



## I. Overview

Pursuant to § 21-308 of the Administrative Code of the City of New York, which requires a five-year plan to relieve homelessness, the Department of Social Services (DSS), Department of Homeless Services (DHS), and Human Resources Administration (HRA) respectfully submits the following plan.

The goals of DSS/HRA/DHS and its not-for-profit partners are to prevent homelessness whenever possible, address unsheltered homelessness, provide safe temporary shelter, and connect New Yorkers experiencing homelessness to permanent housing, including targeted rental assistance and supportive housing. DHS assists shelter clients with obtaining permanent housing, connecting to public benefits, health care, work supports and employment opportunities, and saving their income.

DHS meets its legal mandate to provide temporary shelter to those experiencing homelessness in a safe and respectful environment through dedicated staff and wraparound services, as well as collaboration with other public agencies and nonprofit partners. As of January 2023, DHS has an operating budget of \$3 billion and is the largest municipal agency addressing homelessness in the United States. The budget supports 1,950 positions and funds shelter and street outreach services for over 70,000 homeless New Yorkers on a nightly basis as of January 2023.

## II. DHS Critical Objectives and Applicable Partnerships

Providing high quality, trauma informed services are the cornerstones of the work at DHS. Through this approach, the Agency focuses on the following critical objectives as part of our 5-year plan:

- Connect New Yorkers at risk of homelessness to preventive services to help them remain in their homes.
- Ensure the availability of temporary shelter for individuals and families with an immediate need for shelter where no other housing options are available to them.
- Ensure that all temporary shelters are clean, safe, and well-managed.
- Facilitate exits to permanent housing and other appropriate housing or care settings.
- Reduce length of stay for clients in shelter.
- Minimize re-entries into the shelter system.
- Reduce the number of unsheltered individuals in New York City.
- Help unsheltered individuals find stable, safe living accommodations.

To continue this vital work and achieve the above critical objectives, the Agency works in partnership with multiple city agencies to address all aspects of homelessness. DHS works collaboratively with the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH), the Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD), the Administration for Children's Services (ACS), NYC Health + Hospitals Corporation (HHC), and the Department of Housing Preservation and

Development (HPD). As part of the Agency's 5-year Homeless Plan, DHS will continue to collaborate with the aforementioned agencies to coordinate services, prevention, and housing development efforts.

DHS plans to continue to work closely with the NYC Continuum of Care (CoC) on the allocation of federal funding allocated by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for housing and services for homeless and at-risk households across the city.

The city's four-pronged approach to addressing homelessness is ongoing and remains part of DHS's 5-year Homeless Plan:

- Prevention First
  - NYC Human Resources Administration (HRA) continues to provide emergency rent arrears, which helps rent-burdened New Yorkers at risk of eviction stay in their homes.
  - New Yorkers continue to be able to receive free legal representation, advice, or assistance in eviction and other housing-related matters through tenant legal services programs administered by DSS/HRA's Office of Civil Justice (OCJ).
  - Homebase offices continue to provide homelessness prevention and aftercare support to households throughout the city.
- Rehousing to Alleviate Homelessness
  - Rental assistance programs, like CityFHEPS, continue to be available for eligible individuals and families. The increase in CityFHEPS and other rental subsidies continue to be in place and available to assist homeless households access affordable housing in the tight NYC housing market.
  - In June 2022, the City released, "[Housing Our Neighbors: A Blueprint for Housing and Homelessness.](#)" The array of strategies outlined in that plan are continuing and are part of DHS's 5-year Homeless Plan.
- Transforming the Approach to Providing Shelter
  - DHS continues to bring on new, high-quality borough-based shelters, which offer families and individuals the opportunity to get back on their feet closer to their support networks and the communities they called home.
  - DHS continues to invest extensively in social services in shelter. As outlined in the Housing and Homelessness Blueprint, DHS continues to commit to expanding mental health services for children in shelter, improvements in food quality, and aftercare for those who need extra support when leaving shelter.
  - DHS continues to transform its services and programs for single adults in shelter, with specialized shelters providing health, mental health, substance use, and other targeted programs and services.
- Addressing Unsheltered Homelessness
  - DHS' HOME-STAT street outreach program is continuing to canvas all five boroughs 24/7/365 and engage New Yorkers experiencing unsheltered homelessness, encouraging them to accept services and transition indoors.
  - DHS is expanding the number of low barrier beds serving clients experiencing unsheltered homelessness, particularly safe haven and stabilization beds. There are 3,000 such beds online as of the beginning of City Fiscal Year 2023, and DHS plans to add approximately 1,000 additional over the next two years.
  - DHS continues to be part of an interagency effort to coordinate services, particularly for those experiencing homelessness on the subway. We continue to collaborate with DOHMH, HHC, NYPD, Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA), and the State Office of Mental Health (OMH) to intensify outreach efforts and connect even more clients to shelter and services.

