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***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

Legal Aid to Albany: Lawmakers Must Ensure that FY23 Budget Includes at Least $1 Billion for ERAP

Today’s Call Comes in Response to the Biden Administration’s Insufficient Recent Allotment for ERAP Which Fails to Meet Demand

(NEW YORK, NY) – The Legal Aid Society called on Albany to ensure that New York’s Fiscal Year 2023 Executive Budget includes at least $1 billion to replenish the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP), which has been depleted since earlier this year. Today’s call comes in response to the Biden Administration’s recent allotment of $119,204,649 for ERAP, which falls drastically short of the statewide demand from tenants at risk of eviction.

“This latest round of ERAP funding from the Biden Administration falls drastically short of the statewide demand we are seeing from tenants at risk of eviction,” said Judith Goldiner, Attorney-In-Charge of the Civil Law Reform Unit at The Legal Aid Society. “Given this development, Albany lawmakers must ensure that the FY23 budget includes at least $1 billion earmarked to replenish ERAP. New York faces a tidal wave of evictions, and Governor Hochul, Senate Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins, Assembly Speaker Heastie and other legislators must prioritize keeping families in their homes.”

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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](http://www.legalaidnyc.org)