Association for Neighborhood and Housing Development 50 Broad Street, Suite 1402, New York, NY 10004 212.747.1117 www.anhd.org



May 30th, 2025

Good afternoon.

My name is Israel Sanchez and I am a Campaign Coordinator for ANHD. The Association for Neighborhood and Housing Development (ANHD) builds community power to win affordable housing and thriving, equitable neighborhoods for all New Yorkers. As a member organization of community groups across New York City we use research, advocacy, and grassroots organizing to support our members in their work to build equity and justice in their neighborhoods and city-wide.

The proposed rule change put forth by the Adams administration to raise the tenant contribution for City FHEPS vouchers from 30 to 40 percent of their household income will have detrimental effects on their lives and will only serve to exacerbate our homelessness crisis. CityFHEPs has been a critical tool in reducing shelter stays by enabling families to remain housed while contributing a reasonable portion of their income towards rent.

Tenants who are subject to this increase will have to choose between paying their rent and being able to afford other essential costs such as food, childcare, healthcare, etc. This change undermines the core purpose of CityFHEPs and destabilizes the very households the program is meant to support. Moreover, the proposed increase is unlikely to generate meaningful savings for the City and instead shifts financial burden onto those least able to bear it. We urge the Mayor to reverse their decision and instead focus on implementing the expansion of the City FHEPS vouchers that were passed into law two years ago. Balancing the City's budget must not come at the expense of working class and low income New Yorkers.

Please feel free to contact Israel Sanchez at <u>israel.s@ANHD.org</u> if you have any further questions or visit our website ANHD.org if you seek more information about our ongoing work. Thank you.