**III. Projected Number of Homeless Individuals and Families**

Homelessness, as measured by the DHS census, increased steadily over the past two decades and reached a pre-COVID-19 pandemic peak of 61,415 in January 2019. Homeless single adults drove this surge and numbers had been rising steadily since 2012, driven by a confluence of poverty, housing instability, mental health crises, and decarceration. At the same time, the numbers of families with children began decreasing in 2015 as community prevention, City subsidized rental assistance, and universal anti-eviction efforts took hold. The COVID-19 public health emergency impacted the DHS census significantly – overall, the census dropped to a low of 44,500 in summer 2021, in part due to the eviction moratorium. Since that time, the unanticipated influx of asylum-seeking migrants into New York City from the southern border has shifted the trend and the DHS census grew to over 73000 by April of 2023, with 85% of the increase coming from asylum seekers entering DHS shelter (*see table 1 below*). Without asylum seekers, the census would have been closer to 49,500.

**a. Table 1: FY2022 Average Number of DHS Families and Individuals in Shelter by Type**

<b>DHS Shelter Census</b>				
	<b>FWC</b>	<b>AF</b>	<b>SA</b>	<b>Total</b>
FYTD 23* average	44,144	5,915	21,144	71,567
April 10, 2023	45,750	6,075	22,043	73,868

\*Through March 2023.

\*Excludes street homeless beds

The end of the pandemic-related eviction moratorium, the continuing inflow of asylum seekers, and the continued and unique pressures of the rental market in New York City may impact homelessness in the coming period (*see bullets below for more detail*). The legally mandated right-to-shelter in New York City is exacerbated by current, unique circumstances, and is projected to increase in the short-term unless sufficient resources and assistance from the state and federal government are received.

- An unprecedented influx of asylum-seeking migrants, primarily from Central and South America, have arrived in New York City with few resources or local supportive contacts and are seeking emergency shelter. In May 2022, the shelter census was approximately 45,000 persons, but as of April 2023 it had risen to over 73,000 persons; asylum-seeking migrants have been the largest driver of the census spike. Since April 2022, 85% of the growth in total individuals in the DHS census was due to asylum-seekers, and asylum-seekers made up a third of the census.
- The end of COVID-income supports and the eviction moratorium that assisted many extremely low-income households to temporarily stabilize their living situations may also impact the census.
- New York City’s unemployment rate is significantly higher than state and federal averages. Coupled with rising rents and an extremely low vacancy rate for affordable apartments, these trends continue to pose challenges to families and individuals seeking to maintain and find housing.

IV. Projected Expense and Capital Budgets for DHS: Expenditures for Homeless Individual and Family Programs, Facilities, and Services

**Table 2: DHS Expense Budget**

		Department of Homeless Services Executive 2024 Plan - Summary Sheet						
		FY 2023						
	HC	Gross	CTL	State	Federal	CD	OC	IC
Family Shelter POTPS		1,091,221,210	502,964,557	112,019,932	476,236,721	0	0	0
Adult Shelter POTPS		1,520,324,439	1,347,523,196	75,267,230	82,952,342	553,000	6,600,000	7,428,671
Agencywide AOTPS		716,722,866	225,766,566	439,244,102	47,717,661	3,993,537	0	1,000
<b>Total OTPS</b>		<b>3,328,268,515</b>	<b>2,076,254,319</b>	<b>626,531,264</b>	<b>606,906,724</b>	<b>4,546,537</b>	<b>6,600,000</b>	<b>7,429,671</b>
Agencywide PS	1,952	171,722,636	110,736,191	733,122	59,929,228	264,095	0	60,000
<b>Total Agency</b>	<b>1,952</b>	<b>3,499,991,151</b>	<b>2,186,990,510</b>	<b>627,264,386</b>	<b>666,835,952</b>	<b>4,810,632</b>	<b>6,600,000</b>	<b>7,489,671</b>

		Department of Homeless Services Executive 2024 Plan - Summary Sheet						
		FY 2024						
	HC	Gross	CTL	State	Federal	CD	OC	IC
Family Shelter POTPS		1,019,770,834	408,233,344	95,954,258	515,583,232	0	0	0
Adult Shelter POTPS		1,005,392,502	898,359,874	73,632,099	22,751,654	553,000	3,000,000	7,095,875
Agencywide AOTPS		1,899,031,537	1,293,382,622	563,231,948	42,416,967	0	0	0
<b>Total OTPS</b>		<b>3,924,194,873</b>	<b>2,599,975,840</b>	<b>732,818,305</b>	<b>580,751,853</b>	<b>553,000</b>	<b>3,000,000</b>	<b>7,095,875</b>
Agencywide PS	1,923	169,516,380	111,139,862	706,122	57,670,396	0	0	0
<b>Total Agency</b>	<b>1,923</b>	<b>4,093,711,253</b>	<b>2,711,115,702</b>	<b>733,524,427</b>	<b>638,422,249</b>	<b>553,000</b>	<b>3,000,000</b>	<b>7,095,875</b>

