an Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) administered by NYCHA, and I am at risk of losing my home.

NYCHA has notified me that EHV funding is running out. The only option offered to my family is to apply for public housing or another unit within NYCHA's portfolio, which would mean leaving the home and stability I have worked so hard to build for my child and family.

Even that option is not guaranteed. NYCHA does not have enough available apartments for all 5,200 EHV households that may be affected.

My family cannot return to homelessness. We cannot return to an unsafe situation. As a single mother and a survivor of domestic violence, stable housing is essential for the safety, well-being, and future of my child.

I respectfully urge city leaders to develop a real and viable plan for all 5,200 NYCHA EHV households before it is too late. Families like mine need security, stability, and a clear path forward.

We are counting on your leadership and immediate action.

Sincerely,

Rahima Kalkan

Testimony Regarding the NYCHA Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Crisis

Submitted by: Rahima Kalkan

Address: [REDACTED], Bayside, NY

To Mayor Mamdani, Members of the New York City Council, NYCHA Leadership, and State Legislators:

My name is Rahima Kalkan, and I am a New York City resident, a single mother, and a survivor of domestic violence. I am writing to urge immediate action regarding the future of the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) program administered by NYCHA.

My family and I depend on our EHV assistance to remain safely housed. We have been informed that EHV funding may be ending, and many families face the possibility of losing the homes they have worked hard to secure. For survivors of domestic violence and families who have experienced housing instability, this uncertainty is devastating.

NYCHA has indicated that affected households may apply for public housing or another NYCHA apartment. However, there are not enough available units for all approximately 5,200 EHV households that could be impacted. As a result, many families may be left without a realistic housing solution.

As a single mother, my greatest responsibility is providing a safe and stable home for my child. Returning to homelessness or an unsafe living situation is not an option. Stable housing allows my family to heal, work, attend school, and contribute to our community.

I respectfully ask city and state leaders to develop and implement a comprehensive plan that protects all NYCHA EHV households before funding expires. Families should not be forced to choose between homelessness and uncertainty.

Please take immediate action to ensure that vulnerable families, survivors of domestic violence, seniors, people with disabilities, and children do not lose their housing because of circumstances beyond their control.

Thank you for your attention and leadership on this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

Rahima Kalkan

CITY COUNCIL HEARING TESTIMONY

Subject: Protect Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Funding

Good evening, Council Members,

My name is Roselvis Roseman, and I am a resident of New York. I am a single mother and the primary caregiver of a child with autism. I am here today to respectfully ask you to preserve funding for the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Program.

My family was approved for an Emergency Housing Voucher in 2023 after experiencing domestic violence and homelessness. As a survivor of domestic violence, I was forced to leave an unsafe environment to protect myself and my child. We lost our housing and, with very limited resources and no stable place to go, we entered the shelter system.

The Emergency Housing Voucher program provided us with an opportunity to rebuild our lives after an incredibly traumatic period. When my voucher was approved, I understood that the assistance was intended to provide long-term housing stability for up to ten years. Based on that understanding, I worked hard to create a safe and stable home for my child and to move forward from the crisis that had displaced us.

Today, only three years later, I am facing the possibility of losing this assistance because of funding shortages. If that happens, my family could once again face homelessness.

As a single mother, my income is not sufficient to cover the full cost of rent in the current housing market. Despite working and doing everything within my power to remain self-sufficient, I cannot afford market-rate housing without assistance. Losing the voucher would place us at immediate risk of housing instability and displacement.

The consequences for my son would be especially severe. My child has autism and receives occupational therapy (OT), counseling services, and educational support through his school. These services are essential to his development, emotional well-being, and academic success. Children with autism often depend on consistency, routine, and stable environments. Being forced to move, change schools, lose service providers, or enter the shelter system again would be extremely disruptive and potentially harmful to his progress.

The stability provided by the EHV program has allowed my son to remain connected to the educational and therapeutic services he needs while giving our family a chance to recover from the trauma of domestic violence and homelessness. Removing that stability now would undo years of progress and place us back into crisis.

