

# PROTECT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVORS IN SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Supportive housing is one of the safest and most cost-effective housing solutions for survivors of domestic violence. Yet, the New York State Supportive Housing Program (NYSSHP), on which thousands of survivors rely on, has been shockingly underfunded for decades. **We call on our state leaders to protect survivors in supportive housing and increase NYSSHP funding by \$150 million.**

## > 4.6 million

**New Yorkers experience abuse by an intimate partner in their lifetime**

Access to safe and affordable housing is vital for survivors to leave their abuser and rebuild their lives. The supportive housing model is designed to provide just that: an affordable apartment with on-site trauma-informed services that keep them stably housed and safe.

### THE HISTORY OF NYSSHP

Created in 1987, NYSSHP, administered by the state Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, provides funding specifically for direct services tied to housing. More than 20,000 households across the state – all of whom are homeless or at high-risk – live in NYSSHP housing. Because of virtually flat funding for over 35 years, nonprofits are no longer able to provide the level of security and services that our vulnerable families need to remain safe and stably housed.

### NYSSHP RATES

The annual NYSSHP rate is \$2,736 for single households and \$3,672 for families. This is 20% of what providers receive under the newer supportive housing program, the Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative (ESSHI). ESSHI funds \$25,000 per household annually, of which usually half (or \$12,500) is used for direct services.

**ESSHI rates can be up to 5x NYSSHP rates**

ESSHI  
\$12,500

NYSSHP  
\$2,736

### NYSSHP AT NEW DESTINY

At New Destiny, NYSSHP provides about \$86,000 per building – 25% of what's needed to provide 24 hour building security and deliver the services the program needs to help survivors and their families. The NYSSHP rate pays the equivalent of \$5.18 per hour, 33% the [minimum wage](#), while ESSHI pays an average of \$29 per hour.

### Hourly Rates

NYC Minimum Wage: \$15

ESSHI

\$29.00

NYSSHP

\$5.18

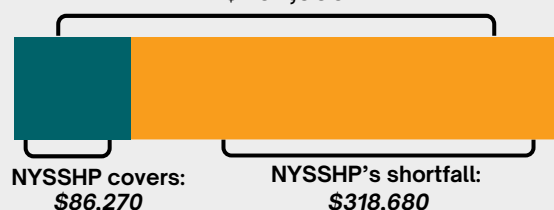
Like the other 126 nonprofits participating in the program across the state, we are forced to constantly fundraise from private donors to try to offset the state's disinvestment and bridge the shortfall to pay staff a livable wage and benefits. Yet, it is impossible to make up the difference. This is not a sustainable solution. Our staff and tenants deserve better.

# 1:56

**On average, NYSSHP covers 1 direct service staff for 56 tenants.**

On average, NYSSHP covers one case manager for an entire building and zero security. With case managers handling double or triple caseloads, employee burnout is nonstop. We experience significantly higher staff turnover in our NYSSHP buildings, leaving an even larger burden on the staff that remain.

**Average cost for security and service:  
\$404,950**



Survivors in NYSSHP buildings deserve the same access to the health and healing resources that those in other supportive housing can access. It is time for our state leadership to step up and create parity between the two programs. By allocating an additional \$150 million to NYSSHP, the state would increase rates to ESSHI levels and ensure that our most vulnerable neighbors, including survivors of domestic violence, have a place to live safely and heal.



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Published October 2023

[www.newdestinyhousing.org](http://www.newdestinyhousing.org)

Contact: [gsrequeana@newdestinyhousing.org](mailto:gsrequeana@newdestinyhousing.org)