

# **NYC** Commission on Women's Issues

## Quarterly Update - Winter 2010-2011

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### **[Volunteer for the Annual HOPE Survey](#)**

The Department of Homeless Services is counting down to the seventh annual Homeless Outreach Population Estimate (HOPE) survey on January 31, 2011. This survey estimates the number of individuals living on the streets, in parks and in other public spaces in New York City. As in previous years, Homeless Services is

asking New Yorkers to volunteer and assist the Agency and its community partners in surveying the street homeless population of New York City on the night of the survey from 10:30 p.m. to 4 a.m. New Yorkers who are interested in volunteering as surveyors should visit [www.nyc.gov/dhs](http://www.nyc.gov/dhs) to register.

Currently, 1 in 2,688 New Yorkers is street homeless, with a City population of 8.4 million as of 2009. New York City's street outreach operation has moved more than 2,400 chronically homeless individuals from the streets into housing since the program's inception in 2007. With 24/7 outreach teams mobilized in all five boroughs, specialized low threshold housing, and targeted funding to ensure that adequate resources reach the individuals most in need, New York City is the national leader in its investment in persons living on the street.

By volunteering for HOPE, its citizens can make an investment in the individuals living on the streets. Homeless Services needs New Yorkers to be the eyes and ears of the City. Join Homeless Services and 3,000 of your fellow New Yorkers and help conduct the HOPE survey on January 31, 2011. For more information please call 311 or visit the [Department of Homeless Services](#).

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### **New Asthma Center Opens in East Harlem**

Does your child have asthma? If so, New York City is providing more services to help families and individuals control this disease through the NYC Asthma Initiative. An example of this program is The East Harlem Asthma Center of Excellence (EHACE). Recently, the EHACE opened a new asthma walk-in center which aims to reduce childhood asthma hospitalizations by fifty percent over the next five years.

New services include on-site asthma assessments, educational programming, a resource library, social support services, one-on-one asthma counseling, and connections to services that help eliminate asthma triggers from homes. The new center will help provide residents of East Harlem with the education and resources that they need to manage childhood asthma.

To read about the opening of this new center, read the [Press Release](#).

To find out more about the NYC Asthma Initiative and other programs they run throughout the City, visit the [Department of Health and Mental Hygiene](#).

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### **Customize Your 311Online Searches**

New York City is now making it even easier to find information! Instead of calling 311 to find out about a city service, you can visit 311Online and find the same information instantly.

Additionally, 311Online now allows you to customize your searches based on your location through "My 311." "My311" can show the most commonly searched for information including traffic, weather and events in your area.

To customize your online search today, visit [311Online](#).

To read more about the Achievement Award that 311Online received this past September, read the [Press Release](#).

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### **More School Openings for Kids**

This past September, the City opened 26 new school locations. By opening these new school locations, more than 17,000 seats became available for the 2010-2011 school year. The completion of the Mott Haven Educational Campus in the Bronx alone provided more than 2,300 seats!

The Mayor along with the Department of Education and the School Construction Authority (SCA) has created over 80,000 seats in New York City schools since 2003. The SCA works to aid city schools by managing new school construction and the renovation of already existing school buildings. They have already renovated 86% of New York City schools. For more information, visit the [School Construction Authority](#).

If you are interested in learning more about other new schools in the City and/or renovations that are going on, read the [Press Release](#).

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### **Federal Funding Helps Digital Learning in NYC**

New York City received \$20 million in Federal stimulus funding for two exciting programs to help New Yorkers further connect with the digital world.

\$14 million will be used for "NYC Connected Communities," a program which aims to increase the number of public computer centers in high-poverty areas. Additional computers will be provided in libraries, public housing facilities, senior centers, and community centers in all five boroughs.

\$6 million will help fund "NYC Connected Foundations" which provides eligible students at 43 of the City's public high schools with access to free computers and comprehensive digital literacy training. The program will also aid these students in the transition to a post-secondary education.

To find out more about these two programs and how to get involved, read the full [Press Release](#).

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### **In Other News:**

#### **[Celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr. Day](#)**

See what events are going on near you in honor of Dr. King.

#### **[Take Precaution, Get Your Flu Shot](#)**

There's still time to get your flu shot! Find out where you can get one.

#### **[Check Out Your Neighborhood Stats](#)**

Find out how City Agencies are performing in your neck of the woods.

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### **About the NYC Commission on Women's Issues**

The New York City Commission on Women's Issues (formerly the Commission on the Status of Women) was established by Mayoral Executive Order in 1975 as an advisory body to the Mayor on matters impacting the lives of New York City women. Currently, the Commission serves as an important vehicle through which women and families can connect with City services that support and address their needs.

We hope this newsletter will be an extension of this work. Not only will we share the newest initiatives and programs coming out of the City, but we will also help you understand how these efforts affect you as a woman.

For more information on our key programs such as the NYC Women's Resource Network, the NYC Young Women's Volunteer Summit, and the NYC Ladders for Leaders program, please visit [www.nyc.gov/women](http://www.nyc.gov/women) to find out how you could benefit and/or participate today!

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