The EHV program was created to help some of the most vulnerable households, including survivors of domestic violence and families experiencing homelessness. My family is exactly the type of family this program was designed to protect. Ending assistance because funding has run out does not eliminate the need; it simply transfers the burden onto families who have nowhere else to turn.

I respectfully ask the Council to consider the real-life impact of these decisions. Behind every voucher is a family, a child, and a story. For my family, this voucher has meant safety, stability, recovery, and hope for the future. Without it, we face the possibility of returning to homelessness despite our best efforts to move forward.

Please protect EHV funding and prevent vulnerable families like mine from losing the housing stability that has allowed us to rebuild our lives.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and commitment to the residents of this community.

Respectfully,

Roselvis Roseman
Brooklyn, NY.
EHV Participant Since 2023
Domestic Violence Survivor
Single Mother of a Child with Autism

Thank you Chairman Banks and Committee of a public housing for this platform. I am Sadie Gil Frederick from Riis Houses: Vacant apartments in the [New York City Housing Authority](#) highlight a critical gap between available housing and the urgent needs of thousands of families. While demand for affordable housing continues to rise, many units remain empty for extended periods due to delays in repairs, inspections, and administrative approvals. These prolonged vacancies are not just a logistical issue—they represent missed opportunities to provide stable housing and reduce homelessness using existing resources.

One of the primary challenges is the time it takes to prepare units for re-occupancy. Many apartments require significant rehabilitation due to aging infrastructure, including issues like mold, lead paint, and outdated plumbing or electrical systems. Combined with staffing shortages and inefficient workflows, these conditions can leave units vacant for months or even years. Additionally, inconsistent data tracking has made it difficult to accurately measure progress, an issue repeatedly flagged by oversight bodies such as the [U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development](#).

Addressing these challenges requires both immediate and long-term solutions. In the short term, NYCHA can accelerate unit turnover by creating dedicated vacancy reduction teams, expanding the use of private contractors, and prioritizing units that need only minor repairs. Streamlining internal processes and adopting real-time tracking systems can also improve efficiency and accountability. Federal oversight has already pushed for clearer benchmarks and greater transparency, helping ensure that progress is measurable and sustained.

Funding Section 9 public housing in NYCHA is essential because it preserves permanently affordable housing for hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers, including working families, seniors, veterans, and people with disabilities. Section 9 housing ensures that residents pay rents based on their income, helping to prevent homelessness and housing instability in one of the nation's most expensive housing markets. Investing in Section 9 also protects important tenant rights

and keeps public housing under public ownership, preserving a critical public asset for future generations. Strong funding allows NYCHA to address long-overdue repairs, improve living conditions, and create union construction and maintenance jobs that benefit the local economy.

Public housing stabilizes neighborhoods by allowing residents to remain close to their schools, jobs, healthcare providers, and support networks, strengthening communities and reducing displacement. Decades of federal underfunding have contributed to NYCHA's capital needs, making renewed investment in Section 9 not only a matter of maintaining buildings but also a commitment to housing justice, economic opportunity, and the long-term well-being of New York City residents.

In the long term, significant capital investment by funding section 9 is essential to address the root causes of vacancy. Programs that bring in additional funding for comprehensive renovations can transform severely deteriorated units into safe, livable homes. Ultimately, improving the management of vacant apartments is one of the fastest and most cost-effective ways to expand access to affordable housing. By focusing on efficiency, accountability, and investment, NYCHA can better fulfill its mission and make meaningful progress in addressing New York City's housing crisis. Funding section 9 can help remedy this and thank you!!

