

# FY 2024 Annual Report:

Celebrating 30 years of New Destiny



# **About New Destiny:**

New Destiny's mission is to end the cycle of domestic violence and homelessness for low-income families and individuals by developing and connecting them to safe, permanent housing and services.

We do this by:

- Building and managing supportive housing for domestic violence survivors and their children.
- Helping survivors find safe apartments they can afford and providing them with the aftercare support they need to remain housed and thrive.
- Educating and advocating to increase housing resources for domestic violence survivors and their families.

Domestic violence is the leading cause of family homelessness. Yet, due to the lack of housing resources in New York, most survivors and their children that end up in shelter are stuck in the homeless system for years before finding a safe home.

Thirty years ago, New Destiny was founded on the understanding that shelter alone cannot put an end to the cycle of domestic violence and homelessness, and we have remained steadfast in our focus on permanent housing as the solution for survivors fleeing abuse with nowhere safe to go.

New Destiny is the only organization in the city solely dedicated to permanent housing solutions for survivors and a leading advocate in the effort to end homelessness in New York. We operate the first federally funded rapid rehousing program for domestic violence survivors, and we are the largest provider of supportive housing for New Yorkers impacted by abuse across the state. Supportive housing is permanent housing with restricted rents paired with voluntary supportive services. This model is the safest and most cost-effective housing solution for survivors of domestic violence that need ongoing support to heal from the physical, mental, and financial abuse that they endured.



# 30 years of New Destiny

In FY 2024, New Destiny opened Highgarden Tower, our first building outside of New York City and the first supportive housing site for domestic violence survivors in New Rochelle, Westchester. With this new joint venture development, our total number of supportive housing projects increased to 10, where we house 1,255 adults and children. Our rapid rehousing and aftercare program continued to expand, totaling a record of 784 adults and children placed across the five boroughs.

2024 saw the conclusion of the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) Aftercare program, a special initiative made possible thanks to private funding from The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley Charitable Trust. New Destiny was selected by New York City in 2021 to provide voluntary housing search assistance to more than 1,200 domestic violence survivors with EHVs, who were trying to escape their abuser. The EHV Aftercare program offered individualized case management and mental health services to the more than 700 EHV recipients New Destiny helped house, so they could access the resources they needed to maintain stability in their new homes and thrive.

Because of the demonstrated success of our EHV housing navigation and aftercare interventions, New Destiny was selected by the city to create Project Home, a special pilot program for domestic violence survivors in shelter. The Project Home pilot will provide housing search assistance to 100 families with CityFHEPS vouchers to help them move out of shelter to a safe apartment. Pilot participants will be able to access aftercare support from New Destiny Resource Coordinators to heal and remain stably housed.

Additionally, starting in FY 2025, New Destiny will provide property management for our portfolio of buildings. This decision came after extensive industry research and a thorough evaluation of the previous model. By doing our own property management, New Destiny can bring a more holistic approach to meeting the needs of our tenants, while ensuring the long-term physical and financial health of our buildings.

All this important work helped increase New Destiny's media presence. In FY 2024, multiple survivors in our speakers' bureaus and staff were featured in nearly 40 different publications across various major outlets, including the New York Times, Jezebel, and People magazine.

Across our programs, New Destiny served 2,039 adults and children in 835 households

New Destiny's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary coincides with a four-year period of tremendous growth, where we tripled in size and led efforts to increase the number of survivors we house for years to come. From 2020 to 2024, our human capital grew from 34 to 97 employees, our budget tripled from \$3 million to \$9 million, and our affordable housing stock expanded from 232 to 868 apartments!

# **30 years of Building Better Futures**



### 1994

Victim Services incorporated New Destiny with its first Executive Director, Charles McLean



### 1997

First domestic violence emergency shelter is buil



### 2008

New Destiny develops its first supportive housing building, Marcello Manor, with a shift to developing only permanent housing



### 1987

Victim Services (now Safe Horizon) created a Housing Development Department to focus on the housing needs of survivors



### 1996

Carol Corden becomes Executive Director of New Destiny



### 2002

New Destiny becomes full independent with its own space, staff, and Board of



### 2019

HousingLink becomes the first U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development funded rapid rehousing program for domestic violence survivors in New York City



### 2021

New Destiny creates a Research & Advocacy Unit.

