



MEDIA STATEMENT

Statement from Valerie White, senior executive director of LISC NYC, in response to the FY23 New York State budget agreement:

“The budget agreement reached by Governor Hochul and the New York State Legislature is a critical step forward in ensuring that New York’s most underserved communities are prioritized in the Empire State’s economic and cultural comeback from the pandemic.

“The agreement ensures that investment and financial resources are put directly in the hands of New Yorkers who need it the most. We’re pleased to see that significant funding is being allocated to improve the city’s affordable housing stock – from an additional \$350 million in capital funds being deployed to support NYCHA to ensuring that renters at-risk of eviction once again have access to a replenished Emergency Rental Assistance Program. Importantly, \$125 million in state funding will also be dedicated to financial relief for vulnerable BIPOC landlords and homeowners, who are too often forgotten and face their own daunting challenges.

“Critical investment will also be reaching New York’s underserved neighborhoods through funding for clean air and water in disadvantaged communities, for expanded health care options for undocumented New Yorkers, and for enhanced child care support for families, helping to allow hardworking New York mothers and fathers to get back to work.

“We applaud Governor Hochul, Senate Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins, Assembly Speaker Heastie, Assembly Majority Leader Peoples-Stokes, and our leaders in the State Senate and Assembly for their commitment to delivering a budget that protects and uplifts the most vulnerable New Yorkers. The budget agreement includes many of the priorities that LISC NYC has been advocating for since the COVID-19 virus first ripped through New York City, and we now look forward to working with our partners at the state-level to guarantee funding is disbursed appropriately to the underinvested Black and brown neighborhoods who have been left disproportionately impacted by the pandemic-induced economic crisis in order to begin to close the racial wealth gap once and for all.”

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