Good Morning City Council Members,

My name is Shirtavea Inabinet, I am a New York native and Mother of 4 and a healthcare Professional in 2021 after living in my home for 9 ½ yrs and had went through a unfortunate situation with a ex that landed me and my children in the shelter system the first time of our lives. After 9 months we found a home with the EHV voucher, I went back to work immediately to get normalcy back in our lives. March 2026 I received the letter regarding end of year funding it has been a scary time ever since. The letter nycha sent out felt like a ultimatum basically saying apply for public housing, which is a issue all on its own, or you can not receive help. present day nycha has been radio silent zero answers and anytime I call the nycha hotline representatives say they were told to tell people just wait, again a scary time thinking/ knowing I will have to move and uproot my children again. to be told to wait when EHV families have been waiting scared anxious And it's not right. I have read the HUD FY budget so I know HUD directed PHAS what to do for EHV families it's the uncertainty of not knowing what's next and if nycha will do as HUD instructed them to do. I saw the city council meeting when last year nycha stated they were converting EHV to regular section 8 as many people were told then told something different. so thank you city council members for doing this meeting for the EHV families I appreciate it and pray we get answers and a solution comes soon. Thank you in advance.

Life without Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHVs) can have serious consequences for individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness, housing instability, or fleeing domestic violence. Critics of reducing or eliminating EHV assistance point to several negative outcomes:

Without EHV vouchers, many households face a greater risk of homelessness because they cannot afford rising rents in the private market. Families may be forced to move frequently, live in overcrowded conditions, or rely on shelters and temporary housing. This instability can disrupt children's education, negatively affect physical and mental health, and make it difficult for adults to maintain employment.

The loss of housing assistance can also increase financial hardship. Families often must choose between paying rent and covering other necessities such as food, healthcare, transportation, and childcare. As housing costs consume a larger share of household income, the likelihood of eviction and housing insecurity rises.

Communities may also experience broader impacts. Higher rates of homelessness can place additional pressure on emergency shelters, healthcare systems, social services, and local governments. Research has shown that stable housing assistance can help reduce these public costs by preventing crises before they occur.

From a social equity perspective, opponents of reducing voucher programs argue that EHVs provide an essential pathway to safe, stable housing for vulnerable populations and help prevent the long-term economic and social consequences associated with homelessness and housing instability.

Why Housing Stability Matters: My EHV Story

Good afternoon,

My name is Starquasia Brown, and I am an EHV voucher holder.

Before receiving my voucher, I experienced homelessness and spent time in the shelter system multiple times. I also have a history with ACS and know firsthand what it feels like to live without stability, certainty, or a place to truly call home.

For many people, housing is something they take for granted. For me, housing changed the entire trajectory of my life.

Because of the Emergency Housing Voucher program, I have been able to remain stably housed for nearly five years. During that time, I was able to focus on rebuilding my life instead of simply trying to survive. I maintained employment, pursued higher education, improved my health, and worked toward creating a future that once felt impossible.

I earned my bachelor's degree and later returned to school to pursue a career in healthcare. Tomorrow, I have an interview for a radiology program that will bring me one step closer to achieving that goal. Opportunities like this are only possible because I have stable housing.

When you don't know where you're going to sleep, it is difficult to focus on school, work, medical appointments, or long-term goals. Housing is the foundation that allows people to succeed. EHV gave me that foundation.

For years, I have done everything that society asks of people who have experienced homelessness. I worked hard, stayed out of the shelter system, remained responsible, and continued moving forward. The stability provided by EHV helped me become independent and self-sufficient.

The possibility of losing this support is frightening. Many of us built our lives around the understanding that this program was intended to provide long-term housing stability. We are not asking for luxury. We are asking for the opportunity to continue living, working, learning, and contributing to our communities without the constant fear of losing our homes.

I am living proof that housing assistance works. EHV did not create dependency in my life—it created opportunity. It allowed me to become a productive member of society and gave me the chance to build a future that I am proud of.

I urge the City Council and NYCHA to continue supporting EHV families and to provide pathways to permanent housing assistance, including access to CityFHEPS and other long-term

solutions. No one who has worked so hard to overcome homelessness should be forced to face housing instability again.

Thank you for your time and for hearing my story.

