Neighborhood Preservation Coalition of NYS Volume 2. March 2024

## Legislative News

# Advocacy Day Highlights Unified Voices to Rally for NPP Funding

Albany, NY – The annual NPC Advocacy Day, hosted by The Neighborhood Preservation Coalition of NYS on February 14th, became a focal point for discussions on housing preservation and revitalization in New York State. The event brought together the Neighborhood Preservation Companies (NPCs) of the Coalition and members of the New York State Rural Advocates, highlighting a unified approach to advocating for housing equity.

The day began with a speech from Cassandra Perry, President of the NPC Board, who called on attendees to share their experiences and advocate for housing solutions with legislators.

> Housing advocates listen to speakers in the Well area of the Legislative Office Building.



Emphasizing collaboration, Perry's message, emphasized a collective voice to what can be achieved when we come together and share successes and struggles:

**NPCOutreach** 

"Together, we will work towards a future where everyone in New York State will have access to safe, secure, and affordable housing. Together, will make our voices heard. And together, we will make a difference."

Central to the advocacy efforts was the proposal for 2024-25 funding allocations, including an \$18.34M for NPP funding and a \$260,000 carve-out specifically for The Coalition. These financial requests were key to the day's agenda, which featured a rally and meetings with state legislators, aimed at influencing the state's budget negotiations positively.

The day underscored the importance of collaboration between housing advocates and legislative allies. The day's events highlighted the concerted effort to address New York's housing challenges, marking a step forward in the ongoing quest for housing equity.

# Message from Board President Cassandra Perry



Dear Members,

In the spirit of our recent Advocacy Day, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to each and every one of you for your passionate participation and dedication. Standing together in those halls, we were a formidable force, united in our mission for a brighter future for New York.

As I mentioned in my speech, it's indeed a "genuine honor to stand before a room filled with such dedicated and passionate individuals." Your commitment, your stories, and your advocacy are the lifeblood of our collective effort to secure the essential funding that our neighborhood programs desperately need.

Despite facing the daunting challenge of a proposed \$4.8 million reduction in funding, your spirit and determination never wavered.

(continued on page 2)

# MARCH

# **10** Daylight Savings Time Begins

Set clocks one hour ahead at 2 a.m.



**11** Ramadan Starts

**17** St. Patrick's Day

> 22-30 Passover

29 Good Friday

**31** Easter Sunday

# **APRIL**

Constitutional Mandate for New York State Budget Approval

# President's Message (continued from page 1)

Our ask was clear—a modest yet crucial 4% increase over last year's funding, translating to \$18.34 million.

This is not just about numbers;

it's about the real-life impact on the countless individuals and families across our state who rely on us every day. Your presence and your voices on Advocacy Day brought this critical message to our legislators.

We were privileged to have Senator Brian Kavanagh and Assemblymember Linda Rosenthal among us—two of our most dedicated advocates within the legislature. Your warm reception and the robust round of applause you offered were a testament to the strength and unity of our community.

Remember, our collective voice has the power to influence outcomes. The personal stories and the advocacy you bring to the table are not just impactful; they are transformative.

As I reflect on our Advocacy Day, I'm filled with hope and gratitude. Your dedication to driving positive change and to improving the lives of those we serve is truly inspiring.

Thank you for all that you do, today and every day. Together, we will continue to work towards a future where everyone in New York State has access to the housing they deserve.

With deepest gratitude, Cassandra Perry



(Above): Senator Kavanagh, Chair of the Senate Committee on Housing, Construction, and Community, and; (Below): Assemblymember Linda B. Rosenthal, the esteemed Chair of the Assembly's Housing Committee speak to NPC Members at Advocacy Day.





A message from Mark Streb

# **Executive Director's Message**

Dear Members,

As we reflect on the achievements of our recent Advocacy Day in Albany, it is imperative we remain focused on the tangible outcomes we aim to secure: an \$18.34M allocation for NPP funding and a \$260,000 carve-out for the Neighborhood Preservation Coalition of NYS in this year's budget.

With the Senate and Assembly currently engaged in budget negotiations, our collective advocacy efforts are crucial. This moment offers us a critical opportunity to assert our needs and secure our future.

Recall, just a month ago, discussions for this year's budget commenced, with Governor Hochul's Executive Budget proposing \$12.83M for the NPP reflecting funding levels from two years ago and falling \$4.8 million short of last year's \$17.63M allocation. This potential reduction translates to a 30% decrease in funding for each NPC, significantly impacting our ability to support our communities effectively.

