



neighborhood coalition for shelter

helping new yorkers find their way home

June 30, 2008

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Dear Friends of NCS,

It is with regret that I inform you that the City has elected to close the Neighborhood Center for Homeless People (NCHP), our East 77th Street drop-in/referral center for homeless men and women. This decision is not specific to our agency, but is part of the City's effort to greatly reduce the number of drop-in centers in favor of safe havens, a low-demand residential model for chronically homeless men and women. While NCS supports such models, the closing of our drop-in center will eliminate a crucial resource for the neediest citizens in our community – over 800 people received essential services last year alone.

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Since we first learned of the closing late this spring, there's been a tremendous outpouring of support. Community Board 8 voted overwhelmingly to save NCHP. All of our elected officials, partners, churches, synagogues, community organizations and individuals also joined the effort to keep the drop-in center open. However, the City funding cuts were finalized this week and on June 25, 2008, we locked the drop-in center doors for the first time since its opening 19 years ago.

You should know that the closing of the drop-in center does not compromise the viability of NCS as an organization. In fact, our other services – transitional and permanent supportive housing, vocational and educational programming, outpatient treatment services and a targeted research agenda – are more critical than ever.

We are grateful to everyone for supporting NCHP during its years of operation. We hope that you will continue partnering with NCS to assist your neighbors in need.

ANNE R. TEICHER
Chief Executive Officer

How to help individuals facing homelessness and in need of immediate assistance:

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- Call 311 and request that a member of the City's Homeless Outreach Team be contacted.
- Refer the individual to Grand Central Neighborhood Social Services Corporation's Multi-Service Drop-in Center, 120 East 32nd Street, between Lexington and Park Avenues. Grand Central's Drop-in Center (212) 883-0680 is open 24 hours a day.

NCS RESIDENCE
211 East 81st Street
New York, NY 10028
(917) 677-4450

I look forward to keeping you updated on the growth of Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter as we continue to create new housing and supportive services for homeless and formerly homeless individuals.

NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER
FOR HOMELESS PEOPLE
237 East 77th Street
New York, NY 10075
(212) 537-5400

Sincerely,
Anne R. Teicher

LESTER WALDMAN'S PLACE
NCS OUTPATIENT SERVICES
Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church
921 Madison Avenue
New York, NY 10021

Anne R. Teicher
Chief Executive Officer