

Interagency Homelessness Accountability Council (IHAC) 2018 Report

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 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
- Department of Education
- Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
- Department of Housing Preservation and Development
- Department of Social Services
 - Department of Homeless Services
 - Human Resources Administration
- Department of Youth and Community Development

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
- Office of Management and Budget
- Department of Correction
- Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice
- Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence
- Mayor's Office of Operations
- New York City Health and Hospitals
- New York City Housing Authority
- New York City Police Department
- Office of the First Deputy Mayor

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

The members listed above meet as a full group on a quarterly basis. The meetings for CY 18 took place on the following dates in City Hall:

- March 12, 2018
- August 7, 2018
- October 18, 2018
- December 18, 2018

At the first quarterly meeting in March 2018, the Center for Innovation through Data Intelligence (CIDI) presented data on individuals exiting from various City agencies who immediately entered the DHS shelter system. The discussion that followed led to the identification of the following goals of the IHAC:

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, and formerly justice-involved individuals
4. Promote permanent housing

To address these goals, the member agencies of the IHAC created the following workgroups:

- Discharge Planning within DOC
- Youth and Young Adults
- Parents and Babies

These workgroups were staffed by representatives from relevant IHAC member agencies and led by the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services. The groups met on a regular basis between the quarterly meetings to identify and review relevant data and research and refine policy recommendations. Each subsequent quarterly meeting was devoted to sharing data and/or preliminary recommendations developed by the various workgroups. More information about the members and accomplishments of each workgroup can be found below.

Discharge Planning within DOC

- Member Agencies: DSS, DHS, HRA, H+H (CHS), DOC, MOCJ, OMB, Office of the First Deputy Mayor, CIDI

In the first IHAC quarterly meeting, the Department of Correction was identified as a City agency with high numbers of individuals being released from jail and directly entering the homeless system. To address this issue, the Discharge Planning within DOC workgroup reviewed data and developed strategies to enhance discharge planning possibilities at Rikers to prevent shelter entry. One key result of this work is a new collaborative effort between DSS and DOC to identify individuals on Rikers who are at high-risk of entering DHS shelter soon after their release. These individuals receive on-island preventative services and connected to services in their community upon release. Under the recently modified voucher rule¹ these

¹ please visit <http://rules.cityofnewyork.us/agency/hra> for more information.

individuals are also now eligible for DSS CityFHEPS and Pathway Home rental assistance upon release. This new initiative is expected to launch in January 2019.

Youth and Young Adults (YYA)

- Member Agencies: DSS, DHS, HRA, DYCD, ACS, HPD, CIDI

Youth and young adults were also identified as a key population in the first IHAC quarterly meeting. The YYA workgroup served as the IHAC's liaison to the larger Youth Homelessness Taskforce (YHT), an initiative announced by Mayor de Blasio in June 2018. The YHT consisted of representatives from 15 City agencies and offices, 26 non-profit organizations, and 10 members of the Youth Action Board. Over several months, the YHT met in workgroups to review City data and create collaborative recommendations to inform the City's next steps for preventing and ending youth homelessness. All members of the YYA workgroup served on the YHT and helped shape its preliminary recommendations, which were presented to the IHAC at its third quarterly meeting in October 2018. These recommendations will be published in the YHT's final report in Spring 2019.

Parents and Babies

- Member Agencies: DSS, DHS, HRA, DOHMH, ACS, H+H, CIDI

Pregnant individuals and infants (from birth to 1) were identified as a key population in the first IHAC quarterly meeting in March 2018. Through monthly meetings beginning in April, the agency representatives in the Parents and Babies workgroup reviewed City data and collaboratively developed preliminary recommendations that were presented to the IHAC at the final quarterly meeting in December 2018. This workgroup was able to identify opportunities for intra-agency resource and information sharing that have already been implemented.

APPENDIX

I. Budget

Agency	Description	Planned FY 19 Expenditures (as of Adopt 19 budget) \$ in Ms
DHS	Shelter services, administration and support for homeless adults, families, and street homeless individuals	\$ 2,061.8
HRA	Homeless prevention, rental assistance, legal services, services for domestic violence survivors and persons living with HIV/AIDS	\$ 914.0
ACS	Housing assistance for former foster care youth	\$ 6.1
DOHMH	Supportive housing, newborn home visiting for homeless families, housing for persons with HIV/AIDS	\$ 234.9
HPD	Supportive housing and rental assistance to formerly homeless	\$ 289.4
DOE	Students in temporary housing and related services	\$ 38.9
Total		\$ 3,545.1

II. Members and Attendees

Chair:

- Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services – Dr. Herminia Palacio

Mandated Executive Committee:

- DSS – Commissioner Steve Banks
 - + First Deputy Commissioner Molly Murphy
 - + Deputy Commissioner for IGA Erin Drinkwater
- DHS – Administrator Joslyn Carter
- HRA – Administrator Grace Bonilla
 - + First Deputy Commissioner Gary Jenkins
- HPD – Commissioner Maria Torres Springer
- DYCD – Commissioner Bill Chong
- ACS – Commissioner David Hansell
 - + First Deputy Commissioner Eric Brettschneider
- DOHMH – Commissioner Oxiris Barbot
- DOE – Chancellor Richard Carranza
 - + Deputy Commissioner of School Climate & Wellness LaShawn Robinson
 - + Senior Executive Director, Office of Community Schools Chris Caruso
- ENDGBV – Commissioner Cecile Noel
- NYCHA – Acting Chair Stanley Brezenoff
- NYPD – Commissioner Jimmy O’Neil
 - + Deputy Commissioner for Collaborative Policing Susan Herman

DM HHS additions to Executive Committee:

- H+H – President and CEO, Dr. Mitchell Katz
 - + Senior Vice President for Managed Care Matthew Siegler
- CIDI – Executive Director Maryanne Schretzman
 - + Director of Policy and Research Eileen Johns
- DOC – Commissioner Cynthia Brann
- MOCJ – Director Elizabeth Glazer
- Operations – Director Jeff Thamkittikasem