Our <u>Budget Agenda</u> advocates for a modest 4% increase from last year's approved \$17.73M, acknowledging the supportive relationship we've nurtured with our legislators—a partnership that has been pivotal in advancing our mission and securing necessary funding in past years. We are the voice for those in need within our communities, and in turn, our Senators and Assemblymembers represent our voice in the government.

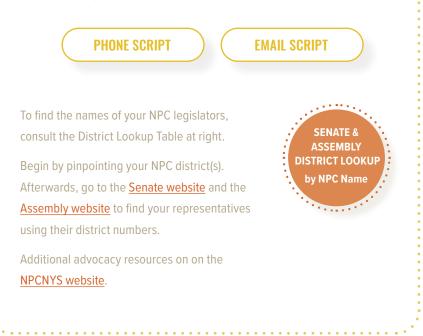
Since the inception of the NPP by the legislature, their support has been indispensable to our mission. The continued backing from our legislators is invaluable, not just to us but to those we serve.



Together, we can ensure the success of our Budget Agenda and continue to make a meaningful impact in the lives of those we serve.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to our cause.

**Take Action Now:** Use our provided scripts for phone calls and emails, personalize the highlighted sections, and make your voice heard at this critical time.









We are the voice for those in need within our communities, and in turn, our Senators and Assemblymembers represent our voice in the government.









#### Save the Date



## Homes and Community Renewal

# HCR Presentations on CDBG & HOME Federal Funding

## Tuesday, April 16, 2024 in Rochester

Monroe County Office Building, 50 W Main Street, Rochester, NY

## Monday April 25, 2024 in Glens Falls

Warren County Municipal Center, 1340 State Route 9, Lake George, NY

Meet program staff and learn how CDBG and HOME can be used in your community! Seasoned users as well as new first-timers will learn about both programs and program updates.

**The CDBG program** will discuss housing, public infrastructure and facilities, economic development and technical assistance /planning. **The HOME program** will focus on single-family programs.

**Registration information coming soon!** Contact us at <u>OCRinfo@hcr.ny.gov</u> with questions and indicate "2024 CDBG HOME Outreach" in the subject line.

Participant Contractor Agreement Templates for current awardees of home repair programs have been posted on programs websites (HOME, CDBG and State programs).

## As a reminder OCR hosts "Office Hours" on the first Wednesday of every month.

#### The next is March 8th at 1:00 PM

when representatives of all OCR programs will be available virtually via WebEx to offer a casual opportunity for program administrators or interested applicants to meet OCR staff, ask questions, and discuss project ideas. Join us via this LINK.



# **Neighborhood Preservation Coalition 2024 Board of Directors**

Listed by the ten regions of the NPP

#### LONG ISLAND

Sondra Cochran Wyandanch Community Development Corp.

**Pilar Moya-Mancera** Housing Help, Inc.

#### ΜΑΝΗΑΤΤΑΝ

Yvonne Stennett Community League of the Heights (CLOTH)

Theresa Rivera Lower East Side Coalition Housing Development, Inc.

#### **BROOKLYN, STATEN ISLAND**

Tonya Ores Board Vice President, Downstate NHS Brooklyn Community Development Corporation, Inc.

**Robin Redmond** Flatbush Development Corporation

#### QUEENS

Joseph G. Barden Margert Community Corp.

Yoselin A. Genao Estrella Neighborhood Housing Services of Queens CDC, Inc.

#### BRONX

**Derrick Lovett** MBD Community Housing Corp.

Cassandra Perry Board President 163rd Street Improvement Council, Inc

#### WESTCHESTER, HUDSON VALLEY

Dennis Hanratty Board Secretary Mt. Vernon United Tenants

#### **CAPITAL DISTRICT**

Christine Nealon Board Vice President, Upstate TRIP, Inc.

# SYRACUSE, CENTRAL, MOHAWK VALLEY, NORTH COUNTRY, SOUTHERN TIER

Walter Dixie Jubilee Homes of Syracuse

#### ROCHESTER

**Clara A. Forbes** Coalition of North East Associations, Inc.

Mike Evans South East Area Coalition

#### **BUFFALO, NIAGARA**

Roseann Scibilia Board Treasurer University District Community Development Association

Alissa Venturini Lt. Col. Matt Urban Human Services Center of WNY