



new destiny
housing

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New Destiny and City and State Officials Break Ground on New Bronx Supportive Housing Development

McLean Place, named in honor of New Destiny's founding executive director, Charles E. McLean, Jr., will provide 72 new homes for survivors of domestic violence and other New Yorkers in need of affordable housing.

NEW YORK – Today, New Destiny Housing, New York City's largest provider of supportive housing for domestic violence survivors, broke ground on McLean Place, a 72-unit supportive housing development in The Bronx. All of the apartments will be affordable, with 43 units set aside for households who became homeless due to domestic violence. Previously referred to as the Webster Avenue project, the building is being dedicated to New Destiny's founding executive director and long-term board member, Charles E. McLean, Jr., who passed away in July 2023.

Domestic violence is the number one reason for family homelessness, but far too few supportive housing options exist for survivors who need both the housing and support to find long-term stability. The construction of McLean Place will provide 43 homes for families who fled from violence, where they will access the support and resources they need to overcome the long-lasting effects of abuse.

At a ceremony, Nicole Branca, New Destiny's CEO, Nicole Firment, New Destiny's board chair, NYC HPD Deputy Commissioner for Housing Access and Stability Meryl Block Weissman, NYS OTDA Assistant Director Brenda McAteer, Capital One Senior Director of Community Finance Loretta Duffy, and NYC Council Member Althea Stevens gave remarks on the importance of McLean Place and new supportive housing development; also in attendance was Bronx Borough President Vanessa Gibson. After the speeches, the group officially broke ground on the new project.

Financing for McLean Place involves a mix of public and private funding, including \$25M from the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development's Supportive Housing Loan Program, \$16M in Low-Income Housing Tax Credits, and \$9.7M from the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance's Homeless Housing and Assistance Program. Acquisition and pre-development funding was made possible thanks to Corporation for Supportive Housing and Deutsche Bank's Supportive Housing Acquisition and Rehabilitation Effort.

Capital One provided the construction loan for the project, and Freddie Mac will provide permanent financing. The tax credits were syndicated by Hudson Housing Capital and Capital One. Operating

funding for the supportive units is being provided by the Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative, administered by the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance. There are also eight Section 8 Project-Based Vouchers, through the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development for low-income units. Additional support was provided by Strada Ventures, a woman-owned real estate consulting company.

McLean Place will be built to Passive House energy efficiency standards, including high-efficiency, all-electric appliances and building systems, solar power, and an air-tight building envelope. Residents at the building will enjoy a wide range of amenities, including a community room and common kitchen, fitness room, spacious back yard, walk-out roof, on-site laundry, bike room, owner-paid broadband for tenants, owner-paid A/C and heating for tenants.

As part of New Destiny's commitment to supportive housing, McLean Place residents will also have access to on-site supportive services like case management, mental health counseling, financial coaching, art therapy, and more. The project is expected to be completed in May 2027.

Charles E. McLean Jr. was New Destiny's first executive director in 1994. His visionary leadership shared the work of New Destiny, creating a future beyond shelter for domestic violence survivors through the creation of new homes. A seasoned national leader in housing, Charles steered New Destiny to rapid success within two years and returned at the end of his career for a leadership role on the board of directors for the past decade.

"Supportive housing has proven time and again how effective it is in helping domestic violence survivors and their families rebuild their lives and stay violence-free, and McLean Place will give 43 families impacted by abuse the opportunity to engage with supportive resources, heal, and thrive," said **Nicole Branca, CEO of New Destiny Housing**. "We honor the legacy of our inaugural executive director, Charles E. McLean Jr. with this new project, and we are grateful to celebrate this groundbreaking with all our partners. I want to especially thank NYC HPD, NYS OTDA, Capital One, and Hudson Housing Capital for their financial support of this important development. New Destiny looks forward to continuing to develop supportive housing for domestic violence survivors across New York."