Organization doubles in size with 3 new buildings



### 2024

First residence outside of NYC opens in Westchester, NY.

New Destiny's Mental Health Services and Property Management Departments are created



### 2014

Project HOME (now HousingLink) was created to help survivors access housing in the community



### 2020

First leadership transition in 24 years. Carol Corden retires, and Nicole Branca becomes Executive Director



### 2022

Housing Access and Stability
Services Department is
created, expanding navigation
assistance and integrating
aftercare into the formal
structure



# **Housing Access and Stability Services**

Our Housing Access and Stability Services (HASS) program is a citywide initiative that helps domestic violence survivors find a safe home they can afford and offers the aftercare support they need to heal and thrive. The goal is to prevent homelessness or quickly re-house survivors that fled to shelter for safety.

New Destiny's HousingLink program is the cornerstone of HASS. HousingLink is the first federally funded rapid rehousing program for domestic violence survivors in New York City.

Tracing its roots back to 2014, HousingLink operates at the city Family Justice Centers in all 5 boroughs. The program provides housing navigation help, temporary rental assistance, and supportive services to promote long-term housing stability. HousingLink supported more than 300 domestic violence households at any given time throughout the year.

The HASS team also offers trainings and technical assistance to survivors, peer domestic violence organizations, and staff. The team had provided more than 100 workshops in total by the end of FY 2024.

I just wanted to take the time to thank you for all you've done for me. I am truly grateful for you. You came to my life when I was close to giving up and when I thought it was impossible you made sure to lift me up. Every time I would see a text, I knew it would be a great news. Thank you for being on top on my life. You truly are the best! I can't thank you enough for it.

- Lesly, Housing Access and Stability Services Client

In FY 2024, the Housing Access and Stability Services team assisted 784 adults and children in 264 households.

98.7%

of households remained stably housed

95.1%

of households were violence free



I was struggling with my partner. Because of financial situations, we turned into physical situations. It wasn't safe anymore for myself; and I found myself pregnant. I won a lottery to be accepted into New Destiny Housing. It felt like home. It felt like a dream come true.

- Highgarden Tower tenant

# **Family Support Program**

New Destiny's Family Support Program (FSP) provides trauma-informed on-site services to all tenants in our supportive housing buildings.

Supportive housing is permanent, affordable housing with onsite voluntary support services. This model is the safest and most cost-effective housing solution for survivors of domestic violence that need ongoing support to heal from the physical, mental, and financial abuse that they endured.

FSP provides case management, organizes therapeutic activities for adults and children, and partners with community-based organizations to further enhance its services. The team also encourages tenants to lead their own activities to build a stronger community, with tenants holding aerobics and Zumba classes, as well as crocheting workshops.



**Day One** provided guided support groups on dating abuse and domestic violence for parents and youth ages 24 and under.



**Latinas on the Verge of Excellence (LOVE)** hosted workshops on emotional support and mental health, wellness, and sex education for teenagers. New Destiny is LOVE's first supportive housing partner.



This year, a tenant at our Bainbridge site took the initiative to begin gardening in the backyard and front of the building. The tenant even planted pots of flowers for every neighbor in the building, so that they all could enjoy the beauty of nature in their apartments!