Starquasia Brown

Good afternoon my name is Stephanie M from Brooklyn. I am a single mom of 3 beautiful Neurodivergent children. I am an advocate, a survivor of Domestic Violence, a Sexual Assault survivor, a strangulation survivor and navigate the world with a Traumatic Brain Injury also known as a TBI.

As a EHV recipient in hopes to urge Mayor Mamdani, to PROPERLY fund CityFHEPS and extend Housing Access Voucher, to KEEP the promises made and expand CityFHEPS to serve the most vulnerable and susceptible New Yorkers.

As stated before I am a survivor of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault. After the birth of my first child, my marriage became financially, verbally, emotionally, and physically abusive. My HOME WAS NO LONGER SAFE, secure, or meeting any of my physiological or safety needs according to Maslow Hierarchy of needs.

Documentation of abuse, DV incident reports, ACS cases and Order of protections did not protect my children and me from continued abuse in that home for an additional TEN ... 10 years. Until the Emergency Housing Voucher that was distributed during the pandemic, it saved me and my children from that direct exposure/access to harm, stalking, harassment and violence.

Now along with the other EHV voucher holders in NYC, not even 2.5 years later, I am told the home my children and I relocated to for safety is no longer going to be funded. Placing me back into survival mode AGAIN.

How can my children and I REMAIN free from harm and be safe, securing a home so my children can thrive and break the cycle of Domestic Violence and poverty? PROPERLY FUND AND EXPAND CITY FHEPS, expand and extend Housing Access Voucher.

The federal government failed to properly fund the EHV program, leaving the most vulnerable New Yorkers at risk of eviction and homelessness. As a New Yorker I

have seen us come together and stand together in a way very few places can do and this is what I ask at this moment. To stand and support our most vulnerable New Yorkers, who are in need of a home to stay and remain stable, safe and secure.

I am from Brooklyn, a survivor, a single mom of three neurodivergent children, and navigating with a TBI. My family and I waited 10 LONG years before we received stable rental assistance through the EHV program, a lifeline we received because of the pandemic. If CityFHEPS had been expanded when we first attempted our escape from abuse, it would have only taken **ONE** year, not 10, to be free from violence and find a stable home.

NO New Yorker deserves to be abused, unhoused, nor wait 10 years for safety. I am blessed that I am alive to tell the story and alive to speak up for those who are too afraid to do so. Everytime I advocate my fear of my abusers, retaliation is palpable. I can not and refuse to remain silent not one more day. Every nervous speech, every hearing is a choice and I am proud to know that my current home keeps me safe. Not being in my current home is my biggest fear. As I heard testimony from NYCHA and HPD about the EHV vouchers, the lack of responses to the most direct questions and the lack of real plans for families like my own was so disheartening. Moving with neurodivergent children while navigating my own TBI symptoms, is the place secure? Will my abuser have easier access to me if I move? Navigating the 3 different neurodivergent children, navigating the family court and mandated visitations and Order of protections now housing.

In the book “ The Body Keeps the Score” by Dr. Van Der Kolk, Your body stores trauma in your body until it no longer can do so, or it is safe to do so. When I moved 2.5 years ago to my new safe home, it took my body 4 months to relax and show me only some of the trauma my body was holding. I was hospitalized for a week and had I not have a safe home I do not know how I would be able to manage that additional stress. What would another move do not only to me but to my children where routine and schedule is critical for them to feel regulated and function properly?

I am urging Mayor Mamdani to act so that survivors like me, veterans, un-housed youth, and other vulnerable people can avoid evictions, abuse, and unnecessary violence by staying housed in our homes. Keep the promises he made during his campaign and fund and expand CITY FHEPS, and extend the Housing Access voucher. New Yorkers are resilient, and we know how to celebrate our people and our culture, our community.

