

CITY RELEASES RFP FOR 500 SUPPORTIVE HOUSING UNITS

Department of Social Service Commissioner Steven Banks announced today that as part of Mayor Bill de Blasio's Supportive Housing Initiative, a plan to create 15,000 units of supportive housing during the next 15 years, the New York City Human Resources Administration issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the procurement during FY17 of the first 500 scattered site units that will provide social services to assist populations with special needs.

"Supportive housing is a proven, cost-effective approach to provide permanent housing for New Yorkers in need because it reduces reliance on homeless shelters, hospitals, mental health institutions, and incarceration," said **Department of Social Services Commissioner Steven Banks**. "These first 500 units in our 15,000-unit plan will be available during FY17 and they represent an important step to help the most vulnerable New Yorkers overcome their challenges and achieve the stability they need to rebuild their lives."

The historic plan, announced by Mayor de Blasio last November, includes a projected 7,500 newly-developed congregate units and a projected 7,500 scattered site units. Supportive housing is affordable housing with appropriate social services to assist vulnerable populations. As part of this initiative, the Mayor's Supportive Housing Task Force was created to propose innovative ways to deliver supportive housing and to develop strategies to better serve the needs of the various supportive housing populations.

The populations targeted for this first Supportive Housing Initiative procurement are chronically homeless single adults and adult families with family members who have a serious mental illness or substance use disorder, including those who may have a co-occurring serious mental illness and substance use disorder

Under the RFP, contractors are required to provide a wide range of supportive services that align with the needs of the populations served. These services include case management, person centered planning, health and wellness services, among others. Each contractor will develop, in conjunction with each client, an individualized housing-related needs assessment and support services plan, including an action plan with clearly stated goals aimed at assisting clients to achieve and maintain recovered, independent lives. In addition, each contractor will coordinate services for each client with the organization's own programs or other appropriate providers in the community. Supportive Housing Initiative tenants will contribute a fixed amount of 30% of their gross household income toward rent. Scattered sites use existing housing units "scattered" throughout diverse neighborhood. Proposals are due September 7, 2016 and awards are expected to be announced in the following months.

The RFP is now available to view on the City's Health and Human Services Accelerator system, which helps streamline the City's contract bidding process.

###