"Domestic violence is one of the most heartbreaking drivers of family homelessness in our city. We have a responsibility to ensure that survivors are not only safe, but supported in rebuilding their futures," said **Acting HPD Commissioner Ahmed Tigani**. "At McLean Place, 72 new affordable homes—including 43 reserved for survivors of domestic violence—will provide more than just shelter; they will offer stability, services, and a chance to heal. Thanks to our partners, in particular the incredible team at New Destiny Housing, this development will be a sanctuary of safety and hope, where New Yorkers can reclaim their strength and their future."

"When completed, McLean Place will provide critically needed safe, affordable housing to survivors of domestic violence and their families, while connecting them to essential support services they need to

remain secure and housed in their community,” said **Barbara C. Guinn, Commissioner of the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance**. “We are grateful to New Destiny and all our partners on this vital project and to Governor Hochul for expanding permanent supportive housing options across New York State and her steadfast support and compassion for New Yorkers impacted by domestic violence.”

“I am proud to see New Destiny Housing’s continued commitment to District 16. The groundbreaking of McLean Place is a powerful reminder of what happens when the needs of our community are prioritized,” said **NYC Council Member Althea Stevens, Chair of Committee on Children & Youth**.

“For a long time, our city has overlooked the need for better support for victims of domestic violence. For that reason, McLean Place is an amazing step towards strengthening our district. I look forward to the continued partnership with New Destiny Housing and working towards the future of District 16.”

“This project is about dignity, safety, and hope,” said **Bronx Borough President Vanessa L. Gibson**.

“Domestic violence remains one of the leading causes of family homelessness in New York City, and far too often, survivors are forced to choose between returning to unsafe situations or facing instability without proper housing. McLean Place changes that reality. It will give survivors and their children a place to heal and rebuild. Congratulations to New Destiny and to all the partners involved on this incredible milestone.”

“Hudson Housing Capital is proud to partner with New Destiny on this transformative development through the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit program. McLean Place will provide safe, stable, and supportive homes for survivors of domestic violence and their families,” said **Jessica Worth, Vice President at Hudson Housing Capital**. “Today’s groundbreaking marks a significant step toward long-term stability and opportunity for residents. We commend our partners at New Destiny Housing for their unwavering commitment to meeting this critical community need.”

“As a top community development lender, Capital One has provided debt and equity to deliver affordable housing to The Bronx over the course of nearly two decades,” said **Desiree Francis, head of Community Finance at Capital One**. “Capital One is proud to finance McLean Place through the LIHTC program, which combines public and private capital to help keep rents affordable for residents in The Bronx and across urban, suburban, rural and tribal communities nationwide.”

“MAP is so excited to be working with New Destiny on this innovative and critically important development, where robust sustainability goals and amenity-rich living will translate to a beautiful and dignified resident experience,” said **Fernando Villa, Principal at Magnusson Architecture and Planning**. “The all-electric Passive House building will offer serene spaces both indoor and outdoor, private and shared, where families can build community in safety, and comfortably enjoy health-focused programming like play spaces, gardening beds and support services.”

“The Penta Group and its construction affiliate Penta Restoration Corp. is honored to be part of the building team for this important legacy project for New Destiny and the East Concourse Bronx community it will soon be a part of” said **George Raptis, principal of The Penta Group**. "Since its founding in 1992, The Penta Group has been active in building quality housing and remains a dedicated partner in creating new affordable homes and turning that vision into reality for our most vulnerable neighbors—one brick at a time."

About New Destiny Housing

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, affordable housing and services. Thirty years ago, New Destiny was founded on the understanding that shelter alone cannot put an end to this cycle and have remained steadfast in our focus on permanent housing as the solution for families fleeing abuse with nowhere safe to go. New Destiny builds and manages permanent supportive housing for survivors; helps survivors find safe affordable apartments throughout the city and provides them with the aftercare support they need to remain housed and thrive; and is a leading advocate in the effort to end family homelessness in New York. For additional information, visit our website at www.newdestinyhousing.org, and follow us on [Bluesky](#), [Facebook](#), [Threads](#), , and [Instagram](#).

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