After more than 50 years, our beloved Knicks won the championship, and was celebrated in such a momentous way. It will go in the history books the love they were given by New Yorkers who flew in, the streets filled hanging off buildings filling the streets and surrounding buildings. Every borough gave its love and it is still felt in the air through the streets this pride of being a New Yorker.

As we celebrate we can not ignore our community, those who are going to lose their home as soon as September when school begins or those who landlords refuse to renew the lease because of the lack of certainty of payment that a voucher provides. Let's give that same love and energy to the most vulnerable New Yorkers – our neighbors, children, and the regular New Yorkers who are struggling to survive in this great city. Do the right thing and expand and properly fund CityFHEPS, expand Housing Access Voucher so that everyone has a safe place to call home.

New York City can be a beautiful place full of opportunities, Housing is a problem and cutting funds to CityFHEPS, a housing program that works, instead of investing and expanding it, is sending the message to the world that NYC does not care about the homeless, the foster care youth, the unhoused, the disabled, the survivors the single mothers like myself who fight hard everyday to make a better life for my children and for others like me. Not extending the Housing Access Vouchers makes the statement that New York does not care about our neighbors and others. I urge the Mayor to spread love the Brooklyn way and expand and properly fund CityFHEPS and extend the Housing Access Voucher so the most vulnerable New Yorkers can thrive and enrich our city.

Thank you for your time and do what was promised and EXPAND housing options because new yorkers deserve it.

Committee on Public Housing
Oversight Hearing: Life Without Emergency Housing Vouchers, Present Options and Future Plans

Testimony by: Taleena Claborn

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee on Public Housing:

My name is Taleena Claborn. I am a mother, a housing advocate, and a public servant. I am submitting this testimony regarding the impending loss of funding for the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Program and the devastating impact it will have on families like mine.

My relationship with housing instability began long before I became a housing advocate or public servant. I first experienced homelessness at the age of six, when my mother, sister, and I entered New York City's shelter system. Like many children growing up in poverty, I learned at a young age what it meant to live with uncertainty, displacement, and the constant fear of not knowing where home would be.

Those experiences shaped my understanding of housing as more than a roof over one's head. Housing is stability. Housing is safety. Housing is dignity. Housing is the foundation upon which children are able to learn, families are able to heal, and individuals are able to build productive lives.

In 2019, my son and I faced housing instability once again after the tragic loss of his father to gun violence. I struggled to secure safe and stable housing in an increasingly unaffordable city while grieving and trying to rebuild our lives.

I fought for more than two years to obtain housing assistance that would allow me to relocate my family to a safe neighborhood. Along the way, I connected with organizations such as Neighbors Together and Unlock NYC, where I received guidance, resources, and support navigating New York City's housing systems. As I learned more about the programs and barriers affecting voucher holders and homeless households, I began helping others navigate those same systems.

What started as a personal fight for housing stability evolved into broader community advocacy. I shared resources with other families, assisted individuals in understanding housing programs, and provided guidance to elected officials seeking to help constituents facing housing-related challenges.

After nearly two years of advocacy, I was approved for a CityFHEPS voucher for my household of two. At the time, the payment standard was only \$1,323, an amount that was significantly below what was needed to secure housing in much of New York City's rental market. I saw firsthand how families were being set up to fail because voucher payment standards were too low to compete in the private market.

Rather than accept that reality, I became one of the advocates who championed Intro. 146. I fought alongside other advocates to increase CityFHEPS payment standards so that voucher holders would have a genuine opportunity to secure housing in the private market. When Intro. 146 became law and CityFHEPS payment standards increased, creating meaningful housing opportunities for families who had previously been trapped in a cycle of housing instability despite having assistance.

My advocacy later expanded through my involvement as a member of Impacted Advocates, a coalition of directly impacted New Yorkers whose lived experiences helped inform and contribute to *Housing Our Neighbors: A New York City Blueprint for Housing and Homelessness*. Through that work, I joined other advocates in advancing policies centered on prevention, housing stability, dignity, and long-term solutions to homelessness.

