

Pursuant to Local Law 207 of 2017 to amend the administrative code of the City of New York, in relation to the responsibilities of the interagency coordinating council, the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services respectfully submits the report below.

This report presents a summary of the activities and recommendations of the interagency coordinating council, commonly referred to as the IHAC (Interagency Homelessness Accountability Council). As Local Law 207 requires, this report is accompanied by an annual breakdown of each member agency's expenditures for housing and services to the homeless in the adopted budget.

Members and Structure

Pursuant to Local Law 207, the Mayor designated the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services (DMHHS) to serve as the chairperson of the IHAC. As written in the Law, the members of the IHAC include Commissioners and senior staff from the following agencies:

- Administration for Children's Services (ACS)
- Department of Education (DOE)
- Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH)
- Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD)
- Department of Social Services (DSS)
 - Department of Homeless Services (DHS)
 - Human Resources Administration (HRA)
- Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD)

In addition to the members listed in the Law, the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services made the following agency additions to the IHAC:

- Center for Innovation through Data Intelligence (CIDI)
- Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs (MOIA)
- Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence (ENDGBV)
- Mayor's Office to Protect Tenants (MOPT)
- New York City Health and Hospitals (H+H)
- New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA)
- New York City Housing Development Corporation (HDC)
- Office of the Deputy Mayor for Housing and Economic Development (DMHED)

A full list of the representatives for each agency can be found in the appendix to this report.

The members listed above usually meet as a full group on a quarterly basis. However, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, there were four meetings clustered during the second half of 2020. All of the CY20 meetings took place on WebEx on the following dates:

- July 22, 2020
- October 15, 2020
- November 22, 2020
- December 23, 2020

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on low-income New Yorkers including those experiencing homelessness prior to the pandemic, the DMHHS invited the DMHED to co-facilitate the IHAC in the format of a meeting series focused on Eviction Prevention and Service Coordination. The focus of CY20 meetings remained in alignment with the IHAC's original goals to:

1. Maximize the City's resources to build, maintain, and strengthen a coordinated system to support New York City's homeless;
2. Identify and better serve people at risk of entering the homeless system;
3. Focus on the needs of unique populations within the homeless system, including youth, families with young children, the elderly, and formerly justice-involved individuals; and
4. Promote permanent housing;

An overview of the focus of each of the 2020 series meetings of the IHAC is included here:

Meeting 1: July 22, 2020

This was the initial meeting to set the stage for the series format. The meeting opened with presentations on past and present state of evictions in NYC by the following entities: CIDI, HRA Homelessness Prevention Administration (HRA-HPA) and HRA Office of Civil Justice (HRA-OCJ). The attendees discussed anecdotal observations around housing and homelessness during the time of COVID within their respective agencies and contracted providers. Both DSS and HDC presented on federal and state relief and advocacy efforts, collecting ideas from other agencies about how to coordinate effective calls for additional federal relief.

Meeting 2: October 15, 2020

The October meeting opened with present state information from HRA-HPA and HRA-OCJ, including ways for agencies to connect their clients with One Shot Deal Emergency Rental Assistance Grants. MOPT provided an overview of the services available from their office. They shared a number of materials with other agencies including their COVID-19 Fact Sheet (rights for tenants), 311 Flyers, Eviction Prevention Brochure and the Tenant Resource Portal. The bulk of the meeting focused on agency efforts to provide assistance to immigrant New Yorkers. MOIA shared their resource guide and HPD presented on Project Parachute, an initiative to help tenants stay in their homes regardless of immigration status, operated by the network of HRA Homebase providers. The attendees discussed recommended usage of future housing-related federal stimulus dollars focusing on key areas such as outreach and resource sharing, small landlord assistance and housing navigation services for clients.

Meeting 3: November 22, 2020

In November, HRA presented on current state including the interaction between various eviction moratoria in place at the federal and state level. The meeting focused primarily on the legislative and administrative priorities of the city as it pertains to housing and homelessness. With a projected federal stimulus before the end of the year, agencies discussed priority ideas to prevent low-income New Yorkers from losing their homes and from experiencing homelessness.

Meeting 4: December 23, 2020

The final meeting in the series included an overview of current state from HRA-OCJ and HRA-HPA. CIDI presented a data analysis plan based on a discussion from the November meeting. DSS will see if there is any overlap between formerly homeless individuals or people at risk of homelessness living in small buildings where the landlords may be struggling due to loss of income during COVID. Where there are overlaps, HPD and HRA will collaborate to offer resources to these landlords and tenants. CIDI presented on this data matching project and discussed possible implications depending on the findings. The group discussed anecdotal observations from their agency perspectives on whether New Yorkers are facing homelessness because of the economic downturn due to COVID. In addition, the group discussed federal, state or city policies or procedures that could be modified to prevent homelessness, temporarily or permanently.

APPENDIX**I. Budget**

Agency	Description	Planned FY 21 Expenditures (as of Adopt 21 budget) \$ in Ms	
DHS	Shelter services, administration and support for homeless adults, families, and street homeless individuals	\$	2,059.8
HRA	Homeless prevention, rental assistance, legal services, services for domestic violence survivors and persons living with HIV/AIDS	\$	917.08
ACS	Housing assistance for former foster care youth	\$	1.9
DOHMH	Supportive housing, newborn home visiting for homeless families, housing for persons with HIV/AIDS	\$	252.3
HPD	Supportive housing and rental assistance to formerly homeless	\$	153.86
DOE	Students in temporary housing and related services	\$	76.4
DYCD	Runaway & homeless youth services		44.2
Total		\$	3,505.5

II. Members and Attendees

Chair and Co-Chair for 2020 series:

- Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services – Dr. Raul Perea-Henze (July), Vacant (October), Melanie Hartzog (Nov and Dec)
- Deputy Mayor for Housing and Economic Development – Vicki Been

Mandated Executive Committee:

- DSS – Commissioner Steve Banks
+ First Deputy Commissioner Molly Murphy
+ Deputy Commissioner for Intergovernmental Affairs Erin Drinkwater
- DHS – Administrator Joslyn Carter
- HRA – Administrator Gary Jenkins
- HPD – Commissioner Louise Carroll
- DYCD – Acting Deputy Commissioner of Community Development Mike Bobbitt
+ Assistant Commissioner of Vulnerable Youth Randy Scott
- ACS – First Deputy Commissioner Eric Brettschneider
- DOHMH – Deputy Commissioner Dr. Hillary Kunins
- DOE - Deputy Chancellor of School Climate & Wellness LaShawn Robinson
+ Senior Executive Director, Office of Community Schools Chris Caruso
+ Executive Director, Students in Temporary Housing

DM HHS additions:

- ENDGBV – Commissioner Cecile Noel
- NYCHA – Executive Vice President for Leased Housing Lakesha Miller
- H+H – Assistant Vice President Housing + Real Estate Leora Jontef
- CIDI – Executive Director Maryanne Schretzman
+ Director of Policy and Research Eileen Johns
- DFTA – Commissioner Lorraine Cortes-Vazquez
- MOIA – Director of Policy and Legislative Affairs Jean Bae
- MOPT – Director Ricardo Martinez Campos
- HDC – Commissioner Eric Enderlin
+ Director of Government Affairs Jessica Facciponti