



New published studies underscore our message: we *can* fight, prevent and end homelessness.

Last month was a policy wonk's dream, with well-researched report after report kicking off the year adding more documentation for the Care for the Homeless Agenda to End Homelessness underscoring our policy message:

- 1.) We can fight, prevent and end modern day homelessness
- 2.) We know what works, so we're confident better policies will make all the difference
- 3.) Our plan - what works - isn't too expensive; in fact, it can save tax dollars

NYC Documents It's Better (and Cheaper!) to Provide Housing than "Shelter"

The first report was the report actually issued on December 31st by the outgoing Bloomberg administration ("New York/New York III Supportive Housing Evaluation", NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, 12/31/13) documenting the dramatic impact of supportive housing for chronically homeless people. Over the years studied (2009-11) the city reported a win-win: better health and quality of life outcomes and substantial cost savings. Compared to a control group the study documented average annual savings of \$10,100 per participant after including both supportive housing and program administration costs!

Calling it one more evidence based study adding to a decade of research, Supportive Housing Network of NY Executive Director Ted Houghton, who CFH works closely with, said it was more proof "a decent apartment and pragmatic person-centered services not only improves the lives of vulnerable people, it saves taxpayer dollars."



Quantifying the Need for More Affordable Housing

The Community Service Society, another Care for the Homeless ally, issued a report ("An Affordable Place to Live", NY Community Service Society, 1/14) documenting how critical the affordable housing crisis is for very-low income New Yorkers. Even using 200% of poverty as their measure, the total "affordable" units available in the city plummeted from 995,000 in 2002 to 609,700 in 2011, a 39% drop, while demand was constantly over 1,000,000 units for very-low income renters.

The CSS report documents the worsening affordable housing crisis for our city's lowest income tenants. It shows combating homelessness in the Big Apple requires much more affordable housing for our most vulnerable neighbors.

Read the entire report at:

http://b.3cdn.net/nycss/27ccd4d075e4ff7b10_fwm6b9i60.pdf

Become an advocate today! Join us on Facebook and on Twitter for up-to-the-minute info.

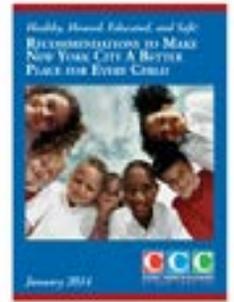


Reinstating Housing Voucher Can Help End Homelessness

New York's Citizens Committee for Children released a study ("Healthy, Housed, Educated, and Safe: Recommendations to Make the City a Better Place for Every Child", CCC, 1/16/14) arguing for a large-scale rent subsidy program to move families from shelter to permanent housing, including more than 22,000 children housed in city shelters daily. Our colleague, CCC Executive Director Jennifer March noted, "a critical component of helping some families exit the shelter system in a timely manner needs to be a new housing subsidy program" that will "save taxpayers money because the average shelter costs \$3,000 per month while a subsidy is typically about \$1,000 per month."

Read the entire report at:

<http://www.cccnewyork.org/data-and-reports/publications/healthy-housed-educated-and-safe-recommendations-to-make-nyc-a-better-place-for-children/>



If The Economy is Growing, Why Isn't Income?

Meanwhile Oxfam reported ("Working for the Few", Oxfam Briefing Paper 178, 1/20/14) as the elite World Economic Forum ("WEF") 2014 was opening in Davos, that the 85 richest people in the world – many of them in Davos as the report hit the media – had assets equal to the poorest 50% of the world's population (about 3.5 billion people). One percent of the world's population holds \$110 trillion in wealth, half of all world wealth.

Oxfam documents 70% of the world's population lives in countries with increasing income inequality, including the U.S. where the wealthiest 1% made 95% of all income increases since the 2009 financial crisis as 90% became poorer. Oxfam's report wasn't disputed in Davos. WEF issued a report 2 months ago citing increasing income inequality as the second greatest world threat over the coming years.

Read the entire report at:

<http://www.oxfam.org/sites/www.oxfam.org/files/bp-working-for-few-political-capture-economic-inequality-200114-en.pdf>

What do they all have in common? They underscore Care for the Homeless' "Agenda to End Homelessness"

Now, with a supportive City Administration, City Council and state government, is the time to aggressively take on the fight to end modern homelessness as we know it. You can read the Agenda to End Homelessness on our web site www.careforthehomeless.org. Better yet, e-mail policy@cfhnyc.org to attend a CFH Policy meeting on February 12 about our housing issues!

