

# NYC CoC Newsletter

November 10, 2020

Issue No. 21

**NYC** Continuum  
**CoC** of Care



## New HUD Waiver Request Opportunity, NYC News, and Winter Resources

## CoC Updates

### New HUD Waiver Request Opportunity

In October, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) published a Memo titled, "[Availability of Additional Waivers for CPD Grant Programs to Prevent the Spread of COVID-19 and Mitigate Economic Impacts Caused by COVID-19.](#)"

The following waivers are available to CoC Program recipients:

- Third-Party Documentation of Income
- Housing Quality Standards -Initial Inspection of Unit
- Suitable Dwelling Size and Housing Quality Standards
- Homeless Definition - Temporary Stays in Institutions of 90 days or Less
- Assistance Available at Time of Renewal
- Permanent Housing-Rapid Re-housing Monthly Case Management
- Fair Market Rent for Individual Units and Leasing Costs
- Disability Documentation for Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)
- One-Year Lease Requirement

This memorandum also announces a simplified notification process for recipients of these programs to use this waiver flexibility to expedite the delivery of assistance.

If you have any questions, please reach out to your CPD Representative.

### New Newsletter Series

See below in the newsletter for the CoC's new series titled, "*CoC Community Spotlight.*" This series aims to feature organizations, projects, and individuals making strides on the issue of homelessness and highlight significant achievements of their efforts.

### 2021 Annual Evaluation Timeline

The NYC CoC 2021 Annual Evaluation is now underway. CoC-funded projects must adhere to the Annual Evaluation process outlined on [the CoC website](#). To view the 2021 Annual Evaluation Timeline, [please click here](#).

### Mandatory HMIS Trainings

The NYC HMIS team will host trainings for Awards Users, New Awards Users, and Non-Awards Users that are

## New Coordinated Assessment & Placement System (CAPS) Launch

The Human Resources Administration (HRA) launched the new Coordinated Assessment & Placement System (CAPS) on October 26. CAPS is the re-design of the PACT system and was established to better incorporate HUD requirements for Coordinated Entry in NYC.

Training guides for all modules will be in the new system under Information/Training and are also [posted on the CoC website](#).



### New Cold Weather Resources:

#### The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Resources

HUD published resources for cold weather, which are designed to help communities implement safe and effective approaches to winter shelter planning during COVID-19. Please review the list below and click on links to see the resources.

Winter Planning Resources:

- [Winter Planning Guide Overview: Meeting Winter Shelter Needs and Mitigating Health Risks](#)

Supporting Resources:

- How to Complete the Winter Emergency Plan Planning Guide and Template ([.doc downloadable online](#))
- [Alternative Approaches to Winter Sheltering During COVID-19](#)
- Winter Response Activation and Communications Planning Guide and Template ([.doc downloadable online](#))
- [COVID-19 Preparedness Checklist for Shelter Facilities](#)

mandatory for CoC-funded projects. Sign-ups are now closed. Please contact [Roxanna Deleon](#) with any questions or concerns.

### CoC Tip of the Month:

#### Grant Management & ELOCCS:

As a reminder, please keep your ELOCCS account active. To ensure this, please log in to your account weekly. Do not share your log-in information with anyone for any reason.

### Job Openings related to the NYC CoC

Please send job postings your organization has to [nycccoc@dss.nyc.gov](mailto:nycccoc@dss.nyc.gov) if you would like them to appear on the CoC monthly newsletter.

### Events in the CoC Community

**Jericho Project will host a Virtual Veteran's Day Event, "Serving Those Who Served," on Nov. 11 from 10-11:30 a.m.**

Special guest speakers include Commissioner of the NYC Dept. of Veterans' Services James Hendon, EP Engineering, and Jericho Project Veteran Staff Members. To register for the event, [please click here](#).

