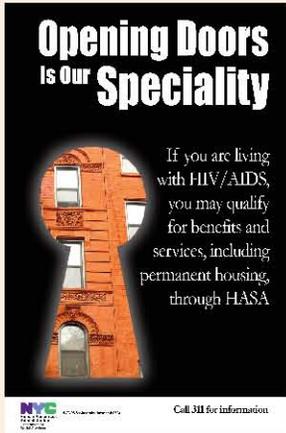




Reaching the Maximum Level of Self-Sufficiency

NY/NY III Creates Needed Supportive Housing



New York City and State have implemented the **New York/New York III** agreement to provide people with mental and/or physical impairments with permanent and supportive housing.

This third partnership between levels of government to provide funding to nonprofit housing providers and developers is a dramatic expansion of the two previous agreements that established supportive housing for single individuals with mental illness. **NY/NY III** adds 9,000 units—1,000 of which will be directly overseen by HRA through HASA—to the 3,000 existing units and expands eligibility to a greater range of homeless individuals.

Some of the new groups that may apply for supportive housing created under the **NY/NY III** agreement are:

- Families who meet the low-income financial eligibility requirement, are chronically homeless or at risk of becoming homeless and whose head of household suffers from a substance abuse disorder, a disabling medical condition, or HIV/AIDS.
- Homeless adults living in NYS-operated psychiatric centers or NYS-operated transitional residences, and young adults leaving NYS-licensed psychiatric residential treatment centers, who could live independently in the community, if provided with supportive housing.
- Homeless adults who have completed a course of treatment for a substance abuse disorder and who need transitional supportive housing to achieve independent living.
- Medically or physically disabled homeless adults with a substance abuse disorder.
- Young adults aged 25 years or younger leaving or having recently left foster care who are at risk of street homelessness or sheltered homelessness.
- Homeless single adults living with HIV/AIDS who have either a serious mental illness or a substance abuse disorder and receive cash assistance from the government.

HRA has been an active participant in the development and implementation of **NY/NY III**, in partnership with the Departments of Homeless Services, Health and Mental Hygiene, Housing Preservation and Development, the Administration for Children's Services, and New York State agencies. In the coming months, HRA will collaborate on public outreach to ensure that potentially eligible individuals are aware of these expanded housing opportunities.

HRA Receives \$115,000 Award to Promote Employer Health Insurance

The New York State Health Foundation awarded HRA's Office of Citywide Health Insurance Access (OCHIA) a one-year grant of \$115,000 to expand private health insurance participation in New York City. The grant will enable OCHIA, working with HRA's Management Information Systems (MIS), to develop an online tool allowing small businesses and working individuals to directly compare benefits and costs of available health insurance options. The grant will also fund other initiatives to increase private health insurance offerings by the city's small businesses.

HRA Program Updates

HRA and DHS Reach Shelter System Diversion Milestone

On December 6, Commissioner Doar and DHS Commissioner Hess participated in a



Commissioner Doar, Nancy Woolard, Deputy Director, Homelessness Diversion Unit at PATH and DHS Commissioner Robert Hess

ceremony at the City's homeless intake center, Preventative Assistance for Temporary Housing (PATH), recognizing staff for their work in assisting families in exploring alternatives to shelter placement. More than 1000 families have been successfully served since the mandatory interview process was launched in May 2007.

Two HRA IT Staff Win NYC Excellence in Technology Awards

HRA congratulates Catherine Ray and Marlo Barnes of Management Information Services (MIS), who were honored with 2007



Excellence in Technology Awards by the New York City Excellence in Technology Awards Program (ETAP). Read more on HRA's Intranet homepage.

HRA Perspective Monthly Bulletin

Published by the City of New York Human Resources Administration/ Department of Social Services

Michael R. Bloomberg, Mayor
Robert Doar, Commissioner

Office of Public Information & Communications
Barbara Brancaccio, Exec. Deputy Commissioner
Connie A. Ress, Media Director
Melinda Mousouris, Writer/Editor
Patrice Moller, New Media Producer

Event Calendar

January PAI Lunch & Learn Workshop



Did you make a New Year's resolution to stop smoking? The next Smoking Cessation PAI Lunch and Learn workshop will take place on **Wednesday, January 23rd at 1 PM**, 180 Water Street in the 5th floor conference room.

