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## **Governor Cuomo and Legislative Leaders Pass Historic NYS Budget \$2.5 Billion for Supportive and Affordable Housing Over Next Five Years**

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and legislative leaders passed the FY 2018 State Budget today which includes a historic \$2.5 billion for affordable and supportive housing over the next five years. The five year commitment represents the first tranche of the Governor's commitment to creating 20,000 units of supportive housing over the next fifteen years, the largest commitment to supportive housing development in history.

Supportive housing—permanent, affordable apartments linked to on-site social services—is the most effective and cost-efficient means of helping chronically homeless people live stable, independent lives in the community.

The Supportive Housing Network represents more than 200 nonprofit organizations that collectively have created some 50,000 units of supportive housing across the state serving a range of vulnerable New Yorkers including veterans, homeless youth and chronically homeless individuals and families.

“The Supportive Housing Network of New York and our 200 members across the state are elated about today's announcement. We are deeply grateful to Governor Cuomo, Senate Majority Leader Flanagan and Assembly Speaker Heastie for this visionary and judicious investment and for the hard work that went into the process” said Network Executive Director Laura Mascuch. “Today's actions cement New York's well-earned reputation for inventing and bringing to scale innovative models that provide the most vulnerable people among us the opportunity for a home, health, and a life of dignity. We truly appreciate the dedicated members and staff who made this crucial goal a reality”.

“Truly historic! At a time when globally and nationally we seem to be retreating into our darkest fears and away from our shared responsibilities to all citizens, New York State once again sets the highest moral standard. Congratulations to Governor Cuomo, Senator Flanagan and Speaker Heastie for your vision and your leadership to enact a bold supportive and affordable housing program.” Network Board Chair William Traylor, President, Richman Housing Resources

“The FY 2018 State of New York budget just enacted by our elected officials in Albany represents a meaningful public sector commitment to enable immeasurably improved lives for thousands of individuals and families. With this budget, Governor Cuomo and our state legislators have established an outstanding example of public concern and caring for our most vulnerable fellow New Yorkers. On behalf of Breaking Ground, we greatly appreciate this very significant level of State support to more effectively address our homelessness crisis in New York through the vitally important supportive housing

model.” Brenda Rosen, President & CEO, Breaking Ground

“This historic agreement means a lot to the thousands of men, women and children who do not have a place they can call home. We are particularly pleased that we can continue to develop supportive housing for our veterans who have served us and now need some help. We thank the Governor and the Legislature and look forward to developing supportive housing that will enrich peoples' lives and the communities we serve.” Ralph Fasano, Executive Director, Concern for Independent Living

"New York State’s Housing Plan is the best in the nation, and it underscores our commitment to ensuring all New Yorkers have a place to call home." Tony Hannigan, President & CEO, Center for Urban Community Services

“Today’s budget passage funding 6,000 units of supportive housing over the next five years means everything to the vulnerable people of upstate New York. We are deeply grateful to the Governor and legislative leaders for their leadership on this vitally important issue. “ Mark Fuller, President, DePaul

“This budget is great news for supportive housing! We at Catholic Charities Housing are pleased that the Governor and legislature have agreed to fund the development of new affordable and supportive housing throughout the State. The need is so great...and it means a world of difference to a person or family when they have a home and the support they need.” Deborah Damm, Executive Director DePaul Housing Management, Catholic Charities Housing McCloskey Community Service

“CAMBA/CAMBA Housing Ventures commends the Governor and legislative leaders for their \$2.5 billion housing plan, which includes 6,000 much-needed units of supportive housing for homeless New Yorkers. This budget takes an important step toward realizing the Governor’s goal of providing supportive housing to 20,000 homeless New Yorkers.” Joanne M. Oplustil, President & CEO of CAMBA/CAMBA Housing Ventures

“Whether in New York City, Long Island or Upstate New York, supportive housing is a proven solution to homelessness.” Kevin O’Connor, Executive Director, Joseph’s House & Shelter

“This investment in supportive housing recognizes that quality housing coupled with long-term services will allow thousands of New Yorkers to thrive in independent living. “ Richard Nightingale, CEO, Westhab