The following year, I was found eligible for the Emergency Housing Voucher Program due to uninhabitable living conditions. Through EHV, my son and I were finally able to relocate to a safer neighborhood. For the first time in years, we experienced a level of housing stability, safety, and peace that had previously seemed out of reach.

My housing advocacy eventually led me into public service. I began working for the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD), where I processed Emergency Housing Voucher applications and later worked in another unit processing Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) recertifications. Through that work, I gained firsthand knowledge of the challenges families face when trying to navigate housing assistance programs.

Wanting to have an even greater impact, I joined the New York City Commission on Human Rights, where I currently combat lawful source of income discrimination. I educate housing providers and the public, enforce anti-discrimination protections, and provide pre-complaint interventions that help individuals and families gain access to housing opportunities.

Over the past three years, I have initiated more than 320 housing-related matters and successfully resolved many of them. I have dedicated my professional life to helping others achieve the housing stability that my own family fought so hard to obtain.

That is why the impending loss of EHV funding is so alarming.

Recently, EHV participants were informed that funding for the program is expected to be exhausted in 2026, years earlier than many households anticipated. Families who entered the program in good faith are now being told that the assistance that allowed them to secure stable housing may disappear.

As the Committee examines "Life Without Emergency Housing Vouchers," I ask a simple question: What are families supposed to do next?

I have worked inside these systems. I have processed Emergency Housing Vouchers. I have processed Housing Choice Voucher recertifications. I currently work to combat the source of

income discrimination and help New Yorkers access housing opportunities. Yet despite all of that knowledge and experience, I still cannot tell my son what our housing future looks like.

That uncertainty is the problem.

Without EHV assistance, my household faces the possibility of displacement. I earn too much to qualify for many traditional housing assistance programs, including public housing based on the eligibility information currently available. However, I do not earn enough to comfortably afford a two-bedroom apartment in today's rental market while supporting my child and maintaining financial stability.

My family is not unique. There are countless EHV households trapped in a growing housing gap. We earn too much to qualify for certain programs, yet not enough to absorb the sudden loss of housing assistance.

What is most troubling is the lack of transparency surrounding what comes next. Families are being told that funding is ending, but there is no clearly defined pathway to prevent displacement. There is no comprehensive transition plan, no guaranteed alternative housing option, and no meaningful guidance for households attempting to plan for their future.

Many EHV participants are being encouraged to complete Public Housing Applications, yet some households do not qualify because of income restrictions. Others face waiting periods that can stretch for years. Families should not be expected to navigate such uncertainty without clear information, realistic alternatives, and meaningful support.

As someone who has experienced homelessness, benefited from housing assistance, advocated for housing reform, helped shape housing policy, processed vouchers, and now enforces housing discrimination laws, I have seen this issue from nearly every angle possible.

The system that created these programs to stabilize vulnerable households is now failing many of the very people it was designed to help.

For families who have previously experienced homelessness, housing instability, domestic violence, unsafe housing conditions, or traumatic loss, the threat of losing housing assistance is deeply retraumatizing. Many of us spent years fighting for stability. We complied with program requirements, rebuilt our lives, and made long-term decisions based on the understanding that we would have time to establish permanent housing security.

We should not be forced to choose between homelessness, unsafe housing, or financial ruin because a temporary funding source is ending without a permanent solution in place.

I respectfully urge the City Council to work with federal, state, and local partners to:

- Advocate for additional federal funding to preserve EHV assistance for existing participants.
- Develop transparent transition plans for all EHV households before funding expires.

- Create realistic alternatives for middle-income households who do not qualify for public housing but cannot afford market-rate rents.
- Expand pathways to affordable homeownership, workforce housing, and middle-income housing opportunities.
- Ensure that no family is pushed back into homelessness because a housing stabilization program expired without a meaningful replacement.

A plan requires transparency. A plan requires realistic alternatives. A plan requires a commitment that families will not be pushed back into homelessness because funding has expired.

