



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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Burt Lazarin
Chair

Jesse Bodine
District Manager

April 9, 2018

Steven Banks
DHS Office of the Commissioner
33 Beaver Street, 17th Floor
New York, NY 10004

Re: DHS Homeless Housing Supportive Services Contracts
454 West 35th Street
500 West 42nd Street
554 West 53rd Street

Dear Commissioner Banks,

Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) received a presentation from Hudson Guild and Clinton Housing Development Company (CHDC)¹ regarding services provided at several supportive housing sites within our district: 454 West 35th Street, 500 West 42nd Street, 554 West 53rd Street. The provision of services for our most vulnerable populations is a key component for stabilizing individuals and families in need and is a contributing factor to our diverse neighborhood. Funding for these services is provided in large part from the Department of Homeless Services (DHS) in the form of Social Service contracts. CHDC, which owns and operates the buildings listed above, has contracts with DHS at each of those sites and subcontracts the Hudson Guild to provide services in these buildings. Three of the five service contracts are currently up for renewal: 454 West 35th Street, 500 West 42nd Street, 554 West 53rd Street. These contracts totaled \$333,336 in Fiscal Year 2018. MCB4 would like to ensure these services continue and as such, MCB4 supports the renewal of these three DHS contracts.

Background

Clinton Housing Development Company (CHDC), founded in 1973 builds community by preserving and creating high quality, permanently affordable housing in the Clinton/Hell's Kitchen and Chelsea neighborhoods on the West Side of Manhattan. They integrate community, cultural and green spaces into developments and provide consulting services for larger community initiatives. CHDC has developed more than 800 units in 80 buildings throughout the Chelsea and Clinton/Hell's Kitchen neighborhood and is currently constructing a 103 unit building for moderate and middle income households on West 53rd Street, between Tenth and Eleventh Avenues.

¹ Joe Restuccia is a member of MCB4 who is Co-Chair of the Housing, Health, and Human Services Committee and Executive Director of the Clinton Housing Development Company. Mr. Restuccia recused himself from voting.

Hudson Guild, founded in 1897 has a mission to create and sustain a strong, effective community that acknowledges and responds to the potential, achievements and interdependence of its diverse members, maintaining a priority focus on those in economic need.

Hudson Guild has 16 locations throughout the Chelsea and Clinton/Hell's Kitchen neighborhoods and currently provides services to more than 14,000 people each year.

Supportive Housing Summary

CHDC has been developing supportive housing since 1994.

	Formerly Homeless	Formerly Homeless/ Mentally Ill – NY/NY	Formerly Homeless/ HIV Positive	General Community	Total Supportive Housing Units
454 West 35 th ¹	7	25	-	21	53
300 West 46 th	32	-	9	27 ²	68
353 West 30 th	18	-	-	12	30
500 West 42 nd	21	19	-	26	66
554 West 53 rd	32	-	-	20	52
	112	44	10	103	269

1 - A senior citizen building

2- Including 9 HIV positive tenants

CHDC provides supportive housing at five locations within our district, with a total of 269 units as shown on the chart above.

- The range of services provided by Hudson Guild at these sites include:
 - Health: Assist clients with a range of medical and mental health issues
 - Social Service Coordination: Connect tenants to a range of social services
 - Psycho-educational Programs: Provide quarterly educational workshops on a range of topics to assist tenants to improve quality of life
 - Topics include Basic Budgeting Skills, Housing Information Workshop, Employment Resources Workshop, Transformational Art Workshop, and Healthy Eating
 - Apartment & Rent Payment Issues: Assist tenants to address rent arrears issues and

other legal issues

- Tenant Mediation: Mediate shared suite conflicts and offering in-house mediation services and/or making referrals to external mediation services
- Community Engagement/Socialization: Coordinate and assisting CHDC's Community Cultivation Department with social/recreational activities/events

The services provided by Hudson Guild at these CHDC supportive housing sites are vital to stabilizing this important segment of our community. MCB4 supports the renewal of the upcoming contracts to ensure continuity of service and help us maintain our diverse neighborhood.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Burt Lazarin", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Burt Lazarin
MCB4 Chair

[signed 4/9/18]
Barbara Davis, Co-Chair
Housing, Health &
Human Services Committee

cc: Craig.O'Connor, NYC Dept of Homeless Services
Jacqueline Bonadie, Program Analyst -NYC Dept of Homeless Services