



June 1, 2026

Mayor Zohran Mamdani
 City Hall
 New York, NY 10007

Dear Mayor Mamdani,

The extremely high cost of housing is driving the homelessness crisis in New York. You ran on an affordability campaign for which the high cost of housing was central. With over 100,000 New Yorkers currently experiencing homelessness, including approximately 30,000 children, we implore you to deliver on your campaign promise of making New York affordable for all, including those currently experiencing homelessness. Ultimately, the City can either spend the money on shelter and emergency service costs, or on permanent housing.

Though we do not always agree, today the undersigned groups stand united: we call on you to drop the ongoing lawsuit and implement the expansion of the CityFHEPS program.

CityFHEPS is a lifeline for people who would otherwise have no path out of the shelter system and offers them the stability they need to fully participate in the economic, cultural, and civic life of our city. The program also operates as a vital economic driver and fundamental pillar of New York City's housing infrastructure. It provides essential operating subsidies for new development, ensures reliable rent payments for small landlords, and injects critical dollars directly into New York's aging housing stock. Preventive subsidies keep tenants in their homes and ensure property owners can maintain buildings to the standards tenants deserve. Quite

simply, without CityFHEPS, many of our city's critical affordable housing projects would not exist; others risk failing without it.

The program's success and cost-effectiveness speak for themselves. Currently, CityFHEPS successfully houses approximately 150,000 New Yorkers at the incredibly efficient cost of just \$22 per person per day. Furthermore, it plays a stabilizing role in the broader real estate market by helping to preserve and maintain more than 65,000 units of affordable housing across the five boroughs. It is a proven model that works for both our most vulnerable neighbors and our economy.

There is a broad, unified consensus throughout the housing ecosystem of our city: an expanded CityFHEPS program should be at the heart of a bold and inclusive affordability agenda and is urgently needed today. Dropping the lawsuit and expanding this vital program is not just a moral imperative, but a practical necessity to secure the future of our city's housing stock. We urge you to take immediate action, deliver on your promise, and provide the relief New Yorkers desperately need.

Additionally, we would like to request a meeting with your administration to discuss the future of this program. We look forward to hearing back from you soon.

Sincerely,

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REBNY
Volunteers of America - Greater New York
Safety Net Activists
Make the Road NY
New York Apartment Association
Homeless Services United (HSU)
Supportive Housing Network of New York
Met Council on Housing
Housing Organizers for People Empowerment (HOPE)
African Communities Together
Family Homelessness Coalition
Urban Pathways
West Side Federation for Senior and Supportive Housing
Citizens' Committee for Children
New York Housing Conference
United Neighborhood Houses
Housing Works

Interfaith Assembly on Homelessness and Housing
The Bronx Defenders
The Ali Forney Center
Association for Neighborhood and Housing Development (ANHD)
Our Bronx
Trinity Church Wall Street
NMIC
CASA
HELP USA
VOCAL NY