Housing stability should not be temporary. Families like mine have spent years rebuilding our lives, contributing to our communities, advocating for others, and helping New Yorkers navigate the very systems that now leave us with uncertainty about our own future.

My son and I should not face displacement after finally achieving the safety and stability that these programs helped us obtain.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and for your consideration of this urgent issue.

Respectfully,

Taleena Claborn

Emergency Housing Voucher Participant
Housing Advocate and Public Servant

Hello all,

I Zariya Bridges am an emergency voucher holder. The news of the voucher's ending six years before it was supposed to end has been devastating. Ever since that faithful day in April there has been nothing but panic in my heart. I am a mentally ill person who has an emotional support animal, and it would devastate me losing here if I become homeless because I cannot afford my contract rent without NYCHA's aid. NYCHA has also failed to reach out to my household after I have put in a Public Housing application in April. This is a terrifying experience for not only me, but I am sure many others as well. I also do not feel it is fair that people are being moved from nice neighborhoods to the projects as NYCHA's alternative possibility. I am aware it is not homeless but that can be stressful and what about the people who have been on that waitlist for years? People also cannot afford to move across boroughs as it is expensive. That is if NYCHA even reaches out to people as they were assured. There plenty of families with children, or families with pets who will get abandoned because they cannot afford their contract rent. There needs to be something done about this issue and keeping people in the dark and uninformed has gone on much too long.

Shelton Houses
89-09 162nd Street / basement level
Jamaica New York
Office# 718-292-9421

Residents of Shelton Houses submitted signatures on petition voting No to RAD/PACT conversion.

Printed Name	Apt #	Signature
Aida Ortega		Aida Ortega
MARIBEL BONDOZ		Maribel Bondoz
Juliano De Los Santos		Juliano De Los Santos
BLASIN VAHEGAS		Blasina Vahegas
Lidia da		Lidia da
Ruth Coronado		Ruth Coronado
MARTINA ROSAS		Martina Rosas
EGENA MONTES		Egena Montes
Delia Robles		Delia Robles
JORGE RAMIREZ		Jorge Ramirez
C F A		Carmen Crooks
Luz Alvarado		Luz Alvarado
Nasreen Ahmed		Nasreen Ahmed
Shafique Ahmed		Shafique Ahmed
SUSAN KIM		Susan Kim
Lidia da		Lidia da
SAHA ISLAM		Saha Islam
Rosa Grande		Rosa Grande
Paulina Jimenez		Paulina Jimenez
Maria Bracho		Maria Bracho
AMERICA RODRIGUEZ		America Rodriguez
Marlene Rodriguez		Marlene Rodriguez
Maria Sanchez		Maria Sanchez
Raulo Camacho		Raulo Camacho
Pi. Loughlin		Pi. Loughlin
Marisa Ruiz		Marisa Ruiz
YIPAN YU		YIPAN YU
Greg Shim Wu		Greg Shim Wu

Shelton Houses
89-09 162nd Street / basement level
Jamaica New York.
Office# 718-292-9421

Residents of Shelton Houses submitted signatures on petition voting No to RAD/PACT conversion.

Printed Name	Apt #	Signature
Jaswati Ramadhar		Jaswati Ramadhar
PEARLINE WRIGHT		Pearline Wright
Armed		Armed
Delia P. Castro		Delia P. Castro
Wendy D. Brown		Wendy D. Brown
Wun Suk Suh		Wun Suk Suh
WIERZBINSKA TERESA		TERESA
JACINTA GUEVARA		JACINTA
KANG WEN ZHI		KANG
A. R. R.		A. R. R.
LATOYA BENJAMIN		LATOYA BENJAMIN
JOSE RODRIGUEZ		JOSE RODRIGUEZ
MARIA PERA		MARIA PERA
YIYAN YU		YIYAN YU
MARGARITA ARIAS		MARGARITA ARIAS
ELENA MONTESEDECA		ELENA MONTESEDECA
Salvador Lopez		Salvador Lopez
Winsome Lawrence		Winsome Lawrence
Betty Morris		Betty Morris
Alberto Lopez		ALBERTO LOPEZ
Aida Ortega		Aida ortega
Z Wang		Z Wang
Genowefa Kencin		Genowefa Kencin
Kim Dacres		Kim m. Dacres
Robt. Smith		Robt. Smith
MARIA D. GARZON		MARIA D. GARZON
Miriam Velaz		Miriam Velaz
Gladys Brown		GLADYS BROWN
Ann Baker		A Baker
Maria Blanco		Maria Blanco