Please click

## National Health Care for the Homeless Council (NHCHC) Webinar Series

Register for the Winter is Coming Webinar Series [by clicking the NHCHC link here.](#)

- Cold Weather and Disasters Webinar – November 13, 2020 – 1:00 PM EST

This discussion will address how to prepare, plan, and respond to extreme cold weather and the corresponding health issues for those living outdoors, as well as natural disasters such as hurricanes and fires. Presenters will share examples of how they are leveraging federal and local funds and working with community partners, and discuss the challenges and strategies to overcome barriers posed by decompressed shelters.

- Evictions & Social Upheaval Webinar – November 20, 2020 – 1:00 PM EST

This discussion will address communities' experiences in evictions leading to homelessness and preparations for a larger wave as eviction moratoria expire. This webinar will also reflect on the uprisings in response to structural racism and how the unrest relates to the trauma of injustice and the toll of the pandemic on our collective mental health as a society.

---

### NEW Series: NYC CoC Community Spotlight

#### ***Breaking Ground maintains safety, housing***

Breaking Ground, a longtime member of the CoC and regional leader in supportive housing and emergency shelter, owns or manages 20 permanent supportive and affordable housing sites primarily in New York City. Across Breaking Ground's permanent housing sites, the agency has worked closely with social service providers and tenants to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, including the early adoption of wearing masks, social distancing, and enhanced cleaning of high-touch surfaces. At one point, staff were monitoring more than 150 tenants and clients across the portfolio.

Breaking Ground's Asset Management team worked closely with the Supportive Housing Network of New York and Deputy Mayor Vicki Been's office to help source and distribute personal protective equipment to more than 90 peer supportive housing agencies in New York City. Since May, more than six million masks and nearly one million pairs of gloves have been distributed to help keep staff and tenants safe.

the icons  
below to learn  
more:



Click here to  
find a COVID-19  
testing site



While many social services locations have closed or severely restricted capacity over the past several months, Breaking Ground's outreach teams continued their round-the-clock work with people experiencing homelessness on the City's streets. With resources such as the drop-in center, safe haven and transitional housing, and new stabilization bed resources, the teams have also been able to continue helping clients come indoors safely during this critical time.

Fortunately, the agency's safe haven and transitional housing sites were already set up to account for social distancing. But with communal meals and shared bathrooms, program staff needed to think quickly and adjust practices to help keep clients safe. Adopting staggered mealtimes and clear communication with clients regarding use of facilities helped to reinforce safety for everyone. This collaborative safety process also included detailed plans for quarantining tenants or those isolating in their apartments, down to the safe removal of garbage to protect staff and other tenants. Beyond safety procedures, staff took time to help clients complete US Census surveys, and even arranged to bring in barbers and stylists for a day of outdoor, socially distanced haircuts in August.

Today, staff continue to be vigilant and are equipped with electrostatic disinfectant sprayers, hand sanitizing stations, and disposable masks for the team, tenants, and any visitors. Consistent communication with tenants regarding the latest guidelines from public health officials, temporary rules, and adjusted visitor policies have helped tenants feel calm and up-to-date.

The Breaking Ground team tirelessly worked on COVID-19 safety measures while keeping focused on the most important way to help persons who experience homelessness maintain their health – through finding and securing permanent supportive housing.

---



— Photos by Breaking Ground

## Send Us Your Feedback!

The NYC CoC is committed to providing useful information to the community. We want to hear from community members like you. Follow us at [nychomeless.com](http://nychomeless.com) and let us know what you think about our messaging. Your feedback makes us better.

Thank you.  
NYC CoC

Welcome to the NYC CoC email list. You are receiving this email because you've opted in at our website or are a NYC CoC affiliate.  
Copyright NYC CoC. 2007, All Rights Reserved

All links to documents referenced in this announcement supersedes any prior information posted on [www.nychomeless.com](http://www.nychomeless.com).

Clear the web browser to see the latest version of the website. Press the Ctrl and F5 keys simultaneously on your keyboard to force a browser refresh.



This email was sent to <<Email Address>>

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)  
NYC CoC · DSS 4 World Trade Center · 150 Greenwich St., FL 31 · NY, NY 10007 · USA