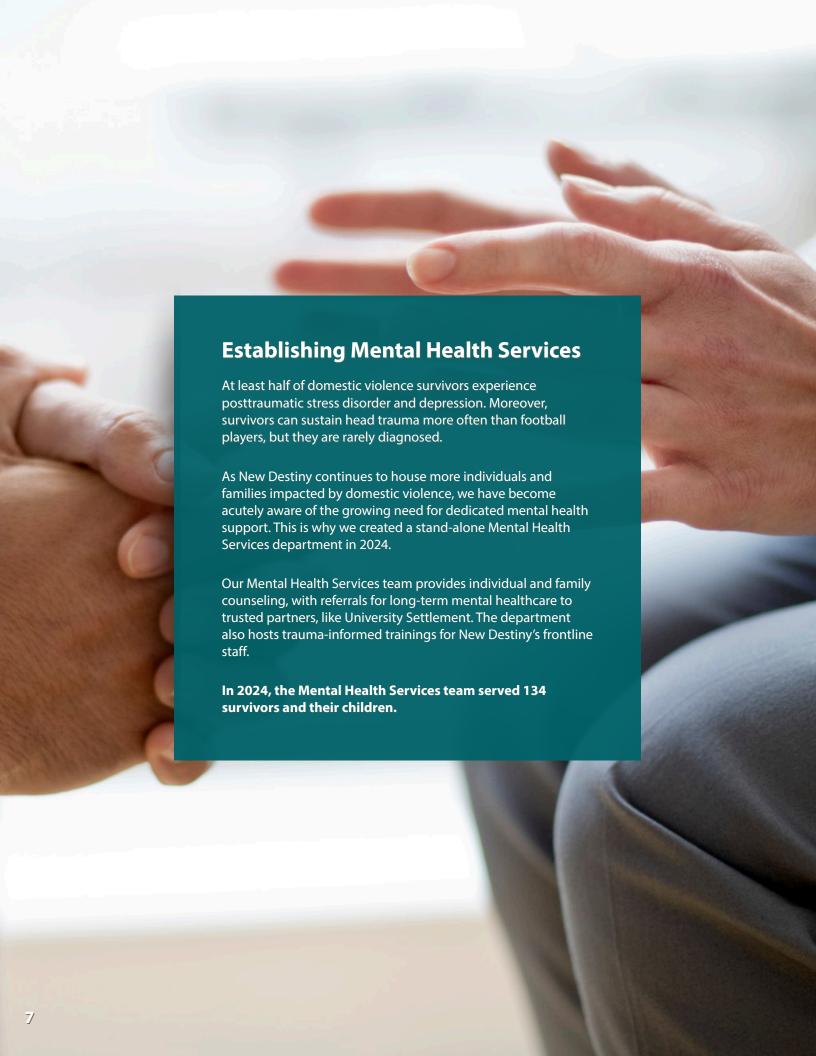
New Destiny is the largest supportive housing provider for domestic violence survivors in New York. In FY 2024, 1,255 adults and children in 571 households received on-site services in our supportive housing buildings.

99.6%

of households remained stably housed

98.6%

of households were violence free



## **Building Updates**





### **Highgarden Tower**

Opened in 2024, Highgarden Tower is the first supportive housing residence for survivors of domestic violence in New Rochelle and New Destiny first development outside of New York City.

Built in partnership with Georgica Green Ventures, LLC, and in collaboration with RXR, the master developer of Downtown New Rochelle, Highgarden includes 219 affordable homes, with 77 designated for homeless domestic violence survivors from Westchester County. New Destiny's Family Support Program will provide on-site case management, financial coaching, therapeutic activities, and supportive resources, which are funded by the Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative through the NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance.



### **Lily House**

In FY24, New Destiny continued renovation at Lily House, a former domestic violence shelter we built in 2005. Our partner, Safe Horizon, leased and operated the shelter for more than 15 years, providing temporary respite and caring services to 27 survivors and their families. Once completed, Lily House will reopen as supportive housing, with 30 permanent and affordable apartments for survivors.



# **Addressing Food Insecurity with EatWell**

In FY 2024, New Destiny partnered with EatWell, a social impact startup that designs plant-forward and nutrient dense meal kits and recipes, to alleviate both food insecurity and nutrition deficiency among survivors of domestic violence.

The partnership began with an 8-week pilot program at Raven Hall, one of our supportive housing sites in Brooklyn, where nearly 1 in 3 households experience food insecurity. To celebrate the program, tenants participated in a delicious cookoff competition.

Given the success of the pilot, New Destiny expanded the partnership to Housing Access and Stability Services clients as a citywide initiative.



### **FY 2024 Advocacy Wins**

After years of tireless advocacy, the city heeded the call of New Destiny by allowing survivors to live in New York City supportive housing and expanding their access to city-funded affordable apartments.