		Department of Homeless Services Executive 2024 Plan - Summary Sheet						
		FY 2025						
	HC	Gross	CTL	State	Federal	CD	OC	IC
Family Shelter POTPS		1,019,770,834	409,733,344	95,954,258	514,083,232	0	0	0
Adult Shelter POTPS		1,005,392,502	898,359,874	73,632,099	22,751,654	553,000	3,000,000	7,095,875
Agencywide AOTPS		605,421,082	271,772,167	291,231,948	42,416,967	0	0	0
<b>Total OTPS</b>		<b>2,630,584,418</b>	<b>1,579,865,385</b>	<b>460,818,305</b>	<b>579,251,853</b>	<b>553,000</b>	<b>3,000,000</b>	<b>7,095,875</b>
Agencywide PS	1,908	165,328,348	106,951,830	706,122	57,670,396	0	0	0
<b>Total Agency</b>	<b>1,908</b>	<b>2,795,912,766</b>	<b>1,686,817,215</b>	<b>461,524,427</b>	<b>636,922,249</b>	<b>553,000</b>	<b>3,000,000</b>	<b>7,095,875</b>

		Department of Homeless Services Executive 2024 Plan - Summary Sheet						
		FY 2026						
	HC	Gross	CTL	State	Federal	CD	OC	IC
Family Shelter POTPS		1,014,968,507	404,931,017	95,954,258	514,083,232	0	0	0
Adult Shelter POTPS		989,390,175	903,162,201	73,632,099	4,947,000	553,000	0	7,095,875
Agencywide AOTPS		4,235,453	-39,413,462	1,231,948	42,416,967	0	0	0
<b>Total OTPS</b>		<b>2,008,594,135</b>	<b>1,268,679,756</b>	<b>170,818,305</b>	<b>561,447,199</b>	<b>553,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7,095,875</b>
Agencywide PS	1,890	160,273,228	103,096,710	706,122	56,470,396	0	0	0
<b>Total Agency</b>	<b>1,890</b>	<b>2,168,867,363</b>	<b>1,371,776,466</b>	<b>171,524,427</b>	<b>617,917,595</b>	<b>553,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7,095,875</b>

		Department of Homeless Services Executive 2024 Plan - Summary Sheet						
		FY 2027						
	HC	Gross	CTL	State	Federal	CD	OC	IC
Family Shelter POTPS		1,014,968,507	404,931,017	95,954,258	514,083,232	0	0	0
Adult Shelter POTPS		989,390,175	903,162,201	73,632,099	4,947,000	553,000	0	7,095,875
Agencywide AOTPS		1,668,213	-41,980,702	1,231,948	42,416,967	0	0	0
<b>Total OTPS</b>		<b>2,006,026,895</b>	<b>1,266,112,516</b>	<b>170,818,305</b>	<b>561,447,199</b>	<b>553,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7,095,875</b>
Agencywide PS	1,890	160,540,468	103,363,950	706,122	56,470,396	0	0	0
<b>Total Agency</b>	<b>1,890</b>	<b>2,166,567,363</b>	<b>1,369,476,466</b>	<b>171,524,427</b>	<b>617,917,595</b>	<b>553,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7,095,875</b>

**Table 3: DHS FY2024 Capital Plan as of Executive 2023**

Department of Homeless Services (071 - HH) Fiscal Year 2024 Executive Capital Commitment Plan: Fiscal Years 2024-2033 City Funds only excluding IFA and contingency; Dollars in '000s							
Exec. Plan Program Summary By Budget Line					4 Year Total	Out-years	10 Year Total
	FY24	FY25	FY26	FY27	(FY 24-27)	(FY 28-33)	(FY 24-33)
HH 0105 - IT & Equipment	5,340	4,712	4,887	1,845	16,784	40,658	57,442
HH 0112 - Shelter for Homeless Adults	37,380	57,033	56,544	98,360	249,317	227,803	477,120
HH 0115 - Shelter for Homeless Families	9,356	11,000	10,778	23,956	55,090	205,550	260,640
Council & BP Items	2,565	3,721	2,995	-	9,281	4,736	14,017
<b>Exec Plan</b>	<b>54,641</b>	<b>76,466</b>	<b>75,204</b>	<b>124,161</b>	<b>330,472</b>	<b>478,747</b>	<b>809,219</b>

**b. Projected Number of Facilities to be Constructed or Rehabilitated to Accommodate Homeless Individuals and Families**

The DHS Capital Budget as of Executive 2024 Plan includes \$304 million over four years for nearly 200 projects to rehabilitate family and adult shelters. The budget is shown in HH012 and HH015 in the preceding Capital budget section.

**c. Projected Number of Permanent Housing Units to be Constructed or Rehabilitated to Accommodate Homeless Individuals and Families**

Please see [Housing Our Neighbors: A Blueprint for Housing and Homelessness](#) for New York City’s full housing plan and the steps NYC will take to reach our collective housing goals.