HRA Blood Drives

Help maintain NYC's blood supply. Make your donation at the following HRA locations in January:

Thursday, January 24, 2008, Investigation Revenue & Enforcement Administration/ Bureau of Eligibility Verification, 1775 Grand Concourse, 8th floor from 8:30 AM to 2:00 PM. To make an appointment, call Diana Ruiz-Maldonado at (718) 716-0739.

Wednesday, January 30, 2008, Linden Job Center #67, 45 Hoyt Street, 5th Floor, Room 525, Brooklyn, from 11:00 AM to 4:30 PM. To make an appointment, call Maria Ruparsic at (718) 237-7331.

HRA's Black History Month Celebration

The Finale will take place on **February 20 at the Tribeca Arts Center**. Entitled "Showtime at HRA: Celebrating Our Legacy," the event promises to stimulate and excite. Save the date. Look for further information on the Finale and on workshops that are planned for the month. Supervisory approval needed for release time.

The **HRA McMillan Library** is ready to assist with your units' research projects. Research assistance services are open to staff in all five boroughs. We can assist you in person, on the phone, or via e-mail.



For example, we can:

- help outline your strategy
- filter the multitude of information available to ensure you have authoritative sources
- obtain journal articles and other sources not readily available

For more information contact Hildy Dworkin, Library Director, at 212-331-4437.

Two from HRA Receive 2007 Citywide Public Service Awards

Two members of the HRA family received prestigious awards at the 2007 Citywide Public Service Awards Ceremony, held on December 18 at One Police Plaza. Allyson Mackey, Director of Medicaid Eligibility received the \$5,000 Isaac Liberman public service award. Fa'iz Bayo-Awoyemi, son of Ibrahim Awoyemi, a construction project manager with General Support Services, received a \$2,000 E. Virgil Conway College Scholar Award for children of civil service employees.



The awards are presented each December by the Hundred Year Association, which represents New York business and non-profit organizations that have existed for a century or more, in partnership with the Department of Citywide Administrative Services. Only fifteen of 300,000 City employees are chosen to receive these prestigious awards and twenty-two scholarships are presented.



Mayor Bloomberg welcomed the honorees and guests, praising the accomplishments of the City's workforce. "Exceptional talent and the desire to make New York City better exist at all levels of City service," he said. "As a result, we are tackling problems such as chronic homelessness, poverty, and putting New York City under environmental control that were thought to be beyond fixing." Commissioner Doar was among the officials seated on the podium and accompanied Ms. Mackey and Mr. Bayo-Awoyemi as they received their awards.

Ms. Mackey began her career with HRA in 1994 as an eligibility specialist. As director of Medicaid eligibility she is responsible for the determination of Medicaid eligibility for 48,000 clients. She is recognized for her expertise in Medicaid and the support she gives to Medicaid supervisors and staff.

Fa'iz Bayo-Awoyemi is a pre-med student at Brooklyn College and the recipient of Brooklyn College's presidential scholarship for excellence and the Peter Vallone scholarship.

HRA-hosted Party Honoring NYC Dads, a Highpoint of the Holiday Season



On the evening of December 20, over 500 low-income fathers and children attended a holiday party at the City Museum of New York hosted by HRA, and its partner, the NYC Sports Commission. Guests were treated to tours of the museum's *Glory Days of Baseball* exhibit, arts and craft activities, gifts, games and bountiful refreshments, contributed through private sector support for New York City's fatherhood initiative.

The evening was a great success. Fathers who attended expressed gratitude

for the education they are getting through their fatherhood programs and for the special occasions that have been planned for them with their children. "This is wonderful what you are doing to help fathers who are taking care of our children," parent Elvis Lopatequi said, "Please keep the support coming."