In April of 2024, New Destiny stood next to the New York City Mayor Eric inside city hall for the special announcement of these two major commitments, as well as the creation of a new pilot:

- 1. Providing access to city-funded affordable housing The city will allow survivors in domestic violence shelter access to NYC Department of Housing Preservation and Development-funded affordable apartments that are set aside for homeless New Yorkers. This change enables New Destiny, already an Our Space pre-approved provider, and other domestic violence organizations, the ability to refer survivors to these apartments and provide light-touch services to ensure their long-term stability.
- 2. Opening city-funded supportive housing The city will include domestic violence survivors as an eligible population for New York City 15/15, the latest city-funded supportive housing program. This means that supportive housing developers, like New Destiny, will be able to build more homes for domestic violence survivors.
- 3. The launch of Project Home This pilot program will connect 100 domestic violence survivors in Department of Homeless Services shelters with New Destiny housing navigators to help them find safe, permanent homes. Survivor participants will be paired with resource coordinators to ensure they can access all the aftercare services they need to remain stably housed.

### **Survivors in Action**

In June, we celebrated the 12 survivors in New Destiny's inaugural speakers' bureaus: Survivor Voices Project and *Voces de Cambio*, for completing their one-year training program. Participants took part in a series of workshops to hone their public speaking abilities and learn how to engage with reporters to share their personal stories and drive positive change.



### **2nd Annual Symposium**

Since 2022, New Destiny has organized annual symposia to showcase best practices and innovative new models to house and service domestic violence survivors. Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Symposium took place in October 2023 at Baruch College and featured leading state and local policymakers, nonprofit leaders, philanthropic partners, and survivors in constructive discussions.





# **Annual Cocktail Benefit, Celebrating 30 years of New Destiny**

On May 14, 2024, we were delighted to host our Annual Cocktail Benefit at the Museum of the City of New York. This special event brought together friends of New Destiny, survivors, and government officials to commemorate our achievements in 2024 and three decades of creating new homes for individuals and families impacted by domestic violence.

U.S. Senate Minority Leader, Senator Chuck Schumer, congratulated New Destiny and welcomed attendees in a special video message. We were proud to honor our Government Partners of the Year: Acting Commissioner Barbara C. Guinn and Deputy Commissioner Richard Umholtz, New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, and our Partner of the Year, Baaba K. Halm, Vice President & New York Market Leader, Enterprise Community Partners.

The night was emceed by seven-time Emmy Award-winning PIX11 News investigative reporter, Monica Morales, and featured Alysia, 2024 New Destiny Resilience Awardee.



# **Expanding our Presence**

We are thrilled to be able to create more opportunities to increase New Destiny's visibility, while raising additional funding. In FY 2024, New Destiny was invited to participate in the New York City Winter Walk as a partner organization and was selected as an official Charity Partner for the world-renowned 2024 TCS New York City Marathon taking place in November.



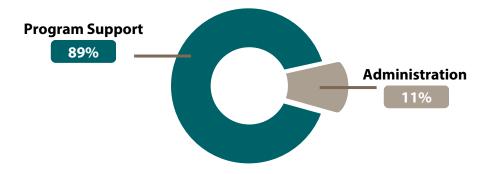
Your kindness, dedication, and unwavering support mean the world to me. Knowing that you genuinely care about our comfort and well-being fills my heart with gratitude. You have given us more than just furniture—you have given us a sense of stability, warmth, and hope.

- Kerrian, Housing Access and Stability Services Client



### **Revenue and Expenses**

New Destiny's operating budget has more than tripled in the past four years. In 2024, 89% of the revenue was spent on programs and 11% on fundraising and general expenses/management costs. Unrestricted donations allow us to stabilize during this period of extraordinary growth.



Total Expenses	\$10,732,000
Social Services	\$8,862,000
Management & General Expenses	\$1,033,000
Housing	\$640,000
Fundraising costs	\$197,000

#### **Total Revenue** \$10,790,000

### FY 2024 Supporters

### \$50,000 and above

Capital One

**Deutsche Bank** 

**Durst Family Foundation** 

**Enterprise Community Partners** 

NYC Fund to End Youth & Family

Homelessness

The Leona M. and Harry B. Helmsley

Charitable Trust

RXR Master Developer at New Rochelle

LLC

**Trinity Church Wall Street** 

### \$10,000 - \$49,999

Bank of India

**Cathay Bank Foundation** 

Chicago Title Insurance Company

Credit Builder's Alliance

Benjamin Israel

**Estate of Charles McLean** 

Rachel E. Miller

**ORIX Corporation USA** 

State Bank of India

The New Yankee Stadium Community

Benefits Fund, Inc.

