



Seniors First

The population of city residents who are senior citizens is projected to increase by 40 percent between now and 2040. Our seniors are more likely to be low income, to be rent-burdened, and to live on a fixed income than other city residents. To reach more of our growing senior population, the administration committed to create or preserve 15,000 senior homes and apartments through Housing New York.

We are now doubling our efforts on senior housing to serve 30,000 households over the extended 12-year plan. To date, almost 5,000 seniors have been reached through the plan. To meet this additional commitment, the City is launching Seniors First, a three-pronged strategy:

- » HPD will introduce a new assessment process for preservation projects focused on accessibility, to enable seniors to age in place and make more housing accessible to people with disabilities. Through changes ranging from level door handles and shower bars to door widening and accessible bathrooms and kitchens, HPD will now make in-apartment improvements that will serve up to **15,000 seniors**.
- » NYCHA will create a dedicated pipeline of underused land to build new senior housing, above the 10,000 affordable apartments already planned through Next Gen NYCHA. The program will be developed through HPD's Senior Affordable Rental Apartments program (SARA). SARA is expected to create **4,000 new senior homes**.
- » The City will increase outreach and focus to preserve existing senior housing developments, including approximately 170 buildings with 14,000 apartments created through Section 202, a federal program that has significantly contracted over the years. By protecting the affordability and improving the quality of this aging housing stock, this initiative seeks to reach **6,000 senior apartments**.

John and Jacqueline are born-and-raised New Yorkers who've been married since 1960 and resided in Stuyvesant Town for decades. Recently, they were at the verge of leaving after their rent increased dramatically and John's income dropped after retirement. But through the City's intervention to preserve affordability at Stuy Town, they were able to move into an affordable, rent-regulated apartment only a stone's throw away.



25,000

senior households over the next 8 years

Impact: The Seniors First initiative will serve low-income seniors who are 62 or older. Through this multi-pronged strategy, the City will serve **25,000 senior households over the next eight years**.