

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 17, 2015 CONTACT: pressoffice@cityhall.nyc.gov, (212) 788-2958

REACTIONS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS, HOMELESS SERVICES LEADERS TO MAYOR DE BLASIO'S UNVEILING OF HOME-STAT

Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams said, "Homelessness in New York City is not a new problem; it is a complex crisis with many layers that we must holistically address to ensure every New Yorker has a safe place to call home and an opportunity to receive needed resources. As a society, we have fallen short in effectively combating street homelessness, and I appreciate that Mayor de Blasio is committing to a new approach for our city that will address this difficult challenge. I have spoken with the Mayor about my belief that CompStat, a transformational tool for accountability and management, is a model that we need to employ in addressing the quality of life issues facing the five boroughs as well as monitoring the efficacy of our delivery of services. I believe that HOME-STAT is a positive response to that call and a significant investment in people power to proactively address and respond to problems we are facing with our homelessness crisis."

"NYC HOME-STAT is a smart addition to the effort put forth by the Mayor to address the difficult issue of homelessness in the City of New York," said **Queens Borough President**Melinda Katz. "Daily canvassing, nearly doubling the outreach staff and building accountability metrics will help focus agency response times and improve delivery of service and care. This initiative reflects the priority level Mayor de Blasio has placed on the ongoing homelessness crisis and his commitment to finding solutions."

"Mayor de Blasio has demonstrated once again his steadfast commitment to addressing homelessness in the City of New York," said **Assembly Member Andrew Hevesi, Chairman of the Social Services Committee.** "HOME-STAT has all of the elements needed to pinpoint the location of homeless New Yorkers, engage them, and provide a connection with appropriate services. I am confident this innovative approach will produce tangible results that will give us a thorough assessment of the City's homeless population which will enable City government to provide tailored supports."

"Mayor de Blasio's announcement of the HOME-STAT program today is just the latest example of this administration creating significant brand new programs to confront the ongoing homelessness challenge that we face as a city. This program, along with LINC, City FEPS, CEPS, dramatically expanded Homebase and legal services, will make a big difference in the lives of thousands of New Yorkers. I am very impressed with Mayor de Blasio's dedication to

effectively addressing homelessness," said Council Member Steve Levin, Chair of the Committee on General Welfare.

Congressman Charles B. Rangel said, "I applaud Mayor de Blasio's innovative and proactive approach to tackling homelessness. Everyone deserves a place to call home instead of just a temporary roof over their head. By harnessing the power of technology and deploying targeted resources, HOME-STAT looks like a promising plan to transition many New Yorkers into permanent housing."

"As the colder months are rapidly approaching, I welcome City Hall's announcement of the HOME-STAT program," said **State Senator Jose Peralta**. "There has been an undeniable rise in the level of homelessness throughout New York City, and it is the government's responsibility to counter this through innovative policy that cuts at the root of the problem. From the hallways of LaGuardia Airport to the streets of the five boroughs, homeless New Yorkers are in need of our help and we must deliver. I am also hopeful that the street canvassing aspect of the HOME-STAT program can be successfully implemented in the outer boroughs."

Assembly Member Deborah J. Glick said, "I greatly appreciate Mayor de Blasio's focus on ramping up services for our homeless New Yorkers and the additional attention to homeless LGBT New Yorkers. While this may have been an inherited problem, the City's attention to addressing the issue is especially appropriate at this time of year."

"As the number of individuals experiencing homelessness increases in New York City, it is imperative that we be creative and proactive in our approach to addressing this problem and caring for the most vulnerable residents. I look forward to rolling out the HOME-STAT program across the city and particularly in my district, where homelessness is a persistent challenge. I believe that HOME-STAT, with its unique three-pronged approach, has the capacity to make a significant positive impact on the current homelessness situation," said **Council Member Fernando Cabrera.**

"Having a home is a human right and no one who lives in New York City, which is one of the wealthiest cities in the world, should be without this basic right. Homelessness is an epidemic that is impacting families and individuals in all socioeconomic classes but particularly in working families," said **Council Member Mathieu Eugene**. "It is our moral obligation as government to provide for the people, and I commend Mayor Bill de Blasio for the creation of HOME-STAT, which will focus on areas where need is the greatest. HOME-STAT is definitely a step in the right direction for our city and we must continue to provide for all New Yorkers especially during tough economic times."

Council Member Vanessa L. Gibson said, "The troubling rise in homelessness is a matter that needs to be handled seriously and swiftly. I thank Mayor Bill de Blaiso for prioritizing a new approach to assisting homeless New Yorkers and for devising a plan that includes a proactive services and an integrated case management. With the help of HOME-STAT, I look forward to seeing more individuals and families safely homed in 2016."

Council Member Karen Koslowitz said, "I am gratified to learn of this intensified, case by case approach to the problem. This new initiative should leave no doubt about the Mayor's desire to turnaround the homelessness situation in our city."

Council Member Annabel Palma said, "With the city's homeless population at a record high, we must do all we can to find sustainable and long term solutions to address our homeless crisis. I commend the Department of Homeless Services and Mayor de Blasio for the HOME-STAT initiative, a collaborative and proactive outreach plan, which will assist homeless individuals and families living on our streets to connect with appropriate services. This new tool, in combination with the anti-eviction services, rental assistance, and a commitment to increasing affordable housing, will provide a comprehensive approach to fighting our city's homelessness."

"Street homelessness is a growing problem in my district, as well as the city as a whole," said **Council Member James Vacca**. "Combating homelessness will require innovative new approaches and I'm encouraged by the creation of HOME-STAT. Proactively surveying streets to identify homelessness hot spots, along with increasing our rapid-response capacity, will hopefully lead to an overall reduction of street homelessness and an increase it quality of life for everyone."

Connecting New Yorkers who live on our streets to available help requires a block-by-block, proactive approach, and that is what NYC HOME-STAT does," said **Council Member Debi Rose**. "The initiative that Mayor de Blasio is announcing today recognizes that we have a growing population of homeless people on our streets, and seeks to identify and engage them so that we can better coordinate our City's response and start them on the road to the permanent housing that all human beings deserve."

"Mayor de Blasio's data driven and compassionate approach to connecting street homeless New Yorkers to services and care is innovative government in action. Samaritan Village looks forward to partnering with the de Blasio administration in connecting street homeless New Yorkers to quality shelter and affordable housing," said **Tino Hernandez, CEO of Samaritan Village.**

"NYC HOME-STAT will better coordinate services between City agencies and outreach providers to reduce street homelessness. BronxWorks fully supports the Mayor's pioneering efforts to address this complicated problem," said **Eileen Torres, Executive Director of BronxWorks**.

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