The Sunshine Foundation

Webster Bank

#### \$5,000 to \$9,999

Antenna Group

**Apple Bank** 

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The Bonnie Cashin Fund

**Elaine Calos** 

Nicole Firment

Jessie M. Gabriel

The Hyde and Watson Foundation

Chaewon Lee

Glenwood Management Corp.

The Henry Foundation

Jerome Chazen Fund to Address

**Domestic Violence** 

TD Bank

#### \$2,500 to \$4,999

Lane N. Addonizio

AvalonBay Communities, Inc.

Peter and Marilyn Biggins

**Bronx Pro Group** 

Vaughn Burke Le Duc Safarov

**Community Preservation Corporation** 

**EQ** Architecture and Design

The Fleisher-Bierstein Charitable Fund

Erin Galligan

Hirschen Singer & Epstein

Magnusson Architecture and Planning, PC

Marjorie A. McAndrews

**NYC Housing Development Corporation** 

Opus Risk Inc.

Penta Restoration Corp

Pinnacle City Living

PFK O'Connor Davies LLP

Blanca Ramirez

Richman Housing Resources LLC

Ridgewood Savings Bank

Paula Sarro

Lawrence Stein

The Durst Organization

The Gussack-Stein Charitable Fund

Holly B. Wallace & Edwin M. Baum

### **FY 2024 Supporters Continued**

### \$1,000 to \$2,499

Apollo Global Management Matching Gifts

**Douglas Apple** 

Bright Power Inc.

Nadia Burgard and Cliff Fonstein

Bernice Burke

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Fund

Theresa A. Cerezola

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Suzanne and Ross Geoghegan

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Mega Contracting Group, LLC

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Strada Ventures LLC

Jennifer Thompson

**Craig Tooman** 

Hadrian and Elizabeth Tucker

Type A Projects

William and Joan Strawder Webster

Nadia Zilkha

### \$500 to \$999

Geraldine Basile

Benchmark Title Agency, LLC

Maureen Judge Branca

Nicole Branca and Ernest Ialongo

**Brown Giving Fund** 

Eve Cagan and Robert Pirani

Charles Newman Co., A Hilb Group

Company

Jo Ellen Cooper

Carol Corden and Robert Lake

COR-SRVS Inc.

James Fostin Cotchen

Curtis + Ginsberg Architects LLP

Gina B. Doynow

Amy Draemel and Benjamin Barry

Rebecca Eddy and Paul Feuerstein

Joanne Eisenberg

Webster Bank

Chris Fulton

The Scott M Gabriel Memorial Fund

Gelfand Generations, Inc.

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Hannah Pardue

Fish Plate Development LLC

Mary Herrmann Puris

Haley Rockwell

Ruth Samuel and Peter Turkl

**Daniel Sblendorio** 

The Sopris Fund

Fordham United Student Government Committee on Sexual Misconduct

Claudia and Christopher J. Van Wyk

Ariel Zurofsky

### \$150 to \$499

ANHD

Anonymous

Lynn Appelbaum

Richard Barth and Irene Barth-Fanos

Lydia and Joseph Bartolomeo

Lara Bell

Yvonne Bogle

Cara Boyle and Craig Mende

Claudine Brown Esq.

Ellen Chesler

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Alan and Iris Cohen

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Craig and Carola McAndrews

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Ellen Rautenberg

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Satovsky Asset Management Charitable

Gift Trust

Keisha Shay

Abby Sigal

Ellen Sorrin and David York

Ardelle Stoute

Eric Thompson

Jean H. Vanderbilt

Suzanne Wagner

Lawrence Wallick & Carolyn Horn

Alexandra Warren

Jon Watson

Scott and Sandra Weingarten

Weinreb Goodman Fund

Donna M. Zavattieri

### **Government Funders**

NYC Council Member Hanks

NYC Council Member Mealy

NYC Council Member Sanchez
NYC Council DoVE Initiative

NYC Department of Housing

Preservation and Development

NYC Mayor's Office to End Domestic and

Gender-Based Violence

NYS Office of Temporary and Disability

Assistance

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban

Development











