

A close-up photograph of a man's hand holding a set of keys. The man is smiling and looking towards the camera. He is wearing a light blue shirt. The background is a warm, out-of-focus indoor setting.

**21st Annual New York Supportive Housing Conference,  
June 2023**

**Creating Re-Entry Housing with ESSHI**

# Today's Agenda

- Introductions
- Intersection of Homelessness and Justice
- Overview of the Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative (ESSHI)
- Hearing from Providers
- Panel Discussion
- Questions & Answers

# Your Panelists



**JoAnne Page**  
President & CEO  
The Fortune Society



**Christina Green**  
Director, Supportive Housing  
The Osborne Association



**Annie Murphy**  
Deputy Executive Director  
HousingPlus



**Alethea Taylor, PHD, CRC**  
Executive Director  
Hour Children




# Justice Impacted and Homelessness

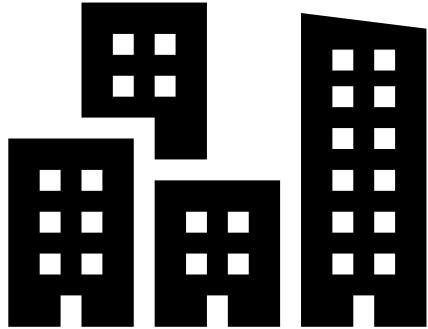


- **Formerly incarcerated people are almost 10 times more likely to be homeless than those without incarceration histories.**
- **Rates of homelessness are highest for:**
  - People who have been incarcerated more than once
  - People recently released from prison
  - People of color and women
  - Women are more likely to be homeless than men, but men are more likely to be unsheltered homeless

# Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative (ESSHI)

Homeless Definition	Populations	Funding/Services
<p>1. be an un-domiciled person</p> <p>2. be a youth or young adult who left foster care within the prior five years and who was in foster care at or over age 16, and who is without permanent and stable housing</p> <p><b>3. be an adult or young adult reentering the community from incarceration or juvenile justice placement, who was released or discharged, and who is without permanent and stable housing</b></p> <p>4. be a young adult between the ages of 18 and 25 years of age without a permanent residence.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Serious Mental Illness</li> <li>• Substance Use Disorder</li> <li>• Persons living with HIV or AIDS Victims/Survivors of domestic violence</li> <li>• Military service with disabilities</li> <li>• Chronic homelessness as defined by HUD</li> <li>• Youth/young adults who left foster care</li> <li>• <b>Adults, youth, or young adults between 18-25 reentering the community from prison or juvenile justice placement, particularly those with disabling conditions</b></li> <li>• Frail Elderly/Senior</li> <li>• Individuals with I/DD</li> </ul>	<p>UP to \$25,000 in services and operating funding is available for each qualifying individual.</p> 

# ESSHI Development **New York**



**221** ESSHI Re-Entry  
Housing Units Open  
(includes 150 in NYC)

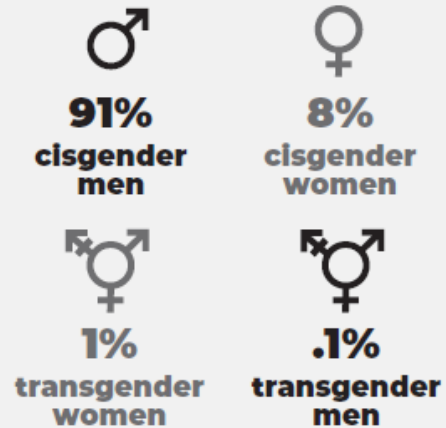


**142** Units Statewide in  
construction (includes  
100 in NYC)

## **BUT WE NEED MORE!**

## Gender Identity at “Rikers Island”

\*based on a one-day snapshot on 6/1/2021<sup>8</sup>



## Behavioral Health<sup>10</sup>

\*Qualitative evidence tells us that behavioral health needs are often unreported

**54%** Jail population with a mental health diagnosis (January – April 2021)

**17%** Jail population with a serious mental illness (January – April 2021)

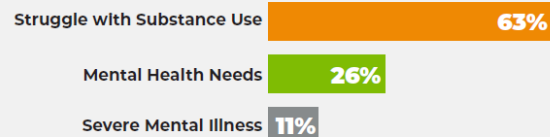


## Homeless

# 2,930

people between 2015-2018 self-reported homelessness while incarcerated on Rikers Island<sup>9</sup>

Additional reports state that people discharged from a NYC jail in 2018 reported the following:<sup>12</sup>



According to a CSH report released in 2022, an estimated **2,589 people in one year** need supportive housing.

# Hearing from the Housing Providers

- ❖ The Fortune Society
- ❖ Osborne Association
- ❖ HousingPlus
- ❖ Hour Children





# Panel Discussion

Describe the benefits of the ESSHI Program?

Have there been any challenges on the social services side when supporting this population?

What have been some challenges and benefits of developing joint ventures?

What advice would you give to a supportive housing provider who is interested in using ESSHI to develop housing for the re-entry population?

What else is needed in NY to support people leaving jails and prisons?



Questions

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Answers

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**Thank you!**