



March 13, 2022

Contact:

Redmond Haskins
Director of Media Relations
The Legal Aid Society
rhaskins@legal-aid.org
929.441.2384

*****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*****

Legal Aid Lauds NYS Legislature’s Proposed Allocation of \$250 Million to Create the Housing Access Voucher Program, Critical Legislation to Thwart Evictions and Combat Homelessness

(NEW YORK, NY) – The Legal Aid Society applauded the New York State Legislature for its proposed [allocation](#) of \$250 million to create the Housing Access Voucher Program (HAVP), as detailed in this weekend’s one-house budget announcements.

HAVP is critical [legislation](#) that would [create](#) a comprehensive statewide voucher program to combat homelessness by providing low-income families, the disabled, and the elderly resources to secure affordable housing.

“HAVP will serve as a critical tool to prevent homelessness and keep families housed, especially at a time when tens of thousands of families across New York State are experiencing homelessness or facing eviction,” said **Judith Goldiner, Attorney-In-Charge of the Civil Law Reform Unit at The Legal Aid Society**. “With the eviction moratorium now expired and Emergency Rental Assistance Funds depleted, Governor Hochul has an opportunity to create a robust safety net to keep New Yorkers housed, and we call on lawmakers to ensure that this proposed allocation is adopted in the final budget come April 1.”

###

The Legal Aid Society exists for one simple yet powerful reason: to ensure that New Yorkers are not denied their right to equal justice because of poverty. For 145 years, we have protected, defended, and advocated for those who have struggled in silence for far too long. Every day, in every borough, The Legal Aid Society changes the lives of our clients and helps improve our communities. www.legalaidnyc.org