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BREAKING DOWN HOMELESSNESS: WIN PARTNERS WITH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO CONVENE PANEL ON THE STATE OF HOMELESSNESS IN NYC

Photos of tour and roundtable discussion available [HERE](#)

New York, NY – Win, the largest provider of shelter and supportive services for homeless families in New York City, partnered with the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) to host an event last week breaking down the state of homelessness in New York City and highlighting steps every level of government can take to address this crisis. The event included tours of a Win shelter in East New York and a roundtable discussion about the causes and solutions to homelessness among of homelessness policy experts, federal, state, local leaders, and direct service providers. During the event, USICH Executive Director Jeff Olivet briefed attendees on the Biden Administration’s [Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness](#).

Additional notable attendees included State Senators Brian Kavanagh, Jabari Brisport, and Roxanne Persaud. As well as, Councilmembers Diana Ayala and Sandy Nurse, Commissioner Manuel Castro, and Alicka Ampry-Samuel (HUD). Martha Kenton and Andrea Reid also joined from the Department of Social Services alongside John Francis (PA’s office), and Nichele Carver from USICH.

“The homelessness crisis is a policy choice — we have the power to permanently break the cycle of homelessness, we just need leaders at every level of government to work together with that shared goal. That’s why it’s so important to host conversations that bring together federal, state, and local policy makers with the providers who are supporting homeless New Yorkers every day to find real solutions,” said **Christine Quinn, President & CEO at Win**. “Our city was facing unprecedented levels of homelessness, long before the latest wave of asylum seekers arrived. As we confront this humanitarian crisis and serve tens of thousands of New Yorkers in need, there is no time to wait. I want to thank all of our partners, and especially USICH, for convening this important conversation and discussing the solutions our families need and deserve.”

“The Biden-Harris administration is committed to ending homelessness. After rapid rises in homelessness from 2016 to 2020, followed by two years of unprecedented federal investment, communities flattened the national curve. But we are not satisfied with flattening the curve. Our new plan, All In, vows to reduce homelessness 25% by 2025 and ultimately end it,” said **USICH Executive Director Jeff Olivet**. “All In goes further than any previous federal effort to prevent homelessness and combat the systemic racism that drives it. We know we cannot reach our goals without places and

partners like New York City, and we look forward to working with them to treat homelessness like a deadly housing and health crisis. Together, we can move quickly to end homelessness.”

“Solving the homelessness crisis is going to require the city, state, and federal governments to come together and pursue policies that will create real change for homeless New Yorkers — and that’s exactly what we came here to do,” **said Deputy Speaker Diana Ayala.** “We are all aligned on the beliefs that homelessness is a crisis, but we can solve it if we work together.”

“We need to act in New York to solve our affordable housing crisis. And we need to work in partnership with city, state, and federal officials to protect tenants, house the homeless, and invest in new social housing. I look forward to working with Win, the advocates, and my colleagues to get this done for New York families,” **said Senator Jabari Brisport, Chair, Senate Committee on Children and Families, member of Senate Housing Committee.**

“I want to thank Jeff Olivet of the Interagency Council, Alicka Ampry-Samuel of the Department of Housing and Urban Development for briefing us on the Biden Administration’s efforts and for all they are doing to prevent and end homelessness, Christine Quinn and everyone at Women in Need for convening stakeholders for this important and urgent conversation, and all the panelists who shared their experiences and insights,” **said State Senator Brian Kavanagh, Chair of the Senate Committee on Housing, Construction and Community Development.** “To truly end homelessness will take federal, state, and local leaders working in close collaboration with providers and advocates to provide much greater investment in permanent housing and other critical resources and services. This event was an opportunity to renew our commitment to addressing the inequities and deprivation that too many New Yorkers face. I appreciate that WIN is strongly supporting my legislation to create a new State-funded large-scale rental assistance program, the Housing Access Voucher Program, and other initiatives that will promote the housing stability that New Yorkers need to thrive.”

“Thousands of New York families are counting on us at the city, state, and federal level to solve the crisis of homelessness. And to hear directly from advocates and families experiencing homelessness is always invaluable. I thank Win for bringing us all together to discuss how we can build a New York with quality, affordable, and secure housing for all,” **said Senator Roxanne J. Persaud, Chair, Senate Social Services Committee**

“Every family should have access to safe and clean housing until they are able to get back on their feet, whether they are longtime New Yorkers or new arrivals. That’s why the work to end the homelessness crisis in New York City is so essential to assisting asylum seekers, refugees and all families who have come to New York to seek a better future for their families,” **said Murad Awawdeh, executive director, New York Immigration Coalition.** “Together with Win and our partners in city, state, and federal government, we can ensure that we are doing everything we can to help the newest New Yorkers find safety and security, while working to end the homelessness crisis for all.”

Photos of the event are available [here](#).

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About Win

Win is the largest provider of family shelter and supportive housing in New York City, operating 14 family shelters and 9 supportive housing facilities across New York City as well as more than 100 supportive housing units in the Bronx and Brooklyn. In the past year, Win served nearly 9,200 homeless people – including more than 5,000 children – helping them to break the cycle of homelessness. Housing

instability can stymie a child's healthy socio-emotional and cognitive development, with implications for mental health, behavioral health, and success in life. Through Camp Win, an immersive summer-long program, and other programming, Win works to provide a safe, engaging environment for children in shelter.