89-09 162nd Street / basement level
Jamaica New York
Office# 718-292-9421

[illegible]

Shelton Houses
89-09 162nd Street / basement level
Jamaica New York
Office# 718-292-9421

Residents of Shelton Houses submitted signatures on petition voting No to RAD/PACT conversion.

[illegible]

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/17/26

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Meryl Block Weissman

Address: 100 Gold St

I represent: HPD

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/17/2026

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: MERYL Block Weissman

Address: ~~100 Gold St~~ 100 Gold St

I represent: NYC HPD

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/17/26

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Meryl Block Weissman
Adam Phillips

Address: 100 Gold St

I represent: HPD

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/17/26

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Adam Phillips

Address: 100 Gold St. New York, NY 10038

I represent: HPD

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Lakesha Miller

Address: _____

I represent: NYCHA, EVP for Leased Housing

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Brian Moran

Address: _____

I represent: NYCHA, EVP for Intergovernmental

Address: Affairs

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Melissa Renwick

Address: _____

I represent: NYCHA, Senior Advisor for the Office
of Leased Housing

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/17/2020

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Maureen Curtis

Address: 245 Myrtle Street NY NY

I represent: SAF Horizon

Address: SAA

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Cecilia Kromah

Address: 2410 Wilby Street Bk, NY

I represent: EHV tenants, DV, Disability

Address: 2410 Wilby Street [redacted] Bk, NY

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 4/17/26

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Joe Westmacott

Address: 209 W. 125th St.

I represent: Safe Horizon Streetwork Project

Address: 209 W. 125th St.

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/17/26

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Kenny Burger

Address: _____

I represent: New York Apartment Association

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☒ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/17/26

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Pamela Thomas

Address: [Redacted] Long Island City

I represent: myself

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/17/26

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Alison Wilkey

Address: _____

I represent: Coalition for the Homeless

Address: 129 Fulton, NY, NY 10038

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Public Housing
Emergency Housing Voucher

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/17/26

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Robert Desir

Address: Legal Aid Society

I represent: Legal Aid Society

Address: 199 Water Street

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Gina Cappuccitti

Address: [Redacted] Brooklyn, NY

I represent: New Destiny Housing Corp

Address: 12 W 37th St, 7th Fl, NY, NY

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/17/26

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Jude Vasquez

Address: _____

I represent: WIN

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☒ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/17/26

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Danielle N Bibber

Address: _____

I represent: My mother

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☒ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 06/17/2026

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Zoila Bueno

Address: _____ New York, NY 10038

I represent: Self

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☒ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/17/20

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Brendan Cheney

Address: _____

I represent: New York Housing Conference

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☒ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: TROFILO Bzdi

Address: _____ Brooklyn NY 11217

I represent: ONE (SEA)

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☒ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/17/2020

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Stephanie Mansfield

Address: 55 Suffolk Street NY NY

I represent: Advocate SVP / New Destiny

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. ETHS Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: 6/17/26

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Anna Luft

Address: 100 Pearl St

I represent: NYLAG

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Jimmy Meagher

Address: 2 Lafayette St Apt 3rd Fl

I represent: Safe Horizon

Address: ETH and homeless youth

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 1 Res. No. _____
☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Maria Thomas

Address: _____

I represent: Single parents / CUNY

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____
☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

The People Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Elizabeth Mackey

Address: _____

I represent: 11226

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms